

November 2023

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@eightoaks.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	01531 635794
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:	Mrs C Powell-Chandler	01531 635794
Treasurer:	Mr. D. Braund	01684 830099
Tower Captain:	Miss. J. Peters	01452 840211

BIRTSMORTON AND HOLLYBUSH

Churchwardens:		
Birtsmorton:	POST VACANT	
Hollybush:	POST VACANT	
P.C.C. Secretary:	POST VACANT	
Treasurer:	Mrs. S. Williams	01531 650431

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,

In Isaiah 5:1-7, "Isaiah's song of God's vineyard" in the Old Testament, it starts off most positively about Jerusalem and Judah. God did everything possible to set up a healthy, thriving vineyard. The soil was fertile and cultivated; the stones were removed; only the finest quality vines were planted; a watchtower was built in the middle of the vineyard; and a wine vat was built in preparation for the harvesting and processing of the grapes.

God tells his people that there was nothing more he could do to guarantee the success of his vineyard. He expects the people do their the best to yield the best grapes. But what happens? The yield is poor and the grapes bitter. What resonates with me is what has been happening in the world. God expected that there would be justice in that world – a good crop- but instead there was oppression. He expected righteousness but instead he heard cries of violence. Even if we look to ourselves, we have free will but what are our fruits in our community in the way we live our lives?

In our day and age, has anything really changed from the world back in Isaiah's day? We turn the news on, what do we hear? In every part of our world, we hear stories of injustice, oppression, war and crisis. Our precious planet and climate is suffering due to the selfishness and greed of a minority of the world's population. Two thirds of the world's population is deprived of even what we would call the basic necessities of life.

Are we really a caring society? Is too much centred on what individuals want rather than a whole picture?

Human suffering anywhere concerns men and women everywhere. Victims need to know that they are not alone and somebody does care.

So what do we do? To whom do we turn?

In our church and in our communities, we have people who do care. We can thrive if we are a people who can use their treasure trove of God's revelations in the world *for* the world. We are people of faith who gather with hope in God. Transformations can occur if we can be persuaded to give our time, talents and money to help what is wise, right, just and to bring peace where we can.

Do we communicate that by our words and actions an authentic knowledge about why we follow Christ? Moving forward with Jesus takes some work. People look to us to see if our prayers and worship gains something the world cannot give. We have to be prepared to be stretched. We have been called to release heaven wherever we are. Forgiveness , love, peace, joy, generosity and kindness. We need to press onwards toward that at home and at work-wherever we find ourselves. Pressing on with a God who is beyond our asking or imagining.

God continues to care about the harvest and his vineyard -this world. He wants to see productive fruit. How will we contribute today, tomorrow ?

Rev'd. Julie James

A Big Thank-You to our Printer Trish Greenwood

Brian and Leta (The Editors) would like to express their grateful thanks to Trish Greenwood for all her hard work and commitment during the 17 years she (and her late husband, Bob, in the early days) carried out all the printing each month of our Parish Magazine. We could not have done it without you. After many years service Trish's printer has finally expired and was uneconomic to repair!! The Magazine is now being printed by 'Biz+ Stationery and Printing' who are based in Gloucester.

Dear God,

There are many distractions and concerns in our lives. May we take time to listen to one another and to God's word. Transform our priorities and shape our lives to reflect our love for one another. Bring peace and harmony into situations of war and conflict. We give thanks for all the delights in our countryside and surroundings. May we rejoice in the good in our lives and be eager to share our joyful faith with others amidst the sorrows and challenges.

As our Saviour, Jesus Christ, taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Rev'd Julie James



Berrow Benefice Remembrance Sunday
12th November 10.45am
St John the Baptist, Eldersfield

This is our opportunity to remember the service and sacrifice of all those that have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life.

We remember the Armed Forces, and their families, from Britain and the Commonwealth, the vital role played by the emergency services and those that have lost their lives as a result of conflict or terrorism.

