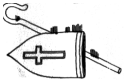


CONFIRMATION

St Michael's is having a Confirmation Service in November and Geoff or Rosie would be pleased to hear from anybody who is interested in discussing this or thinking about becoming confirmed.



CHURCH SERVICE ROTA

The rota for the next three months is in the letter rack for those who do not receive it electronically - please do look if you usually get a copy.

Rosie Castle

PRAYING FOR THE BENEFICE

This week we pray for those who live in Westhill Close, Westrop, The Willows, Windrush, Wrde Hill and for all who attend, work or help at Westrop School

PRAYER

Lord, as we come to a time of change, help us to keep focussed on you as our guide.
Keep our hearts open to your bidding,
Show us your will through your love,
Fill us with your grace that we may move with you to your glory in our town:
Through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever,
Amen

If you give by weekly or monthly envelope please check the Church letter rack for your end of year returns

ST MICHAEL'S HALL

The Management Committee of St Michael's Hall will be holding their AGM in the back meeting room of St Michael's Hall on Monday 1st June at 8.00pm. All users of the Hall and Church Members, together with any interested members of the public are welcome to attend.

Keith Ratcliffe, Chairman

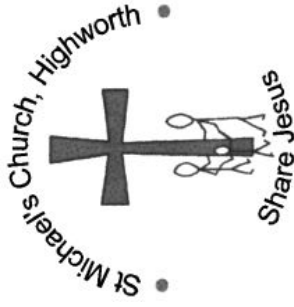
PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

...all those who are sick or troubled,
praying especially for
Lonna Bowie, Bob Bromberg, Leonard Cheesley, Val Cox, Andrew Crowley, Lesley Evans, Kim Fulgoni, Joan Furlonger, Peter Gibbs, Syd Huband, Timothy James, Keith Lodwick, Carole Richmond, Julia Riggs, Mick Sellar, Betty Taber

...all those who are recently bereaved,
praying especially for those who love and miss Frank Barnett

Parish of Highworth, with Sevenhampton & Inglesham - who to contact

All Ministry Enquiries - Rev Geoff Sowden (day off Friday) telephone 01793-765554
Church Office (Administration/General Enquiries) - Rosie Castle, tel 01793-762702 or email to stmichaelshighworth@offices.orangehome.co.uk
Youth Ministry Enquiries - telephone 07983-507349 (day off Saturday)
www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk



Week beginning Sunday 31st May 2009

How Does the Church Work?

In our sermon series on the Church we come today to the question: How does the Church work? St Paul says in our reading:

1. You are the 'body of Christ and each one of you is a part of it'. V27. He is writing now to us the Church in Highworth
 2. The body of Christ is a unit, despite being made up of many parts. v12.
- What is the symbol of this? V13. We are all baptised into one body, no matter what all our differences are. What are those differences, what do they mean?

V13. St Paul firstly speaks of our background, which means differences in culture and tradition.

V 28. He then secondly speaks of our gifts, which will mean differences in personality and in the way of doing things.

We want to be a Church that reflects our differences, but remains as one. This principle I outlined at the APCM and is at the heart of the changes planned for our corporate worship by the PCC, as explained in the handout given with this week's bulletin. Our unity can be expressed far wider than attendance at any particular service. 'Unity is diversity'. Hence our variety of services, small groups and opportunities to come together for celebrations.

The Church will only work if each of us:

1. accept that we are the Body of Christ and play our part in it
2. accept that we are a unit made up of many differences.
3. allow the Holy Spirit to work in each of us, through our differences.

