



Benedict and Bede

NEWS and VIEWS

May 2017



Celebration

the achievements of our Mending St Benedict's Appeal.

On Passion Sunday it was a great joy to be able to return to St Benedict's after 10 weeks whilst the church was closed for restoration work. During those ten weeks we were very lucky to be able to worship at the Venerable Bede and we were very grateful for the welcome that we received from its church family. Those ten weeks reminded us that a church is so much more than a building it is a family of people, the body of Christ.

.....

On the 14th of May the Bishop of Wolverhampton will be our celebrant and preacher at our 10.30am Parish Communion. Lots of invitations have gone out to representatives of our church family encouraging them to join us in our thanksgivings. It is nearly five years since we started our planning for the appeal. A long time, and it's easy to forget some of our achievements.

The building of the extension with its community room and toilet facilities
the replacement of and extension of the tiled floor, the hospitality point
the refurbishment of the tower room for families, oak storage cupboards and
the restoration of the internal stonework.

Lots of changes which respect the history and heritage of our church, changes which will make it more welcoming and more flexible, for mission in the 21st century. Please join us to celebrate and to give thanks for :

the generosity of individuals and grant making trusts that have paid for the work

the professionals who have advised us and the craftsmen who have used their skills in the restoration and those from our own church family who have shared the vision and who have helped supervise the work.

Paul Brown.

www.stbenedictbiscop.org.uk – our new church website

If you have a computer, tablet or smart phone, then have you visited our new church website yet? If not, why not give it a go? Easily accessed at www.stbenedictbiscop.org.uk, it provides a wealth of information about the church, its history and activities, with many photographs and links which illustrate all aspects of church life.

The 'Home' page allows you, for instance, to take an illustrated church tour and read about its history, find out about Kempe and our stained glass windows and discover the meaning of the paintings in the roundels. 'Our Blog' provides the latest news, whilst 'Young Church' gives details of the various clubs and activities for our younger members. To ensure that you can keep up to date with our forthcoming plans for the regular Music and Flower Festivals and our many other social events, such as quizzes and Kurling, then just go to 'What's On'. Here there is also a diary showing all our services

If you need to organise a baptism, wedding, funeral, or join in a confirmation group, extensive information is now provided in the form of "Frequently Asked Questions". Should you require further information, full contact details are provided and there are also direct links to our church school and the Lichfield Diocese and Church of England websites.

Hopefully this provides a flavour of what is presently on the new website - why not try it out – you may be pleasantly surprised. Furthermore, keep returning as the website content will continually change and grow.

If you have any comments and ideas for improvement, please contact Roy Wootton or Derek Bryant via the 'Contact Us' page.



With Prayer and in Thanksgiving.

In the first ten days after we returned to church there were three funerals in St Benedict's of Church members.

Mary Mansell, John Cartwright and Mary Latimer.

Mary Mansell had suffered with ill health for some years, well known in our village Mary had been a postie for a quarter of a century and more recently was a stalwart of our monthly communion service at Waterfield House.

John Cartwright died suddenly, a former churchwarden, he did so much for our churches , everything from singing in the choir to cutting the hedges and serving on Deanery Synod.

Mary Latimer also died suddenly and even more unexpectedly. Mary was an 8.0'clocker and her membership of our Wives group went back to when it was Young Wives !

We will miss each of them, we are very grateful for their contributions to our church family and as we hold their families in our prayers we rejoice that because of our Easter faith they may rest in peace and rise in glory.



John Cartwright

On behalf of the choir, where does one begin to write about John ? He was so devoted to the choir, having been a member for so many years .He loved singing with us and he. along with his fine tenor voice will be so very sadly missed. He was a wonderful help to us all, with lifts to and fro and support in what we did, and he made everyone feel very welcome indeed. The church was a very deep part of his life and meant so much to him. He was a very valued member of our church family. Thank you so much John for your help and inspiration to us all

Marjorie

Ascension Day

Thursday 25th May

11.00am Holy Communion at the Venerable Bede followed by lunch.

Please contact Anne Freeman if you would like to join in the celebrations.



Music for a Summer's Evening

a night of music and song

Featuring nationally renowned and award-winning musicians including:

Tomos Xerri - Harp

London based international award-winning harpist, educator, orchestral player and performer



Lily Allen-Dodd - Soprano

Talented young singer, currently studying under Rita Cullis at Birmingham Conservatoire

And the return of the **Josh Xerri Barbershop Group**. Featuring a variety of music from Mozart to Moon River!

Tickets: £10, including a glass of pimm's and strawberries from 6:30pm, at:

www.wombournemusicfest.com - 01902 324111

From the Festival Committee, or Taylors Greengrocers

Saturday, July 1st 2017 - 7:30pm

St. Benedict Biscop, Wombourne

**Don't forget we have activities for children running regularly
at
St Benedict's Church and the Venerable Bede**

Sunday Club Aimed at Primary School age children (younger children are welcome with an adult) Sunday 10.15 in the Wombourne Institute (next to the St Benedict's Church) A fun session with crafts, stories and games. No charge.

