

Church News

Easter 5 - Sunday 2nd May 2021

Services continue in Churches along with a 'Zoom at Noon' option for those who prefer to worship from home. Please note that services in church will be no longer than 30 minutes. The law requires that face masks are worn except by those with exceptions, and that there is no singing or mingling outside of household bubbles. To attend, please book a place using the details below. Apart from funerals and weddings, only Sunday services will take place in Church. Risk Assessments have been updated and we need to remind everyone that those who are vulnerable should seriously consider not returning to communal worship yet. We also remind you that whilst those who have received the vaccine have a reduced risk of infection, the risk to ourselves and others is not removed completely. We therefore encourage everyone to recognise our responsibility to others as well as ourselves.

Holy Communion – If you are coming to church, please bring a small piece of bread for communion and a small cup or glass into which we pour wine as you arrive. If you are joining by Zoom, please have a small glass or cup of wine and a small piece of bread ready for the service. You may prefer just to observe.

- 9.30am** **Empshott** **Holy Communion (BCP)** led by Bishop Ian Brackley
To book a place contact David Tucker David.Tucker@vssecurityproducts.com 01420 538242
- 10.15am** **Hawkley** **Holy Communion (CW)** led by Peter Sutton and Marjorie Arnold
To book a place contact Neil Chrimes thechrimes@btinternet.com 01730 827992
- 11.00am** **Greatham** **Holy Communion (CW)** led by Peter Sutton & Paul Goddard
To book a place contact Kay Thorpe kay.thorpe@hotmail.co.uk 01730 892314
- 12.00 noon** **Zoom at Noon** **Holy Communion (BCP)** led by Peter Sutton and Marjorie Arnold
Zoom link
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81032199878?pwd=aTVISXI3YnpXTct5VkNNTjZ5dTUyUT09>
Meeting ID: 810 3219 9878 **Passcode: 566878**

Our churches are all still open to visitors (Priors Dean by appointment). Ask Peter Sutton for details.

Zoom Coffee Morning – Tuesday 10am to 11am – join at the time that suits you.

Try dropping in – its open to anyone. You obviously have to drink your own coffee but, technology permitting, it is a chance to see and talk to others. Depending upon numbers present, we divide into breakout rooms for smaller groups.

Tuesday Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81032199878?pwd=aTVISXl3YnpXTct5VkNNTjZ5dTUyUT09>

Meeting ID: 810 3219 9878

Passcode: 566878

Services Next Sunday – 9th May

09.30	Empshott	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.15	Hawkley	Morning Worship (CW)
11.00	Greatham	Morning Worship (CW)
12.00	Zoom	Holy Communion (CW)
18.30	Priors Dean	Evening Prayer (BCP)

Roberts Centre

The Roberts Centre would now like to receive the following:

Food and Children's Summer clothes in good condition. They cannot take anything else until further notice.

Please leave donations in the porch of Hawkley Church.

Petersfield Deanery Pentecost Praise

23rd May – Pentecost Sunday 2.30pm to 3.30pm - St Mary's Liss

An opportunity to gather together as a Deanery to celebrate the Festival of Pentecost. All are welcome.

Each parish is invited to contribute a banner, art work or flower arrangement if they wish. Liss church will be open on Saturday 22nd (all day) to receive things and Eleanor Childs will be there in afternoon from 2pm-4pm.

Please book in by clicking on this link – <https://st-mary-s-church.reservio.com/events/aede3c6a-95bb-4583-a1cd-4f1d827587af/>

Or phone St Mary's Church Office 01730 892552 or email lissparish@gmail.com with your name, number in party and email address (or phone number).

The usual Covid guidelines will be in place – please wear face masks and stay at a safe distance – the seating will be arranged in a suitably safe way.

The service will be live streamed and available to watch live or at a later time on St Mary's Facebook page.

