

## POSTLEBURY NEWSLETTER

September 2023

### From the Rectory:

The Diocesan Confirmation service this year takes place on 4th November at Wells Cathedral. If you would like to be confirmed or want to know more please do get in touch. It is a wonderful service, which in recent years has seen many adults as well as children enter into the full life of the church. For

the older candidates, there is an air in the service of a homecoming: the culmination of a long and perhaps difficult, convoluted journey leading to this personal profession of faith.

Some may have been baptised as children but for some reason faith has failed to flourish in them or laid dormant for many years. They have never 'felt it on the inside' as someone put it, so it never became a reality to them. They may have even later declared themselves to be agnostic or atheists. But then, slowly, or perhaps suddenly, a real and living faith emerges along with the realisation of a life being lived on a 'bigger stage.' At such moments people may ask if it is possible to be re-baptized, (or even re-confirmed), feeling that the sacrament 'didn't work, so to speak, the first time around.

But Baptism and Confirmation are once-and-for-all sacraments, which cannot be undone or re-done. They remain pledges of faith, even if the evidence of faith is not immediately apparent after them, because we believe that God always leaves us free to accept or reject the grace that he freely offers to us. If someone has been baptised before the light of faith has dawned in them, the appropriate response is to seek confirmation. If Baptism and Confirmation have already been received, then a person can renew their baptism vows, (there are occasions in the Church calendar for doing this with others in church), or by formal confession before receiving communion. If neither sacrament has been received, it is possible to be baptised and confirmed by the Bishop at the same service, or on separate occasions as may seem appropriate in the circumstances: for example, if unbaptised parents who bring their baby to church for baptism wish to be baptised with them.

Baptism and Confirmation highlight the role of the Christian community. Although faith is a personal commitment to follow Christ, it is not just an individual pursuit but a shared journey. These sacraments create bonds between us, our families, and the Church, fostering a sense of unity and mutual support. In the Church of England, these ceremonies are not only about personal faith but also about belonging to a community for mutual support and guidance as we live out our spiritual lives within a larger congregation.

Fr Anthony.

# September 2023

## Church Services in the Parish of Postlebury and the Benefices of Stoke St. Michael, Leigh on Mendip and Downhead

### 1st September (Friday)

1000 Nunney Holy Communion BCP

### Sunday 3rd September - 13th Sunday after Trinity

0930 Wanstrow Holy Communion

1100 Leigh on Mendip Family Communion

1800 Stoke St Michael Evensong

### 8th September (Friday)

1000 Nunney Holy Communion BCP

### Sunday 10th September - 14th Sunday after Trinity

0930 Stoke St Michael Holy Communion

1100 Witham Holy Communion

1800 Nunney Soul Food (*Henry Pomeroy*)

### 14th September (Thursday)

1800 Wanstrow Compline & Meditation (*Malcolm Parr*)

### 15th September (Friday)

1000 Nunney Holy Communion BCP

### 16th September (Saturday)

1300 Nunney Wedding - Theodore Sackett & Bethany Johnson (*Chris North*)

### Sunday 17th September - 15th Sunday after Trinity

0930 Marston Holy Communion

1100 Stoke St Michael Family Communion

1800 Downhead Evensong

**22nd September (Friday)**

**1000 Nunney** Holy Communion BCP

**23rd September (Saturday)**

**1200 Downhead** Wedding - Bradley Wilson & Lara Russell

**Sunday 24th September - 16th Sunday after Trinity**

**0930 Nunney** Holy Communion

**1100 Cloford** Matins/Harvest Service (*Jonathan Cheal*)

**1500 Leigh on Mendip** Harvest Service

**29th September (Friday)**

**1000 Nunney** Holy Communion BCP

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*Services conducted by Revd Anthony Dickson unless otherwise stated*

**From the Registers: August 2023**

**Funeral:**

**11th August, Stoke St Michael/Mendip Crematorium: Alan Webb**

**Events for your diary:**

**Tuesday 5th September, 1930, Wanstrow Village Hall:** Postlebury PCC Meeting

**Saturday 9th September, 1830 - Wanstrow church: Somerset Russets concert** in aid of the Time Out fund to repair, restore and re-gild the turret clock in St Mary's Church tower. This concert, instruments blown, scraped and squeezed will be providing a mixture of rousing, foot-tapping or soulful music to celebrate the church's Patronal Festival. Do please come along and bring your friends! Tickets £6 per person including a glass of wine or soft drink (children under 12 free) from Malcolm Parr: wanstrowchurch@gmail.com or 01749 850858.

**Saturday 9th September, 1900 - Leigh on Mendip Memorial Hall: Tango! A Musical Supper:** Live Latin American Music with Trio Paradis. Tickets £20 (under 18s £10) include a two course supper and a drink, from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/msw](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/msw), 01373 812734 or [folcleigh@gmail.com](mailto:folcleigh@gmail.com). Supporting Friends of Leigh Church.

**Chat Cafe takes place at Wanstrow church on the 2nd Tuesday of the month between 1000-1200. All welcome to these informal mornings.**

Little Saplings will start again on Wednesday mornings in Nunney Village Hall from 9.30-1100 from September 13th. All carers and pre-school babies and toddlers are welcome.

Life Groups will be meeting again in Trudoxhill, Nunney and Stoke St Michael from early September - more information to follow.

### **Parish of Postlebury - Key Contacts:**

**Priest-in-charge:** Rev. Anthony Dickson, The Rectory, Nunney, Frome. BA11 4LZ  
Telephone: 01373 837337. Email: [Nunney.rectory@gmail.com](mailto:Nunney.rectory@gmail.com) (day off is Monday).

**PCC Secretary and Administrator:** [postleburysecretary@gmail.com](mailto:postleburysecretary@gmail.com)

**PCC Hon Treasurer:** Mr Steve Elliott - [treasurerpostlebury@gmail.com](mailto:treasurerpostlebury@gmail.com)

**If you would like to come off our mailing list please contact  
[dataprotectionpostlebury@gmail.com](mailto:dataprotectionpostlebury@gmail.com)**

