

**August
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

+++++



St Peter's

Leckhampton Parish Church

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Editor: David Webber

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Live Stream Services for August

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 August

Date	Day	Readings
6 th	9 th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	Genesis 32.22–31 Romans 9.1–5 Matthew 14.13–21
13 th	10 th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	Genesis 37.1–4,12–28 Romans 10.5–15 Matthew 14.22–33
20 th	11 th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	Genesis 45.1–15 Romans 11.1–2a, 29–32 Matthew 15.[10–20] 21–28
27 th	12 th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	Exodus 1.8—2.10 Romans 12.1–8 Matthew 16.13–20

Morning Prayer is live-streamed at 9am each morning (Mon-Thu) from www.stpetersleck.org or www.facebook.com/pipandjims

You can also join in person: Mon – Pip & Jim's, Tue – St. Christopher's, Wed – Emmanuel, Thu – St. Peter's.

There will be no Morning Prayer during August.

Refreshments after church. The new rota covering August to October is now on the board in the Cottages. If you can help with refreshments after the 10am service occasionally, please add your name to the list. All newcomers very welcome. Any queries please get in touch: Ro Baillie – 702617 or 07717 002752 or Joey Kerr-Wilson – 578575 or 07990 813122

R

eflections from the Curatage

Well, so far this summer has been a mixed bag! We've had a heat wave, followed by storms, and now, a period of colder, wetter weather. The garden is lush and thriving and I'm managing to avoid lugging around watering cans to water the containers.

Preoccupation with the weather is a very British phenomenon and the subject is often used as a conversation tool when we make small talk. There is a myth that the Romans left Britain because they were fed up with cooler, wetter weather. I have some sympathy when I see holiday makers making the best of things whilst struggling with wet tents, children and inclement weather.

We sometimes take our rain and provision of water for granted. It's perhaps only when we hear about hosepipe bans or water companies in crisis that we pay more attention to where our water is coming from. The bible story of the Samaritan woman who went to the well to collect her water (John 4. 5-30) is one which still reminds us of how fortunate we are in the UK to be able to have water piped into our homes. The woman's encounter with Christ at the well was one which quickly developed into a discussion about her brokenness, lifestyle choices and how she could break away from the barriers she had carefully put up. We all want for things in life, perhaps a new car, or a better job or the most up-to-date technology, but these things are only a temporary fix. Christ offers us all, whoever and wherever we are, a relationship with Him which gives us permanence and a sense of belonging. Christ sees through our superficial desires and offers us living water, where we will be sustained through a constant flow of grace which will quench our spiritual thirst.

Throughout the scriptures then, water is a powerful image. It is that which refreshes and satisfies and sustains. This is why water is used during baptism services. It is salvation and the glory of God. It is abundant life. It is the presence of God with us. It is a force that works in our lives in just the way we need. That is just the start of what Jesus offered to the woman at the well, and it is what he offers to each one of us every day. All that remains is for us to say the words of the Samaritan woman. "Please, give me some of that water."



Rev'd Jacqueline Henson

Welcome to Kit and family

I am delighted to announce that Kit PeronaWright will be our new Director of Music and will take up the post from 1st September. Kit is married to Emma and has two children, Molly & Toby. He is the Assistant Head at Cheltenham College Prep School and lives in Warden Hill. Thank you all so much for your support in recent months, do keep Kit and family in your prayers as they prepare to join St. Peter's.

Rev'd Gary



From the Parish Registers

We congratulate those who were recently baptised:

Edward Peter (Ted) Quentin on 29th July
Lucy Eliza Stagg on 29th July

We congratulate those who were recently married:

Emily Holmes and Carter Hale on 13th July

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

Jake Golden on 11th June aged 29
Elizabeth Ann Neal on 13th June aged 100
Joseph Halton on 27th June aged 87
Stella Diana Claridge on 29th June aged 86
Kathleen Winifred Sydney Manton on 3rd July aged 89
Margaret Christina (Peggy) Taylor on 5th July aged 83

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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.

Men's Group

This is my regular reminder about the next men's group meeting. It will be on Thursday 3rd August at 12:30 lunchtime, in the Wheatsheaf.

John Laurence co-ordinator

Climate Change and You

SAVE THE DATE: Thurs 5th Oct at 7.30pm

Petra Crofton, environmentalist, author and children's worker, from A Rocha UK will be coming to talk to South Cheltenham churches at St Peter's.

JUNIOR CHURCH IS BACK! Children – pre-schoolers and juniors– There are things to do in the carpeted area and on the activities table each week in church. If you have any queries or would like to be on the Junior Church team, please contact Liz Johnson via the Parish Office.

