



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

A letter from Rev'd Diane Hayward-Wright,
Assistant NSM Curate in the Parish

Dear Friends

May is the month in which we have two public holidays, May Day and Whitsuntide. This year is slightly different as the Whitsun holiday has been moved to accommodate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations, allowing people to come together, to give thanks and to commemorate this wonderful achievement.

Do you think we have too many public holidays in this country? I guess the answer to that may depend upon your work, your lifestyle, even your dependence upon the National Health Service!

The government thinks we do, so is considering moving one of the public holidays from May to another part of the year. Perhaps, then, my suggestion that we have another public holiday in May would not be well received.

May is a month in which the church celebrates one of the earliest Christian festivals dating back to the year 68 AD - Ascension Day. It is the fortieth day of Easter and commemorates Jesus' ascension into heaven.

For many countries it is a public holiday. Countries such as Indonesia, which is not a Christian country, still recognise the importance of this day with a public holiday whereas Australia, Canada, USA and Britain, all who would claim to be Christian, do not.

My plea for another holiday in May will probably fall on deaf ears, but this will not stop your local church remembering the importance of this day. Our Lord remained with his disciples during the forty days following the resurrection and now we celebrate his final appearance before he is taken into heaven. Ascension Day is the reassurance we all need that Jesus is not restricted to a particular time and place in history, his presence is universal and he is available to us all at any time and in any place.

Diane Hayward-Wright

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

MARRIAGE

"May their life together witness to God's love in this troubled world"

28th April Jonathan Dale & Jessica Gretton at St. Peter's, Inkberrow

FUNERALS

"At God's right hand there is pleasure for evermore"

31st March Steven Richard Cooper (27) at St. Peter's, Inkberrow



CHURCH NEWS - for MAY 2012

BODY, MIND & SPIRIT: There will be Healing Prayers during Communion on Sunday 6th and 27th May at St. Paul's (9.30am) and on Sunday 13th May at St. Peter's (10.45am). All are welcome to receive this gift of God's love and strength.

ROGATION SERVICE: Sunday 13th May, 3pm, at Ridge Farm, Kington - at the kind invitation of the Jordan family. This service for all ages will include prayer together for the land and livestock - and for enough rain. There will be a chance to hear from our local farmers about the current issues, and to explore the farm, and see the cows being milked. All are welcome.

ASCENSION DAY Eucharist: Thursday 17th May, 8pm. This year, we are meeting for worship at Chaston Lodge, Stonepit Lane, Inkberrow - at the kind invitation of Richard & Sue Savage.



PS: Jean Gibbs writes: "I would like to thank everyone who donated money in memory of their loved ones for Lilies at Easter in St Paul's Church, Cookhill. Thank you." (*Indeed, thank you to everyone who cleaned and decorated our churches for Easter. Alleluia! Christ is risen! - Ed*)

PENTECOST: Whit Sunday 27th May - the last day of Easter, and the Birthday of the Worldwide Church. See details overleaf of services that day. At St. Nicholas', Dormston, we welcome Rev'd David Morris (Curate of Droitwich Parish) as our preacher at Morning Praise.

DIAMOND JUBILEE SUNDAY - Celebrating the life and faith of our Queen Elizabeth II: There will be special services on Sunday 3rd June around our parish. Young and old and in-between will be able to worship together as part of the national Jubilee holidays!

⊕ **St. Paul's** service will begin at 10.45am, so that people can stay on for the lunch in the Village Hall afterwards.

⊕ At **St. Peter's**, after the 10.45am, we invite everyone to stay on to share 'the Big Lunch' - please bring a picnic; drinks provided.

⊕ **St. James'** Church, Kington is hosting a Flower Festival over the Jubilee weekend, and there will be a special Songs of Praise service for all ages at 5pm on the Sunday.



INFORMAL CHURCH - come as you are... A fresh approach to worship, in an informal atmosphere, with plenty of refreshments and a minimum of jargon - for you! The next date is 20th May - 10.45am at St. Peter's Church, Inkberrow. This will be a service in which we can ask to be filled with all that God wants to give us and to share Holy Communion. Crèche & Junior Church available!



SUPPORT BEREGA HOSPITAL: We hope you will find inside your What's On this month a flyer explaining our exciting plan to 'sponsor a doctor' in Tanzania. More details in our churches and on the website.

ALL TOGETHER WITH GOD!

Crèche Areas for parents and children are open at St. Peter's and St. Paul's during all services.

NOAH'S ARK is a short, informal service for babies and pre-school children, with their parents and carers, **in St. Peter's Hall**, from 1.45pm until 3pm. Come and help us explore the meaning of Jesus for our lives... Dates coming up are: **14th May:** 'Jesus, our Friend'; **28th May:** 'Our King'; **11th June:** 'Our Helper'. Everyone is welcome. There's always a chance for a chat (and play) over a cuppa after the service!



JUNIOR CHURCH: Faith, Fun & Friendship

Inkberrow Junior Church (Sunday School) meets on Sunday mornings in term-time, from 10.45am, in the St. Peter's Hall, Inkberrow, next to the Church. All children, from 3-4 to 12 years old, are welcome to come and share worship and learning together in God's family. Please contact Rosie Porter (01386 793676) if you want more details.

Dates coming up: all Sundays in May; then 17th June

Cookhill Junior Church meets once a month during the 9.30am service.

Dates coming up are: 13th May (when everyone is invited to share the Rogation Service at 3pm at Ridge Farm, Kington); and 10th June. More details from Rev'd Diane Hayward-Wright 01527 892727.



Holiday Bible Club

especially for children aged 5 to 11 years

**Monday to Friday, 23rd - 27th July
at St. Peter's Hall, Inkberrow**

Friendship - Games - Crafts - Songs - Fun

More details and booking forms online later this month!

MAKING CONTACT: For enquiries about Dedications, Baptisms, Banns, Weddings, etc., please phone or visit Rev Nick Wright at Inkberrow Vicarage (01386 792222; ink.vic@btinternet.com). Monday evenings, 6.30 - 7.15pm, is a good time to catch him!