

June
2023

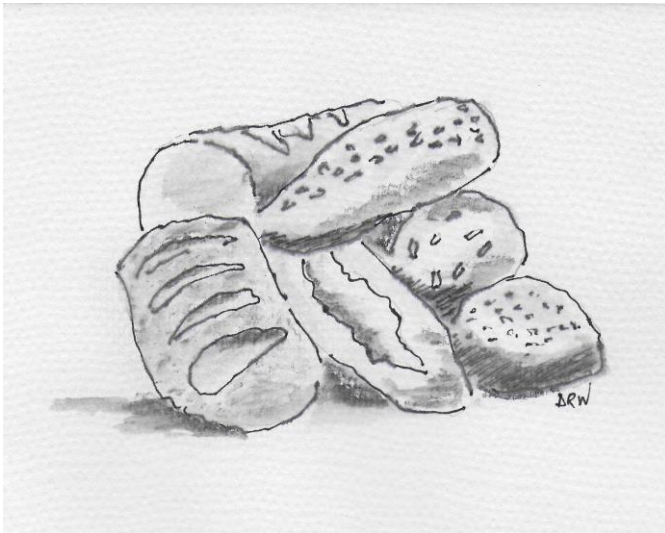


50p

St Peter's

Leckhampton Parish Church

Parish Magazine



www.stpetersleck.org

parishofficeleckhampton@btinternet.com

part of the South Cheltenham Team Ministry

The contents of this magazine do not necessarily reflect the views of the PCC or the editor, but are those of the individual contributors.

Our Vision Statement

St Peter's Church Leckhampton
exists to love and worship God,
to serve our neighbours and
to pass on the faith in Jesus Christ.

The Parish Prayer

Loving God
Open our eyes that we might see you.
Open our ears that we might hear you.
Open our hearts and minds that we
Might respond to you and bring others to know you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ
Our Lord who lights our way.
Amen

+++++



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Reflections from the Curatage

June is already here! We are coming to the halfway point in the year and it seems to be flying by. As we herald the warmer weather and look forward to summer holidays, we also mark the start of exam season. Whatever qualification people are studying for, be they GCSE's, A'Levels, or degrees, there is always a chunk of the year which is taken up with revision, preparation and a certain amount of stress. I have memories of trying to revise for exams whilst the weather was tempting me outside but knowing that unless I put the effort in, the results wouldn't be great.

Exams are a divisive subject; on one hand, they are necessary to demonstrate knowledge and an application of learning and on the other, exams are a cause of pressure and anxiety. For those who prefer a more vocational and practical approach to being tested, written exams can be hugely difficult and contentious. We are all tested throughout our lives - as I have discovered, exams do not stop when we leave school or university. Very often places of employment require continuous professional development and reward good progress and effort through salaries and benefits. We are tested outside the workplace too. Our lives are full of tests and challenges, whether they are physical illnesses, mental difficulties, financial problems, or family crises. As with exams, we have a choice about how we are going to face them. Either we can crumble under the pressure and run away, or we can find some inner strength and rise to the challenge and fulfil our potential about who we really are.

When we're tested, we have the opportunity to show others what we can do, instead of being tempted to hide our lights under a bushel. Sometimes we live in danger of comparing ourselves to others and we worry that we don't match up to peoples' expectations. Tests, be they exams or life's challenges, require us to draw on our inner resources and resilience. God tests us all, but not to destruction. We are pushed to achieve our full potential so we can live our lives to maximum capacity.

So if the sunshine is tempting you away from revision or to procrastinate from whatever challenge you might be facing, trust that God wants the best for you and will be right beside you. The end result will be a reflection of the hard work you put in!



I wish everyone undertaking exams and tests the very best and pray you get the results you deserve!

“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.” Jeremiah 29:11

Rev Jacqueline Henson

Live Stream Services for June

We will be live streaming the 10am service from St. Peter’s most weeks.