Leckhampton Village Hall was completed in 1897. It was listed as a Grade 2 building a hundred years later. Over the years the hall has undergone various works to modernise and extend it. It has now reached a point where it requires some major work to bring it up to date with the requirements of a community venue in the 21st Century.

The Hall is used by a wide variety of groups including the Leckhampton Players, Brownies, keep fit classes, Pilates, art and dance groups, Parish Council meetings, the Motherhood Society as well as being available for hire for parties and other events. It forms an important role within the community. In order for it to be able to continue to fulfil this role a new extension has been planned at the side of the hall. The extension will include new cloakrooms and provide better disabled access. There are also plans to convert the existing cloakrooms into storage/changing rooms and to modernise the kitchen. Plans can be viewed on the website leckhamptonvillagehall.co.uk. The Leckhampton Village Hall committee will be hugely grateful for any donations, no matter how big or small. There is also a 'Buy a Brick' scheme where a brick can be bought either for yourself, your family or in memory of a loved one. This can also be done on the website or contact joeykwilson@aol.com to obtain a form.

Further fundraising events will be held throughout the Autumn:

Indoor Street Market	SAT 09/09/23 2PM-6PM
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arts and crafts• Small businesses• Health and beauty• Licensed bar	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Raffle• To reserve a stall, call 0779 0673398 <p>★ STALL HOLDERS WANTED- TABLES ONLY £10 ★</p>

Autumn Fair **SAT 18/11/23 10AM-12PM**

- Free admission
- Cake stall
- Book stall
- Toys and gifts
- Grand raffle
- Tombola
- Games
- And more...

Quiz Night **SAT 09/12/23 7.30PM**

- Licensed bar
- Max 4 people per team
- Raffle
- To book your table, call 01242 243035

Joey Kerr-Wilson,

St. Peter's Village Hall Committee Rep.

The History Of Leckhampton Church

The last remaining copies of the Church History have just been sold and a new edition is in preparation. The first version was printed in 1987 by the Reverend George Smith using his offset litho equipment. Today's state-of-the-art version will be printed digitally by a company based in Watford. The text has been extensively revised and includes much newly discovered information, complemented by over 50 illustrations. The book should be ready later this month, at the modest price of £3.

Eric Miller

FRIDAY LUNCH with FRIENDS 2023

No lunches in August.

Resuming in September.

Youth News

You can now find South Cheltenham Youth on Social Media!

Instagram: @southcheltyouth

Facebook: [facebook.com/southcheltyouth](https://www.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

Board Game Café

South Cheltenham Youth are running a board game café for young people aged 8-19 y.o. on Wednesdays from 10-12pm during the summer holidays. For further details, see the posters in church or on the Noticeboard.

Craft Group

The Craft Group meets on Wednesdays at 10am in the Cottages. All are welcome to join, even if just for a 'cuppa' and a chat.

Little Pebbles Is now taking a summer break, and will be back on Tuesday 5th September. A big thank you to Lara Skinner and the team for leading this over the past year

Tuesdays 10.00 to 11.30 in the Cottages during term time.

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, August 2023

What happens when someone meets a spiritual director?

Dr Joe Neary, a retired GP living in Birdlip, is a spiritual director and teaches on the Gloucestershire Spirituality Course. Joe uses a fictional example to illustrate what happens during a spiritual direction session.

“A woman comes to see me. Let’s call her Harriet. She rings at the door and I show her into the space that I have prepared. A candle is lit on the table. A Bible lies beside it. These things symbolize that our conversation is not simply between the two of us, but a third person is also present.

“Harriet starts to tell me about her daily journey. How she attempts to get closer to God. She sees the pain and suffering in other people and is drawn to them in compassion. She rarely prays in the way that the church teaches, but experiences joy and serenity in the countryside and woodlands. In these times she feels drawn into a profound mystery and a beauty that is beyond words.

“At other times, Harriet feels that she can never be good enough. She is afflicted by abusive experiences from her earlier life, some of them from her earliest childhood. This has left her with a legacy of a deep sense of inadequacy. This inadequacy, often accompanied by guilt, freezes her into immobility.

“I sit quietly, listening to Harriet as she describes her feelings, her joys, and her pain. I gently validate the serenity that she experiences in nature as awareness of God, and a profound moment of prayer. I suggest that she looks back over her day every evening to pick up such moments and to celebrate them. Equally gently, I challenge her feelings of guilt. These obstruct her journey toward the sacred. So often, I find that guilt about real or imagined sin lies behind an inability to welcome God more deeply into a person’s life. Naming this guilt for what it is can be deeply liberating and healing.

