

Parish Info + Diary



Rector: Rev Tim Storey
2 Portman Place
Blandford Forum DT11 7DG
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Curate: Rev Martin Court
17 Bayfran Way
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Parish of St Peter and St Paul, Blandford Forum

The office is open 9.30-12.00 weekday mornings.
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Administrator: Jackie Poynter
jackie@bfpc.org.uk
Receptionist: Su Tomes
su@bfpc.org.uk
Readers: Jennie Rake (451186)
Osbert Tun Pe (450891)
Wardens: Angela Hird (456294)
Stuart McAinsh (459394)
Treasurer: Heather Stringer (454864)

Parish of All Saints, Langton Long

Wardens: John Hellewell (450455)
Colin Miles (452010)
Treasurer: Charles Culshaw (453042)

Please note that Tim and Martin's day off is Friday.
They are usually unavailable between
5.00 and 7.00pm each evening.

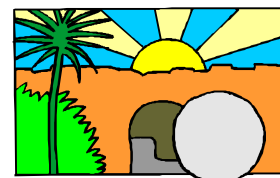
For all other contact details, please phone
the parish office or see the web site.

Our usual Weekly Events @ BFPC ...

Thursdays at 9.30am BCP Holy Communion
Fridays at 10.00am Teddy Bear Club
Saturday Morning Coffee House



Sun 1st **"Worship is ... Discipline"**
9.00am BCP Holy Communion at BFPC
10.30am Morning Worship at BFPC
11.00am Morning Prayer at LL
Wed 4th Focus Groups: "Listening and Obedience"
Thu 5th **MAUNDY THURSDAY**
7.00pm Holy Communion at BFPC
Fri 6th **GOOD FRIDAY**
10.30am Walk of Witness
begins at The Corn Exchange
3.00pm Hour at The Cross at BFPC



Sun 8th **EASTER DAY**
9.00am BCP Holy Communion at BFPC
10.30am All Age Communion at BFPC
11.00am All Age Communion at LL
7.00pm United Celebration at BEC
Mon 9th Easter Walk - Meet at Church at 10am

Sun 15th **"Worship is ... Honest"**
9.00am CW Holy Communion at BFPC
10.30am Morning Worship at BFPC
11.00am Holy Communion at LL
6.30pm No Evening Service
Tue 17th 7.30pm: Wedding Preparation @ BFPC
Wed 18th Focus Groups: Social Evening
Thu 19th 7.30pm: AGM @ BFPC

Sun 22nd **"Worship is ... Good News"**
9.00am Morning Prayer at BFPC
10.30am Holy Communion at BFPC
11.00am All Age Worship at LL
Tue 24th **Prayer@BFPC Day**
Wed 28th Focus Groups: "New Life + Good News"
Sun 29th **"Worship is ... Life"**
10.30am United Celebration at BFPC
(See Article inside Outlook!!)

"Outlook" is Monthly News from the 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."

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



Outlook

News from Blandford Forum and Langton Long - April 2007

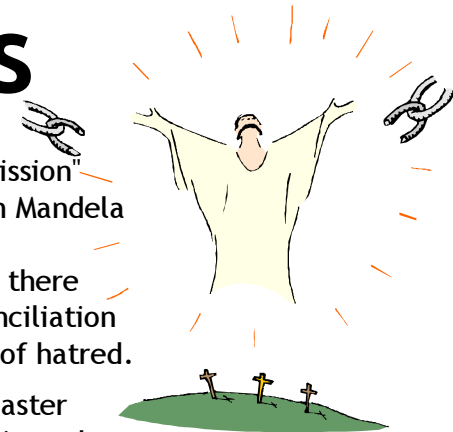
Breaking The Chains

It was two hundred years ago that an Act of Parliament was passed that outlawed the transportation of slaves. Over the past few weeks there have been many TV programmes reflecting on that period of history - with very different perspectives. For some, there is still a bitterness, a seemingly unbearable burden of hatred for their oppressors which the passing two centuries has failed to ease. For others, the recognition of the previously unspoken admission of guilt has been an important part of the healing process.