Wreaths for all 5 of our parish churches will be blessed and laid as we remember those who sacrificed their lives. If you have any additional names to put forward, please do contact me .

We will also be meeting at Pendock Church of the Redeemer on Friday, 10th November for a 'Pop' up Remembrance get-together, chat, reflections and refreshments.

Rev'd Julie James

Benefice Diary

Wed. 1 st Nov	Eldersfield PCC	2.00pm at Holt's home
Wed 8 th Nov	Birtsmorton & Hollybush PCC	2.00pm Hollybush Church
Fri 10 th Nov	'Pop up' at Pendock. Remembrance event	10.30-11.30am Chat , Remember and Refreshments Pendock Church of the Redeemer
Sunday 19 th Nov	Worcester Cathedral	4pm Farewell service Venerable Robert Jones, retiring as Archdeacon of Worcester
Sat. 2 nd Dec	Festive Fayre	St Faith's Berrow 11.00am – 12 noon
Sat. 9 th Dec	Christmas Market	The Duke of York 3-6pm.

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



Bible Study

Tuesday: - Thistledown, Pendock

Tuesday: 14th November , 12th December 2023

10.30am Cuppa and biscuit!

Bible reflections, depart 12 noon

Rev. Julie James



Community 'Drop In'

ALL welcome!

Pendock C.E. Primary School Hall

Refreshments with a Chat and catch-up

Many thanks to all those who have volunteered to help, attended and supported.

TUESDAY'S 9.30-11.00am

Please can we have offers to help!

Rev'd Julie James



PLUS Upton-upon-Severn Foodbank, The Baptist Church, Old Street, Tewkesbury and Ledbury.

Many thanks to all those who continue to donate food for the Food Bank during these tough times. It was most gratefully received. Money donations are also accepted.

Please continue your generous contributions in these times of rising costs for everyone. People really appreciate both food, toiletries and money. The referral of families to the food banks is unfortunately greater in numbers, so please support.

Rev'd Julie James

You could save a life! - DEFIBRILLATORS

Did you know that Berrow and Pendock parish councils are fortunate to have **THREE AED (Automated Electronic Defibrillators)** available locally?

These require **no training to use BUT** are the best way to save someone's life if they have gone into cardiac arrest – and time is of the essence.

The Defibrillators locally are found at:

Outside Ellis Dawe and Son Ltd., Timber Supplies co., at the Junction of A438/Rye Street (Opposite the Duke of York Pub), WR13 6AS
In Hollybush on the A438 going towards Ledbury, outside Berrow House, HR8 1ET (near to the Hollybush Car Park for the Malvern Hills)
Pendock CE Primary School, School Lane, Pendock, GL19 3PW (on the wall outside).

The Defibrillators are locked in a cabinet with a yellow case. There is a coded lock and a 999 call handler will give you the code to open the cabinet and access the defibrillator.

If you think that someone has had a cardiac arrest (they are not obviously breathing or responding to you) you should:

- 1) Dial 999 and shout for help
- 2) Start doing CPR – the 999 operator will talk you through this, you DON'T need to breathe into anyone's mouth, just do chest compressions.
- 3) Send someone to get a defibrillator if you can. These do not need any specialist training to use. They talk you through how to use them and will only deliver a shock if the onboard computer thinks it's appropriate. You don't need to make any decisions.

Using a defibrillator fast after a cardiac arrest saves lives

Dr Phil Thompson,
For and on Behalf of Berrow Parish Council



Carols, Candles & Cake

(+Mulled Wine!)

December 3rd, 4 p.m.

Eldersfield Church

Save the date!

Join the local community who, for a 1000 years, have met together to sing Christmas Carols and songs by candlelight.

Enjoy pre-Christmas refreshments in a magical setting and **get your Christmas off to a great start!**



We hope you will join us!





Quiz Night held on Friday 6th October.

