

THE PARISH OF MILTON
HAMPSHIRE

CLERGY

The Revd Andrew Bailey, The Rectory, New Milton

READERS

Mr Alan Ponting, 17 Solent Walk, Walkford
Mr Philip & Mrs Jean Craft, 9 Davies Field, New Milton

CHURCH SERVICES

ST MARY MAGDALENE'S, MILTON

Sunday 8.00 am. Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30 am. PARISH COMMUNION (CW) & SUNDAY SCHOOL (not 1st Sunday)
9.30 am. FIRST SUNDAY COMMUNION
4.00 pm. United Service at Barton Methodist Church (2nd Sunday)

Friday 11.00 am. Holy Communion (BCP)

ST. PETER'S, ASHLEY

11.00 am. HOLY COMMUNION (CW)

Wed 10.00 am. Holy Communion (CW)

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, BASHLEY

11.00 am. FAMILY COMMUNION (3rd Sunday) & Festivals as announced
6.30 pm. Evensong (1st Sunday)

Please visit the Parish Website at www.miltonparish.co.uk for more news and information about forthcoming events and Church activities.

◆ Parish News ◆

50p (minimum) For Ashley, Bashley & Milton

May - June 2019

Dear Friends

I grew up in the Industrial Midlands where breakfast meant only one thing – it was bacon, eggs and other fried things like black pudding served on fried bread.

Nowadays, I'm happy with a piece of toast and some decent marmalade with coffee that will keep me going until 11's. In the Lord of the Rings, I think the Hobbits called that, "Second Breakfast."

"Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast.""

St John tells us that this was the third resurrection appearance. I don't agree with his maths because, if you include St. Mary Magdalene's encounter with the risen Lord on the first Easter Day, it was definitely his fourth!

But, I will give St John the benefit of the doubt, as Nicholas Parsons would do on "Just a minute"! This was Jesus' third appearance after his resurrection to a group of his disciples: The first was on the evening of Easter Day and the second was a week following when Thomas was with them. But this one, the third, tells us something more:

The disciples were no longer in a locked room, for fear of the Jews. They were out on the water, doing what they did best – in other words, they went back to work – they spent the night fishing! But, going back to how things were before their adventure with Jesus was not the right path to take and John tells us that it proved utterly futile and a waste of time but then:

"Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus."

I often wonder about the inspiration for Acker Bilks, "Stranger on the shore." In my innocence, I connected it with this Bible reading but my research proved me wrong.

"Stranger on the Shore" is a piece for clarinet written by Acker Bilk for his young daughter and was originally named "Jenny" after her. It was

subsequently used as the theme tune of a BBC TV drama serial for young people, Stranger on the Shore was first released in 1961 in the UK, and then in the US, and reached number 1 in the US and number 2 in the UK. In May 1969, the crew of Apollo 10 took "Stranger on the Shore" on their mission to the moon.

"Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "no"

Jesus points them in the right direction in more ways than one. Not only does he tell them where the fish are to be found but he also gathers them together, over breakfast, to tell them that their future is not in the fishing industry but as leaders of the infant church. Special attention is paid to Peter here but there will be more about him in the coming weeks.

Our Christian journey might not have been as dramatic or intense as that of the first apostles but nevertheless, we believe that our encounter and engagement with God through Jesus has changed us and moulded who we are.

There's no going back on this journey of faith because, by its nature, God is always leading us and inviting us to go with him in faith and hope to the next stage of it. He will sustain us on the journey with his word and sacraments – which are more satisfying for the soul than even the best breakfast in the world.

With my prayers and good wishes

Rector

The Parish Office is open
Monday to Friday mornings
between 10.00am and 12 noon
for all enquiries.
Please 'phone (01425) 614077 or e-mail
churchhall@btconnect.com

Milton Parish Mission Action Plan.

The working party has developed three projects which were selected as a result of the questionnaire that was circulated in January. These are summarised below with the priorities that are going to be pursued this year. These are exciting new initiatives for our churches. We really need your help. There is quite a lot to do to bring these to fruition.

