

Who's Who @ BFPC



Rector: Rev Tim Storey
2 Portman Place
Blandford Forum
DT11 7DG
Tel: 01258-480092
Email: tim@bfpc.org.uk



NSM: Rev Rosy Coldwell
12 Stileham Bank
Milborne St Andrew
DT11 0LE
Tel: 01258-837600
Email: rosy@bfpc.org.uk

Parish of St Peter and St Paul, Blandford Forum

The office is open 9.30-12.00 weekday mornings.

Telephone: 01258-456260

Email: office@bfpc.org.uk

Parish Admin Manager

Jill Cuss - jill@bfpc.org.uk

Administrator

Di Jack - di@bfpc.org.uk

Administration Assistant

Louise Moogan - louise@bfpc.org.uk

Lay Ministers: Jennie Rake 451186
Osbert Tun Pe 450891
Mark Riley 860718
Wardens: Sara Loch 450278
Gail Del-Pinto 451573

Parish of All Saints, Langton Long

Wardens: Mike Brookes 480232
Marion Warren 450275

Please note that Tim's day off is Friday and Rosy's day off is Monday. The Staff are usually unavailable between 5.00 and 7.00pm each evening.

For all other contact details, please phone the parish office or see the Parish website: www.bfpc.org.uk

Church Services

Sunday 1st January

The search for Jesus

Matthew 2:1-12 & Isaiah 60:1-6

9am Holy Communion @ BFPC
10.30am Morning Worship @ BFPC
11am Holy Communion @ LL

Sunday 8th January

Jesus' Baptism

Luke 3:21-22 & 1Corinthian 12:7-13

9am Holy Communion @ BFPC
10.30am All Age Service @ The centre
11am Morning Prayer @ LL

Sunday 15th January

Unity Service

9am No service
10.30am United Worship @ BFPC
11am No service @ LL
7pm Venue @ The centre

Sunday 22nd January

The miraculous Catch

Luke 5:1-11 & Ephesians 4: 1-6

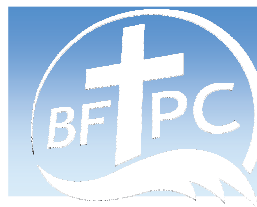
9am Morning Prayer @ BFPC
10.30am Holy Communion @ BFPC
10.30am All Age Worship @ LL

Sunday 29th January

The Paralysed Man

Luke 5:17-26 & Psalm 32

9am Holy Communion @ BFPC
10.30am Morning Worship @ The centre
11am Prayer and Praise @ LL



January 2012 Outlook

News from Blandford Forum and Langton Long

The Verse for 2012 – BFPC and Langton Long

"You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."

1 Peter 2:9

"Step Into The Light"

Over the Christmas period, we have heard those carol words "Light and Life To All He Brings" many times, as we have sung of the wonders of the child born to us. The wrapping paper is now on its way to be recycled and the cards will no doubt shortly follow. Christmas is over for another year and we go back to the "normality" of life (whatever that means). We leave the child to grow up and to become a man - and for many that means "out of sight, out of mind". The Light and the Life fade into the normality of our human existence ...

In the coming months, we will be looking at the life and ministry of Jesus through incidents, meetings, people, miracles, and the way that Jesus' life touched others around him. He met with them; very often the conversation was subtle and didn't talk about salvation and yet he said "Follow Me" – and they did. Through our series of sermons and in our Home groups (are you in one yet?) we shall be looking at these stories and asking what they say to us about our lives and how we respond to that self-same invitation to Follow Jesus. If we do that, it changes our lives: the light and life of Christmas begins to shine more brightly. As his light shines in us and through us, we become part of the Body of Christ and the words of Peter begin to make sense.

Firstly, we are a "chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God". This means that we should live in a different way; a way in which we have confidence that we are following God's path for us and shows that we follow Jesus and belong to Him. But, secondly, we are called so that we "may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light". We are a people who reflect the light and life that Jesus has brought us, the light we live in and reflect him as "The Light of the World". Peter is encouraging us to live as people of Light, a pure and beautiful light, an intense and glorious light, the light that comes from the throne of God himself.