"If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin - because anyone who has died has been freed from sin." Romans 6:5-7

The most moving conversation I have seen was on "Songs of Praise" where a young black girl came face to face with a descendant of Sir John Hawkins, one of the first slave traders. She confessed that she had cursed his descendant but had now come to realise that forgiveness was the only route to freedom for herself. He, in turn, had been on his knees, bound in chains, in front of a crowd in a Ghanaian stadium, seeking forgiveness - only to be faced with the Vice President of the nation, on her knees before him, relieving him of his chains.

As the "Truth and Reconciliation Commission" established by Nelson Mandela after the changes in South Africa showed, there is real power in reconciliation and the wiping away of hatred.



The coming days of Easter show the power of this at the profoundest level of all - in hearts. God has every right to condemn us for the life of sin which each of us has lived - and yet he chose not to pursue vengeance, but instead, motivated by the vastness of his love, he sought us out to bring about reconciliation. Like the Father in the Parable of the Prodigal Son, his first and foremost desire was to be reconciled with his wayward son. He had every right to be angry at the son who had wasted his hard-earned wealth (just like us), and yet he valued relationship far greater than material wealth.

In the way that he instituted what we call "Holy Communion", Jesus specifically chose to use the imagery of freedom from slavery to portray the freedom which would occur less than 24 hours later on the Cross. The freedom from slavery in Egypt - a foretaste of the freedom from slavery to sin.

As we celebrate this freedom in the coming days, may we know the freedom from the past, but also recognise the cost which Jesus paid for us on the Cross. And may we truly know what it means to be free in the future, living lives that are brimming over with thankfulness and love in return for that love poured out for us on the Cross.

Tim Storey

You are invited to

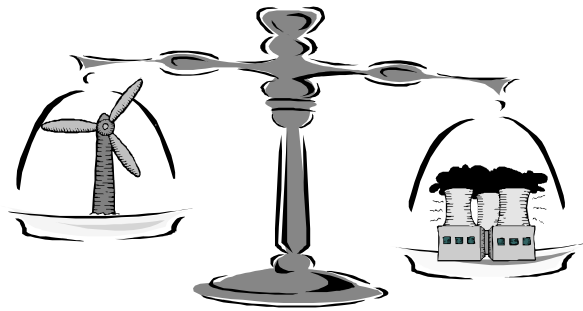
Blandford AGM

7.30pm - Thursday 19 April

- Hear reports on the life of the church.
- Elect Church Wardens.
- Elect six members of PCC.



Redressing the Balance of Power



A Practical Guide to Climate Change and what you can do about it.
Friday 27th April at 7.30pm
Allendale Centre, Wimborne
 All welcome - 01202 889487 for details



Come and Work off the Easter Eggs ...!!

Go for a Church family walk and picnic on Easter Monday ...
 10.00am, at Church
 (if you need transport)
 or 10.30am at Broadchalk
 (on the way to Salisbury)

Maps and Instructions available from the Parish Office or phone Martin on 489321.



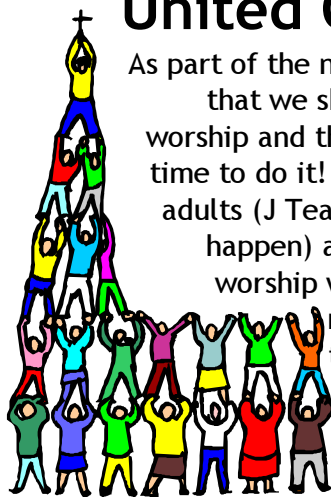
What's Happening with The Hall ?

Look out for a special edition of Outlook which updates the situation regarding the application to North Dorset District Council for a New Church Hall. The application will be heard either at the end of April or the end of May - we will let you know as soon as we have a date !!



Tuesday 24th March
Prayer Day @ BFPC
 9am @ BFPC - 12noon @ Langton - 8pm @ BFPC

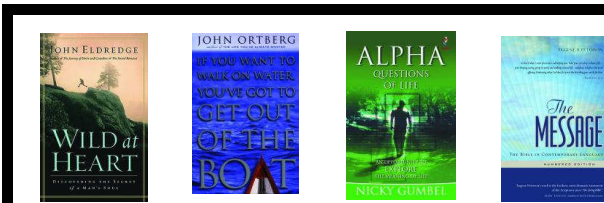
Sunday 29th April @ 10.30am
Blandford and Langton
United Celebration



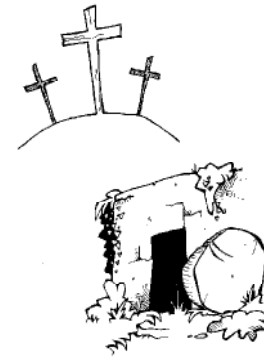
As part of the new pattern of services, we felt that we should try and come together to worship and that the fifth Sunday was a good time to do it! The service on 29th April is for adults (J Team and the Youth Work will still happen) and the idea is to have forms of worship which can be appreciated by as many as possible. For example, this Celebration will have some Taize worship as part of it. This is for everyone ... Please Come and Join us!