Little Fish Mondays 10-11 during term time in St Benedict's Church. This group is for babies/toddlers and their carers. We do crafts, singing, bible stories and play! No charge.

Playmates Wednesdays and Fridays 9.30-11.30 at The Venerable Bede. A group for babies/toddlers and their carers. Loads of play and fun. This group is run by Carol Godwin. A small charge applies.

Messy Church Once, on a Sunday afternoon during each half term at the Venerable Bede. Crafts, fun, worship and food this is for all the family. No charge.

The next session is on Sunday 21st May 2017.

This is very popular so please book in advance.



If you would like any further information

please contact **Sarah on 07702376169**

sarah@stbenedictbiscop.org.uk

Come follow in the footsteps of St Chad
Saturday 20th May at 11.00am

The Bishop of Lichfield invites people to 'Come follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad' when he launches the new Direction of Travel for the Diocese at a special celebration.

This event at Lichfield Cathedral will lay out the Diocese's vision for the next five years, building on the existing five mission themes with a recommitment to discipleship, evangelism and vocation.

It will see a focus locally on parishes, fresh expressions, schools and chaplaincies and the commissioning of four new mission initiatives – one in each episcopal area and one diocesan-wide.

Everyone is welcome on 20th May beginning at 11am and ending with a picnic lunch together.

Bishop Michael said: Our new Direction of Travel is not an about-turn but will build on what already works well, bringing focus and coherence.

We will be looking to the life of Chad as an inspiration as we follow Christ. This will be about building a culture where relationship is central, where we rejoice in each other, show hospitality, have an enthusiasm for learning and where everything is soaked in prayer and worship.

I would love everyone to join us as we celebrate this, and commission our four new mission initiatives, in Chad's seat of Lichfield on 20 May."

The 20 May event is free: pre-booking is not required. Drinks will be provided and people are encouraged to bring their own lunch.

Christian Aid Week 14-20 May 2017

It's better to die in a refugee camp than to die in a war, to risk your children's lives in a plastic dinghy, and to leave everything you know behind.

When the alternative is terror, bombs and bullets, almost anything is better.

This is the terrible choice facing tens of millions of people worldwide - fleeing conflict and disaster, making dangerous journeys in search of safety.

Christian Aid Week was set up 60 years ago to support our work with refugees in Europe following the Second World War.

Let us act again now, to help relieve suffering and build a world where everyone has a safe place to call home.

Once again we will be helping with the house to house collection in our village. If you can help please contact Brian Johns or Carol Porter. They will be delighted to hear from you.

**Walking Festival 2017
Church Walks
9th May—10th July.**

(South Staffordshire Walks Scheme)

The Health Watch Walking Scheme is accredited to the national Walking for Health Scheme that is currently run by the Ramblers Association in partnership with the Macmillan Cancer Trust.

For more information contact the co-ordinators of the scheme and the festival, A L C & T Limited. - email walking@fitnessengland.co.uk
Or mobile 07516 115268

For walks around Wombourne on 20th May and 14th June
Contact Sue on 07812447648 or email 1sue@live.com



Messy Sunday 21st May

Families are very welcome to join us for a celebration of Messy Easter at the Venerable Bede on Sunday 21st May. Eastertide lasts for 50 days, long after all the Easter eggs have been eaten!

There will be Easter crafts, supper for everyone and a time of worship. Fun for families and fun for those who help!

For more details

contact:- Sarah on 07702376169 or sarah@stbenedictbiscop.org.uk

BENEDICT and BEDE NEWS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE

Items for inclusion in the July 2017 bulletin must reach us by 12th June

Please contact: Sylvia Cowling - 01902 892691 or Joyce Hodgetts: 01902 894758

We welcome items by email but please send only Publisher, Word or plain text.

wombournebulletin@gmail.com

Congratulations

to

Alan and Hazel Perry on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary

and also

Nora and Bob Reynolds on their 76th Wedding Anniversary.

With very best wishes from both churches

CHURCH CONTACT NAMES AND NUMBERS (01902 except as indicated)

Revd Preb Paul Brown	892234	Revd Charmaine Host	01384 298627
<i>Childrens worker</i>		<i>Church Wardens</i>	
Sarah Mullen	07702376169	Roy Wootton	896937 (BB)
Laurie Gainer (Reader)	895849	Derek Bryant	896991 (BB)
Susan Williams (Reader)	326529	Peter Cartwright	895765 (VB)
		Margaret Springthorpe	893116(VB)
<i>Parish Administrator :</i>		<i>PCC Secretary :</i>	Shirley Wall
<i>Maxine Banner</i>	897700	<i>PCC Treasurer :</i>	Martin Garrington