If you are interested and wish to find out more or can offer help in anyway, please contact the Parish Office or ring me on 01435 617389.

Messy Church: the objective is to see more people joining the church family and to bring younger families into faith and worship.

Aim.

To establish Messy Church once a month on the second Tuesday in the month starting autumn 2019.

Actions required. Separate article (Inspire the congregation through discussion and possibly showing the Messy Church DVD.

To identify a group of people for each of the five clearly defined tasks within the activity of Messy Church.

To identify sources of funding for set up costs. These include Messy Church guide books, craft materials and initial food costs.

To agree with the PCC ongoing costs e.g. extra heating and craft material and possibly underwriting food cost although these will probably be covered by donations from participants.

Plan publicity in conjunction with the communications group and identify costs related to this. Include in this a redesign of the existing children and families' leaflet.

During July/August gather resources. In early September distribute main publicity when the schools return after the summer.)

Communications: The objective is to Enhance Church Office, and develop a pathway to improve the quality of our internal and external communications. To encourage more people both from church and non-church to feel they are members of the church family.

Action priorities for first year:

1. Investigate the use of a new suite of IT programmes on-line called IKnow, which includes a Life Events Diary, to suit the needs of the parish; upgrade web site and identify a Web Master to keep it updated.
 2. Review current leaflets etc. redesign considering a LOGO. and cost options for printing.
 3. Clarify who is responsible for publicity in local publications.
 4. Parish News to include diary of forthcoming events and special services.
 5. Identify someone to manage 'social media' on behalf of the parish.
 6. Review the operation and use of the office. Develop a list of information flows and origin; e.g. Diocesan and Deanery plus Parish news; major festivals such as Easter and Christmas plus church activities, lunches, teach-ins, seminars, Bishop's Commission Orders, Messy Church, Pop-ins and so on. Musical shows and other concerts seem to be under-publicised. (Immediate action to determine current information flows). Establish a Communications Group to develop and progress projects; nominate a Publicity Officer; work on all IT systems and Web Site; gather material for publicity from the various activities and clubs.
- Community Involvement: the objective is to make more impact in engaging with the local community; the local church to be better connected to the community in which it exists; to give more opportunities for Christians to serve the community.



FETE
20th July
from
2 p.m. in the
Rectory Garden
(if wet in Church and
Hall)

Musk Ukulele Band
Magician
Ice Cream
Face Painting
Stalls and more

To ensure the Fete is a success, help is required for putting up, and taking down, bunting : transporting tables etc from the Hall to the Rectory Garden : putting up, and packing away, tables and chairs for the refreshments (jobs for the men folk rather than the ladies!)

Items are also required for the following stalls :
Jewellery Toiletries Linen Plants
Paperback books :
Produce i.e. jams, marmalade, chutney, fruit/vegetables
Good as New : Plants : Tombola and Raffle prizes
Cakes/ scones/ pies / biscuits for the Cake Stall and refreshments

There will be a basket at the back for these items at the end of the month
For further information, collection of items for the stalls, offers of help or manning your own stall/sideshow please speak to Doris or telephone her on 01425 613311

All proceeds from the Fete are solely for the Fabric Fund.

SUNDAY, 21st JULY, 5 p.m

SONGS OF PRAISE
followed by Cheese & Wine

The Milton Players
present

A Murder Mystery
Drama & Quiz Evening
by Chris Martin

Who Killed the
Director?



Saturday 22nd June 2019
7.30 pm

St Mary Magdalene Church Hall
Church Lane, New Milton

Tickets available from the
Parish Office
01425 614077 10am-12noon
weekdays
or on the door

Bring your own drinks, glasses
and snacks
Tickets £6 Proceeds to Church
Hall Funds and Macmillan

Christian Aid Week 2019

Dear friends,

Christian Aid Week 2019 is just two weeks away.

Many thanks to everyone who has offered to help with the house-to-house collection in Barton. There are plenty of roads still needing collectors - if you would like to help with this, please let me know.

