



PARISH NEWSLETTER MAY 2021

In Memory
Our thoughts and prayers go to all the family and friends of people who have recently died. Sadly, these include:

Lenny Alder

David Byrne

SERVICES FOR MAY 2021

All services will take place at St Denys.

Sunday 2nd May *Easter 5*
10.15 am Parish Communion (Stanford)

Sunday 9th May *Easter 6*
10.15 am Parish Communion (Stanford)

Sunday 16th May *Easter 7*
10.15 am Parish Communion (Stanford)

Sunday 23rd May *Pentecost*
10.15 am Morning Worship (Stanford)

Sunday 30th May *Trinity*
10.15 am Parish Communion

Sunday 6th June *Trinity 1*
10.15 am Parish Communion (Stanford)

Sadly, due to their small size and the need to socially distanced inside a church for 2m, it will NOT be possible to have any services in our **two Chapels, Goosey and Hartford**, until the Government changes its rules in indoor gatherings. We will, of course, keep you posted but cannot see services happening any time soon in these two chapels.

As ever, we would appreciate if when attending church, you only do so if you have no symptoms of Covid, or if you feel unwell, and that you bring a face covering with you.

WHO'S WHO IN THE PARISH?

Vicar	The Revd Paul Eddy	710267
Wardens		
	Margaret Williams	710254
	Nigel Archer	718163
Verger	Mrs Susan Mayall	

Vicar writes

As I write this piece for the May newsletter, I have just returned home having had a successful full hip replacement.

I shall be off for the next six weeks at least, and gradually building up my walking and exercises. I am deeply grateful to so many villagers who have messaged me whilst in hospital, and sent cards to await my arrival home, assuring me of their thoughts and prayers. These messages have been deeply appreciated and apologies if I've not been able to reply personally as there have been so many.

I'm sure like you, I was deeply moved by the funeral of Prince Phillip, the Duke of Edinburgh at Windsor Castle last month. It seems very strange to think of the royal family without him being present, as for so long, he has been at the Queen's side and serving the nation in so many ways. So many people with personal experience of him have paid wonderful tributes, especially of the many charities he either started or was involved in. He was certainly an innovator, and encourager, a prodder for action where needed, and above all, a huge support for Her Majesty the Queen in all the work that she has done over decades to serve our nation.

It was a great shame that the nation could not publicly take part in active morning in some way due to the Covid restrictions. However, next year, 2022, is the Queen's Platinum anniversary in June, and early thoughts are underway as to how we might celebrate this as a village. I'm sure that as we do so, we will have in our minds the role that Prince Phillip played in such a successful servant ministry that her Majesty has given to our nation.

The funeral itself was so reminiscent of so many funerals over this past year which have been

limited a number due to Covid restrictions: a widow sat on her own with family unable to comfort, and I know for many people that I have had messages from, they found a special bond with the Royal family over that service. The funeral they could relate too so much. It was almost as if that national event was able to have transfer onto it so much of the grief of the nation over this past year and of course, the tragic thousands of people who have died of Covid.

As I write, the Spring weather has turned for the better and it has been delightful to hear the children on their way home from school headed for the park, enjoying themselves with friends again.

It does seem that finally, things are starting to change. Businesses are opening and hopefully, over the next couple of months, we will start to get back to a 'new normal' - whatever that will be.

I just wanted to say that throughout this time, we as a Church have continued to serve the village through pastoral care and one-to-one support of villagers, and we continue to do so.

Our main service at 10:15am on Sunday at St Denys is open to anyone to attend. It is Covid compliant, and it may well be that after the events of the past year, you would value a calm 60 minutes each week to come to church and just sit and be, and just to allow of the words of the service to wash over you. To re-centre you amongst all the anxiety and stress that you have faced in recent months.

As I look back over the last year, I am so conscious of the way the village has pulled together and supported each other. I'm immensely proud to be vicar of a parish where there are so many people who look out for others. I am sure now that we are aiming to start gathering again, we will be able to increase that sense of contact and community development, and I'm also sure that as a village, we will have been brought even closer together through this pandemic, and the village will be a friendlier and even more supportive community.

After over a year of struggling with arthritic hip and sciatic issues, I am greatly looking forward over the course of this year to getting back to full public ministry as your vicar, and being out and about in the community again, taking services, baptisms, weddings and funerals and to be fully

engaged again in our wonderful primary school and preschool.

Progress after a hip replacement is always gradual, but I am really looking forward to being back amongst you and thank you again for your thoughts and prayers, especially over recent months.

Yours Paul Revd Paul A. Eddy

SITV Helpers

SITV HELPERS are still on hand if anyone in the village requires help with:

- Shopping
- Posting letters
- Prescriptions
- Just for a talk

during this lockdown or any other emergency. By now you should have received a note giving updated details about your street's helper. If you need any sort of help, please do not hesitate to contact them.

