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**JULY AND AUGUST LOOP 2022**

**Weekly Collects, Readings and Reflection are on the website (see above.)**

**Summer is here!**

It’s a double Loop this time round- covering both July and August. I hope a lighter couple of months will enable you all to enjoy the summer sun (let’s keep hoping!), holidays and time with family.

As you know, I will be away from the afternoon of the 24th July. We’re off to Austria for the best part of four weeks, and then I’ll take some time on moving leave… though in reality it’ll be spent tidying up our old house! I’ll be back on Sunday, 28th August, but then I’ll keep the inside of the next week as the rest of my moving leave, so that I’m completely revived, re-housed and returned by the week beginning 5th September.

Peter is at Chapter in Mirfield from the 7th July, and he will be back on Sunday, 31st July. You’ll notice that there is one week when neither of us is here in the parishes. Joyce will be available if anybody needs to get in touch, and Peter will be available by email for the last week in July.

We’re hugely grateful to a whole army of retired clergy who are covering services for us around the Loop during the seven week block when there is only one of us here at a time. I know you’ll give them a really warm and gracious welcome. Wardens are aware of who is covering each service, and a bit about who they are- so if you are interested, do ask!

**Forest Church**

All are welcome at our next Forest Church on Sunday 17th July, 3pm at Shrawardine. We will meet on the Castle Mound, and we’re very fortunate this time round that there will be a good number of experts with us- they will be available to share their knowledge of both the local plant-life and the history of the village.

We can play hide-and-seek around the ruins, dress up in armour (if you are very small!), do some plant-printing, hunt the hidden teddies, or just enjoy the beautiful surroundings. Please do bring your own drinks this time, as well as a packed tea. There will be some rather swish portaloos available, which is why we’ve chosen this date!

Parking is also by the Castle Mound- so as you come into Shraden, you’ll see a sign on the left and an open gate into a field. Turn in there….

The first Forest Church of the Autumn Term will be on 25th September, 3pm at Battlefield Church. We are hoping to do apple-pressing!

**Wild Flower Areas in our Churchyards**

Our churchyards look amazing this time of year, and it’s particularly lovely to see the wildflowers thriving. Thank you so much to all who maintain these special spaces. In many of our churchyards there are some well-established areas of increased biodiversity, and in others plans are underway…

A picture containing plant

Description automatically generatedWe’re particularly excited to let you know that we’ve been consulting with local volunteers and the *Churches Conservation Trust* to develop wild areas in Battlefield churchyard. There is an impressive variety of species there- even including the Common Spotted-orchid, which was spotted last week (to the left).

The nature in our churchyards can be a profound means of helping people connect with their faith, and recognise the wonder of God who is always creating, always bringing life… at this time of year it is in defiant abundance!

**Jubilee Joy!**

The Jubilee went brilliantly around the Loop! Thank you for all you did to help make that an unforgettable occasion- whether it was the afternoon tea in Montford Parish Hall, the Beacon-lighting, the Teddy-bear Parachute Drop or one of the many community events- it was wonderful! It was also a privilege to welcome folk from the Methodist Chapel in Bomere to a special Ecumenical service at Leaton to celebrate both the Platinum Jubilee and Pentecost.

A picture containing red, dining room

Description automatically generatedA brick building with a flag in front of it

Description automatically generated with low confidenceA picture containing weapon, mountain

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**Readings for July and August**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Psalm** | **First Reading** | **Gospel Reading** |
| **3rd July** | 66.1-8 | Galatians 6.7-16 | Luke 10.1-11,16-20 |
| **10th July** | 25.1-10 | Colossians 1.1-14 | Luke 10.25-37 |
| **17th July** | 15 | Colossians 1.15-28 | Luke 10.38-42 |
| **24th July** | 138 | Colossians 2.6-15 | Luke 11.1-13 |
| **31st July** | 49.1-12 | Colossians 3.1-11 | Luke 12.13-21 |
| **7th August** | 33.12-22 | Hebrews 11.1-3,8-16 | Luke 12.32-40 |
| **14th August** | 82 | Hebrews 11.29 - 12.2 | Luke 12.49-56 |
| **21st August** | 103.1-8 | Hebrews 12.18-29 | Luke 13.10-17 |
| **28th August** | 112 | Hebrews 13.1-8,15,16 | Luke 14.1,7-14 |
| **4th September** | 1 | Philemon 1-21 | Luke 14.25-33 |

**Diary Dates- including some for September**

**Bicton CAMEO Coffee Morning-** 14th July and 11th August, 10.30am-noon, in church.

**The Stepping Out Café in Bomere Heath-** 27th July and 31st August, 2.30pm-4pm.

**Save the date….**

Hannah’s Licensing Service will be at Holy Trinity, Bicton on Thursday, 8th September at 6pm.

