

Parish Info + Diary



Rector: Rev Tim Storey
2 Portman Place
Blandford Forum DT11 7DG
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Email: tim@bfpc.org.uk

Curate: Rev Martin Court
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Parish of St Peter and St Paul, Blandford Forum

Office: Telephone: 01258-456260
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Administrator: Jackie Poynter
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Receptionist: Su Tomes
su@bfpc.org.uk

Assoc Minister: Rev Christopher Dunn (456843)

Readers: Pat Harris (452863)
Jennie Rake (451186)

Wardens: Osbert Tun Pe (450891)
Angela Hird (456294)

Treasurer: Stuart McAinsh (459394)
Terry Hawthorn (450156)

Parish of All Saints, Langton Long

Wardens: Barbara Ward (452707)
Colin Miles (452010)

Treasurer: Charles Culshaw (453042)

Please note that the Rector's day off is Friday and the Curate's day off is Monday. They are usually unavailable from 5.00-7.00pm each evening.

For all other contact details, please phone the parish office or see the web site.

Usual Weekly Events @ BFPC ...

Wednesdays at 8.30am - United Prayer Meeting.

Thursdays at 9.30am - BCP Holy Communion.

Fridays at 10.00am - Teddy Bear Club.

Saturday Morning - Coffee House.



Sun 4th	10.00am Holy Communion at BFPC 11.00am Morning Prayer at LL 6.30pm Evening Worship at BFPC
Tue 6th	8.00pm Intercessions Training @ Rectory
Wed 7th	Focus "We believe in The Holy Spirit"
Thu 8th	7.30pm LL PCC Meet @ Rectory
Sat 10th	1.00pm BBQ at Church followed by England v Paraguay
Sun 11th	8.00am Holy Communion at BFPC 10.00am All Age Worship at BFPC 11.00am Holy Communion at LL 6.30pm Evening Worship at BFPC
Tue 13th	Gilrs@BFPC Tear Fund Evening
Wed 14th	Focus Groups - Social Action
Thu 15th	5.00pm England v Trinidad & Tobago
Sat 17th	Quiz Evening at Methodist Hall
Sun 18th	10.00am Morning Prayer at BFPC (Visit from Joseph Bilal from Sudan) 6.00pm Evensong at LL (with the Bemerton Church Choir)
Tue 20th	8.00pm England v Sweden
Wed 21st	Focus "We believe in Worldwide Mission"
Thu 22nd	7.30pm BFPC PCC Meet
Sun 25th	10.00am All Age Communion at BFPC 11.00am All Age Worship at LL 6.30pm Evening Worship at BFPC
Tue 27th	Prayer@BFPC Day
Wed 28th	Focus "The End of the World"

Funerals:

May 16th - Philip Gorden Foot (at BFPC)

Wedding Blessing:

May 27th -
Richard Gray Hungerford III
and Miriam Susannah Orton (at Langton)



Outlook

News from Blandford Forum and Langton Long - June 2006

In the book of Acts Luke begins to vividly describe for us that which must have been indescribable. The power of God coming from heaven to earth as a wind, thundering into the place where they had gathered with all the energy and fright of herd of animals stampeding. And yet it had happened before. Not with the noise or the violence that Luke speaks of, but in the still of a Bethlehem night. The power of God coming from heaven, this time as a helpless babe. John records with simplicity that occasion which is surely as indescribable as Pentecost, *'The word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.'*

'When I consider the heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?' Psalm 8, 3-4
And yet that is the love of God. An unstoppable love from a God who cannot but reach down from heaven to his created earth.

"When the day of Pentecost came they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting." Acts 2:1-2

Last Sunday I led a service at Langton at which Ken and Trisha Reynolds spoke of their work amongst the lost and broken youth of our town. They spoke of abuse and of broken families. Of a brown powder called heroin and of children who want to commit suicide. They spoke of a world that most of us don't know and yet a world some of us have lived through and try to forget. Never so affected, and yet I have been involved in cases where sons have beaten their father to death because thirty years previously he had abused them. I've stood in lounges where children play amid the waste of heroin smoking in the knowledge that the parents are so consumed with their addiction that they have no love left for their offspring. And not just me. The fall of our children is like cancer, it's either happened to us or we know a child it's happened to. And I broke down.

Love on Fire

As I prayed through the intercessions so my heart was torn, and I cried tears of pain for a fallen world. And yet I'm just a man. I don't even know the children involved. With those I've met I've only dropped into their lives for a fleeting moment before returning to the sanctuary of my own home, far from the hurts of their lives. And yet I cry. But think what it's like for God.