A Quote from Rick Warren ...
 In happy moments, PRAISE GOD.
 In difficult moments, SEEK GOD.
 In quiet moments, WORSHIP GOD.
 In painful moments, TRUST GOD.
 Every moment of every day, THANK GOD.

Have You Had A Look At The BFPC Bookstall Yet ?



Easter @ BFPC



Maundy Thursday - Thursday 5th April
7.00pm @ BFPC - Holy Communion
 Maundy Thursday is the day when Jesus spent time with his disciples celebrating the Passover Feast (to remind them of when God delivered them from Slavery in Egypt). Jesus turned this Jewish celebration into the Christian celebration we know as Holy Communion. This is a quiet service to recall that evening and help us prepare for the days that follow.

Good Friday - Friday 6th April
10.30am @ The Corn Exchange
A Walk of Witness
 The first Good Friday was an ordinary Market Day as the people of Jerusalem prepared for the Passover Feast that was in full swing. Today, Good Friday may be a Bank Holiday, but the commercial life of 21st Century Britain sometimes seems unaffected by the significance of the day. The Churches of Blandford Forum come together each year to recall the sacrifice made for us by Jesus on the Cross and to carry a Cross around the town as an act of witness. It begins with a short time of worship for all the family outside the Corn Exchange and then a walk around the town.

Good Friday - Friday 6th April
3.00pm @ BFPC - An Hour at the Cross
 The Bible says that it was at around 3pm on Good Friday that Jesus died. At that moment, a number of things happened: the sky went dark, Jesus cried out that he had finished the work God had given him to do and, as he died, the curtain which separated the "Holy of Holies" (where the Jews believed God "lived") was ripped in two, from top to bottom, as God announced his desire to be united with his people. The Hour at the Cross is a quiet service where these things are recalled in word, picture and song.

Easter Sunday - Sunday 8th April
9.00am @ BFPC - Holy Communion (BCP)
 Start the day of celebration with a reflective service of Holy Communion from the Book of Common Prayer.
10.30am @ BFPC - All Age Communion
11.00am @ Langton - All Age Communion
 A joyful celebration service with Holy Communion for all ages to celebrate the Resurrection of our Saviour.

News From Langton Long

The house group at Two Gates Cottage on Wednesdays will in future be in the afternoon in the hope that this will enable others to join us, particularly anyone reluctant to come out in the evening - we should have thought of this before the winter!!!



On March 2nd a number of us attended the service for the Women's World Day of Prayer which took place at the United Reformed Church in Blandford. It was a lovely service of reflection at which Marian Miles gave a thought-provoking sermon.

On Sunday, March 25th during the All Age service we celebrated the baptism of Daniel Reece Watkins, after which we had our AGM. The meeting was well attended and amongst other business Eileen Lancaster was presented with a gift from the congregation as a token of our appreciation and gratitude for her eighteen years of cheerful and efficient service as church secretary. Colin Miles and John Hellewell agreed to continue as our church wardens and we welcomed Alex McCracken onto the PCC and Gerry Hird as our Deanery Synod representative. I shall do my utmost to follow in Eileen's footsteps (but not for 18 years, Tim!).

A little reminder that on May 3rd the official opening of the money boxes for the Children's Society will take place in the Corn Exchange, where there will also be a white-elephant stall in support of the society. If you would like to contribute to that, it might be a good idea to start collecting items for the stand now.

We are looking forward to joining BFPC for 'the walk of witness' and 'an hour at the cross' on Good Friday and to our Easter Service at Langton.
On behalf of All Saints, Langton Long may I wish you all a JOYOUS EASTER!

Annette Orton

Baptism
 March 25
 Daniel Reece Watkins (at Langton)

Funeral:
 March 27
 Elizabeth Mary Martin
 aged 61 (at BFPC)

