

**Cranborne with Boveridge, Edmondsham,
Wimborne St Giles, and Woodlands**

QUINTET NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2018

The Rector writes:

The other day I glanced over a news article online whose headline proclaimed that religion is on the decline. That fits a common narrative spun by the media in our country and other European countries. It's easy to see why; churchgoing is down, buildings are closing, congregations are ageing. But it doesn't fit the facts of the bigger picture. Christianity is one of the world's fastest growing religions and it is certainly the biggest with something over 3 billion followers. The reports of our imminent end are indeed deeply exaggerated.

I think partly it depends which way you look at things. It is very easy to see evidence in Britain and Europe of decline but even here the perspective of faith can find cause for encouragement. A couple of weeks ago I was able to spend a morning looking round Canterbury. It is where the modern Church of England began with the arrival from Rome of a monk, Augustine, with a small band of companions in 597 AD.

I suspect modern media commentators would have written off Augustine's mission even as it began. Christianity had been and gone with the Roman Empire. There were odd ruined churches around but that was the point, they were ruins. The Anglo-Saxon kings and the Norse gods, Odin, Thor and the rest now reigned supreme in what was becoming England. There was no chance of overturning the newly established order. Augustine would probably have agreed with such a pessimistic analysis. He set off around April or May from Rome, but by July he was back, begging Pope Gregory to be let off. Instead he was promoted to Abbot and sent out again, arriving in Kent in the autumn of 597.

The rest, as they say is history. I was able to see the foundations of the Abbey that Augustine built not far from the Cathedral which has been the seat of all the Archbishops of Canterbury since him, the first.

Just up the hill though is a little parish church, St Martin's. It is older than the Abbey and the Cathedral, in fact it is the oldest parish church in the English-speaking world. It was built originally in Roman times and then fell into

disuse until Queen Bertha, a Frankish and Christian princess, partly restored it for her private chapel. Her husband, Ethelbert was the king at whose court Augustine arrived. How encouraged he must have been to discover a small flicker still glowing from the previous Christianization of Britain and a powerful friend at court. The eye of faith is able to spy hope and a future even when the cold sneer of logic says all is hopeless. Reports of our end are, as I said, greatly exaggerated. There are flickers of hope around, we need to spy them out and fan them into flame.

Robert Simpson

Rector: Robert Simpson

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Do please let the Rector know if you would like him to visit, whether to discuss some particular matter in confidence, or in the case of illness or infirmity, to visit someone in hospital or just for a chat. Alternatively, you are welcome to come to the Rectory – formal appointments are not necessary, but it's helpful to phone beforehand if you can

From the Parish Registers

Baptisms

“We receive this child into the congregation of Christ's flock”

24 June at Edmondsham: *Jaden Pearson*

22 July at Cranborne *Purdey Witney*

Weddings

“Those whom God has joined together”

23rd June at Wimborne St Giles

Richard Watt and Lily McCleave

14th July at Cranborne

Hugo Squire and Charlotte Gould

21st July at Wimborne St Giles

Andrew James Wragg and Alice Sarah Cox

Charity of the Month

The amount collected in May for **Christian Aid** was £308.66 and the June collection for **Dorset Rape Crisis Centre** was £137.00. Thanks to everyone for their generous donations.

The result of the July collection for **The Mission to Seafarers** will be announced in due course.

The Charity for August and September will be Dorset Mind. . From their website: *“Dorset Mind is a mental health charity that has been supporting local people with mental health difficulties since 1946. We educate, challenge stigma and provide support towards peoples' wellbeing and recovery towards positive mental health in Dorset. Although an affiliate of national Mind we generate all our funding and do not receive income from Mind or the high street shops.”*

Church Services in AUGUST

Sunday 5th August

8.00 Holy Communion Edmondsham
9.30 Parish Communion and Holy Baptism Woodlands
11.00 High Mass Wimborne St Giles
6.00 Evensong Cranborne

Trinity 10

Sunday 12th

8.00 Holy Communion Wimborne St Giles
9.30 Parish Communion Cranborne
11.15 Holy Baptism Edmondsham

Trinity 11

Sunday 19th

8.00 Holy Communion Woodlands
9.30 Parish Communion Edmondsham
11.00 Matins Cranborne
6.00 Evensong Wimborne St Giles

Trinity 12

Sunday 26th

8.00 Holy Communion Cranborne
9.30 Parish Communion Wimborne St Giles
11.00 Informal Family Service Edmondsham
6.00 United Service Woodlands Methodist Church

Trinity 13

Sunday September 2nd

8.00 Holy Communion Edmondsham
9.30 Parish Communion Woodlands
11.00 High Mass Wimborne St Giles
6.00 Evensong Cranborne

Trinity 14

Wednesdays 10.00am Holy Communion at Woodlands

This month in the Quintet Group

Mon 6th 10am **Prayer Group**
The Old Vicarage, Cranborne

Wed 8th 10.30am **Coffee morning and cake sale**
Woodlands Village Hall

Mon 13th 12 00 noon **Quintet Lunch Club**
Cranborne Garden Centre

Sunday 12th August – 3 to 5 pm.

****Teas in aid of Edmondsham Parish Church in
Wimborne St Giles Village Hall.****

Mon 27th 10 – 12 noon **Quintet Coffee Club**
Cranborne Sports Club



FLOWER FESTIVAL WOODLANDS PARISH CHURCH

Sat 8th and Sunday 9th September
11.00am to 5.00pm

Refreshments in the Village Hall
Tombola and Books



**Food Bank box for the Trussell Trust in
Cranborne Stores.** Thanks to everyone for their
generous support, **please keep it coming !**

St Nicholas Church, Edmondsham:

Thank you to everyone who helped and supported
the **Afternoon Tea at Laundry Cottage**, which
raised **£105 for Church funds.**
Lesley Franklin. Edmondsham PCC

Woodlands Methodist Church

Minister The Rev'd Nigel Deller

12, Spring Close, Verwood BH31 6LB (01202 822212)

Coming Events and Services: Everyone welcome

More information: phone 01202 822066 or visit

www.woodlandsmethodistdorset.org.uk

Sunday 5th

10.45 Morning Service

Mr Phil Collins

6pm Evening Service

At Holtwood

Sunday 12th

10.45 Morning Service

Dr John Ramsden

6pm Worship for you

Mrs Mary Randall

By popular request, a return visit by Mrs Mary Randall
from the Salvation Army . We are collecting socks, hats,
gloves ,scarves, toothpaste & small bars of chocolate for
her to distribute to the homeless

Sunday 19th

10.45 Morning Service

Rev David Le Poidevin

6pm Worship for You

Mr Colin Besant

Sunday 26th

10.45

Local Arrangement

6pm United Service

Rev Nigel Deller

COFFEE MORNINGS:

**1st and 3rd Thursday each month
10.00am to 11.30am Raffle, Book sales**

QUIET TIME

**Monday August 6th 6.30-7.00pm
An informal time of prayer. All welcome**

VERWOOD RUSTIC FAYRE

27th August - Bank Holiday Monday.

**We will be very pleased to accept any home made cakes
for our cake stall.**

There is room in our Church freezer.

For more Quintet news go to www.dorsetquintet.org.uk

Any news or contributions for future editions please to
Averil Cubitt 01202 828797 averilcubitt@gmail.com by
the 15th of the month