Those children are his children. The earth and its peoples created as perfection until the whispers of a serpent enticed the world from God. And now a truth too hard to bare, that his children live in a fallen world where the darkness of sin corrupts and steals and mars that which was made perfect. And so out of love, *'The word became flesh and made his dwelling among us'*.

The living God, to be our example, come down from heavens glory to walk through the sin of our lives, and yet without blemish. *'For God so love the world that he gave his only begotten Son'* A love so strong that Christ walked the path to Calvary; that the sin of Satan would be defeated, and the gates of death smashed down. Yet to break those gates God required that Christ walk through them to show us the way. And he did. The word made flesh, giving his life, a ransom for many. But a vow had been made. That we would not be left to the devils whims unprotected. And the word made flesh said this, *'and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age.'* *'I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that he may abide with you forever.'*



God's heart is torn at the desperation of the world, and is undying love for us prevents him from being absent. And so he comes, first as flesh, now as Spirit, that the world might be convicted by a love that gives everything and asks for nothing, save our faith in him.

Martin Court

"Outlook" is Monthly News from Parishes of Blandford Forum and Langton Long in Dorset.

Mission Statement: "To Discover and Nurture Relationships in Jesus Christ."

Blandford Vision Statement: "To see every road in Blandford Forum baptised in the love of God."

Langton Vision Statement: "To build a joyful Fellowship of Healing and Wholeness."

The parish office is open 9.30-12noon each weekday morning.

Parish Office: 01258 456260 Email: office@bfpc.org.uk Web Site: www.bfpc.org.uk



Prayer@BFPC: 27th June

9.00am @ BFPC - 12noon @ Langton - 8.00pm @ BFPC

Please send requests to 456260 or prayer@bfpc.org.uk or use the pews cards - by Sunday 21st May!

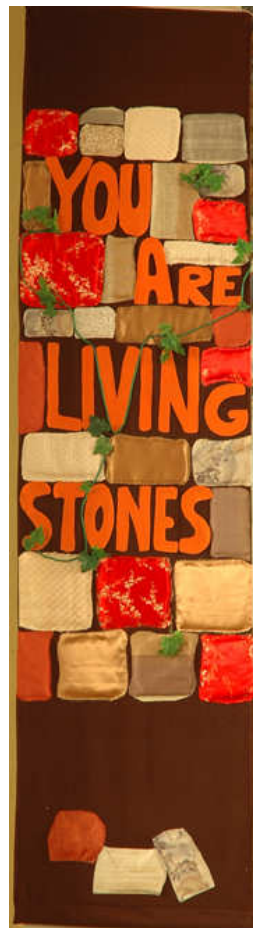


Art ...

Every two weeks a small group meets to revive their artistic skills and to explore new ways to draw and paint. Janet Dominy shares ideas and helps members carry them out. It's good to have a go in a relaxed and informal way in Angie Hack's home. One special aspect of work is to listen to God for inspiration to illustrate Bible verses. This is a new venture but one day we hope to use our gifts to help others know Jesus better through pictures we make."

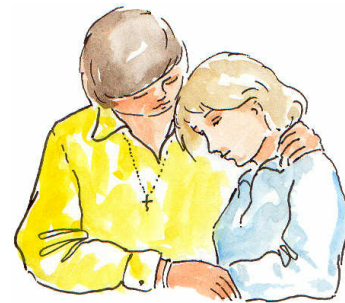
... and Banners

Banners are so much more than something colourful to hide a dull wall. A banner bears witness to the presence of a King! Banners can reflect upon, or remind you of a theme the Church is considering. Banners can proclaim, celebrate, comfort or challenge. Banner makers enjoy being creative as they get to know each other better. They seek God's inspiration for the next project, and pray the results will be a blessing to all who see them.



Interested in Art or Banners ?

Contact Jackie in the Office to find out more ! You can see all the BFPC banners on the Church web site at www.bfpc.org.uk



Prayer Ministry

God speaks to us all sorts of ways and the most important thing is not to ignore him !

Sometimes he wants to tell us things about our lives - to challenge us or encourage us, to guide us or show us things which need to change. Whatever God is saying to us, it is really important that we respond to him - and it is often useful to have someone to talk to or pray this through with.