This year the focus of the Week is **childbirth in Sierra Leone** where infant mortality rate is 89 per 1000 live births and maternal mortality ratio is 857 per 100 000 births. On 5th May at the 10:30 service at Barton Methodist Church Brian Ridsdale will be speaking about what Christian Aid is doing to improve this situation:
<https://www.greenbelt.org.uk/christian-aid-week-2019/>

Brain will also be speaking on Friday, 3rd May, 13:00 at Alec Luxon's fundraising lunch at Milford Community Centre - tickets £6 - no need to book:
<http://moscommunitycentre.org.uk/events/first-friday-lunch-39>

Best wishes,

Jacqui Massie

Kinkizi Evening

on Saturday 22nd June

At
St Peter's Church
A short video and presentation
The parish link with Uganda

Including refreshments –
please come along

Lent Lunches 2019.

Many, many thanks to everyone who supported the Lent lunches this year.



I have already thanked our wonderful team who made it all possible but our success is due to our "paying guests".

We had 251 guests this year and made a fantastic £1330 for the Basic Bank and First Opportunities giving them each £665. With Gift Aid this will increase.

Here's to even better results next year!!

Regards
Jean Chadwick

GEOFF'S JOTTINGS.....

In the staff room a colleague asserted that she didn't go to Church as she was made to as a girl. As a junior, I refrained from the response 'When I was a boy I had to wash my neck'.

It was in the news recently that congregations in parish churches are declining but expanding in cathedrals, obscure though it may seem, I am reminded of a quote from "20 Letters to a Friend" by Svetlana Alleluywa.

"By the time I was 35 and had seen something of life, I, who had been taught from earliest childhood by society and my family to be an atheist and materialist, was already one of those who cannot live without God. I am glad that it is so".

Who was she? Stalin's daughter!
Books, even novels often give me cause for thought. In "Paris" by Edward Rutherford a revolutionary challenged "You can't prove that God exists". Fortunately I have not been so challenged, but would this be an effective response? "Tell me what you will accept as proof, but can you do so without defining what you say doesn't exist?"
It can't be that simple! Help!

Geoff Davey

Action priorities in First Year.

1. Work with Diocesan Advisory Committee to explore the possibilities within St Mary's of a refreshment area and seek available grants. This will then mean that the Church can more easily be used for Messy Church, social activities and other events.
2. Consider the introduction of Switchcards with support from Diocese and Deanery.
3. Keep up to date with all events in the town and consider a church presence when appropriate/possible.
4. Discuss ecumenically with other churches how to work together at Town events.
5. Support the Rector with already existing School links and continue commitment to Open the Book.
6. Ensure that when the schools come for their Easter and Christmas services there is church representation to welcome them.

There is a need to value and support the things that already happen. A number of the congregation are already involved in various community activities and should be supported with information and prayer.

Michael Minton



Open the Book is a project which offers primary school children an opportunity to hear the major stories of the Bible, presented in a way which allows them to relate the themes in the stories, to their own lives. It is part of the Bible Society and has been in existence for 20 years this year.

In new Milton and Ashley there is a team of people from our two Baptist Churches and St Mary Magdalene who provide this service to Ashley Infants school and New Milton Infants school.

To mark this Celebration of 20 years

we invite you to come and meet the team and see what we do while enjoying tea and cake.

Sunday 9th June from 2.30 to 4.30.

St Mary Magdalene Church Hall

We look forward to telling you all about this wonderful project.

MESSY CHURCH UPDATE



Following Jan Delaney's article in the last edition of the Parish News we are pleased to be able to give an update.

The plan is to hold our first Messy Church on **Tuesday October 8th** and there after every second Tuesday.

Timing will be from 3.30 until 6.00pm and activities will commence in the Parish Church with various crafts followed by a short act of Worship/Celebration and then food in the Church Hall.

