

## June Newsletter 2022

### The United Benefice of St. Giles, Killamarsh and St. Matthew, Renishaw

#### June Sunday Services

Date	Time	Church	Service
05/06/22 Pentecost	10.00 am	St. Giles	Holy Communion
	10.00 am.	St. Matthew's	Holy Communion
	04.00 pm	St. Matthew's	Jubilee Songs of Praise
12/06/22 Trinity Sunday	10.00 am.	St. Giles	Holy Communion
	10.00 am.	St. Matthew's	Holy Communion
19/06/22 1 <sup>st</sup> after Trinity	10.00 am.	St. Giles	Holy Communion
	10.00 am.	St. Matthew's	Holy Communion
26/06/22 2 <sup>nd</sup> after Trinity	10.00 am.	St. Giles	Holy Communion
	10.00 am.	St. Matthew's	Holy Communion

#### Midweek Services

**St. Giles:** Holy Communion every Wednesday morning at 9.30 am

**St. Matthew's:** Holy Communion on the second Tuesday at 9.00 am

## **Pentecost**

*“You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will be witnesses to me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth” Acts 1:8*

We all get tired and battle weary sometimes. The disciples of Jesus had just been through a three-year long roller coaster adventure with Jesus that had culminated in His death, resurrection and ascension into heaven.

The range of emotions would have been hugely taxing in the days leading up to Pentecost, as they remembered Jesus weeping in the garden of Gethsemane, betrayed by Judas, brutally beaten and crucified, and then dead and buried. Then there had been the shock and awe of finding out that He was alive again! But then He had left them again, to return to His Father. By the time the day of Pentecost arrived, the disciples would indeed have welcomed some fresh spiritual fire!

For us today, many of us have felt emotionally drained with the uncertainties caused by Covid 19, the worry of prices rising at an alarming rate, and now the pain and uncertainty of what will happen in the war in Ukraine.

So, what better day to pray for fresh spiritual fire for each of us? As we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and birth of the Church, let us thank God that He will never leave us or forsake us. *Parish Pump*

### **C of E has good skills, says new bishop**

The next Bishop of Bath and Wells, Dr Michael Beasley, has said that the CofE learned valuable lessons during the pandemic. “There’s been a huge amount that we’ve seen in our response to an emergency. It shows we have a flexibility and a resilience and an ability to respond to situations that we might not have known we have, but now we do.” He said that such resilience will be needed, to cope in these “challenging times”, with the world still emerging from the pandemic, the war in Ukraine, and the cost-of-living crisis, “which is only to become increasingly urgent.”.

He said: “Addressing these issues is going to demand everyone’s faith and experiences, their creativity and skill.” *Parish Pump*

## **Jubilee**

As a nation, in April we celebrated the Queen's 96<sup>th</sup> birthday. She is the longest reigning monarch in British history (70 years compared with Victoria's 63 years). Up until recently she attended church every week and did a full week's work!

It is her commitment to serving God and the nation which stands out in her life. Even before she became Queen, she made a promise, which she has kept for over 75 years: *'I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service'* (21<sup>st</sup> birthday broadcast, 21 April 1947).

What is the secret of the Queen's consistency of character and service? In 2002 she said this: *'I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God.'* Here are wise words from somebody who draws her strength from the Christian Faith and inspiration for those of us who want to make our lives count!

The Queen has been an example of joyful, wise, and generous service on behalf of others all her life. Six months before her coronation she asked the nation and commonwealth to *'pray that God may give me wisdom and strength to carry out the solemn promises I shall be making, and that I may faithfully serve Him and you, all the days of my life.'* Clearly, God has answered those prayers!! *Parish Pump*

## **Let's smile**

One Sunday in church a little boy was 'acting up' during the morning worship. His parents did their best to maintain some sense of order in the pew, but it was a losing battle. Finally, an exasperated father picked up his son and strode sternly down the aisle. Just as the church doors closed behind them, the little boy cried loudly to the congregation: "Pray for me! Pray for me!" *Parish Pump*

## **Father's Day 19<sup>th</sup> June**

This month brings Father's Day. The Office for National Statistics tells us that of the UK's 68 million people in 2021, 49% are men (33 million). It also tells us that there were 35 million married couples with children in 2021 and nine million cohabiting couples with children. That all adds up to many millions of fathers in the UK.

