

July/August 2020

50p

Berrow with Pendock, Eldersfield,
Hollybush and Birtsmorton



Parish Magazine

UNITED BENEFICE OF BERROW WITH PENDOCK ELDERSFIELD HOLLYBUSH AND
BIRTSMORTON

MINISTRY TEAM

Rector:	The Rev Julie James, Thistledown, Pendock, Glos, GL19 3PW (Day Off-Monday)	Tel: 01531 651795 julie.m.james@btinternet.com
Associate Priest:	The Rev. Anthea Elston The Plough, Eight Oaks, Castlemorton WR13 6BU (Day Off - Friday)	01684 833278 revanth@eighthoaks.com
Licensed Lay Minister	Mr David Allen ALM	01531 650495
Benefice Administrator:	Mrs. Mel Roberts The Parish Office, Berrow WR13 6JN email: berrowbenefice@btinternet.com	01684 833866 Wed and Thu 1.30 - 4.00 p.m.
Pastoral Visitor:	Mrs. Cathy Powell-Chandler	01452 780444
Benefice Choir:	Mrs Mel Roberts	01684 833866

BERROW WITH PENDOCK

Churchwarden:	Mrs. E. Rambridge	01531 650230
P.C.C. Secretary:	Mr. M. Knott	01531 650837
Treasurer:	Mr. A. Rambridge	01531 650230

ELDERSFIELD

Churchwardens:	Mrs. M. Williams Miss. J. Peters	01452 780320 01452 840211
Deputy Churchwarden:	Mr. A Holt	01452 780429
P.C.C. Secretary:	Mr. C Powell-Chandler	01452 780444
Treasurer:	Mr. D. Braund	01684 830099
Tower Captain:	Miss. J. Peters	01452 840211

BIRTSMORTON AND HOLLYBUSH

Churchwardens:	Mrs. R. Bolton	01684 833287
Birtsmorton:	POST VACANT	
Hollybush:	Gill Robson	01531 650054
P.C.C. Secretary:	Mrs. S. Williams	01531 650431
Treasurer:		

BERROW VILLAGE HALL

Bookings:	Mrs. D. Shail	01531 650261
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MAGAZINE EDITORS & MAGAZINE ADVERTISEMENTS

Brian and Leta Woodcock, 'The Larches,' Poolhay Close, Link End Road, Corse Lawn, GL19 4NY

New Advertisers: Please write or email (BANDL@POOLHAY.PLUS.COM) to the Magazine Editors
Copy Deadline: Please have all copy to the Editors by 10th of the month preceding publication

Dear Friends

By the time this magazine reaches you, many announcements, changes and stages will have evolved due to the Government and Scientists on-going advice during this pandemic.

Through scripture, I have been reflecting through Easter, Pentecost and now 'Ordinary Time' with our gathered congregation through the Webex system, on the small group of beleaguered disciples, who are fearful and uncertain about the future. The Holy Spirit comes, and those disciples are transformed, heading out into the world, living life fully as Christ's followers, drawing others to join them by their love for each other and their neighbours, and their heartfelt teaching and worship.

In many ways, this experience of being fearful and uncertain about what the future might hold is similar to the experience of our rural Berrow Benefice and for those in all areas since March 2020. We gather to worship together in steady and increasing numbers during the week and at 11.00am on a Sunday, either on-line or by telephone. We have had to adapt the worship to being on-line, with dodgy internet connections, funny background noises, screens freezing and delays of sound. For a few, there is an unwillingness to join us due to a myriad of individual reasons and barriers which we respect. However, far greater numbers than anticipated across the Diocese have logged into the various You Tube and virtual services prepared each week. Some have ventured further afield and found many different styles of worship, music and formats through the media available on the internet. It's been quite a shift in how people 'attend' church.

Numbers attending worship in this country have been slowly declining over the decades, with weary Parochial Church Councils (PCC) struggling to keep churches open and well maintained. Church Wardens are daunted by the Faculty system for any changes made to make churches 'fit for purpose' and treasurers blanched as the yearly Parish Share amount required to be paid increases significantly.