We also have a Facebook page "**SITV Helpers**" where helpful information is shared. Any other problems or concerns contact sitvhelp@gmail.com – phone number 07710760894 or 07891013114.

Wantage Advice Centre is also there to refer families for food, heating vouchers and the **Government's COVID Winter Grant**. They are also able to offer advice on legal matters, benefit, education, housing etc over the phone. Contact them on - 01235 765348 / help@wantageadvice.org.uk

Millennium Green

There are many concerns over misuse of the Green. Broken glass, especially vodka bottles, bonfires and damage to school property due to people getting over the fence!! Do your family members know anything about this?

Also concern about dogs being exercised on the field where young children will be playing. No dogs are allowed on any of the recreation fields.

AGE UK Oxfordshire
BIG KNIT

To all mini bobble hat knitters out there.

As most of you know, the official collection time for the 2021 Big Knit, is not until sometime in October. However, since Covid restrictions are gradually being lifted, I thought it would be good to have an interim collection on **Monday 17th May anytime between 2.00 and 4.00pm** when, hopefully, I may be allowed to offer you a cup of tea, and cake, in the garden! It will also allow you to offload the hats you have knitted so far and give you the opportunity to meet other people in the group.

*Please note that in the April Newsletter I gave the date as 10th May. However, as the next date for relaxation of Covid rules is the 17th May, I thought it would mean that more of us will be able to meet at the same time. I look forward to seeing you and having the chance to thank you for all your efforts

If you are not involved in this project but would like to join us, please give me a call on 710724 for further information. Jan Stenzhorn

Wednesday May 5th

Annual Parish meeting 19:30 to be followed by the Parish Council Meeting at 19.45

These will both be virtual - the link required to join online will be detailed on the Agenda which will be available from www.stanfordinthevalepc.co.uk. Members of the public are welcome to attend virtual Council meetings (By video or telephone), details published via our web site and noticeboards.

FARINGDON U3A AND DISTRICT

zoom talk on Thursday 13th May '21 at 2.30pm

May's speaker will be **Al Sylvester on the RAF Mountain Rescue Service**. Al, a renowned RAF Rescue Service leader with over 20 years of service, has attended more than 400 rescue operations including the recovery and rescue of downed aircrew of military fast jets and civilian aircraft. Thankfully the majority of his rescue missions involved successfully searching some of the most hostile environments of the British mountain ranges. His talk will be about these experiences and is bound to be exciting.

Stanford in the Vale, Repair Cafe

All being well we will be opening again in the Coffee Shop in the near future; we will post the date on the Notice Boards. People can bring along their broken items such as toasters, table lamps, garden shears for sharpening etc We also carry out safety checks on electrical items i.e. PAT test. We make no charge for our work, but a donation is acceptable

In the meantime, you can bring items to one of two houses; we can then distribute the item/s to one of our repairers. For more information contact: -

Derek Sayers email: reco@clara.co.uk or 'phone 710283

or

Bill Hart email stanfordrepaircafe@silkie.co.uk or phone 07768486262

Wheelchair

A parishioner would like to donate a second-hand wheelchair to someone in the village. Do you know of anyone who may be in need of one? It is lightweight and in good condition. Contact Janet – jmwarren302@gmail.com or 01367 710789

Stanford in the Vale Pre School

It has been a very busy term with new children joining us. The children have been looking out for signs of Spring In the garden. Our blossom tree has been in full flower and the children have enjoyed seeing the bees collecting nectar.

The children all made wonderful individual Mother's Day cards to take home with them.

The children have enjoyed making bugs using clay and spending lots of time outside in the garden making dens and vehicles using loose parts.

We would like to thank Sean from Selkirk-Harris flooring for giving up his time to mend our Pre-school floor and Roger for his continued help and support.

Pre-school operates a waiting list. If you would like to place your child on our waiting list you can access a Pre-registration form at:

<https://stanfordpreschool.org.uk/enrolment/process>



Stanford in the Vale CE Primary School

Reported by the School Council:

After a refreshing Easter break, we are all back in the classroom busy learning. We have all started learning new topics:

Foundation - Calling All Superheroes

Year 1 - Dragons, Knights and Castles

Year 2 - Incredible India

Year 3 - Awesome Earth

Year 4 - Asia

Year 5 - The Odyssey

Year 6 - Kensuke's Kingdom

We have a busy term planned with an Environmental Day on the 14th May, a visiting mosaic artist coming in to work with us to visually represent our vision 'Working together, Achieving together,' we hope to welcome a visiting theatre company and take part in lots of sports.

We also hope to meet all the children and parents who will be joining us in Foundation in September. We do currently still have places in Foundation for September so please do contact Oxfordshire County Council admissions if you are interested.

Thank you for reading our report.
Take care and keep safe.

To include items in June's newsletter please send to send to jmwarren302@gmail.com or telephone **01367 710789** and leave a message. **Closing date: 18th May 2021. Late items cannot be accepted.**