In John's Gospel, we read "The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world." (John 1:9). His light will never dim. What can so easily dim is our willingness to reflect that light. The challenge for us as Churches in 2012 is to follow Jesus from Bethlehem to Calvary, letting that light reflect in us, and out from us, to those around us, so that we may truly declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Have a wonderful 2012!



Tim



"Outlook" - News from Blandford Forum & Langton Long.

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

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

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

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

BFPC is a Registered Charity No 1132519

Blandford Forum Parish Church Allsorts Craft Club

Tucked quietly away in the Galilee Hall on the first Tuesday of every month from 6:45 to 8:30 is the newly formed Blandford Forum Parish Church 'Allsorts' Craft Club. Here ladies from the church, community and surrounding district come together to share their gift or talent with those wanting to learn.

All that we ask is that if someone shows an interest in learning a new craft this information is given freely as it has been given freely by our Father.

So far we have skills:

Knitting	Genealogy
Crochet	Flower arranging
Quilting	Stencilling
Cross Stitch	Card making
Rug making	Jewellery making
Scrap- booking	

Exciting projects on the go:

We have been asked by the Town Council to get involved in the forthcoming Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. They have asked the club if we could design some sort of display, using our unique creative gifts, which depict people's perception of the Diamond Jubilee.

The idea we have come up with is to encourage all our members to create something in their own area of expertise which can then be fixed onto A4 artists canvass, these will then be displayed onto a screen (much like a room divider). If you are interested in taking part then do please come along, there is still time.

Links have also been developed with one of the local primary schools, Milldown Primary School, (and hopefully Archbishop Wake School) regarding the development of a design which will also be included alongside that of the club. Exciting discussions are underway!

We will be also making our own bunting for use by the Council during the celebrations!

Another way we have linked the church craft group and community has been to hold a very successful craft sale and coffee morning in the Galilee Hall. We aim to provide a craft sale twice yearly, spring and Christmas. Many people coming to the event commented on the lovely crafts that were for sale and the happy relaxed atmosphere within the hall. A great time was had by all.

If you have a craft and would like to have a stall at the next craft sale in Spring, possibly Saturday before the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, then please see Gail to be booked onto the system.

We have a lot of interesting things coming up in the New Year, here is a taster. (some of these have yet to be confirmed so watch this space!)

- January 2012 – Demonstration on Stencilling - definite
- February- Possible demo on Gold Work
- March - Demonstration on Rug making - definite
- April - Possible demo by Crafty Ribbons (Blandford)

Church or what we believe – or more likely, indirectly because of our explanation to the question '*Why are you doing this?*'

'Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have' - 1 Peter 3:15.

If we cannot be sure that people who have never been to a normal church service will make the link there with the God of love we have come to know, then we must find other ways of opening up the way to God. For some people in our town, this way might be one of those ways.

- *How long will it take to 'see every road in Blandford baptised in the love of God'?*
God knows.

Our responsibility is to build the bridges, look for where God is working and be in the right place when people are ready to respond to Him. At the moment, we estimate it will take another 6 years to deliver an invitation to every house in the town. So far, we have hand-posted about 1000 for the last 4 events we have held at the Centre, so we are on the way. And the invitations are just the start – at the moment, we don't know what the next step will be. Every invitation letter arrives on doormats along with a calendar of events for the coming year, and a postcard which can be used to tell us what people are thinking. These have begun to come back in increasing numbers, and the information they provide may well lead us in another direction.

- *What can I do?*
At the AGM in April, I explained that this is something everyone can be involved with. We have an established team of cooks, makers and servers and extra help is always welcome there, but we always need talkers, listeners, directors, encouragers, table-clearers and street greeters. There are probably other roles we haven't even thought of yet!

Every event is co-ordinated through one House Group in particular, but it would be great if everyone who was available could come to every event. If you are not in a House Group yet, then think about joining one so that you too can see the event process from start to finish. Those who do often find it more rewarding than they ever would have imagined –it is amazing how much we have already learned about the areas of the town we have been to so far, and about the huge range of people who come to the events. Here is just one quote from a guest who visited us and chose to use our Centre feedback form at the soup lunch in November;

'We think it's lovely. I remember how it used to be with ivy growing through the wall and raindrops through the ceiling, so top marks now! Great soup. What a lovely idea to bring the community together.'

