

# THE UNITED BENEFICE OF CRADLEY WITH MATHON AND STORRIDGE

*Essential News from around the Benefice*

## **THIS SUNDAY – 18 May – Fifth Sunday of Easter (BCP 4rd After Easter)**

Readings: Acts 11: 1-18, John 13: 31-35

9.30 a.m. **Holy Communion** (Revd. Preb. Nicky Seabright) at Storrige

8.30 a.m. **Mattins** lay led at Mathon

10.45 a.m. **Morning Service** (Lay led) - Songs of Praise (Julia Maclagan) at Cradley

11.00 a.m. **Live streamed morning service (mattins)**

Join online (or by 'phone on 0330 221 0097 with Access Code: 578-270-35)

## **Wednesday 21 May**

10.00 a.m. **Holy Communion**, said, (Preb. Nicky Seabright) at Cradley

6.30 p.m. **Evening Prayer** Live-streamed online or 'phone 03302 210097 (Access Code: 496060773#)

## **Tuesday 10 June**

7.30 p.m. **Talk: Lee Miller WWII Photographer & War Correspondent for British Vogue**

by Dr Janet Harrison. Janet was Senior Lecturer in Art History at Worcester & Gloucester Universities. Storrige village hall, free event, donations to Storrige church funds welcome.

**PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:** O Lord Jesus Christ, who on the first day of the week didst rise again, raise up our souls to serve the living God; and as thou didst also on this day send down on thy apostles thy most Holy Spirit, so take not the same Spirit from us, but grant that we may be daily renewed and plentifully enriched by his power, for thine own mercy's sake (Lancelot Andrewes)

**THIS WEEK IN OUR PRAYERS:** **Alcuin**, commemorated on Tuesday, was active as an adviser and also as a liturgist at the court of Charlemagne. His day prompts prayer for those who develop liturgical resources within today's Church, to enable and encourage worship that is the best we can offer. **Helena's** day, on Wednesday, prompts prayer for all places of pilgrimage and devotion, and for all who lead pilgrimages, retreats and quiet days. Saturday commemorates **John and Charles Wesley**. Give thanks for their faith, and pray for the work and witness of Methodism. **Pray for places of war and conflict**, for leaders of nations and all with power to make a difference: for peace, with justice. Pray for Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Syria and Sudan; and for the safety and release of hostages. **With our diocese**, pray for the communications team in our diocese in their work and in the support they provide to the local church. Pray we may share the good news of our faith in our local area and beyond in a professional and persuasive way. Give thanks for the ways in which the changes forced upon us in the Covid years have enhanced our ability to use a wider range of media in our outreach and communication, and in worship. **In our parishes**, pray for young people in our local schools, and schools attended by those who live in our parishes, as the season of GCSE and A Level Exams gets under way.. Pray for all working towards the appointment of a new Rector. **In the wider church** pray for The Anglican Church of Canada and all in that part of the world. **Among the sick** pray for Rod and Pam Ellis; Gill Howard; Anne Edmonds; Anne Drummond; John Norman and Jillianne, supporting him; Maurice Taylor; Pam and Peter Noel, and Doreen and David McKerracher. **Remember all who have died recently** and all whom we remember year by year, and give thanks for our communion in Christ with all who have gone before in earth and heaven.

**FAREWELL AS EDITOR OF THE PEWSHEET AND E-NEWS** - After eleven years of supporting the Revd Robert by editing and producing the pewsheet and e-news I am stepping back from this work. Member(s) of Cradley PCC have indicated they are not content with the standard / content of production and so I feel it is time to step back and let them find someone better able to do the job. It takes the equivalent of approximately one working day (spread over a number of days) each week to:

- Collate the content for that week
- Draft the printed A4 copy (the pewsheet)
- Publish the downloadable A4 pdf to the websites for the benefice by end of Friday each week
- Print nearly 100 copies and distribute to the three churches of the parish
- Prepare and schedule the e-mail version (the e-news) with photos and additional content (for example the Bishop's weekly message) that don't fit on the A4 printed version, to mail at 4.00 p.m. every Saturday.
- Update each church website so links on the 'news page' point to the latest online version of the e-news

If you are interested in taking this on then I am sure they would like to hear from you. This will be my last week in the role. I hope most will have found this service useful during the past eleven years I have provided it.

Yours in His service - Kevin Brewer

## **NEXT SUNDAY – 25 May – Rogation Sunday**

Readings for evening service, separate readings will be used at Mathon: Acts 16: 9-15, John 14: 23-29

10.00 a.m. **Rogation Sunday** at Mathon

[PLEASE NOTE START TIME OF 10.00 a.m. – and **NOT 10.30 a.m.** as advertised in some places]

A traditional Rogation service, starting at Mathon church and visiting several venues around the centre of the village (a garden, a field, a brook, etc.) with a short walk between each for reading and prayers.

6.00 p.m. **Live streamed evening service (for Rogation Sunday)**

Join online (or by 'phone on 0330 221 0097 with Access Code: 578-270-35)