Geoff Sowden

Our readings today are

1 Corinthians 12: 12-30 (pew bible p1153) John 16: 5-16 (pew bible p1084)

Please join us for refreshments after the 10am service today

If you prefer not to take alcohol, alcohol-free wine is available at our communion services - please take a pink card from a steward and ensure it is visible as you come for communion

SERVICES TODAY, Sunday 31st May 2009, Pentecost

Highworth 8.00am Holy Communion CW, Geoff Sowden
10.00am Holy Communion for Pentecost, Geoff Sowden
6.00pm ICC Pentecost Praise, HMC
Blunsdon 10.00am Family Holy Communion, John Rees



SERVICES NEXT WEEK, Sunday 7th June 2009, Trinity Sunday

Highworth 8.00am Holy Communion CW, Geoff Sowden
10.00am Civic Service, Geoff Sowden
6.00pm Informal Worship, Arthur Woo/Rachel Cook
Sevenhampton 6.00pm Holy Communion BCP, Geoff Sowden
Hannington 10.30am Holy Communion and Baptism, Arthur Woo
Blunsdon 10.00am Holy Communion CW, John Rees

ARTHUR'S ORDINATION

Arthur will be ordained priest at Bristol Cathedral on 27th June, at 3.30pm. There is a sheet on the chest for people to sign if they would like a seat on the coach - it will be leaving Highworth at 1.00pm and leaving Bristol at approximately 5.30pm.

TEARFUND COFFEE MORNING

NEXT Saturday 6th June, The Coffee Morning in the church room will be in aid of TEARfund, supporting Christian action with the world's poor. There will be a cake stall and Bric-a-brac, all donations welcome, contact **Helen**

CHURCH BREAKFAST

Each month breakfast is served in the Church Room between the 8am service and the 10am service - at about 9am! Whether you stay on after the 8am service or come before the 10am service, you are very welcome to join us for breakfast and conversation. We love to see new faces!

ICC PRAYER TIME

This Tuesday 2nd June the ICC Prayers will be held at The Bridge in Sheep Street.

Summer Serenade the New College, Swindon, Choral Group and Ensemble will give a concert at 3.30pm on Sunday 7th June at Highworth United Reformed Church - there will be a retiring collection on behalf of the Prospect Hospice.
Keith Salway

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Mon 1 June 9.30am Communal prayer time in church, all welcome
10.00am Ministry Team Meeting, Church Office
Tue 2nd 10.00am Holy Communion, Middi Haines
10.00am Tuesday Morning Fellowship, 14 Brookfield (Lynn 763197)
7.00pm Church Room booked for private hire (Neighbourhood Watch)
8.00pm Tuesday Fellowship, 5 The Willows (contact Allan 762721)
8.00pm Social Committee, Millbrook House
8.00pm ICC prayers, The Bridge
9.30am Music Bugs, Church Room
9.30am Little Fishes, Cullerne Room and Chancel
V2.30pm Holy Communion, Grove Hill
7.00pm Pilates in the Church Room
8.00pm Wednesday Fellowship, 26 Priory Grn (contact Wendy 861122)
7.00pm Wedding Rehearsal in church
7.30pm Bellringing practice, Bell Tower
8.00pm Baptism Preparation, Church Room
7.00pm Choir Practice
Sat 6th am Christian Aid counting in the Cullerne Room
10.00am TEARFund Coffee Morning and bulletin folding, Church Room
2.00pm Wedding of Helen McGowan and Carl Hicks
Sun 7th 9.00am Church Breakfast, Church Room, all are welcome

WEEKLY BULLETIN - ELECTRONICALLY

For those of you who prefer electronic communication, you may like to know that this weekly bulletin sheet is available electronically. This may mean that you do not need to take a paper copy from church each week, and also that you can catch up even if you are unable to make it to church.

To find the bulletin on the website go to www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk, click on 'bulletin' on the left hand side then click on the Sunday date for the current one. Or perhaps you would like to receive a copy of the bulletin into your email in-box - if so please send an email to the bulletin address (see below) saying who you are and that you would like to receive the bulletin via email. If you regularly take a bulletin and decide to receive your copy in electronic format please let **Hilary Fortnam** or **Lesley Uzzell** know and we can begin to reduce the number printed.

LEE ABBEY September 18th-20th 2009. For those of you who have already booked for this weekend, balance of payment is due by the end of June and you will receive a personal letter giving details. There are still rooms available for this weekend in the Valley of the Rocks in North Devon, and the Lee Abbey Conference Centre has an uplifting spiritual atmosphere which affects all who stay there. If you would like to be there with the Church in Highworth please contact me to discuss details. Cost is £95 per adult for full board for the whole weekend, children £15-£50 depending on age.

Anne Hinton