

## HOLIDAY CLUB 2010

*The Big Book Café*

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2010  
(ages 5-11)

*The Big Book Café Goes Large*

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2010 7pm-9pm  
(ages 12-16)

**Cereal boxes needed please** - Please continue collecting plastic take away tubs with lids, cereal boxes are now needed too.  
Sarah Heppenstall

sarah@bigbookcafe.co.uk



## NEW EMAIL FOR BULLETIN

There have been some problems recently with the email address used for the weekly bulletin - if you have sent something in and it has not appeared please accept my apologies but I didn't receive it! To try and resolve this there is now a new email address for the bulletin, please use this from now on:

**bulletin.stmichaels@yahoo.com**

Please contact me if you have any problems. Thank you

**Lesley Uzzell**

## PRAYING FOR THE BENEFICE

This week we pray for those who live in Folly Crescent, Folly Drive, Folly Way, Gilmore Court, Glebe Place, Grange Close and The Green

## PRAYER

O Lord, I do want to love you with all that I am.

And I want to love you by loving others in your name.

Forgive me, Lord, when I fail to be loving, especially to those who are closest to me ... my spouse, my children, my family, my colleagues, my neighbours.

May my love for you inspire and enrich my love for others.

**Amen**

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

*...all those who are sick or troubled, praying especially for John Bennett, Joan Burton, Val Cox, Susan Douglas, Hilary Fortnam, Zac Hobbs, Carole Richmond, Betty Taber, Beryl Ransome, Jane Underwood, Charlotte Vockins*

*...all those who are recently bereaved, praying especially for those who love and miss Gertrude Ockwell, John Sowden*

*...all those involved in mission, praying especially for Pauline, Alan and Simon Ashmore, Lindy Hope, Nicky Leonard, Ruth Clarke*

*...our children and young people as they start their summer break, preparing them for new teachers, new schools, colleges or universities in the autumn*



**Week beginning Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

## Relationships of Power

This is a really knotty passage. It is knotty because it simply does not fit our early twenty-first century lifestyle, does it? Wives are supposed to submit to their husbands in an era where gender equality is trumpeted loudly everywhere around us. And anyway, there are large numbers of couples who are living together without being married. Children are supposed to obey their parents, when more and more often children are not actually living with both parents because of what a military friend of mine calls 'family re-grouping'. Slaves are supposed to obey their masters when we don't have slavery any more.

So do we chuck out this passage as irrelevant to our times?

Rather than that, let's look deeper into this reading. What do these three relationships have in common?

First of all, they are not one-way. There are two parties to each, and each of the parties gets separate instructions (wives AND husbands, children AND parents, slaves AND masters). Second, they are relationships where the power lies lopsidedly with one of the parties - in those days the husband could easily dismiss the wife, the children were in the power of their parents and so were slaves. In our day we have plenty of lopsided relationships, don't we. Apart from family relationships, we have unbalanced relationships with employees, bosses, bureaucrats, those we owe money to and those who owe us money... each of us has our own unique network of uneven relationships. And of course we all have an unbalanced relationship with those in the Third World who grow so much of our food and are oppressed by the commercial interests that come between us and those farmers. I am sure we can all think of more.

So what is the message of this reading? It is for everyone who is in an unbalanced relationship to treat the other with respect, valuing their humanity. If someone with power over us irritates us, let us remember that they too are a child of God. If someone is exploited in any way to make our lives easier, let us try to reduce that exploitation. And within our own community of the church, let us hold out the hand of love to all, regardless of their status or reputation. Let all our relationships, in the home, in the work place in the shops, in the church, in the... well everywhere... be full of love. 'Love your neighbour as yourself' is a very old command. Let's do it.

**Charles Kirke**

## 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

[www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk](http://www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk)

## Our readings today are:

Ephesians 5:21-6:9 (pew bible page 1176)

Mark 3:31-34 (pew bible page 1005)

Please join us for refreshments after our 10am and 4pm services 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, 25<sup>th</sup> July 2010, Trinity 8

Highworth 8.00am Holy Communion BCP, Arthur Woo/Charles Kirke  
 10.00am Parish Communion & children's activities, Geoff Sowden/Charles Kirke  
 4.00pm T-time service with children's groups, Arthur Woo/Katie James  
 7.00pm Informal Worship, Geoff Sowden/Neil Griffiths

Hannington 10.30am **SERVICE CANCELLED**

Blunsdon 8.00am Holy Communion BCP, Justin Griffith  
 10.00am Family Communion, Arthur Woo