This can be accessed via www.stpetersleck.org or

www.facebook.com/stpetersleckhampton

Readings for June

Date	Day	Readings
4 th	TRINITY SUNDAY	Isaiah 40.12–17, 27–end 2 Corinthians 13.11–end Matthew 28.16–end
11 th	FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	Genesis 12.1–9 Romans 4.13–end Matthew 9.9–13, 18–26
18 th	SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	Genesis 18.1–15 Romans 5.1–8 Matthew 9.35—10.8
25 th	THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	Genesis 21.8–21 Romans 6.1b–11 Matthew 10.24–39

From the Parish Registers

We congratulate those who were recently baptised:

Arthur George Hough on 20th May

We congratulate those who were recently married:

Kathryn Allbright and Toby Wilkins on 12th May

We offer our sincere sympathy to the families of those who have recently died, especially:

Sheila Fizer on 10th April aged 89

Pearl Smith on 19th April aged 95

Margery Jean Seabrook on 26th April aged 86

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Bereavement Support

Please contact one of the clergy if you would like to talk about a bereavement. Please visit the church Wellbeing webpage for more details.

Tombstone Recording

'Love your burial ground week' (see page xx/below/above) is mostly to do with maintenance and conservation of the churchyard, but the campaign's website also mentions the recording of inscriptions. There are well over 3,000 graves at St Peter's, and thanks to the diligence of past and present parishioners, historians and (especially) representatives of the Gloucestershire Family History Society, the great majority of the inscriptions have already been recorded. Members of the Local History Society will be completing the task over the next weeks. Inscriptions already recorded may be found on the Local History Society's website (leckhamptonlhs.weebly.com > Family History) and there is also a link from the St Peter's website.

The article 'Eminent Cheltonians commemorated at Leckhampton', which gives brief accounts of the lives of some fifty people who are buried here has been reprinted and is now available to purchase (price £1). During the summer Paul McGowan will lead a conducted walk round some of the more interesting graves, while I can offer a tour of the church.

Eric Miller

Love your Burial Ground Week, 3-11th June is a celebratory week which has been running for many years. Caring for God's Acre has been encouraging all who help to look after churchyards, chapel yards and cemeteries to celebrate these fantastic places in the lovely month of June – in any way you choose. We've seen history talks, picnics and even abseiling teddy bears! For more info, go to: <https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/getinvolved/love-your-burial-ground-week>

Leckhampton Local History Society

St. Peter's Church, Church Road, Leckhampton. GL53 0QJ

Tuesday 27th June 2023 pm

South Town walk through history

Stuart Manton

All welcome. Members free Visitors £2

Men's Group

We are pleased to welcome John Laurence who has taken on the role of Men's Group co-ordinator. Many thanks to Richard Kerr-Wilson who has stepped down after many years. The next gathering will be at The Wheatsheaf, Old Bath Road, on Thursday 1st June at 12.30 for lunch.

APCM *At the APCM David Webber was elected as churchwarden to serve for another year, together with Sally Marlow, to replace Jennie Hawdon, who stood down after several years in the post. Thanks are due to Jennie for her valuable commitment and support.*

Foundation Governors Needed!

Leckhampton Primary is a Church of England Voluntary Controlled school. This means that it is a local authority school run by the head teacher and her management team, overseen by the school's governing body. There are three foundation governors, appointed by The Diocese of Gloucester, in addition to the vicar of St. Peter's who is an ex-officio governor. They promote links between the school and the church as well as serving alongside governors appointed by parents, staff and the local authority.

Governors serve a four year term of office. We currently have a vacancy and, with another governor finishing their term soon, we are looking for two volunteers, who would be interested in taking on the role. Training will be provided.

All governors attend Main Governing Body meetings at the school. They also are on one or more committee, are involved in visiting the school and reporting back to the governing body. The time commitment is variable, averaging about eight hours a month (term time only).

Would you be interested in becoming a Foundation Governor?

If you would like to know more, please come and have a chat with one of us or with Rev Gary.

Jane Allison (01242 239975 07964 326274)
Sue Marlow (01242 581661)

Selene presents **The Bonds of Love** - an evening of love songs

Weds 31st May at 7.30pm

We are excited to welcome back Daniel Gilchrist and the exciting young vocal octet **Selene** to present their most amorous programme to date, weaving together love songs by Italian, Spanish and English composers from the 16th to the 21st Century. Formed in Oxford in February 2022, Selene aims to bring the rich tradition of choral polyphony vividly to life with expressive one to a part singing. Find out more at www.seleneconsort.co.uk.

