

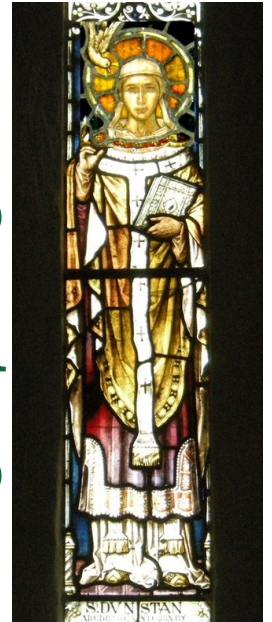


THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

MAYFIELD & FIVE ASHES

# NEWS from

# ST. DUNSTAN'S SUNDAY 22 AUGUST



## Trinity 12

10.15am **PARISH EUCHARIST**

with Fr David Milnes

12 noon **HOLY BAPTISM**

12 noon **SAID EUCHARIST at the**

**Cottage Hospice with**

Revd Sandi Wickens

### READINGS:

Ephesians 6: 10-20

John 6: 56-69

### COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,



You are always more ready to hear than we to pray  
And to give more than either we desire or deserve:  
Pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,  
Forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid  
And giving us those good things Which we are not worthy to ask  
But through the merits and mediation  
Of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
Who is alive and reigns with you,

In the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
One God, now and for ever.

### POST COMMUNION

God of all mercy,  
in this Eucharist you have set aside our sins  
and given us your healing:  
grant that we who are made whole in Christ  
may bring that healing to this broken world,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

In today's Gospel we hear of some in the crowd choosing not to walk with Jesus anymore, after his claims of such a close relationship with the transcendent God (John 6:66). We are faced with the same challenge; either he, as a

good and gifted human being, has over-reached his sanity, or he is speaking the truth. If the latter, he must indeed be the Holy One of God. **What does it imply for us in terms of commitment?**

Di

## PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

**Giving thanks to God for his faithfulness.** We pray for Fr Michael Asquith, and wife Jo, as they prepare to move to Mayfield, for Deacon Di and visiting clergy, Churchwardens and PCC, Nicky in the Office, and all those working hard to keep things going during the vacancy. We pray too for Fr Michael's current parish, St Margaret's, in Lowestoft

**For our schools, teachers, parents and children** at this holiday time

**For the courage** to make the most of every opportunity to share our faith with others through words and deeds

**For wise decisions** as we come out of lockdown; **for healing** for those continuing to be affected by Covid. We pray for those whose jobs are at risk

**For all known to us who are sick in body, mind or spirit:** Alf Thompson, Pam Mather

**For the recently departed:** Fr Mario Sanderson (previous Priest from St Thomas of Canterbury), Robert Nichols; and **all who mourn the loss of loved ones**

**For those whose anniversaries fall this at this time:** Elizabeth Speltz, Tony Humphrey, Ian Rawlins

## AND FOR THE NEEDS OF THE WIDER WORLD

**For our Government and all national leaders** that they be guided by a Godly wisdom; for an immediate review of gun licencing following the Plymouth shooting

**For the situation in Afghanistan; for peace and reconciliation** in all areas of conflict; **for all victims of intolerance** and oppression

**For all who work to alleviate poverty, hunger and disease; and particularly for the victims of the earthquake in Haiti.**

**For parts of the world continuing to be adversely affected by Covid**

**For all who lack proper healthcare, good nutrition and adequate supplies of clean water**

**For an urgent and determined global response to the climate emergency**

## THE ANNOUNCEMENT WE'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR ...

### OUR NEW VICAR: FR. MICHAEL ASQUITH

The Churchwardens were delighted to be able to announce on August 15<sup>th</sup> that Fr Michael Asquith has accepted Bishop Martin's offer to be our next Vicar.

Fr. Michael is currently Rector at St Margaret's in Lowestoft, Area Dean and Chaplain to the local Air Training Corps squadron. Having been at St Margaret's since 2011 he has initiated many projects including the creation of an Open the Book team (taking Bible stories into two local primary academies) and, during the pandemic, started on-line services which are now streamed on their you tube channel.

Schools, especially church schools have featured prominently in Fr Michael's ministry. Immediately prior to 2011 Fr. Michael was the Assistant Diocesan Director of Education in the diocese of Leicester looking after 98 church schools and academies. As Rector in Corby, he regularly visited 4 schools and, as Mayor's Chaplain, worked closely with the council representing the churches in the early stages of Corby's regeneration. He completed his curacy, in Ashford, Kent. Prior to ordination Fr. Michael managed the timetable and taught Religious Education and Science in a secondary school for 11 years.

Fr Michael is married to Jo and they have two daughters: Vikki who currently lives in Cumbria and works as an analytical chemist and Tina who lives with their two grandsons. Fr Michael and Jo will be accompanied by their (rescue) dog – Kodiak – a Siberian Husky.

Beyond the church Fr. Michael and Jo enjoy making the most of their National Trust membership and exploring places. They enjoy their holidays abroad, never ones to sit by the pool and do nothing, but exploring and discovering the local area, though equally they enjoy the many weeks they have spent on a canal boat in the Midlands, meandering along at 3 mph (and negotiating locks, lots of locks). He's often seen with a camera too – enjoying taking photographs. Michael also counts wine making and model railways amongst his interests.

