

THE WINDRUSH BENEFICE

ALDSWORTH ❖ THE BARRINGTONS ❖ SHERBORNE ❖ WINDRUSH

Church of England – Diocese of Gloucester

JULY

2 July *Saturday*

1 p.m. GREAT BARRINGTON

Wedding : Coles / Sollis

3 July *St Thomas*

11 a.m. SHERBORNE

Benefice Holy Communion

10 July *Trinity 4*

11 a.m. LITTLE BARRINGTON

Morning Prayer BCP

5 p.m. via Zoom

Evening Prayer

17 July *Trinity 5*

11 a.m. ALDSWORTH

Morning Prayer CW

24 July *Trinity 6*

1 p.m. WINDRUSH

Morning Prayer CW

31 July 2022 *Trinity 7*

11 a.m. GREAT BARRINGTON

Morning Prayer CW

SUMMER 2022

The Vicar is usually available

THURSDAY to SUNDAY of each week.

AUGUST

7 August *Trinity 8*

11 a.m. SHERBORNE

Morning Prayer & Holy Baptism

13 August *Saturday*

3 p.m. LITTLE BARRINGTON

Wedding : Kinally / Mills

14 August *Trinity 9*

11 a.m. LITTLE BARRINGTON

Morning Prayer BCP

21 August *Trinity 10*

11 a.m. ALDSWORTH

Benefice Holy Communion CW

27 August *Saturday*

2.30 p.m. GREAT BARRINGTON

Wedding : Dorey / Hanney-Davis

28 August *Trinity 11*

11 a.m. SHERBORNE *

Morning Prayer & Holy Baptism

** Note: change of usual pattern*

Finding Treasure in Ordinary Time

What word comes to your mind when you think of Summer? High on the list is probably *heat*. Whether that is good or bad will depend to some extent on your personal thermostat. Another word likely to come to mind would be *holiday*. For those who have to live by school terms, summer will mean some time off and (planes, trains and the cost of car fuel permitting) time to get away to somewhere else and for things to slow down a bit. I wish you well if you are going away and say welcome to those who will be visiting this area throughout the Summer.

It is crucial for our well-being to have the time to take stock of what is most important, to slow down and look around, and to enjoy the love of family and friends. Of course, God — who made us — understands this basic need. Indeed, the Church Calendar calls such a period ‘Ordinary Time’. When God commanded a ‘day of rest’ (*sabbath*) every week, it was with our good in view.

Holidays allow some time for personal reflection. Jesus teaches us that “*where your treasure is, there will your heart be also*” (Matt. 6:21); when we have time to see where our treasure is, that which we value most, then we will find our heart.

‘If I were a medical man I should prescribe a holiday to any patient who considered his work important.’ So wrote Bertrand Russell when observing how often a symptom of an impending breakdown is the belief that one’s work is indispensably important. Whilst we may rightly care about the work we do, we can surely recognise Russell’s warning and, in the coming months, be glad to take his prescription.

Holidays are an opportunity to refresh ourselves and to restore a sense of perspective to all we are doing. But they are not free from danger, for we may have to re-learn how to be part of a family or how to be on our own without the distraction or excuse of work.

Holidays are when we can more easily recognise the truth of the well-known words of the Welsh poet W.H. Davies:

*What is life if, full of care,
we have no time to stand and stare?*

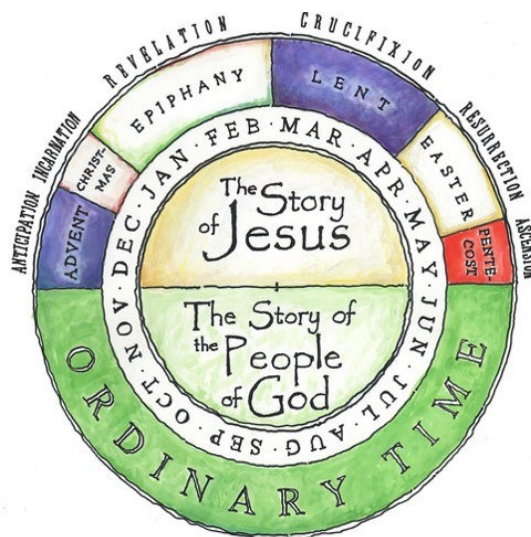
If holidays are to live up to the origin of their name — and become for us *holy days* — then we would do well to seek God’s renewal and perspective-restoring truths, rather than rely on our own strength for all that lies ahead for us. Part of any holiday we take should also include a care for our spiritual health and vitality. This can, of course, be done without ever leaving home.

Here is a spiritual workout than can easily be done while on holiday: take time to sit with your thoughts and notice where your mind goes when it is unoccupied. Discover ‘where your treasure is’ by following those thoughts. How long does it take before God enters the picture? Where is faith among your values? A far less distracted mind can tell us a lot, if we only pay attention to it.

Every holiday, whether exciting and exotic or routine and familiar, will be lacking unless God is part

of our rest. This does not mean a beach has to be replaced with a monastery, or time with family replaced by a locked door. The grandeur of the sea and the laughter of children are easy paths to God for those who pay attention. And for those who cannot get away, then to worship with visitors who join us on Sunday can be a reminder that we are part of the larger family of God.

To view Summer, or for that matter ‘Ordinary Time’, as a time off from Christian fellowship is to mis-place Church into the category of ‘the things to get away from’. In fact, God is always present during our holidays and is always inviting us to enjoy a deeper rest in Him. Let *holy days* be high on your list of priorities this Summer and discover that God is, wherever you go. ❖



LOOKING AROUND



DISCIPLESHIP EXPLORED

Could this be for you or for someone you know?

Every Sunday in August, at 5pm, through Zoom, there will be an opportunity to explore what it means to be a disciple, or follower, of Jesus Christ.