Overnight in March, the doors of every church building were closed. Lockdown was both dramatic and shocking for church communities. Whilst opening requires many protocols, risk assessments and directives from those in authority, much pressure is being exercised in 'opening'. For our community, many of the 'volunteers' are in the age group most at risk and have been 'shielding'. Which church will we open? How do you cleanse an ancient Grade 2* listed building? What safety measures need to be put in place? What resources do we require? Much anxiety will be around socially mixing inside a building with a virus that no-one can 'see' or even know, with no symptoms, that you are infected. Until track and trace becomes more secure, and immunisation available, the risks are very high in an enclosed space.

Churches will open, weddings once more can go ahead. Funerals will be able to be held inside the church and not just at the graveside. However, numbers will be restricted due to the social distancing required to keep people 'safe'. What that will look like and when, who can say.

We are actively looking at how we journey together down this path of recovery in the world where Covid-19 is real and still dangerous to our population. Schools have slowly opened and

we can see the huge stress this has created. We do not know what damage it will generate for our children, teenagers, parents and staff, let alone the economic damage. The welfare and mental health of all our country is hard to quantify. with resilience and faith.

Many hard decisions will be needed to be addressed as we contemplate the future of our church buildings and critically what buildings will we need in the future and for what purpose. How do we achieve vibrant Christian communities who can meet in a building that is fit for purpose? How do we engage folk in enthusiastic discipleship and not feel burdened? My hope and prayer is that the Holy Spirit will lead us through and with resilience, faith, and God's grace, we will emerge stronger and prepared to engage with 'church' in ways that will build God's Kingdom here in this Benefice.

Rev'd Julie James



The Prayer of St. Columba



*Be a bright flame before me, O God
a guiding star above me.
Be a smooth path below me,
a kindly shepherd behind me
today, tonight, and for ever.
Alone with none but you, my God
I journey on my way;
what need I fear when you are near,
O Lord of night and day?
More secure am I within your hand
than if a multitude did round me stand.
Amen.*

Who was St. Columba or Colum Cille *in Gaelic*...?

Born 7 December 521 – 9 June 597) was an Irish abbot and missionary evangelist credited with spreading Christianity in what is today Scotland at the start of the Hiberno-Scottish mission. He founded the important abbey on Iona, which became a dominant religious and political institution in the region for centuries.



Bible Study

When? Tuesday:- Please use the Webex/phone method

14th July 2020, 15th September 2020

10.30am Virtual cuppa and biscuit!

Bible reflections 11.00-11.30am

If you are interested in having some notes sent

for the planned sessions, just let me know.

Any comments via email for discussion amongst group is possible.

Rev. Julie James

Food Banks

It is a very sad sign of the times we are living through that food banks are now established and very much needed in Tewkesbury, Malvern and Ledbury. They are supplying emergency food parcels to an increasing number of people, and especially to families with children. Malvern and Tewkesbury foodbanks are run by the Trussell Trust who have seen an 89% increase year on year in demand for their help, with April 2020 being their busiest month ever. Sadly, this situation is only likely to worsen in the short term as the economic impact of Covid 19 becomes more apparent.

Food banks rely on donations of tinned and packet foods, and on cash donations too, which enable them to supply food vouchers, and, in extreme circumstances, enable them to assist people with utility payments too.

To find out what your nearest foodbank is particularly in need of at the moment and how to donate foodstuffs or money, go to their website which is as follows;

Ledbury - <http://www.ledburyfoodbank.org/>

Malvern - <https://malvern hills.foodbank.org.uk/>

Tewkesbury - <https://tewkesbury.foodbank.org.uk/>

We're working on ways we can do more to support foodbanks as a group of parishes, so watch this space for updates as I'm afraid this problem of food poverty isn't going away anytime soon. In Upton, the Baptist Church have launched a Community Fridge initiative to share surplus food which is free to anyone and everyone and might appeal to our communities too with their keen gardeners producing bountiful harvests at this time of year.

Any ideas, do get in touch.

Rev Anthea

Covid Creativity

It struck me that this dreadful virus, which has caused such pain and suffering to so many, has also made us realise how creative and resourceful we really are, and has opened our eyes to the world about us and to the many blessings we enjoy, simply through living where we do.

As lockdown begins to ease, it occurs to me that we need to find ways and means to enable our community to start to come together again in a safe and enjoyable way. So I wondered whether our very many creative folk might like to come up with an expression of how they have survived and/or thrived through this strange time of lockdown.

You may be an artist with oils or watercolours, a stained glass genius, a poet or writer of short stories or memoirs, a textile artist who can sew or knit their lockdown experiences, a photographer capturing nature or some of the strange new sights of these days, a musician or composer, who has found new depth and insight in various pieces of music – or composed some, or you may be a cook who has found new and unusual recipes coming out of shortage and need.