75 people filled Eldersfield Lawn School's main hall to exercise their quizzing skills and to enjoy a chance to catch up and chat with friends and neighbours. (Now we know what an Arctophile collects and also the hidden phrase in ROBBERs*) This was also a fundraising event to get near to the total for the rebuilding of the collapsed wall at Eldersfield Church.

At half time 'brain food' was delivered in the form of hot, freshly cooked fish & chips from the excellent Tudor chippy in Newent, which were much enjoyed; the raffle was also drawn.

The evening concluded at 9.15pm with the talented winning team being presented with a basket of assorted drinks. A good time was had by all and we are very grateful for everyone's support and generosity with the raffle on the night. A total of over £650 was raised. Thank you from Eldersfield PCC Fundraising Team.

*An arctophile collects Teddy bears. Honour amongst thieves (OBE is hidden in ROBBERs)



The Children's Society



The Annual 2023 Farmer's Arms Harvest Auction was held on 3rd October when an amazing,

record breaking **£675** raised for

The Children's Society.

Thank you to Neil & the Team and well done to everyone at The Farmer's Arms who supported the event so amazingly!

Your help will change children's lives.

St Faith's Berrow

Saturday, December 2nd

11.00 am to 12.00 noon

As last year, there will be a

“POP UP”

FESTIVE

FAYRE

along the path to the church

**Mulled wine, Gifts, Cakes,
Christmas Produce & Raffle**

The Mysterious Case of the Headless Effigy in the Belltower at St Faith's Church

The 'wow' factor of the Restoration Project at St Faith's conceived in 2014 was to take the piece of Mediaeval statuary out of the bell tower and place it directly opposite the main church door in a created surrounding tomb, in the south aisle. The objections of the Historic Advisers put paid to the plan; but professional research was carried out, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. The findings of Buildings Historian Dr Patricia Hughes, FSA, (Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries) produced a list of 4 names: 1 male, 3 female. Chris Guy, the archaeologist of Worcester Cathedral, in his paper certainly leaned towards the effigy being that of a woman. The identities suggested were not conclusive.

For various reasons I have resumed my interest in the effigy and I am delighted that Dr Ann Ward has agreed to take on the 'cold' case and kickstart another bout of investigation. Already I am very grateful to Ann for visiting the Hive and unearthing information that will stand me in very good stead for building up a better profile of the church's history generally. We are chasing after an understanding of developments in the church to explain where it was originally and why was it moved.

It is my intention from time to time to drop some articles with the progress being made to the Parish magazine. Please feel free to talk to either of us at any time about the research routes we are accessing.

Finally, I'm going to start at the beginning. I'll never forget sitting in the church porch with Richard Lamb, the church architect, and he said – 'You've got a damaged effigy in the belltower, haven't you? Why don't you look around for its head? It was probably thrown away somewhere.'

Now, would you – residents of Berrow especially – please enter the search?

Elisabeth Rambridge, Churchwarden

We are told that two things in life are certain: death and taxes. I would add a third, war.

The first war came very early on, in fact as early as the fourth chapter of the Book of Genesis, when Cain killed Abel. Since then, we have had quite a few wars, and very often on a devastating scale. The Second World War, which killed over 70 million people, must rank as perhaps the most deadly.

And so war seems a topic on which it is right for Christianity to have a view; indeed, the question of war raises ethical questions of such visceral importance that if Christianity – or any religion – did not have a view one might ask what the purpose of that religion was.

Plato and Aristotle believed that waging a war was not of itself wrong: they believed that there could exist a 'just war', that is that there could be a war which, if certain conditions were met, it was right, and perhaps even one's duty, to wage.

During the early years of the Christian church it seems that it rejected this view. It was pacifist: all war was wrong. Lactantius (ca 250-325), who was an advisor to the Emperor Constantine, asserted this view in the *Divine Institutes* and accordingly said that Christians, even if ordered, should not be soldiers. But Constantine was not persuaded. The Romans had created their large empire and gained enormous wealth in part by killing people, now generally thought to be numbered in the millions. He happily converted to Christianity and ordered his soldiers to put the chi rho christogram (i.e. ✠) on their shields, but he continued to wage wars (and generally did so very successfully).