In the UK, USA and Canada, the third Sunday in June is Father's Day. It's usually a good time for sons and daughters to take their father to his favourite restaurant, or to watch a favoured sport, or whatever else he enjoys doing. How will you celebrate it this year? If your own father cannot be with you, how about a Zoom meeting?

How do these special days ever get started, anyway? Well, Father's Day began because way back in 1909 there was a woman in Spokane, Washington, named Sonora Louise Smart Dodd. That year she heard a church sermon about the merits of setting aside a day to honour one's mother. Mother's Day was just beginning to gather widespread attention in the United States at this time. But Sonora Louise Smart Dodd knew that it was her father who had selflessly raised herself and her five siblings by himself after their mother had died in childbirth. So the sermon on mothers gave Sonora Louise the idea to petition for a day to honour fathers, and in particular, her own father, William Jackson Smart.

Sonora Louise soon set about planning the first Father's Day celebration in Spokane in 1910. With support from the Spokane Ministerial Association and the YMCA, her efforts paid off, and a 'Father's Day' was appointed. Sonora Louise had wanted Father's Day to be on the first Sunday in June (since that was her father's birthday), but the city council didn't have time to approve it until later in the month. And so on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1910, the first Father's Day was celebrated in Spokane.

Gradually, other people in other cities caught on and started celebrating their fathers, too. The rose was selected as the official Father's Day flower. Some people began to wear a white rose to honour a father who was dead, and a red one to honour a father who was living. Finally, in 1972, President Richard Nixon signed a presidential proclamation declaring the third Sunday of June as Father's Day – a permanent, national holiday. *Parish Pump*

## **Anniversary**

On an evening of torrential rain in June 2007 the Revd Helen and I arrived in Killamarsh and Renishaw, which means this June we will have been in post for fifteen years. Helen was instituted as Priest in Charge of both churches, and I as Associate Priest with special responsibility for Renishaw. During our time here there has been quite a few changes, one of the most important being the two parishes of St. Matthew and St. Giles becoming officially a united benefice, with Revd Helen as Rector.

The number of people attending church has fluctuated over the past 15 years, as has the personnel. A number of those considered to be stalwarts of the church have either gone to be with our Father in heaven or are no longer able to attend church through health problems. We have of course had many new people come along who have blessed us with their own unique talents and gifting, some have only stayed for a short while whilst others have remained and become stalwarts in their own right. We thank God for them all. We also thank our Readers John Hall and Christine Beach for their unerring support and for all they do, have done. Sadly, Christine is no longer with us, having gone to be with our Lord in July of last year.

Our church buildings have also undergone small changes, our congregations can now worship in comfort as both churches now have cushions on the pews. The community room at St Matthew's has been refurbished with a grant from the Lottery Fund and is now a room used for serving refreshments after services, coffee mornings, and church meetings. A new central heating boiler has been placed in the vestry with an increase in efficiency. The church clock at St. Matthew's which commemorates those from the village who lost their lives in WW1, is currently under repair and is to be fitted with an automatic winding system. St. Giles has undergone a large-scale refurbishment, overseen by John Hall, and is now restored to its former beauty. The Vestry area has been reconfigured in order to provide a toilet for the disabled. These are just an example of the work carried out in our churches over the past fifteen years.

St. Giles Church Hall has undergone some major changes. The kitchen has been fully refurbished whilst the bar has been reduced in size to provide a toilet for the disabled. Outside a ramp has been built to provide

easy access for wheelchair and mobility scooter users. The area under the stage, previously used for storage, has been converted into a small charity shop which is run by Christine and Julie. The church hall is widely used by the local community.

Our thanks go to those who have held the office of church warden, been a member of either PCC, and the congregations of both churches whose generous giving of time and money in support of these and other projects has made it all possible.