If we can gather a body of Covid creativity from adults and children alike, we could hold an exhibition, when regulation allows, to demonstrate that even in the darkest of times, the bright light of creativity and inspiration – which I would call the Holy Spirit – still burns brightly.

Interested? Get in touch and let me know what you're planning!

Rev Anthea



Weddings during Coronavirus-rules are being updated. Please check the website. www.berrowbenefice.org.uk

Many wedding days have sadly been disrupted by Coronavirus restrictions. Our regular Sunday services are suspended and this poses the immediate problem of the 'qualifying attendance' to be married in a church. Wedding ceremonies can take place if all the legal requirements are in place **BUT** the only people there will be the couple, two witnesses and the officiant. Any gathering afterwards will be severely restricted under the regulations during 'Lock Down.'

How we get you legally wed

We are legally entitled to marry you in a Church of England church through the publication of banns. However, banns can only be published during the principal service of public worship in a parish church on a Sunday. We don't know when we will be able to resume services in church. So, as long as the suspension of services lasts, we can't marry you by banns.

Common License

If you have made the qualifying connection to the Church, you can apply for a Common License to marry with us. We have already explained to our couples who could apply for this and what is involved.

Banns, on resumption of services

Once services resume, it will take us 3 weeks to read your banns, so provided services resume say 4 weeks before your wedding day, that will give us and your home church enough time to read your banns. However, as no one knows when services will be able to resume, this is a high-risk strategy!

Civil Ceremony followed by a Blessing in Church

In the interim, if a Registrar marriage is possible, you could have a civil ceremony and return when the churches are open. You could then have a Church blessing of your marriage which is as similar to a full wedding as we can make it.

Conclusion

Many of our couples have postponed or delayed their marriage dates. We have no clear timetable of when churches will resume services or how marriages can or will be conducted in the future. If Anthea or I can be of any help to you during this decision making process, please do discuss the options with us and your wedding venue hosts. It is an anxious and frustrating time and no-one can predict too far in the future what restrictions, rules or recommendations will be made.

Be safe and keep healthy! May your love for one another be strengthened and bind you closer than ever during this upheaval worldwide.

Rev'd Julie James



FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Read John 16:8 to learn the role of the Holy Spirit. Then read Galatians 5:22-25. Fill in the blanks with the words at the bottom of the page.

“But the _____ of the Spirit is love, _____, peace, patience, _____, goodness, _____, gentleness, and self-control. Against such _____ there is no law. Those who belong to _____ have crucified the _____ with its desires. If we live by the _____, let us also walk by the Spirit.”



SPIRIT
JOY
KINDNESS
THINGS

CHRIST
FRUIT
FLESH
FAITH

“JUST FOR FUN” QUIZ ANSWERS

		Answer
1	Yorkshire.....(7)	PUDDING
2	Newcastle.....(5,3)	BROWN ALE
3	Dover.....(4)	SOLE
4	Wales.....(5,5)	WELSH CAKES
5	Bakewell.....(4)	TART
6	Plymouth.....(3)	GIN
7	Cornwall.....(7,7)	CORNISH PASTIES
8	Wensleydale(6)	CHEESE
9	Colchester.....(7)	OYSTERS
10	Kendal.....(4-4)	MINT-CAKE
11	Eccles.....(5)	CAKES
12	Wiltshire.....(3)	HAM
13	Aberdeen.....(5,4)	ANGUS BEEF
14	Dublin.....(3,6)	BAY PRAWNS
15	Somerset.....(7,6)	CHEDDAR CHEESE
16	Arbroath.....(7)	SMOKIES
17	Liverpool.....(6)	SCOUSE
18	Shrewsbury.....(8)	BISCUITS
19	Scarborough.....(6)	PLAICE
20	Lancashire.....(3,3)	HOT POT
21	Derby.....(6)	SCONES
22	Norfolk.....(6)	TURKEY
23	Cumberland.....(3,6)	RUM BUTTER
24	Banbury.....(5)	CAKES
25	Selkirk.....(7)	BANNOCK
26	Jersey.....(5,8)	ROYAL POTATOES
27	Cromer.....(4)	CRAB
28	Northumberland.....(7,5)	SINGING HINNY
29	Bath.....(5,4)	SALLY LUNN
30	Morecombe.....(3,7)	BAY SHRIMPS

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Have you got a recipe that you would like to share? Perhaps something different you have tried out during “lockdown”? If so, please send it by email to Wvndbrook@googlemail.com and it could be published in a future issue of the magazine.



