

# THE WINDRUSH BENEFICE

ALDSWORTH ❖ THE BARRINGTONS ❖ SHERBORNE ❖ WINDRUSH

*Church of England – Diocese of Gloucester*

## END OF AN ERA



It is given to few people to define an Era. Among those who do there have been very few who have done so with such grace, kindness and fortitude as our late Queen.

### LETTER TO THE CHURCHES FROM BISHOP RACHEL

It is with deep sadness that we hear the news of the Queen's death. As our sense of loss ripples out across the nation, commonwealth and world, we give thanks for a life well lived. Whether we met her in person, saw her from a distance, or simply encountered her in our homes in newspapers, on the radio or on screen, we knew her as our Queen. We also knew that her leadership and dedication to her people was rooted in her Christian faith.

As a follower of Jesus Christ the Queen embodied the call to love God and neighbour. And so in these days of sadness and sorrow may we reflect this same commitment in our homes, communities and nation, as the Queen said in her first Christmas Day speech to be televised:

*"Today we need a special kind of courage, not the kind needed in battle but a kind which makes us*

*stand up for everything that we know is right, everything that is true and honest. We need the kind of courage that can withstand the subtle corruption of the cynics so that we can show the world that we are not afraid of the future .*

Our churches should be a place people can come for prayer and reflection as we give thanks for Queen Elizabeth II and pray for Charles, our new King, the Royal family and the life of our communities, nation and Commonwealth.

I ask that you keep your church doors open and share with your community that they are welcome to visit to say a prayer or light a candle.

May she rest in peace and rise in glory."

*Bishop Rachel*



***"Today we need a special kind of courage..."***

Queen Elizabeth II

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## NOTICE TO THE WINDRUSH BENEFICE

### Friday 9 Sept

- At 12 noon, in each of our churches that have one, a bell will be tolled slowly – 96 times.

### Saturday 10 / Sunday 11 Sept

- The Ride+Stride initiative will still take place.
- Our churches will be open and, where possible, it is hoped that someone will be in our churches to welcome visitors and mourners.
- A single candle will be lit in the chancel.
- Harvest Festival services will go ahead at the times announced; however, a revised order of service will be prepared.

### During the following week

- Our churches will remain open.
- Each day this week, at 4pm, there will be a service of Evening Prayer in one of our churches

## EVENING PRAYER @ 4pm

Mon 12 Sept	SHERBORNE
Tue 13 Sept	LITTLE BARRINGTON
Wed 14 Sept	ALDSWORTH
Thu 15 Sept	WINDRUSH
Fri 16 Sept	GREAT BARRINGTON

## HARVEST FESTIVAL

Sunday 11 Sept

09.00	GREAT BARRINGTON
09.30	LITTLE BARRINGTON
10.00	WINDRUSH
10.30	SHERBORNE
11.15	ALDSWORTH

## CIVIC SERVICE

*In Thanksgiving for the  
Life and Service of the late Queen*

11 am Sunday 18 Sept

*in all the parish churches  
of this benefice*

***“Behold, thou hast made my days as it were a span long :  
and mine age is even as nothing in respect of thee...”***

*Book of Common Prayer (1662)*