There then came a gradual change in the Christian position: there could, perhaps, be circumstances in which war was permissible. The rules by which the justness of a war would be judged were formulated by luminaries such as Saint Ambrose, who was Bishop of Milan from 374 to 397, Saint Augustine (354-430) and later Saint Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274). This enabled the church, with a clear conscience, to applaud enthusiastically the Crusades and not be over-loud in its condemnation of the domination of South America by the conquistadors.

Nevertheless, there remained a strong pacifist tradition. In Britain, the Lollards, heavily influenced by John Wycliffe, submitted their Twelve Conclusions to Parliament in 1395 and asked that parliament recognise that all war was sinful.

¹ For reasons of space references are not given here but are available on request

That tradition of pacifism continues to today, and arguably has grown in popularity.

In 1930 the Lambeth Conference of Anglican bishops formally announced that “*war, as a means of settling international disputes, is incompatible with the teaching and example of our Lord Jesus Christ*”ⁱ. This would appear a statement that waging war, any war, was sinful and that no person, Christian or non-Christian, should engage in it.

Interestingly, the Roman Catholic church, together with its Orthodox cousins, aligns itself more closely with the Aristotelian position. It accepts that a just war can exist, and it even has a special blessing for weapons should that war present itself: the *benedictio armorum*ⁱⁱ.

The Methodist Church teaches that war is ‘*contrary to the spirit, teaching and purpose of Jesus Christ*’ⁱⁱⁱ but, confusingly, it notes in the same breath that Jesus’ failure to condemn the centurion (Luke 7:1-10) could justify non-pacifism^{iv}, which appears the very opposite of its former assertion.

[It is not possible to say that the justness of waging a war is a matter of conscience. If a man genuinely thinks, after deep and careful reflection, that the right thing for him to do is to push his neighbour under a bus, or kill six million Jews, no one would disagree that he was grossly mistaken. Conscience may often, and perhaps even usually, be your best indicator of what it is right and proper for you to do but we are human and we – and our consciences – are capable of mistakes.]

However, the 1930 statement of the sinfulness of war by the Lambeth Conference, which was adopted with only five dissentient votes out of more than 300 voting, caused something of an earthquake in the Anglican Church. There was no family in the country which had not been touched by the death of at least one of its members during the Great War, and to be told that these men had given their lives while committing a terrible sin must have caused great outrage and resentment. The English Church Union, later to become the Church Union, hid its incandescent outrage under the veneer of a polite rebuttal issued in 1931, stating that one of the ‘*truths which are in very grave danger of being ignored or denied*’ was that ‘*until the work of the Church in the world is done, force cannot be dispensed with*’^v.

This rebuttal had little effect on the Lambeth Conference. It reaffirmed its views in 1948, 1968 and 1978.

I suspect that the debate is far from over.

Born to Be King

Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth." John 18:37 (NIV)

Based on John 18:33-37



T E S T I F Y F C Z N U H E Y
 C D U Y W R T K I A W N U H Y
 S E R V A N T S I G R O A G F
 V W T A Q Z V P T N H R R F T
 I F F Y J M G G J T G T E L U
 V J A P W W T A C H U D K S D
 K I N G W O I T R U T H O X T
 P F S A Y I N G C H P O V M X
 L Q E V E R Y O N E R C Q L N
 A T A B R D N C M I I K I I R
 C P A L A C E D N Q G L I S E
 E T D P R I E S T N H S D T A
 M P O Z W F A C T D T H E E S
 V G I R P E O P L E W W A N O
 N I B O R N M R N J P V Q S N

IDEA	PLACE	RIGHT	WORLD	SERVANTS
TESTIFY	KINGDOM	TRUTH	ARREST	LISTENS
FACT	PEOPLE	REASON	BORN	FIGHT
SAYING	PALACE	PRIEST	KING	EVERYONE

“Kit-Kat” Cake

This celebration chocolate cake idea comes by courtesy of the Revd. Julie James who generously shared her birthday cake with many of us!

