

Harvest 2022

Listening to creation – with thankful hearts!



This is the time of year when we would normally have been sharing a leaflet and asking you to reflect on how you will celebrate Harvest this year. As we noted in last week's leaflet our preparations for Harvest and the Autumn Term were affected by the death of the Queen. It seems to be that such an event makes us all stop and think about our own lives and the values and priorities we live by. Her Majesty's example of Christian living was one which has had a huge impact on so many lives and relationships and her death and the way we have mourned together has also made us aware of the importance of our common life.



Just before her death the new Government had announced its initial response to the fuel crisis, and we will soon hear (or have heard) more of their response to the cost of living situation and the economic challenges we all face. One of the signs of this growing pressure on our lives and our society has been the increasing usage of Foodbanks, Pantries and Larders - and they in turn reporting a reduction in supply and provision available to them. It was in the light of this that we have joined with others in our city to call all of us to respond with thankful hearts for what we have, by sharing some of our resources (especially food) with those who may be under increasing pressures. But, this year, we are asking people not just to do this at Harvest; we are asking people to make a commitment to support a food provider for a year with regular donations and supplies.



In the Parish we are asking you to **donate food at our Harvest celebrations on Oct 2nd for us to share with The Roberts Centre** – and then we will have collecting boxes in Church each week for you to make a donation into as regularly as you are able. This food will be shared with Landport Larder and (once opened) with the St Mary's Pantry with Fratton Big Local which will be in the Bridge Centre. Once we have details of this opening, we will be asking you to consider donating some of your time

to help run it as a volunteer a couple of hours a week. More information will follow in the coming weeks.

Alongside having an impact on individuals lives the cost of fuel and other items will also have an impact on our Churches. Our expenses will be rising over the coming months, and we need to find ways to help raise the money we need to cover our costs – just as any household would need to. We appreciate that finances are going to be tight for everyone but **would ask that if you are able to make a regular commitment to support the Parish that you either continue to do so, or start.** It is easy to do and we can provide with envelopes for you to use to make a regular donation; bank account details so you can set up a Standing Order; or information about a national scheme which will both collect funds for us and monthly (if you are eligible) claim back the Gift Aid (Tax paid) on your donation for the Church to use. **Please do ask one of the ministry team or Paul Morgan for more information. There is a supply of request slips in Church for you to use to hand to us for a meeting or to set up a process for you.**

However, you wish to respond with thankful hearts **we hope you will join us as we celebrate Harvest in the Parish.** There are a number of different ways you can share in our celebrations, and we look forward to seeing you at some of them.

Friday Sept 30th 7pm Organ Recital by Richard Moore



at St Mary's. A chance to come and give thanks for the gift of music and our restored organ

Saturday Oct 1st 10am Messy Harvest with a creation theme



at St Mary's All our welcome to join us for art, craft, activity and a free lunch (ending by about Noon). If you would like to help welcome and support those who come along please see Fr Rajiv

3pm Fr Nicholas Frayling 50th Anniversary

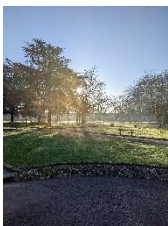
celebration at St Mary's. An opportunity to give thanks for the gift of ministry and especially the ministry of Fr Nicholas at a Mass followed by refreshments.

Sunday Oct 2nd There will be special **Harvest services at all 3 Churches** in the morning – please bring your Harvest gifts to share with thankful hearts.



Noon onwards – then join us for **Harvest Supper** with a difference, we will be holding this at St Mary's with a **Bar B Q lunch**, followed by some informal entertainments. **Tickets £3 adults or £2 a child.** If you are transferring your ticket from the Bar B Q that was postponed, please let us know.

Offers of entertainment to Fr Bob please.



Finally on **Saturday Oct 8th** there will be a **Quiet Day** and an opportunity to 'listen to the voice of creation' at the **Sustainability Centre at East Meon** – this will be led by Revd Kate. We need a minimum number of people to sign up to make this possible, and so far have not reached that level. **Please contact Revd Sam if you want more information or to join us.**

Alongside our Harvest celebrations the Autumn sees the resumption of our familiar rhythm of life and also some other special events.