“The task of spiritual direction is not one of giving direction, paradoxically enough. It is more one of directing attention. Attention to those moments of the sacred in a person’s life, validating and encouraging them.

“I often describe my ministry as ‘Realising the Sacred’ in people’s lives. Realising in two senses; the sense of recognising sacred moments, and also the sense of making real, or actualising, the sacred in our lives. This is spiritual direction.”

If you’re interested in finding out more about spiritual direction, you can contact Pauline Godfrey on pgodrey@glosdioc.org.uk

‘In Tune’ organ and music campaign

Music has been at the heart of Gloucester Cathedral for almost 1,000 years, with the organ as its heartbeat. The 'In Tune' campaign aims to raise £3 million by 2026, which will fund the refurbishment and renewal of the Cathedral's famous organ, as well as enabling the Cathedral to further expand music education to hundreds of young people. Find out more or donate: gloucestercathedral.org.uk/support/in-tune-organ-and-music-campaign

Sustainable church flowers in Minchinhampton

The Eco Church groups from Holy Trinity Minchinhampton and St Mary's Tetbury hosted a nature-friendly flower arranging demonstration called 'Arrange for the future'.

Jennie South and Rosemary Bailey, two Eco Church representatives, organised the event to encourage their local churches to use seasonal, local and nature-friendly arrangements for church.

Beth Bruce-Gardner, Deanery Eco Ambassador (sustainable flowers), gave a demonstration to 24 participants from two deaneries. The event was incredibly popular with a long waiting list of people hoping to learn more and try out the skills that Beth demonstrated. It is hoped that there will be more workshops in the future due to the amount of interest.

Rosemary said, "Beth was amazing and so inspiring. We all had a go ourselves and were also stars in arranging our flowers with no oasis – chicken wire was to the fore." Oasis, the foam that is usually used to hold flowers in an arrangement, is non-biodegradable, non-recyclable and toxic for both humans and animals.

"There was no plastic and there were no air miles. The beauty of the flowers themselves was a real act of tribute and praise to our God and a celebration of creation."

Just pledging one hour a week to making changes towards a greener church will start to make a difference – why not ask your PCC to register as an Eco Church?

Find out more: gloucester.anglican.org/living-faith/environment/eco-church-in-an-hour

Events and training

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

NHS 75 Community Art Exhibition

1 July to 1 September

Gloucester Cathedral

As part of the NHS75 celebrations, Gloucester Cathedral is hosting a special community art exhibition in the Cloister. The exhibition will feature inspiring, moving and uplifting artwork that has been created as part of sessions designed to boost mental and physical wellbeing.

gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/nhs-75-community-art-exhibition

Dad Matters Sports Play

25 August, 9.30am to 11am

Freedom Leisure, Cinderford, GL14 2AF

Dads can join in with a Sportily sports session free of charge at this event for pre-school aged children. Refreshments provided. No need to book.

CALLED course

14 September, 7pm to 9pm

Online

Led by members of the Diocesan Vocations team and offered over six sessions, this course will help you to know yourself better and to explore what God might be calling you to be and do. Using the themes of Core gifts, Attractions, Listening, Life plan, Experience and Disciplines, we will consider God's call for each of us for the whole of our lives.

gloucester.anglican.org/event/called-course

Mental Health First Aider – 2-day training course

18 and 19 September, 9.30am to 4.30pm

Church House, Gloucester, GL1 2LY

This course is designed for someone who would like to take on a role after the course of promoting a positive mental health culture and being a point of contact if someone is experiencing mental ill health.

gloucester.anglican.org/mental-health-first-aiders-2-day-training-course-sep23-2

Have your say

Visit Facebook **f/Diocese.of.Gloucester**, email Katherine at

kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk, follow us on Twitter **@glosdioc**, view videos on

YouTube **Diocese of Gloucester** or visit our website **Gloucester.anglican.org**

Coach To Nick's Installation

There is a coach travelling to Nick's installation service at Tewkesbury Abbey on Thu 7th Sep. If you would like to book a place (£9), please email Sean Marsh, Church Administrator at P&J: info@pipandjims.org.uk or call 01242 522658.

Gospel Concert

Sat 19th Aug, 7.30pm at All Saints' Church, Hebron – Gospel Music with a Jewish flavour, with ministry in word and song. Featuring Simon Elman, Chrissy Rodgers and Helen Shapiro. See poster in church.



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