Received too late for the May magazine, but you might receive the June issue in time.

Youth News

You can now find South Cheltenham Youth on Social Media!

Instagram: @southcheltyouth

Facebook: facebook.com/southcheltyouth

We hope this will help to let a few more people in the community know about the youth work we are doing.

Could you join our youth team?

We are looking for some more team to help us run youth work across South Cheltenham. We need some more team for our Tuesday evening youth work with ages 11-16. We would love to have at least one member from each Church in the South Cheltenham Team. Most of our team for this join us bi-weekly, but there is some flexibility on this. We are also hoping to start a new group for ages 16-19, as well as exploring opportunity for schools work. We also run Sunday morning youth sessions in some Churches. So there are plenty of different styles of youth work that you could explore. Whatever your age or talents, if you are interested in exploring joining our youth team, we would love

to hear from you. Please contact Abbie, our Youth Worker, who would love to meet with you and discuss the best fit for you. All of our potential youth team are informally interviewed, safer recruited, and have relevant DBS checks, before joining.

Abbie Marsh

Youth Worker (JNC professional status)

South Cheltenham Churches

e: abbie@cnc.church

m: 07708540732

office space: CNC with Emmanuel, 57 Emmanuel Church Footpath,
Cheltenham, GL53 7NT

days off: Friday and Saturday

Refreshments after church – can you help?

As you are all no doubt aware refreshments are being served again after the morning service in the cottage garden, weather permitting. We are a little short of helpers. Anyone who would consider lending a hand occasionally could they please contact either Ro Baillie - 07747 002752 or Joey Kerr-Wilson - 07990 813122. Thanks.

FRIDAY LUNCH with FRIENDS 2023

Come and enjoy a light lunch with friends old and new

Friday 30 June

12.30 – 2pm at the home of Sally & Peter Marlow
1 Vineries Close (off Kidnappers Lane)

Donations for The Children's Society will be welcome
Please come and join us!

Little Pebbles *Tuesdays 10.00 to 11.30 in the Cottages during term time under the leadership of Lara Skinner.*

Parish Giving Scheme

A great way to support St. Peter's is through the parish giving scheme, which enables you to give, and for St. Peter's to receive, a monthly donation towards the mission and ministry of the church and parish. This is administered through the Diocese of Gloucester, so every penny comes back to St. Peter's and is gift-aided also. This provides the church with a regular income and a means with which to plan ahead. It is especially important in 'times like these' when services, bookings and income are reduced. For further information, email Peter Marlow: peter.marlow@softcopy.co.uk or check the Stewardship page of the church website: www.stpetersleck.org.

You can now enrol in the Parish Giving Scheme by phoning 0333 002 1271 to set up a regular donation. All you need is your bank account details and our parish code LKPT.

You can also support St. Peter's by making an online donation at:
<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/7930>

There is still the opportunity to make a donation towards the new furniture which is part of the reordering!

The Messenger, June 2023

Birds and bugs benefit from diocesan wildlife grant in Dursley

A diocesan environment grant, dedicated to helping local parish churches deliver new environmental initiatives, has enabled St James the Great, Dursley, to establish multiple projects in its urban gardens and grounds.

St James the Great stands in the heart of Dursley town centre and has seen extensive renovation and restoration work. Five years ago, members from the worshipping community formed an Eco Church group with a shared interest in promoting care for the church and local environment.

Gillian Mather, a member of the group, says, "Our initial focus was to achieve the Eco Church Bronze Award. We attended a training event run by the diocesan Environmental Engagement Officer and by working through the issues

raised in the scheme's questionnaire, we were able to direct many of our plans, including promoting the wildlife in our urban churchyard."

In recent years, the group has introduced several projects including the introduction of 'No Mow May', liaison with the local 'Men's Shed' group to help with the manufacture of eight bird nesting boxes, and the construction of a substantial bug hotel.

"The bug hotel is not only encouraging the insect and minibeast population in the churchyard, but it is also a visible point of interest for the worshipping community who use the public footpath close by. It provides a focal point for several of our Churches Count on Nature events, including Guides, Brownies and local primary school events. Most recently, the young people were shown how it is possible to construct their own small insect hotel at home using a tin or flowerpot."