For some years, there has been a Prayer Ministry Team at BFPC which has offered prayer and anointing at Communion Services. We have recently trained a number of new people to add to those who have been involved in this ministry and now Prayer Ministry is available in the Lady Chapel at all Morning Services, either in Communion or after All Age or Morning Prayer services.

Tim Storey

Martin Court is to be Priested at Salisbury Cathedral on July 1st at 11.00am. Please come and support him and pray for him !



South African Experience.

We have recently returned to live full time in Blandford, after ten years or so of commuting between Dorset and London. We have just come back from a fortnight's trip to South Africa, organised by a minister who was born in South Africa but is now one of the ministers in the Methodist circuit in West London where we used to worship. Besides being a fantastic holiday (we have never been to South Africa before) it turned out to be a very moving experience.



The most emotive part was our visit to the Phakamisa project run by Glenda Howieson and the Pinetown Methodist Church. This is just north of Durban in KwaZuluNatal (KZN) where 40% of the population are HIV+ and there is 50% unemployment. Many problems are caused by whole generations of people dying of HIV and Aids and so the older generations (Grannies) are looking after hundreds of orphans. The Pinetown Church is training people to grow food and support themselves, feeding some families, providing education and helping to fund funerals. (Zulus very rarely are cremated as it is important to them that they have a burial. Many choose a Christian funeral and they also believe that after death they will meet their ancestors). Care, support and training in the community is of great importance to Glenda and her team. We visited a shanty town and saw the depths of poverty first hand. We were amazed at the dignified acceptance of a Granny dying of diabetes and Aids who is looking after eight children in a shack about eight foot square which leaked when it rained. There was only a double bed, a single bed and a couple of cupboards for furniture. We were very moved by tales such as one of an orphan girl (three years old) who was left to starve when her mother died and who was later found at her mother's grave trying to dig up her body - she was doing this as she was hungry and she wanted her mother to feed her as she had done previously. The church is also supporting a number of teachers - we met one called Mbali who looks after two classes a day, each of thirty five orphan children from three to

six years old - she is also known as the "panty lady" as she distributes pants to those children who have none.

We were told that what we saw was more than 80% of white South Africans have seen or care about. We feel that we would like to help these people through the project as we know that in this way it will reach the most needy. In some cases financial aid sent to countries abroad doesn't always reach those it is meant to help. Corrupt governments is one example of this. Indeed, we were told that the formal economy in South Africa suffers from over-regulation and so we are looking at ways to exploit the informal one through the church, and therefore directly to help the people of St. Wendolins Township. We would ask for your prayers for these lovely people who made us so welcome.

Jean and David Williams



Thanks Ian

Over the past few years, Ian Saville has been a great friend to Blandford and Langton and also led the church through the period of the interregnum. Ian has

now felt the time is right to "retire". Many, many people have been touched by his ministry here and it seems insufficient to simply say "Thank you" - but from all of us, Thank You, Ian for your love, your wisdom and your ministry !!

Langton News

On Sunday May 21st Ken and Trish Reynolds visited and spoke about their work with the young people of Blandford. We learnt of the development of their ministry and heard about some heartrending but also miraculous experiences. Their compassion and empathy for the young people inspired us to encourage and pray more specifically for them. We were able to give Ken and Trish a donation towards their work.



On June 25th we are looking forward to welcoming the Bemerton Choir once again. They are going to lead our Evensong worship at 6 p.m. Beforehand we will have afternoon tea at the Old Rectory, by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Skipwith, which will enable us to enjoy the beautiful gardens and meet for a chat. Do come and join us for this special occasion.

Annette Orton

Do You Have Story to Tell ?

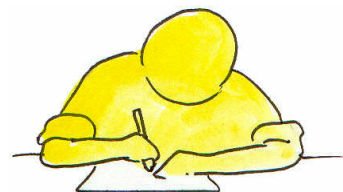
All of us have a story to tell about the way we have experienced God in our own lives. For some, it is a dramatic story of a Damascus Road encounter with Jesus - for others, it has been a gradual, growing awareness of God in our lives.



Whatever your story may be, it is interesting because others will benefit from knowing what has happened to you. It will help them to realise that their experience is just as valid and real as anyone else. **ALL our stories are important** - and we would like to hear them! The Churches in the town are putting together a leaflet to go through every door in the town in the coming months and we would like some testimonies to go in it. But we would also like to share them in Outlook or in a Sunday service.

All of us have a story to tell ... what's yours ?

Please send yours to me via the office !



Tim Storey