Dan Roberts

May you experience the power of God's word, the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and the comfort of God's love in 2012!

Explaining 'The Free Lunch'

'Taste and see that the Lord is good' - Psalm 34:8

- *Over the last year, we have been inviting people to the Parish Centre on a Saturday morning to enjoy home-made food as a free gift from us at BFPC. Why have we been doing this?*

'To see every road in Blandford Forum baptised in the love of God'.

Our Vision statement has pushed us to consider ways in which we can reach out to the people who live in every road of our town in order for them to experience something of the love of God.

There are a number of practical connections we have made;

1. It is necessary that we go to every road (and every house) in the town.
2. We need to offer the people who live in these roads, something which speaks of the God we know and the love that he has shown to us and has for them.

- *Why are we offering them free food?*

Jesus loved food. Jesus used meals and eating to communicate important messages about love and God. Jesus loves us unconditionally. As Christ's followers, we want to respond to His unconditional love for us. If we are to communicate something about this love, and imitate Jesus in communicating the power of this message, food is one of His recommended methods.

In our culture, people do not want to be told what to believe. They don't want to be 'told' anything. But they do have questions – and if we can inspire the right question, God can provide us with the right answer. Great food, made with love for the people who are to eat it, which is also unexpectedly free can draw out these questions. This is our experience so far at the events we have held at the Centre.

- *Why Saturday? Why soup / bread / ice cream / cake?*

Our experiences since 2004 have shown that Saturday morning from 10am to 1pm is **the** slot in the week when the people of Blandford come to the town centre and are open to experiencing something new.

To engender surprise and encourage a response, the food we offer must be 'normal', genuinely free and taste great. It is possible for anyone who is used to cooking to produce food like this with some effort and a little time. Home-made versions of these foods often still taste better than the most expensive shop-bought alternative. God-given creativity will beat the mass-manufactured world version every time. When people taste something so good, we can begin to open their minds to the possibility that there is a 'God behind the good'.

- *How is this going to get people to come to Church?*

Short answer – it probably won't! But this is not the point. The hope is that we can begin to build a relationship – and we have seen the beginnings of this – with individuals who come to be fed by us. Through this relationship, we can point them towards God. This might be directly – because of a conversation about

- May - Demonstration on flower arranging - definite
- June - Possible demo by Dorset Buttons
- July - ?? – (trip somewhere yet to be decided)
- August - Summer holidays
- September - ??
- October - Knitathon!!
- November - ??
- December - ??

You will see that we have a few dates that still need filling. DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO COME AND DO A DEMONSTRATION FOR US? Please let us know!

We are also arranging for a Quiz night on one of the evenings in March, possibly soup and a roll and a small prize for the winners. Ticket price is £5.00 to take part. More details to follow.

The Georgian Fayre is fast approaching and the Allsorts Craft Club is being encouraged to man the refreshments in Church during the fayre - we will also be displaying crafted items.

Allsorts has also taken part in making up Shoe Boxes for underprivileged children – these amounted to 6 full shoe boxes, 50 knitted hats and over 30 hand puppets, bags and gloves being donated by the group! A really wonderful show of caring.

In the new year we will be supporting a new charity for the year, TWAM (Tools with a Mission). We have within the craft club a local organizer for this wonderful charity which sends knitted items of clothing and anything to do with sewing to the third world, to help ladies in dire straits learn a trade and therefore enable them to keep their families.

The charity needs knitted items of vests and tops (patterns are available) together with old sewing machines, old knitting machines, materials (cloth), pins and needles, knitting needles, crochet hooks, in fact anything to do with sewing etc. These are then collected stripped down and mended/serviced put into a container and sent abroad. So ask all your friends, neighbours and get them cleaning out their attics!! If you would like to take part, or have any of the above, please see Gail for more information.

As you can see the club is thriving with lots and lots of wonderful opportunities to get involved in all sorts of different things. Please don't be shy, come and have a go at everything and anything, and encourage anybody you know to come along and make new friends.