Empshott Flower Festival 26th and 27th June 2021

Saturday 10am to 5pm, Sunday 10.30am - 5pm

Last year many hopes were dashed, and many projects shelved, including the flower festival that we were so looking forward to staging last June. Now, with a “road map” to the end of lockdown in place, we are daring to reschedule the festival to 26th and 27th June. With fingers crossed we are looking forward to it with as much excitement and optimism as ever.

The festival will celebrate the idyllic rural setting of this ancient church, its natural surroundings and the beauty of an English summer. The theme is **“All Nature is a Garden”** and we aim to bring the countryside into the church with lavish use of native, seasonal flowers and foliage. We will also pay tribute to Gilbert White of Selborne whose 300th birthday celebrations were postponed last year. We have designed our festival to use only recyclable materials. Flowers will be arranged in water or moss rather than floral foam.

Outside the church there will be stalls and a tea tent for a cup of tea or coffee and slice of cake before or after your visit.

Working together to create a festival can be great fun, and we would like to involve as many people as possible. A number of you volunteered last year, and we hope you will still be keen to help. Please confirm that you are still willing and able. New volunteers are also very welcome. Please let us know if you could do any of the following:

- bake cakes/biscuits for the tea tent
- serve teas, coffee and cakes
- be a steward in the church
- provide flowers and/or foliage
- help to put up tents
- help with admin/PR
- be a sponsor

Please contact Carol Ashby if you can help in any way 01420 538386 or carol_ashby@hotmail.com

Marriage Law

The Civil Partnerships, Marriages and Deaths (Registration etc.) Act 2019 attained Royal Assent on 26th March and has an effect on the way marriages are registered in churches from 4th May. The Act provides for the modernisation of marriage registration for the first time since 1837 with a move away from the paper-based system to an electronic register.

This week the Church Marriage Registers will be closed and a new system introduced which allows couples to record fathers’ and (for the first time) mothers’ details. A single page Marriage Document (for marriages preceded by ecclesiastical preliminaries, Banns, Common or Archbishop’s Licence) or a Marriage Schedule (for marriages preceded by civil preliminaries, a Superintendent Registrar’ Licence) which is then sent to the Registrar who in future will issue couples with certified copies of the marriage certificate. Records will then be kept on a single database although each church will have a new register for recording marriages that have taken place.

As the Registers are closed in each of our churches we will mark the moment in a service in the coming weeks and take the opportunity to pray for all those being married in the coming year.

It is a significant change in the law which also allows for opposite sex couples to make a civil partnership.

How to Donate....

Churches took a serious financial hit in 2020 and the situation obviously continues into this year as well. We are very grateful to everyone who supports us regularly or occasionally – thank you! Your generosity is enabling the churches to function albeit in very different ways.



Hawley, Priors Dean and Greatham Churches are members of the national Parish Giving Scheme which means that you can easily set up a way to give that suits you. Either visit the website <https://parishgivingscheme.org.uk> or telephone 0333 002 1260

To contribute to the life and ministry of Greatham, Hawley and Priors Dean Churches by the Parish Giving Scheme you just need to decide:

- *how much and how often you wish to give.*
- *if you wish to increase your donation by Gift Aid.*
- *if you want your donations to be increased each year in line with inflation.*

Via the Parish Giving Scheme website or by telephone (**0333 002 1260**) simply state the name of the Church you wish to support and their parish code:

- **St Peter and St Paul Church, Hawley** Code Number: 290629087
- **Priors Dean Church** Code Number: 290629088
- **St John the Baptist, Greatham** Code Number: 290629086

PGS will ask for your contact details and bank details: sort code, account number and account name. For details of other ways to support any of our churches, for example by standing order or occasional donation please contact the treasurer:

Hawley	Robin Crittenden	randmcrittenden@waitrose.com	01730 827969
Priors Dean	D Green	green@priorsdean.com	01730 827636
Greatham	Steve Hedicker	shedicker58@gmail.com	01420538310
Empshott	Becky Smith	treasurerempshottpcc@gmail.com	01730 827397

Thank you!

If you have any concerns and would like to talk, please contact:

Peter Sutton 01730 827459

peter.sutton@portsmouth.anglican.org