Chocolate Cake – requires 2 deep 8” sponge tins, greased and lined

Ingredients

8 oz S.R. flour + a pinch of salt
4 eggs, beaten
6 oz butter or margarine
6 oz castor sugar
Vanilla essence, a few drops
4 oz dark chocolate (melted in a bowl over hot water)
1 tablespoon golden syrup
(A little milk, if required, to correct the consistency)

Method

Cream the butter and sugar, add the beaten eggs, melted chocolate, syrup, sifted flour and vanilla essence. Correct the consistency to “easy dropping”. Divide between the prepared tins. Bake in a moderate/hot oven, 375 F, 190 C, gas Mk 5, until skewer comes out “clean” (about 25 min). Cool on cake wire.

Chocolate Butter Icing

Ingredients

8 oz unsalted butter
12 oz sifted icing sugar
2 drops vanilla essence
4 oz melted chocolate (mixture of dark and milk chocolate or all dark)

Method

Soften butter, add vanilla essence. Beat in half the icing sugar, then the melted chocolate, then the rest of the sugar, little by little. The finished butter cream should be stiff enough to “mould” but soft enough to spread easily. Cool in fridge if necessary before using.

To assemble the cake

Ingredients

2 tablespoons sieved raspberry jam
Butter cream
2 cakes
Enough Kit Kat fingers to stand up and cover the sides of the sandwiched cake with extra, if needed, to decorate the top of the cake.

Method

Sandwich the two sponges together with a thin layer of sieved raspberry jam and then a layer of butter cream. Cover the sides and the top of the cake with the remaining butter cream and stick on the Kit Kat fingers. Add other decorations as required.

Coombe Green – a chequered history.

The history of Coombe Green's, corrugated iron Mission Hall is interesting. Originally located near Hollybush church, it was moved onto some waste ground on the edge of Coombe Green Common, which, unlike Castlemorton Common, is owned by Birtsmorton Court. An excellent history of the Mormons is in Gadfield Elm Chapel, but I always smile when I read that the vicars of Pendock and Castlemorton refused to allow the Hollybush quarrymen into their churches because of their dirty clothes. Many of their offspring left for the United States and established a very large community at Salt Lake City. Maybe the builders could place a small plaque on the site to remind future historians. We are lucky to be surrounded by so much of interest.

Stand on the edge of the Common and look up at Ragged Stone – two large blocks of granite propped up against each other. These granite stones are over 700 million years old. (In comparison, the Alps are about 44 million years old).

Could man have done this, or were the Malverns once a mile higher, and after soil erosion the stones were exposed?

Interestingly, when digging in our garden I came across two very smooth and heavy granite pebbles and some fossilised sea shells. Surely only made by the constant ebb and flow of the sea. Also unearthed was a small flint with a very sharp edge on one side - ideal for skinning. There are no flint deposits in the Malvern area. Perhaps an indication of mankind being active in Coombe Green many hundreds of years ago.

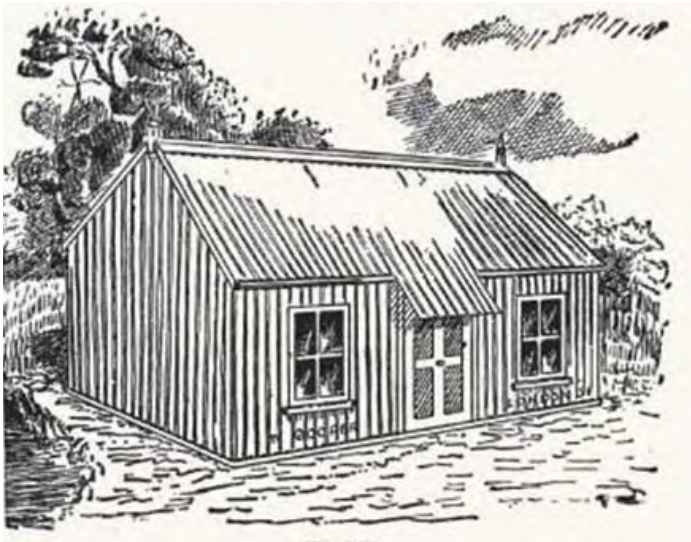
The "Coronation Tump" is interesting. Was it a deliberate decision to plant two different types of English oak? The iron strap round the trees has snapped as the trees matured. The

