

Newsletter – 5th September 2021



St. Mary the Virgin, Hartfield
Holy Trinity, Colemans Hatch

Welcome!

Welcome back after the summer break. I hope you have managed to find some time to rest and relax. It hasn't been the hottest August on record but we do live in a beautiful place, free from war and famine and so much to be thankful for.

The news from Afghanistan has been shocking. We can only watch with sadness and shock as families are torn apart. We can play our part by supporting those who have come to Britain in recent days. Please find the link to the toolkit which explains how you might donate. In a foreword to the toolkit, the Bishop of Durham, Paul Butler, the Church of England's Lead Bishop for Refugees and Asylum, said:

“The challenge for the whole nation is to welcome these families and help them build new lives here in the United Kingdom.

Alongside this is the reality that there are thousands of Afghan citizens already here and stuck in the asylum system awaiting a response to their claim. God's call on God's people has always been to welcome the stranger and help provide for them.

So here is a fresh opportunity to live out this calling. It has to be very practical; hence this toolkit. [Churchofengland.org/toolkit](https://www.churchofengland.org/toolkit) for supporting Afghan refugees.

Today's Readings

Hebrews 4: 12-13



For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Nehemiah 8: 1-9

all the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded for Israel.

So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the teacher of the Law stood on a high wooden platform built for the occasion. Beside him on his right stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah and Maaseiah; and on his left were Pedaiah, Mishael, Malkijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah and Meshullam.

Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. Ezra praised the Lord, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

The Levites—Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan and Pelaiah— instructed the people in the Law while the people were standing there. They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear¹ and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.

Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, "This day is holy to the Lord your God. Do not mourn or weep." For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.

Vision Mornings

I really want to encourage all of you to come on our vision away mornings. Date and venue for each church below. I would like all of us to be part of the discussions for our outreach to community; our pattern of services and worship' our care for each other; our children and youth work. Rob Dillingham will be facilitating our sessions. We want to have good discussions so please sign up, come and be part of our church family life together. ***Rev Julie***
11th September 9-1pm in Trinity Hall for Holy Trinity
18th September 9-1pm St Mary's Church for St Mary'

For Your Prayers

Please keep in your prayers our dear friend Jane Holland. Jane is being cared for at home and is spending time with her family.



Pray for those who have recently been bereaved. Nancy Lawrence and the friends and family of Tony Goddard.

The people of Haiti, all those caught up in storm Ida and Afghanistan.

St Mary's School as they return after the summer break. For all who are starting new schools this term.

Homegroups - Hartfield & Colemans Hatch

Weekly fellowship, prayer, encouragement and study.

Starting in September, several groups will be meeting locally, both in the daytime and evening. Please register your interest by contacting Tim or Matt below. We want to include everyone, so please indicate your preferred times of the week. We will be using some of C. S. Lewis's material, especially 'Mere Christianity' as a study guide for the first term. This will be alongside bible passages. You will receive a free copy when you sign up. We look forward to hearing from you!

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Trinity Café

Do come and enjoy homemade cake, coffee and tea in the grounds of Holy Trinity Church and in Trinity Hall.



An opportunity to meet up with friends and make new ones. The team looks forward to welcoming you.

2nd and 4th Thursdays of every month.

9:30am to 12noon. Everyone welcome.

Sheila Van Maurik, Eve James and Caroline Daszewska

Church Street Community Café

We are now pleased to let you know we will be relaunching the café in St Mary's Church. You are warmly invited to come and join us.



We will be open from 2-4 pm on Thursday 16th and Thursday 30th September and thereafter on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month (and whenever there is a 5th Thursday). We look forward to seeing you there. ***Revd Julie and Team***

Date for Your Diaries

"Filling station" - Wednesday 22nd September 7.30-9.30pm.

St Mary's Church will be hosting the 'Filling Station'. With Lively worship band. Guest speaker will Graham Kendrick and there will be a time of prayer.

More information will come out next week. Everyone welcome.

Rural Dean of Rotherfield

Some of you may know by now that I was appointed Rural Dean of Rotherfield over the summer. I was licensed on the 1st September by the Archdeacon. I would really appreciate your prayers as I serve in this role over the next few years.

The role of the Rural dean can be summarised as:

- Helping the bishops and Archdeacons in their care of parishes and clergy in the deanery
- Providing a supportive and collaborative leadership for mission and ministry in the deanery
- Being a senior friend to clergy and lay leaders of the parish
- Convening chapter and co-chairing deanery synod and its work
- Sometimes deputising for the archdeacon in parish visitations
- Supporting parishes in vacancy ***Rev Julie***

Nations' Climate Sunday Service

On Sunday 5 September at 4.00pm, churches from across Britain and Ireland will come together online and in Glasgow Cathedral to pray, celebrate, challenge and commit ahead of COP26. The service will be broadcast live from Glasgow Cathedral – at the heart of the city where the UN climate talks will take place in November – with contributions from Christians around the nations. More information and registration details can be found on the [Climate Sunday website](#). *Peter Desmond, Caring for God's Creation.*

Upcoming Services

September 12th Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

St Mary's	9:30am	Morning Worship
Holy Trinity	11:00am	Holy Communion

September 19th Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

St Mary's	9:30am	Holy Communion
Holy Trinity	11am	Matins

September 26th Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

St Mary's	9:30am	Morning Worship
Holy Trinity	11am	Holy Communion

October 3rd Harvest

St Mary's	9:30am	Holy Communion
Holy Trinity	11am	Matins
Holy Trinity	6:30	Choral Evensong



Administrator

If you have items for our newsletter please contact Trevor Sear
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Websites

www.hartfieldchurch.org
www.colemanshatchchurch.org

Churches Information

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