We have supported a variety of charities over the past 15 years including Bluebell Wood, Christian Aid, McMillan Cancer Charities, The Shoe Box Appeal and many more including of course our brother and sister in Christ Father Georges and Eveline in Madagascar. As we celebrate our fifteen year anniversary we look forward to our continuing to work together in the future. *Revd Michael*

## **Quotes**

The special person called to do missionary work is every person who is a member of the church of Christ. The call does not come to a chosen few, it is to every one of us. – *Oswald Chambers*

Reputation is what men think you are; character is what God *knows* you are.

*Anon*

Charity is the best way to plenty; he gets most that gives most.

*George Swinnock*

## **View from the Pews**

*The sky's the limit!.....*

Well, it seems it isn't any more with feepaying millionaires being blasted into space for a thrill! Space vehicles hurtling towards mars taking months, if not years to get to their destinations - not only that – being controlled from earth! It's the stuff of science fiction!

However - with my feet firmly attached to the ground, I am permanently fascinated with the ever-changing sky. We all love the blue, blue skies of summer without a cloud in the sky. A gentle breeze wafting the leaves on the trees, birds singing, flowers blooming and all is right with the world. Suddenly clouds begin to build, great mountains of giant, white clouds begin building on the horizon, the temperature drops and rain threatens. Looking to the sky we all say 'I think it's going to rain'.

In our country the weather is always a bit of a gamble, but when the skies darken and the first drops of rain descend in earnest, we run for shelter and complain about the terrible weather!

A long time ago my Mother lived by the sea and I liked nothing more than walking along the beach with a raging storm going on around me. The leaden sky, the lashing wind and crashing waves reminded how small we are in this great universe. There is nothing more dramatic than flashes of lightning sparkling over the black sea followed by rolling thunder ....then comes the rain....*'it falleth as the gentle rain from heaven'*... but as it gets heavier the landscape is blotted out, the wind begins to howl and a full blown storm rages.

The calm after the storm is an absolute miracle to me; often a blue sky one way and dramatic cloud formations the other way – worthy of the Victorian biblical paintings depicting an angry God descending from the heavens.

Is that where 'the heavens opened' came from? All I know is that 'up there' is an ever-changing sky whose moods constantly give us conversation.

*Philippa Allan*



## Father Georges

**Father Georges Photographs of life in Madagascar and the poverty in which much of the population live**





## Poetry Corner

### Troubles

When troubles surround you  
And dark shadows crowd your mind  
When problems seem insurmountable  
And the world is so unkind  
Walk in the footsteps of Jesus  
Leave your troubles in his hands  
Rest upon his shoulders  
For he is the one who understands  
There is alight at the end of the tunnel  
Let the dark shadows melt in the day  
Have faith in the love of the saviour  
For he will show you the way

*Ann Ward*

### The Guardian Angel

There is an Angel at my shoulder  
he is with me every day  
wherever I go, whatever I do  
he is there to show me the way  
sometimes I need a gentle nudge  
to keep me in control  
but I know he will never let me down  
this guardian of my soul.

*Ann Ward*

### **Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal**

Our Churches stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine. We have a special prayer tree in each church for people to hang their own prayers for the situation in Ukraine. We also have a collection bucket in each church which has so far jointly raised £300.00

### **For your Diary**

#### **Songs of Praise**

Joint Benefice Songs of Praise for Her  
Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee  
At St. Matthew's Church  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June @ 4.00 pm

#### **Mid-Summer Fayre**

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June Mid-summer Fayre  
St. Giles Church Hall from 11 am  
Donations of items to be used as prizes  
on the raffle and Tombola stalls  
now being received. Thank You

## **Collation and Installation of Three Archdeacons**

**Derby Cathedral, Sunday 12th June 2022 at 5.15pm**

All the clergy and laity of the diocese are warmly invited to join the Bishop of Derby in her Cathedral Church as the three new archdeacons of Derby Diocese begin their new ministries.

- The Ven. Carol Coslett will become the Archdeacon of Derbyshire Peak & Dales.
- The Revd Canon Karen Hamblin will become the Archdeacon of East Derbyshire.
- The Revd Matthew Trick will become the Archdeacon of Derby City & South Derbyshire

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## **To be Christ in Church and Community**