date on it celebrates the time when Prince Edward VIII announced his forthcoming marriage, rather than after the actual marriage date, to that American Woman. There was much celebration at this time as it meant that after Queen Victoria's death, our monarchy would continue.

William Eustace – Ferney Hill, Coombe Green.

P.S.

Dead Man's Fingers, Crested Dog's Tail and many other unusual fungi and grasses can be found on the Common. (Perhaps they deserve an article in a later magazine!), but I would be interested to know what other residents have found in their garden.





BIRTSMORTON
CASTLEMORTON
HOLLYBUSH

LOCAL HISTORY.
www.bcharchive.org.uk

The History Girls have been very busy putting together the **new BCH Journal 4!** The Journal contains a rich variety of local history articles covering a wide range of topics connected to Birtsmorton, Castlemorton and Hollybush - from people and places to families, flora and fascinating anecdotes.

Copies of our new Journal will be on sale at our Christmas Tea Party on Thursday, November 30th, 2.30 to 4.30pm at Castlemorton Parish Hall.

There will also be a **Local History Display on view till 6.30pm.**

ALL WELCOME!



BIRTSMORTON
CASTLEMORTON
HOLLYBUSH
LOCAL HISTORY .
www.bcharchive.org.uk



CHRISTMAS TEA PARTY

2.30 to 4.30pm, Thursday, November 30th
Castlemorton Parish Hall

ALL WELCOME!

*Our NEW BCH Journal, Volume 4 will be
on sale!*

Copies of previous volumes will also be available.

LOCAL HISTORY EXHIBITION

on view till 6.30pm

FREE ENTRY - Donations welcome

Castlemorton CE Primary School's annual

Christmas Fayre

December 1st
3.30pm

with a visit from
Father Christmas

refreshments, stalls, raffle,
tombola, games
gifts & cakes!



Launch Date!!!

Boots and Roots, the book of my circular 150 mile walk, starting and finishing at All Saints, Hollybush will be launched on an unsuspecting world with not one but two launch events, both taking place on the weekend of the **2nd/3rd December 2023**.

There will be an early evening event, starting at 5pm on Saturday 2nd December at Ledbury Books and Maps, on the top cross in Ledbury. Space is limited, so if you are planning on coming along to this one, please let me know so we can make sure we can fit you in! Mulled wine and nibbles will be served.

And the more local event will be held at 2pm on Sunday 3rd December at All Saints, Hollybush – where else??! The talk and reading part of the event will be over by 3pm to allow for those needing to get to Eldersfield to enjoy some Carols, Candles and Cakes at 4pm – but tea and cake will also be available at Hollybush for those who can stay and chat and buy some books.

Boots and Roots - the perfect Christmas present for the really difficult to buy for person in your life!!!

Rev Anthea Elston



Weddings-Please check the website. www.berrowbenefice.org.uk

At present, we are holding a rotation of services each Sunday. Please check for details on the website or contact us. For the 'qualifying attendance' to be married in a church, you need to attend for a minimum of 6 months, once a month.

How we get you legally wed

We are legally entitled to marry you in a Church of England church through the publication of banns, read 3 times before the wedding date. We ask you to contact your local parish church and arrange when the banns are to be read 3 times there too. A **Marriage Document** is now signed at the church ceremony since the rules changed on May 4th 2021 and then you apply for a Marriage Licence through the **Worcester Registry Office**. We will give you all the details.