### SERVICES NEXT WEEK, Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2010, Trinity 9

Highworth 8.00am Holy Communion BCP, Arthur Woo/Charles Kirke  
 10.00am Morning Praise with children's activities, Justin Griffiths/Lesley Page  
 4.00pm Family T-time all age communion service, Arthur Woo/Katie James  
 7.00pm Informal Worship, Lynn Woo/Julie Whitfield

Sevenhampton 9.30am Holy Communion BCP, Geoff Sowden

Hannington 10.30am Holy Communion CW, Geoff Sowden

Blunsdon 10.00am Holy Communion CW, John Rees

### TOGETHER WEEKEND

We will be holding a coffee morning, cake, bric-a-brac & books sale and raffle on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July 10-12noon in the church room/churchyard, to help meet the cost of the parish 'Together Weekend' in October. Offers of help on the day, cakes, raffle prizes and Bric-a-brac to **Lesley and Stephen Page**.

### PARISH GOODBYE TO ALAN HAWKER

We have invited Alan Hawker to speak at all our services on the 5th September and the PCC's of the three parishes are making a collection of thanks for all his help over the years. Anybody who would like to contribute to this, please do so via Rosie **before the end of August**. **Geoff**

**ADVANCE NOTICE** - The next BCP & T service will be held on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September at **3.00pm** - please note change of time. Everyone is welcome to join in fellowship with our 'seniors'. **Esmé Buller**

Please come and join us for the annual  
**CHURCH FAMILY BBQ**  
 SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2010 - 12.30 pm  
 IN THE GARDEN OF MILLBROOK HOUSE  
 (Janet and Eric Lival's home)  
 Adults £6.00, Children £3.00 under 3's free  
 Sausages, Burgers, Rolls, wide choice of Salads & Puddings,  
 Squash or bring your own drink  
 Tickets from Rosie and members of the Social Committee -  
**ON SALE FROM 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY**



### WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Mon 26<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Prayers in church - all welcome, please join us  
 10.00am Ministry team meeting, Church Office

Tue 27<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Pilates in the Church Room  
 9.30am Tuesday morning fellowship, 14 Brookfield (Lynn)  
 9.30am Magazine collating in the Cullerne Room  
 12.45pm Funeral of Gertrude Ockwell at Kingsdown

Wed 28<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm Pilates in the Church Room

Thu 29<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Bellingring practice, bell tower  
 7.30pm Wedding rehearsal in St Michael's  
 7.30pm Wedding rehearsal in St John's Hannington

Sat 31<sup>st</sup> 10.00am Coffee morning and sale in aid of the St Michael's Together Weekend in the church room and churchyard  
 11.30am Wedding of Elizabeth Wilkey and Iain Mazonowicz  
 1.30pm Wedding in St Leonard's, Blunsdon  
 3.30pm Wedding in St John the Baptist, Hannington

### MOVING ON

It was announced last week that I am going to be Priest-in-Charge of the Benefice of Rowde and Bromham in Salisbury Diocese from the beginning of November. We are excited, but as is so often the case when the Lord calls, also aware of the cost. It will be very difficult emotionally for us to move away from Highworth where we have spent 28 happy years - and I believe that wherever we are in the future, St Michael's will always be "Home Church". However, we will not disappear altogether! Anne will still continue to teach in Blunsdon, Phil will attend New College in Swindon from September, and Tom will continue to live in Highworth. Please pray for us at this time, just as we will continue to pray for you.

**John Rees**

### DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

#### ST MICHAEL'S TOGETHER WEEKEND 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2010

Please keep this weekend free in your diary for the Church Family to share time together. Please look out for your invitation at all the services today Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July.

### Praying for Alpha

The churches in Highworth are running a joint Alpha course in the autumn. In preparation for this 4 weeks of continuous prayer are planned from midnight on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> August to midnight on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September. Prayer is vital for Alpha to run so please join us by signing up in the 1 hour slots on the sheets on the chest in the centre of church

**Lynn Woo**

### Special ALPHA collection

The churches in Highworth have been preparing and praying for the ALPHA course that will be running at Warneford starting September 17<sup>th</sup> (launch event) and every Wednesday thereafter (more details on the notice boards). The cost will be approximately £6.5k and we are reliant solely on individual donations. **Today** there will be a special collection for Highworth ALPHA. Please prayerfully consider supporting this joint mission to the Highworth community.

**Arthur Woo**

Please send items and inserts for the Weekly Bulletin to Lesley Uzzell by **6pm Thursdays**: tel. 765050, **NEW email: bulletin.stmichaels@yahoo.com**