Rules are changing , so please contact us for the latest up-date or look at the advice on www.berrowbenefice.org.uk

Funerals during restrictions due to Coronavirus

We are here to help, so do get in touch to discuss details but sadly, we are unable to offer a service in church due to the Coronavirus restrictions

What type of funeral can we have at the moment?

We are able to offer a burial or interment of ashes service at the graveside. We will always aim to make it as reverent and appropriate as possible.

Who can attend?

Only the immediate family of the person will be allowed to gather at the graveside e.g. partner or spouse, parents and children only. Due to age or underlying health conditions, some people must not attend. 5 people is the suggested number, socially distanced but you will need to discuss your own particular circumstances with your officiating minister and Funeral Director.

What about a service at a Crematorium?

Each crematorium is operating under its own particular guidelines, so you will need to liaise with your Crematorium and Funeral Director to see what is possible.

Could we have a second service at a later date?

Absolutely. Once the current restrictions are lifted, we would be happy to assist in organizing a memorial service or service of thanksgiving for your loved one, which all who wished to remember and give thanks for their life would be able to attend.

What if I am unable to attend the funeral service?

Sad though it is not to be able to be there for the service itself, there are things that you can do from a distance while it is happening;

- Why not take a few moments to think, write, or draw some of your memories of the person? Later you may be able to share that with others at a special memorial service.
- You can still pray at home, maybe with a candle lit by a special photo of the person – we can give you some prayers if you wish **or go to our website or the main Church of England website**
- You could also read a poem at home or look at Psalm 23
- You could write a card to others who are missing the person you are grieving.
- Remember that when this crisis is over [and it will pass] there will always be services both formal or informal for remembering that can be organised by the local church.
- You can light a 'virtual' candle via the:-
[www. churchofengland.org/funeral-candle](http://www.churchofengland.org/funeral-candle)

Rev'd Julie James

Local Businesses in a time of Coronavirus

Our local businesses have also been going the extra mile to help and support our communities, so I've listed those I know about here, please do nominate other businesses I've not come across for future editions.

- Yvonne at Pendock shop is very much open as normal and will do deliveries as and when she can. She can be reached on 01531 650 034
- Neil at the Farmers Arms is doing Neil's on Wheels, meals to be picked up from the pub, and orders can be placed on 01684 833 308
- Les Hill at the top end of Birt Street is selling a wide selection of fruit, veg and bread and is open 10am to 6pm 7 days a week.
- The Rose and Crown at Redmarley are doing take away meals, including Sunday lunch, and frozen meals and can be contacted on 01531 650 234
- Staunton Garden Centre Wide range of groceries - milk, bread, veg, fruit, meat, tea, biscuits, soup, gardening supplies. Open 9 - 4pm, 7 days a week. Follow their Facebook page. Good social distancing markings and spacious car park. Also do deliveries to GL19, GL3 and GL4. See Facebook or call 01452 840612.
- Ben Creese the butcher is doing a delivery service and can be contacted on 01452 840510 or via their website www.countrybutchers.co.uk
- ASHLEWORTH HUB. Range of goods including dairy, fruit and veg, bakery, meat, eggs, dry goods. Follow 'Ashleworth village shop and post office' on Facebook. Order by phone 01452 700165 or email Arkwright@ashleworthhub.com
- BROMSBERROW Shop. Open 7 days, 9 - 11.30am, 4 - 6pm. Most items. See their Facebook page. Tel 01531 650447. Delivering locally.

From the Diocesan Web Site

A selection of articles posted on the Diocesan Web Site

An article from the Archdeacon of Dudley:

<https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/2020/06/02/cultivating-thankfulness/>

Being a prison chaplain during the Coronavirus Pandemic:

<https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/2020/05/22/being-prison-chaplain-during-coronavirus-pandemic/>

Next year's Bishop's Certificate course:

<https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/2020/05/21/next-years-bishops-certificate-course/>

Signing up to the Parish Giving Scheme via telephone:

<https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/2020/05/19/signing-parish-giving-scheme-telephone/>

Communications in a time of Coronavirus

This is just to let you know about the different means of communication we are trying to use to enable us to stay in touch with everyone.