Common License

In very special cases, you can apply for a Common License to marry with us. Please do seek an early explanation and the process involved.

Civil Ceremony followed by a Blessing in Church

If you are unable to attend for 6 months to qualify, then you could have Registrar a civil ceremony first. We can then offer you a Church blessing of your marriage which is as similar to a full wedding as we can make it.

Conclusion

Rev'd Anthea and I are ready to help you during this decision making process. Please do discuss the options with us and your wedding venue hosts. We do try to meet your expectations and make this a special day. Do try and attend our marriage preparation day. We try to answer your questions, look at the wedding day itself and looking ahead to the future.

Be safe and keep healthy! May your love for one another be strengthened and bind you closer than ever during the challenges of our world.

Rev'd Julie James



With you every step of the way

Funerals

If you wish to have a church service, please contact the priest to check dates as soon as possible. With your chosen Funeral Director, all bookings and other arrangements can proceed for you, the family and with the help and support of the clergy during this difficult time. We are still requesting the wearing of face coverings inside the buildings.

If you wish to have a burial in the churchyards at St John's, Eldersfield. St Faith's, Berrow or All Saints, Hollybush, the deceased person must have been resident in that Parish. Reservations (which last for 25 years) can be made by applying for a faculty which is a formal legal process and which we can help guide you through.

The Diocese of Worcester has issued guidelines for the erection of memorials in the churchyard. Please contact a local Stonemason who will have these details.



Baptism (or Christening)

The baptism service is for a child or adult. As an adult, you make the decision and the promises. A child has adults (godparents) who make decisions and promises on behalf of a child.

At the point you are baptized, you simply have water poured on your head. If you are considering being baptized or for a member of your family, do talk to us as we will be delighted to help. Baptism can occur during the usual church services which rotate around the Benefice or at a time for just you, your family and friends.

Rev'd Julie James



Pastoral care is one aspect of a priest's role. The word *pastor* comes from the Latin word for "shepherd." Caring for a person who is struggling with a difficulty, being present during a time of pain, praying with someone in a crisis—these are the moments when we need to know someone can come alongside us from the church community.

Most people only visualise a priest working on a Sunday. The reality is that preparing for Sunday services, Bible Study, and daily prayers are only a small part of my role. Looking after several churches, being on many different committees including being a school governor for our two local schools, engaging in a large wedding ministry, plus occasional offices like funerals and baptisms, means that my working week is very busy.

The Pastoral Visitor is Mrs Cathy Powell-Chandler. Part of her role is to co-ordinate pastoral visitors within our church communities. If you would specifically like me to visit you, then please indicate this by contacting me direct or via one of the church officers, all details of which are in the magazine. In a caring community, we all look to see whether our neighbours need or wish to accept our help.

Rev'd Julie James

SERVICES IN THE UNITED BENEFICE OF BERROW WITH PENDOCK, ELDERSFIELD AND BIRTSMORTON AND HOLLYBUSH

Would readers and intercessors themselves please arrange an appropriate replacement if they are unable to be present on the dates shown

Date	Venue	Time	Service	Reading	Reader	Intercessor
3rd December 1st Sunday of Advent	Eldersfield Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Isaiah 64. 1 – 9 1 Corinthians 1. 3 – 9	Janet Peters	---
	Berrow Village Hall	10.30am	Christmas Café Church	TBA	TBA	TBA
	Eldersfield Church	4pm	Carols, Candles and Cake	TBA	TBA	TBA
10th December 2nd Sunday of Advent	Berrow Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Isaiah 40. 1 – 11 2 Peter 3. 8 – 15a	Elizabeth Rambridge	Martin Knott
	Hollybush Church	6.30pm	Hollybush Christmas	TBA	TBA	TBA
17th December 3rd Sunday of Advent	Pendock Cross Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Isaiah 61. 1-4, 8 – End 1 Thessalonian 5.16-24	Andrew Rambridge	---
	Eldersfield Church	10.30am	All Age Worship	TBA	TBA	TBA
	Berrow Church	6.30pm	Nine Lessons and Carols	TBA	TBA	TBA
24th December Christmas Eve	Birtsmorton Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	2 Samuel 7. 1-11, 16 Romans 16. 25 – End	Ruth Coates	Doug Braund
	Eldersfield Church	5.00 pm	Crib and Christingle	TBA	TBA	TBA
	Hollybush Church	11.30pm	Midnight Mass	Isaiah 52. 7 – 10 Hebrews 1. 1 – 4	Shirley Williams	David Allen