Study groups will be back in the Autumn term! Peter will be leading these in the Vicarage, Bomere Heath, 2pm on Thursday afternoons. We will have a block of four, and then resume again for Advent. The dates for this block are 15th, 22nd, 29th September and the 6th October. More details to come in the September Loop…

Bicton are hosting a talk by our very own Fr. Peter Allan on 23rd September, 6.30pm, in church. Tickets £6 to include refreshments, available from Wendy Horan or Clare Dixon.

Like singing? Delegates from a conference at the Albrighton Hall Hotel have asked if they may come to Albrighton for Evensong on 29th September. This is an opportunity for us to harness some local talent. Anyone who would like to help by forming an impromptu singing group, please be in touch. There will be one practice on the day (and possibly one before, if we can manage it!). The music will include familiar hymns, some simple music created for the occasion and some of the very earliest Christian music.

**For Your Prayers**

* The people of Afghanistan in the aftermath of the recent earthquake.
* The people of Ukraine- for peace.
* For holidays and rest.
* For those living with fuel and food poverty, and for the work of our local food bank.
* For all those who are preparing for baptisms and weddings over the coming months.

**SERVICES FOR JULY AND AUGUST**

*\*\*\*Please note that there will be no Sunday@6 on the 24th July\*\*\**

A slightly different format this time- I always prefer a table to a list (!), but the main reason is that there is less chance of me making a mistake because I’ve copied the information across from our rotas. There are only two ‘out of the ordinary’ things to note- that there is no service at Fitz on the 21st August, and the united service for the fifth Sunday in July will kindly be hosted by Leaton.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Albrighton** | **Bicton** | **Bomere**  **Heath** | **Fitz** | **Leaton** | **Montford** | **Shrawardine** |
| **3rd July**  **3rd after Trinity** | 9.15 am  HC | 11 am  HC |  | 9.30 am  HC BCP | 10.45 am  HC |  | 9.30 am  MW |
| **10th July**  **4th after Trinity** |  | 11 am  MW | 9 am  HC |  | 10.45 am  MW | 9.30 am  HC | 11 am  HC |
| **17th July**  **5th after Trinity** | 9.15 am  MW | 11 am  HC |  | 9.30 am  HC BCP | 10.45 am  HC | 9.30 am  MW |  |
| **24th July**  **6th after Trinity** |  | 11 am  MW | 9 am  HC |  | 10.45 am  MW | 11 am  HC | 9.30 am  HC |
| **31st July**  **7th after Trinity** |  |  |  |  | 10.30am  HC  United Service |  |  |
| **7th August**  **8th after Trinity** | 9.15 am  HC | 11 am  HC |  | 9.30 am  HC BCP | 10.45 am  HC |  | 9.30 am  MW |
| **14th August**  **9th after Trinity** |  | 11 am  MW | 9 am  HC |  | 10.45 am  MW | 9.30 am  HC | 11 am  HC |
| **21st August**  **10th after Trinity** | 9.15 am  MW | 11 am  HC |  | NO SERVICE | 10.45 am  HC | 9.30 am  MW |  |
| **28th August**  **11th after Trinity** |  | 11 am  MW | 9 am  HC |  | 10.45 am  MW | 11 am  HC | 9.30 am  HC |
| **4th September**  **12th after Trinity** | 9.15 am  HC | 11 am  HC |  | 9.30 am  HC BCP | 10.45 am  HC |  | 9.30 am  MW |

**OTHER WAYS TO WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS**

SUNDAY AT SIX 6 pm via Zoom – email Peter or Hannah to receive the link.

SHARING THE LIGHT IN THE LOOP- weekly phone line worship – see top of this page for the number.

DAILY HOPE – national phone line, see number above.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL- www.lichfield-cathedral.org 10.30 am Eucharist

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