The Vicar will be offering whoever 'clicks the link' in the *pEw News* * and joins the weekly sessions, some resources and an opportunity for questions and a discussion. Each session will last 50 minutes.

* Please speak with the Vicar or email him if have not received the Summer *pEw News*.

For those who have not been Confirmed (that is, prepared to receive Holy Communion) in the Church of England and would like to be, then this series will provide a very good foundation for the short series of Confirmation preparation meetings that will take place in September.

The Bishop of Gloucester, the Right Rev Rachel Treweek, will be conducting a Confirmation service in our benefice at 11 a.m. on Sunday 25 September 2022.



JUBILEE JOY

The celebrations in our benefice at the time of the Jubilee Weekend were a wonderful time for our communities. Whether it was the superb Thanksgiving Service in Little Barrington, which was led by the Churchwarden, **Jan De Haldevang**, when the church was packed, and which was followed by a Barringtons picnic on the green; or the picnic-in-the-barn in Sherborne, courtesy of the **Summers family**, and which attended by some 200 people, as well as the Thanksgiving Service in that village on Sunday, at which copies of *Our Faithful Queen* were distributed; or the hospitality of the **Sherborne Arms** in Aldsworth, who opened their doors to the whole village for the special occasion; or the beacon lighting and barbecue in Windrush, organised by **Charlie and Jo Neil** with others—it was a wonderful time of 'coming together' after a couple of years of having to 'keep our distance' from one another. Thank you to the many organisers and wecomers, flower arrangers, bell-ringers, cleaners and hosts for all you did to make this national celebration one that was also special in our



Published for the Windrush Benefice by the Revd Dr Gerard Moate

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FOR YOUR PRAYERS

A Summer Blessing

MAY YOU *walk* with God this Summer in whatever you do and wherever you go; may you *talk* to God this Summer every day and in every situation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saint Thomas

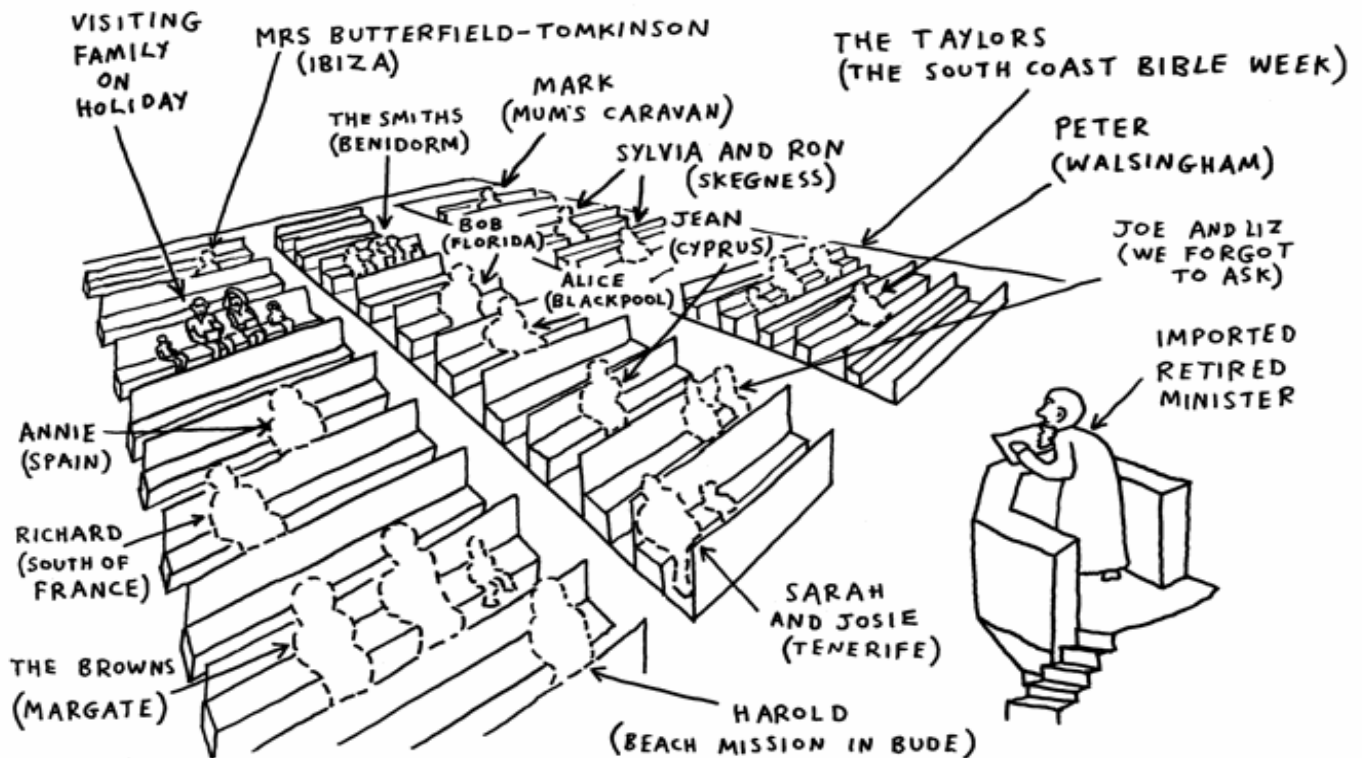
ALMIGHTY and eternal God, who, for the firmer foundation of our faith, allowed your holy apostle Thomas to doubt the resurrection of your Son until word and sight convinced him: grant to us, who have not seen, that we also may believe and so confess Christ as our Lord and our God. Amen.

A Prayer for Ukraine

GOD OF PEACE and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

THE FAITHFUL REMNANT REMEMBER THE DEARLY DEPARTED



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