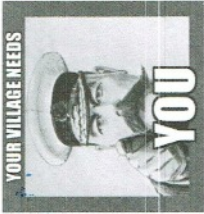
For those who have access to websites and email, we have our own benefice website;

<http://berrowbenefice.org.uk>

which we try to keep updated with news, service sheets for our regular online services and information on the impact of the virus on weddings and funerals. Keep an eye on this to find out news of when some of our churches may be opened up for private prayer as lockdown eases. In addition we have an email circulation list on which we send out updates roughly twice a week. If you'd like to be added to that list please email **revanthea@eightoaks.com**.

This parish magazine will be produced as normal this month, and we are very grateful to our usual printer and to Mrs Stephanie Grainger of Pendock School who stepped in and did a limited run of magazines for us in the interim. It will still be available via the website shown above, and emailed out to those who would like it sent to them directly but we will aim to re-start the usual physical distribution, depending upon the health and welfare of our volunteer distributors.

And we are still producing a newsletter which is sent out via email and which we are trying to distribute to all those who receive the parish magazine to keep everyone updated and in touch in a fast changing situation during the month. Please let us know if you would like to receive a copy of this, and whether you'd like it supplied electronically or in print form by contacting Rev Anthea on 01684 833278 or the email address shown above.



Berrow Parish Council

Become a Parish Councillor and make a difference.

☞ Berrow Parish Council have three parish councillor vacancies and we would love to **YOU!**

☞ If you are passionate about your community and want to make a difference you **SHOULD** be a parish councillor

☞ If you live within 3 miles of, or own property or work in, Berrow you could become a **PARISH COUNCILLOR**

Contact the Parish Clerk at berrowparishcouncil@gmail.com or on 01684 833019 to find out more

30 Village Speed Awareness Campaign 30



PENDOCK 30

KEEP UNDER 30

The limit is there for a reason,
Drive with care through our village

Thank you.

Pendock Parish Council

In May, Police checks for vehicles exceeding the 30mph speed limit took place in the village. Those caught speeding have been contacted by the Police.

They plan to carry out more checks in the village.

Pendock Parish Council caring for you & your village.

Church Ladies with Typewriters

These sentences (read carefully) actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services.

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.

The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house.

Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Church Ladies with Typewriters (continued)

These sentences (read carefully) actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00 pm - prayer and medication to follow.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7 pm there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

The Vicar would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake party.

The Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 pm . Please use the back door.

The school pupils will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 pm.

The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 pm at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge--Up Yours.'

PENDOCK VILLAGE STORES

&

POST OFFICE

OPEN FOR BUSINESS AS USUAL

Groceries, Fresh Fruit & Veg;

Wines & Spirits;

Newspapers, Magazines & Greeting Cards;

Confectionery and much, much more!

Opening hours:

	<u>Shop</u>	<u>Post Office</u>
Monday	8:00am - 6:00pm*	09:00am - 1:00pm
Tuesday	8:00am - 6:00pm*	09:00am - 1:00pm
Wednesday	8:00am - 1:00pm	Closed
Thursday	8:00am - 6:00pm*	09:00am - 4:00pm
Friday	8:00am - 6:00pm*	09:00am - 1:00pm
Saturday	8:00am - 1:00pm	Closed
Sunday	8:30am - 11:00am	Closed

* Closed 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Tel: 01531 650034

USE IT OR LOSE IT!

Benefice Diary

Please note that all meetings planned below
are on Webex

Date	Event	Venue
July 3	Individual Prayer churches to open	All Saints, Hollybush 10.00-5pm 4 days, closed for 3 days.
8	Standing Committee	Webex 7.30pm
15	BM and Hollybush PCC	Webex 2.30pm
August 15	Family BBQ	Deferred
26	Eldersfield PCC	7.30pm by phone/Webex
30	Pet Service	Hollybush Common TBC
September 5	Hollybush Fete	TBA

If you have any additional dates, please contact Mel Roberts at home phone number, or Rev'd Julie James.

Benefice Office - Working Hours

Wednesday and Thursday

1.30-4.00pm

For a variety of reasons, I am not always in the Church office on Wednesdays and Thursdays .

Melanie Roberts

If you need to visit me, please give a call to check if I am in !

Office : 01684 833866