As COVID is still around in the community we have decided to not make any significant changes to our church routines for communion etc for a few weeks as we wait to see if the Autumn will see a resurgence of infections.



We will be continuing to invite you to **pause and pray with us at 9am and 6pm each day.** We will also be **streaming our Noon Mass on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and our main Sunday Service at 10am.** However, **we will be ceasing to post a weekly set of reflections** – if you feel we should continue then please

let Fr Bob know. Thank you to all who contributed regularly to these, especially to Fr Nicholas for his weekly offering until the Summer.



We will be holding a **Parish Autumn Fair on Saturday Oct 29th at 10am** at St Mary's – as with the May Fair and other recent events we will be combing the talents and skills of the 3 Churches. **If you**

can offer to be responsible for a stall, please let us know (or

sign list in Church); likewise if you can help on the day (or with the set up) or have items to donate for us to sell.

Sadly, no-one came forward to offer to run **the Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday Sept 30th**. So, we are suggesting that we will simply invite people to **Coffee and Chat at 11am** and ask for donations to Macmillan. Unless of course you can offer to help run it



We were sorry to hear recently of the death of Dorrie Manuelle (Jenny Stemp's Aunt); Jean Myles (from St Wilfrid's) and Edyth Morgan (Paul's mother). Please remember them and all who mourn in your prayers.

Jean Myles' Funeral will be on Monday Oct 3rd at 2pm at St Wilfrid's Church. You are welcome to join us in giving thanks for her life and friendship.



Patronal Festivals – this year we will be celebrating the Patronal Festival for St Faith's on **the eve of St Faith's Day – Wednesday Oct 5th**. There will be a **Mass at St Faith's at 7pm** on that evening and we will welcome Revd Annie McCabe (Associate Area Dean and Vicar of St Luke's) as our preacher. Come and give thanks for the life of that Church and the community of Landport of which it is a part.

The following week we will begin our 'farewell' to St Wilfrid's Church building. As you may be aware the decision has been made to re-develop the site as it is not sustainable as it is. We will be spending time over the coming weeks giving thanks for all that has been and sharing our memories. This will lead to a Requiem

Mass in early November and then supporting the worshipping community in settling into other churches before the final service at the end of November, when Bishop Jonathan will join us. Our first celebration in this journey will be on **Wednesday Oct 12th at 7pm at St Wilfrid's**. We will be joined by Bishop Ian Brackley, one of the assistant bishops of our Diocese, and we hope you will come and share your memories of St Wilfrid's over the years. **If you know of**

anyone who you feel would like to be invited please give their details to Revd Sam.



Panto Time (again!) – it does not seem possible that the Panto season will soon be upon us. So the call goes out once more to anyone who wants to join the St Mary's Panto Players in their annual performance (in Feb 2023) to come along for an **initial discussion on Sunday Oct 9th at 4pm at St Mary's** – or let Dame Vicar know if you want to be involved!



Fellowship Lunches will continue in October following the Noon Wednesday Mass at St Mary's – bring your own lunch and enjoy catching up with others. On **Weds 12th Oct** it will be **Knit and Natter** and then on **Oct 26th Frank Jonas**, the

former Lord Mayor, will talk about his **life as Lord Mayor**.

There will be an **Organ Recital on Friday 14th Oct at 7pm** with David Price (from the Cathedral) – it is still not too late to sponsor a pipe or make a donation to cover the costs of the restoration. See Matt Dixon for details.



This will be followed on **Sunday 16th Oct at 4pm by the Annual Music Foundation Concert** and a chance for us to celebrate the work of the Foundation and particularly the young people it seeks to support. We hope you can

show them your support by being with us.

On **Monday 17th Oct Fr Rajiv will meet with Monday men** – if you want more information on the group, please contact them. The next evening **18th Oct the PCC will meet at 7pm**.

As part of the process of giving thanks for the life of St Wilfrid's community there will (we hope) be a final **Charity lunch at the Church at Noon on Thursday Oct 20th**.

On **Sat 22nd Oct** there will be a **film night at St Faith's** organised by the Social Justice Group and all funds raised will support our work with Hope into Action. Please watch out for more details and book your movie tickets!