#### Fr. Michael has written:

*"I am really excited about coming to live and minister in Mayfield and Five Ashes.*

*I really enjoy the traditions of the Church of England which are so much part of St Dunstan's. I am looking forward to the opportunity to increase the variety of worship at St Dunstan's whilst maintaining the core worship you currently enjoy. I am excited for the chance to work with all the local schools, with the Weald Foundation, and particularly with your two church schools: Five Ashes and Mayfield Primary Schools. And I am looking forward to meeting you, as together we live in Mayfield and Five Ashes.*

*As the next few weeks progress we will all get to know more of the arrangements for me beginning the next phase of my ministry amongst you which will probably be in November – but do watch the [St Dunstan's website](http://www.stdunstansmayfield.org.uk) for more information (<http://www.stdunstansmayfield.org.uk>)."*



We look forward to extending a warm welcome to Fr. Michael and to Jo. The date of the installation has yet to be confirmed.

## THIS WEEK'S DIARY

- Tues 24th:** 7.45pm Bell-ringing practice  
**Wed 25th:** 10am Said Eucharist with Fr David Milnes  
**Thurs 26th:** 10-12.30pm Cleaning of the Church  
**Fri 27th:** 5pm Wedding Rehearsal  
**Sat 28th:** 11-11.30am Bell-ringing practice  
 1.30pm Wedding of Dominic Nguyen and Kirsty Reed  
**Sun 29th:** 10.15am Parish Eucharist with Archdeacon Edward Dowler  
**Mon 30th:** Bank Holiday—Parish Office closed.

**CHURCH OPENING HOURS:** Daily 9am to 5pm

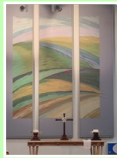
**PLEASE NOTE:** the PARISH OFFICE EMAIL ADDRESS is now:  
[office.stdunstans@gmail.com](mailto:office.stdunstans@gmail.com)

Office hours: 9am-1pm Mon, Wed, Fri. Tel: 873484.

Website: [www.stdunstansmayfield.org.uk](http://www.stdunstansmayfield.org.uk) PLEASE DO BE IN TOUCH IF YOU WOULD LIKE NAMES ADDED TO OUR PRAYER LIST.

Due to family commitments, there will be no bellringing this weekend.

A SAID EUCHARIST takes place at the CHAPEL OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD at the COTTAGE HOSPICE in FIVE ASHES at 12 noon on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month.  
**SERVICES: 22nd August; 12th & 26th September**



## Sunday Club

Please see the Church website for further details of the weekly activities posted for our younger members.

**GOSPEL READING: JOHN 6: 56- 69**

*We think about deciding to follow Jesus without having all the answers.*

Lord Jesus, we want to believe in you and follow you but sometimes it is difficult to understand your teaching. Even your disciples had problems sometimes but they didn't give up and walk away. If we ask questions we pray that someone will be able to help and guide us. Please let us be able to ask questions and not just say 'we don't understand' and walk away. Amen



We are very fortunate to have a labyrinth in our churchyard—it is a place of peace and tranquillity. Herewith a suggestion on how to use it for your prayers:

*Lay down your burdens as you walk to the centre of the labyrinth. In the centre, pause to thank God for taking your burdens on himself (1 Peter 5:7). Then count your blessings and give thanks on the journey to the exit.*



## CASHLESS GIVING

Sadly the new temporary Card Reader is not working properly. However, giving to St Dunstan's

is made easy by using the QR code with your mobile, or the Donate Button (also on the Parish web site), or



making a bank transfer to Mayfield PCC, 55-70-13, 08277540. Thank you.

**DONATE**



**THANK YOU** to all those who worked so hard clearing the churchyard last Saturday. There is much work still to do—watch this space for further dates!



## ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY in aid of THE FRIENDS OF ST DUNSTAN'S PARISH CHURCH

Claytons Farmhouse, Newick Lane

- postponed last Sunday because of inclement weather!



**REVISED DATE:**  
**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September**

by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Richard Nabavi

## SONGS OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING 6pm SUNDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

We are getting together with the church congregations, friends and family, across Mayfield and Five Ashes to join in singing songs of praise as we gradually return to normalcy after lockdown.

**DO YOU HAVE A FAVOURITE HYMN?** Please email [julia.lawrence10@btinternet.com](mailto:julia.lawrence10@btinternet.com) by 30 August. (No guarantee that all requests will be included but some most certainly will!) **ALL WELCOME!**

## HARVEST FESTIVAL 10.15am Sunday 26 September

All are welcome to come and celebrate the role farmers play in all our lives.

We will be collecting funds for The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution.

Please put the date in your diary.



## CALLING ALL HOLY DUSTERS! 10-12.30 Thursday 26 August

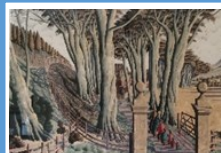
A reminder of the next church cleaning session for all the regulars plus anyone else who might like to come along – for as long or as short a time as you can manage. We look forward to seeing you! Coffee provided!

Thank you! Further info: [emma@ryder-richardson.co.uk](mailto:emma@ryder-richardson.co.uk)

**BELLS**—St Dunstan's bells now have a beautiful set of new bell ropes, very generously funded by Chris Waddell (thank you so much Chris). Like all things new they take a bit of getting used to, and so we can speed up the time taken to master them a short additional practice will take place for the next 3 Saturday mornings. The noise you hear is not an announcement of an invasion or an alarm call, merely an attempt to show the ropes who is the boss.



**St Dunstan's Bellringers**



**Jo Woodliffe** is finally in receipt of the painting she had framed and again thanks us all for such a generous gift to mark her time as churchwarden.

*'Taking the Initiative' by artist Simon Palmer.*