

KIDLINGTON ANGLICAN CHURCHES

Many of you will have enjoyed our Parish Fete and Dog Show at the beginning of July, made possible by lots of hard work from many people. We were lucky this year in that the sun shone, but not too strongly, so everyone, including the dogs, could enjoy a great afternoon out.

August should in theory be a quieter month, and some of our activities do take a break, but not all. There is fun to be had for Under Fives and their carers at Little Acorns (St John's Tuesday, 10.00am), Bouncing Babies (St Mary's 10.00am) and Toddler Group (St Mary's Thursday, 9.30am), while for older folk the Big Sing is happening at St John's on Wednesday August 6th at 10.00am. Sunday Teas at St Mary's continue right through August, serving delicious cakes from 3.00 – 5.00pm.

Services at all three churches will continue at the usual times, and online services are also available – see our website for further details at kidhp.org.uk/calendar. In addition, the fortnightly services at Lincroft Meadow will take place as usual, and we take Home Communion to a number of folk who are unable to get to Church.

Our Rector Felicity has promised “the same but different” at some of our services this summer; this morning, for instance, with our regular choir taking a well-earned summer break, our singing was led by the “Kidlington Belles”, a pop-up group of women from the church who supported our singing of hymns ranging from Charles Wesley to Graham Kendrick. The sermon was preached by Paul, our newly priested curate, who gave us insight into the well-known story of the Good Samaritan with some judicious quotations from the theologian Bonhoeffer and the philosopher Kierkegaard.

Our talented team of clergy is about to be expanded in early September with the arrival of Revd Oliver Harrison, who is joining the Clergy Team as Associate Vicar and will be based at St John's. Oliver comes with a wealth of experience as a Vicar in the Midlands, with a particular interest in working with young people, and we anticipate his arrival eagerly.

There are group activities most of the week at St John's, so it is not often open for public use, but Hampton Poyle and St Mary's are almost always open during daylight hours, and you are most welcome to come in to find shelter and peace.

Anne Handsley