Visit Caring for God's Acre website to find out which churches are taking part in your area, or why not go along to your local church and see what nature you can discover in the grounds?

www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/get-involved/view-events

Children's book explains issues around bats in churches

Bats in Churches has published its first ever children's book to explain the benefits and challenges of bats roosting in churches.

The story, written by Bats in Churches engagement officers Rose Riddell and Diana Spencer and illustrated by Chris Shields, was inspired by the real-life case of All Saints, a Grade II listed 12th century church in Braunston-in-Rutland, where the impact of bat droppings and urine was causing such an impact that they considered closing it.

Rose and Diana were inspired to create a children's book to help communicate the issues around bats in churches to a younger audience and their families, as well as raise awareness of the impact of habitat loss caused by human activities on bats.

Find out more about the book and order a copy here:
batsinchurches.org.uk/2022/06/16/the-little-church-bat

Blue plaque reveals more about Christian leader

A blue plaque commemorating the life of influential evangelist George Whitefield has been updated to give a more rounded account of his life story.

Following a review of the city's monuments and statues carried out by Gloucester City Council and a commitment to providing a more balanced view of the city's links to the transatlantic slave trade, more information has been added to various plaques.

The plaque at St Mary de Crypt now includes Whitefield's support for slavery, which he campaigned to be relegalised in the American state of Georgia, and mentions that he owned a plantation which helped fund an orphanage he'd set up to teach young boys.

The Revd Canon Nikki Arthy, Rector of St Mary de Crypt Church, said: "Systemic failures of the past and present can only be addressed when we learn more about our history. Discover DeCrypt continues to reaffirm a commitment to racial justice seeking to respect, honour and care for all people."

The 'Tradition and Legacy: A Spotlight on George Whitefield' exhibition runs until Sunday, 8 October at the Museum of Gloucester.

Take action against modern slavery in the Diocese of Gloucester

The 'Make it slavery-free' campaign invites people to take a pledge to make their community slavery-free. Visit The Clewer Initiative's website for ideas and resources such as posters and pledge materials to display in your church, workplace or community space:

theclewerinitiative.org/campaigns/anti-slavery-day-make-it-slavery-free

Events and training

**More details for all these events at
gloucester.anglican.org/events**

Churches Count on Nature at Minchinhampton

10 June, 10:30am to 11.30am

Holy Trinity Church, Minchinhampton GL6 9JH

People of all ages are invited to come along to the churchyard to help spot creatures and plants that are living there. Results will contribute to a national database providing vital environmental information.

Taking part in Churches Count on Nature near you? Share with us what you are doing and send in your pictures to **kowen@glosdioc.org.uk**

Quiet days

13 June, 10am to 4pm

Brownhill Monastery, Stroud, GL6 8AL

Often in the busyness of life we rush from one situation to another not giving ourselves the opportunity to recharge and reflect on God's call on our own lives. In the beautiful countryside of Stroud, enjoy a chance to stop and reflect.

gloucester.anglican.org/quiet-day-10-2-2-2-2-2

Gloucestershire Symphony Orchestra Summer Concert

17 June, 7.30pm

St Barnabas, Stroud Road, Gloucester, GL1 5LJ

There's a subtle nod to the Coronation in GSO's Summer Concert programme, which features the beautiful Overture 'Proud Thames' by English composer Elizabeth Maconchy. Tickets £12, under 18s free.

gloucestershiresymphony.org.uk

Young People & Social Justice

21 June, 7.00pm to 9.00pm

Cooke Room, St Mary DeCrypt, Southgate St, Gloucester GL1 2DR

Explore some of the current issues young people are vocal about, how we can be facilitators for them to take meaningful action, and perhaps most importantly, how we can take the whole church on the journey together. Open to all.

gloucester.anglican.org/young-people-social-justice

Have your say

Visit Facebook [f/Diocese.of.Gloucester](https://www.facebook.com/Diocese.of.Gloucester), email Katherine at

kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk, follow us on Twitter [@glosdioc](https://twitter.com/glosdioc), view videos on

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