Gail Del-Pinto

A Fresh Start

There is something rather wonderful about a New Year and the opportunities it provides for a fresh start in life. January 1st may be, in so many ways, nothing more than a date in the diary (albeit a Bank Holiday) but it is a date on which so many things begin and it challenges us to grasp the opportunities it presents us with. A few months ago, I was on a day's retreat and reading a book, when a line from it came out of the page and hit me between the eyes: "What would you do in your Church if the building was destroyed and you had to start from scratch tomorrow?" I've read that question many times before, but on this occasion, I felt that God was saying very clearly that we have an opportunity not to "tinker" but to think afresh about what we do in the life of BFPC. Over the past few months, the PCC, along with the Youth and Children's Team and the Ministry Team have been working with me to answer the question "What does this mean in practice?" and we have come up with a scheme which will begin in February Ok, it's not January, but it's as close as we could get!

A new Vicar arrived in a Parish and was told by one of his Church Wardens "You can do anything you want – as long as you don't change anything". This is an apocryphal story but most churches (and Vicars) know that "change" is the sort of word that strikes fear into the hearts of many. But we can get comfortable (too comfortable) in our ways of worship and our understanding of "Church" and, as a result, we can stagnate in our worship and become ineffective in letting the gospel speak into an ever changing world. The danger, of course, is that we do "change for change's sake" and don't think through the implications of what is being proposed. I don't believe that the PCC have fallen into this trap but believe that we have worked towards a way forward that is where God is wanting us to go, so that we are better equipped and more to see our Vision of seeing "Every Road in Blandford Baptised in the Love of God" fulfilled.

A week or so ago, we saw some change in our Christmas Services with an informal "Carols in the Morning" followed by an open air, joint "Carols on the Green" service with BEC in the middle of the Persimmon Estate. Change! But the response to this has been enthusiastic and certainly has given us a feel for a way to do things differently for Christmases to come. And it is important to say that both of these services fitted with our Vision Statement and how it impacts on the way we worship.

So what about February? For some time, the 10.30am service has been struggling with the conflict between how that service has been developing and the building in which it takes place. BFPC is a beautiful building – and it is our prayer that in a few years time, The Cupola Project will see it restored and regenerated for the worship of the 21st Century. But in the meantime, it is proving a difficult place for the informal styles of

worship which are developing at the 10.30am service. At the same time, the Centre has become a place of outreach, on Saturday mornings, at the Rainbows

Toddler Group, at Messy Church and a host of other events which seek to reach out into the Community. And when the 10.30am service has been at the Centre, there have been many who have found it a far more conducive environment for the type of worship we are growing into at that service. So it now seems a natural progression to move the 10.30am to the Centre.

That is where this thinking began – but the original question was about what we could do, if we wanted to

start again from scratch. So the PCC talked about the 9.00am service and timings in general, and came up with a radical suggestion that (from February) we start *both* services at 9.30am, allowing for Children and Youth groups to meet and parents to go to whichever service they feel would suit their needs. Radical solutions always present serious questions such as *What about the Unity between the services?* The PCC noted that every Home Group is a mix of people from both of the existing services and that this is where the main unity of the parish is expressed – but also that we need to have active opportunities for more: so we shall be having united services on every 5th Sunday in Church as well as other social events in the calendar to encourage unity. There are many questions still to be asked and answered (some which we won't see until we actually start the new scheme) but the key question is this: *Is this what God wants for us?* The PCC (which represents the diversity of the parish) were unanimous that this is the way forward for us and having this in our minds means that we are confident that if this is where God is leading us, then all questions and issues that arise will be able to be answered and overcome in His way and at His time.

On February 5th, we will begin a Fresh Start with two Services, both at 9.30am, in Church and in the Centre – the services will follow the same patterns as at present, but will allow us to explore and develop each of them as God leads us. It is exciting, maybe a little nerve

wracking, but a Fresh Start which the PCC believes God has given us, and one we should grasp with both hands, so that we can make the most of it for his Glory and to see "Every Road in Blandford Baptised in the Love of God".

Tim