Then as already mentioned on **Saturday Oct 29th** we will hold the **Parish Autumn Fair at 10am** at St Mary's

We will issue another newsletter before the Fair with details of our November services and events.



In the meantime, if you notice **scaffolding in St Mary's** at the East End do not be alarmed! It is there so that an art expert can inspect the reredos and identify what work is needed for its cleaning and any restoration that is necessary. The Organ Project has revealed some fascinating information on the history of the screen and the artists who created it. Mother Charlotte has done some further investigations and recently shared this with the Fellowship lunch. If you would like to know more then ask her ... or wait to hear of the report from the Art Restorer.



Finally, many of you have asked what has happened to Fr Bob's Queen Chaplaincy. The answer is that the whole Ecclesiastical Household was formally appointed to the new monarch and so they are now all King's Chaplains. The red cassock remains and for now the old Royal cipher is worn ...

As always all of this activity, and all our services and events can only happen thanks to a whole range of people offering their gifts, skills and times to support us. Thank you to all of them for all they do. If you would like to help with anything in the life of the church community then please do not hesitate to talk with one of the Ministry team about what you would like to do. We can only continue to be the great parish community we are if we all play a part and support in some way.

Best wishes

Father Bob and Revd Sam

(on behalf of the ministry team)

Father Bob

023 92 822687



Revd Sam

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*The Parish of St Mary, Portsea
With St Faith's and St Wilfrid's*

*Weekly notes-Sept 25th 2022
15th Sundays after Trinity*

- Today** 2pm **Sponsored Bike Ride** leaves St Mary's
4pm **Baptism Service** at St Mary's
- Monday Sept 26th** **Noon Mass** at St Mary's (live streamed)
Ss Cosmos & Damian 5pm **Choir Open Evening** at St Mary's
7pm **Monday Men** at St Wilfrid's
- Tuesday Sept 27th** 9.30am **Mass** at St Faith's
S Vincent de Paul 7pm **St Mary's DCC meets** at St Mary's
- Wednesday Sept 28th** **Noon Mass** at St Mary's (live streamed)
S Wenceslaus followed by **Fellowship lunch** (bring your own food). Mthr Charlotte will share her research into the Reredos
- Thursday Sept 29th** 10.30am **Mass** at St Wilfrid's
Michaelmas
- Friday Sept 30th** 11am **Coffee and Chat in the Churchyard**
S Jerome collecting donations for Macmillan
Noon Mass at St Mary's (live streamed)
7pm **Organ Recital** by Richard Moore
at St Mary's
- Saturday Oct 1st** 10am **Just Ask** at St Mary's
S Hildegard come and enquire about Christenings, Weddings etc or simply 'just ask' something for the clergy
10am – **Noon Messy Harvest** at St Mary's
3pm **Thanksgiving Mass for Fr Nicholas Frayling** – 50th Anniversary of Ordination
- Sunday Oct 2nd** 8am **Book of Common Prayer**
16th after Trinity **Eucharist** at St Mary's
Harvest 9.30am **Mass** at St Faith's
10am **Parish Sung Mass** at St Mary's
(live streamed) –
11am **Mass** at St Wilfrid's
Noon Harvest Supper Bar B Q at St Mary's
- Today** **Bike Ride** – you are welcome to join Frs Bob and Rajiv as they take part in the delayed Sponsored Bike Ride, meet at **St Mary's at 2pm**. Alternatively please sponsor them

Monday 5pm **Choir Open Evening** – a chance for young children (aged 7 and older) to come and experience what it is like to be in the choir and hear about how they can join. For more information contact Brian Moles.

Monday Men This week they will be meeting at St Wilfrid's at 7pm – contact Fr Rajiv for details

For rest of the week see above newsletter ...

Saturday 8th October Listen to the voice of Creation: Parish Quiet Day led by Rev'd Kate - join us in setting aside time to reflect on and renew our commitment to care for the earth and its resources. Save the date and join us at the **Sustainability Centre in East Meon**. For further information and to book your place, contact Rev'd Sam.

Parish Autumn Fair

Saturday Oct 29th ... can you help in anyway – please see list in Church

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