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Would readers and intercessors themselves please arrange an appropriate replacement if they are unable to be present on the dates shown

Date	Venue	Time	Service	Reading	Reader	Intercessor
25 th December Christmas Day	Pendock Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Isaiah 9. 2 – 7 Titus 2. 11 -- 14	Andrew Rambridge	----
	Berrow Church	10.30am	Family Christmas Service	Isaiah 65. 17 – 25 Luke 2. 1 – 20	Bob James	Martin Knott
31 st December 1 st Sunday of Christmas	Eldersfield Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Isaiah 61. 10 – 62. 3 Galatians 4. 4 -- 7	Mel Roberts	Cathy P-Chandler
7 th January Epiphany	Eldersfield Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Genesis 1.1 – 5 Acts 19. 1 – 7	Janet Peters	---
	Berrow Village Hall	10.30am	Café Church	TBA	TBA	TBA
14 th January 2 nd Sunday of Epiphany	Berrow Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	1 Samuel 3. 1 – 10 Revelation 5. 1 -- 10	Elisabeth Rambridge	Ann Ward
	Hollybush Church	6.30 pm	Evensong	Isaiah 60. 9 – End Hebrews 6. 17 – 7. 10	Shirley Williams	Celia Greatwood
21 st January 3 rd Sunday of Epiphany	Pendock Church	8.30am	BCP Communion	Genesis 14. 17 – 20 Revelation 19. 6 – 10	Andrew Rambridge	---
	Eldersfield Church	10.30am	All Age Worship	TBA	TBA	TBA

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Would readers and intercessors themselves please arrange an appropriate replacement if they are unable to be present on the dates shown

Date	Venue	Time	Service	Reading	Reader	Intercessor
28 th January Presentation of Christ in the Temple	Birtmorton Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Malachi 3. 1 – 5 Hebrews 2. 14 -- End	Bob James	Doug Braund
	Eldersfield Church	6.30pm	Evensong	Haggai 2. 1 – 9 John 2. 18 -- 22	Fiona Collins	Brian Woodcock

Please Note: Compline will be held on Zoom Every Friday at 7.00 pm
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Date	Venue	Time	Service	Reading	Reader	Intercessor
5th November 4th Sunday before Advent	Eldersfield Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Micah 3. 5 – End 1 Thessalonians 2. 9-13	Janet Peters	-----
	Berrow Village Hall	10.30am	Café Church	TBA	TBA	TBA
12th November Remembrance Sunday	Eldersfield Church	10.45am	Remembrance Day Service (No Evensong)	TBA	TBA	TBA
19th November 2nd Sunday before Advent	Pendock Cross Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Zephaniah 1. 7,12 - End 1 Thessalonians 5.1--11	Andrew Rambridge	-----
	Berrow Church	10.30am	All Age Worship	TBA	TBA	TBA
26th November Christ the King	Birtsmorton Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Ezekiel 34. 11-16, 20-24 Ephesians 1. 15 – End	Bob James	Doug Braund
	Eldersfield Church	6.30pm	Evensong	2 Samuel 23. 1 – 7 Matthew 28. 16 – End	Matthew Collins	Brian Woodcock

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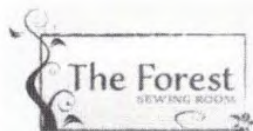
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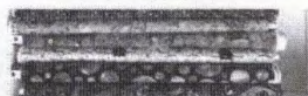
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