Annie Abou-Jaoude is organising the craft side of things and already has a team of people keen to help. Wendy Beaumont is co-ordinating the 'food team' and would be very pleased to speak to anyone who might be able to help. Cooking before hand at home or helping on the day. Jan Delaney will be heading up the Worship/Celebration and would love to hear from anyone interested in helping, especially with the music. We will also welcome anyone who simply wants to come along and welcome new people to our church and join in the fun. The more people we have involved the less pressure there will be for volunteers to be available for every session.

Do speak to Jan, Annie or Wendy for more information.

**ACTION FOR CHILDREN -
ANNUAL SPONSORED WALK,**

The sponsor forms have arrived ☺

Please let me know if you would like to take part in our sponsored walk on Saturday, 1st June. We'll be setting off from 2 Christchurch Bay Road at 10:00am and walking along the cliff top to Highcliffe Castle and back again. As usual there will be a bring-and-share lunch in the garden on our return.

It's no problem if you don't like asking for sponsors - please do still join us and sponsor yourself for any amount you wish to give.

Looking forward to walking again for **Action for Children:**
<https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/>

Best wishes,

Jacqui (Massie)



**Saturday 8th
June**

**In the Parish
Church
at**

7.30 pm.

A concert by

Voices of the New Forest.

**POP-IN COFFEE
MORNINGS**



Come and meet the Parish Church
Welcome Group at the monthly
Pop-In Coffee mornings

Thursday, 30th May
Thursday, 27th June
Thursday, 25th July

from 10 to 12 noon
in the Church Hall.

Preserves, cards and surprises. Op-
portunity for making new friends.

No charge, but a donation is always
appreciated.

**Parochial Church Council
Annual Report**

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

A number of special services took place in-
cluding a Mourners' service. A number of
schools attended Easter, Harvest and Carol
Services in the Church.

Members of the Worship4All team have con-
tributed to the first Sunday of the month ser-
vice with children's activities taking place in
the Lady Chapel.

The pMAP Group has ceased to meet and a
new group, the Parish Action Group (PAG)
are preparing the pMAP to be submitted to
the Diocese at the end of 2019.

Monthly united services took place between
the Parish Church and Barton Methodist
Church. There were several Ecumenical
Services for all the Churches in New Milton,
including a service for the Week of Prayer for
Christian Unity, a Civic Service and a Good

Friday Walk of Witness and Service in
Station Road.

Frequent concerts and musical recitals took
place during the year in the Parish Church.
The Salvation Army gave a concert at St
Peter's during Advent.

Parish Lent lunches were held throughout
Lent including a time of devotion led by the
Clergy and Readers with donations to the
New Forest Basics Bank of £531.50 and the
Water lily Project of £531.50. A number of
house groups also met during Lent in
homes across the Parish.

Teams of trained lay people continue to
work across the Parish with Baptism
families and in the Ministry of Welcome and
Pastoral Care. The Pastoral Care Team
contact bereaved parishioners and take
Holy Communion to Residential Care
homes and individuals.

House Groups and Bible Study Groups
continue to meet. A group of parishioners
also meet for prayer on a monthly basis.
Monday Group, a group of 18-22 people
meet on the 2nd Monday of each month and
enjoy good speakers and a chat.

Pop-in Coffee mornings held on the last
Thursday of each month continue to be well
attended.

The First Sunday Communion is well
established. Sunday School takes place
regularly every Sunday other than the first
Sunday of the month, when the Sunday
School come into Church for the whole
service. Three children from the Sunday
School were admitted to Holy Communion
on Advent Sunday.
The Children's area that has been created
in the Lady Chapel is used by children at the
Baptism services.

Shoe Boxes – The Parish gave 176 shoe
boxes to T4U of which 70 were provided by
the Arnewood School and the Parish also
gave T4U £221 in cash.

The Parish Office is open Monday – Friday
from 10-12noon and is staffed by volunteers
from across the Parish.

The Parish Website is well accessed and is a
valuable source of information. The address
is www.miltonparish.co.uk All forthcoming
events are listed. A Facebook page
continues entitled St Mary Magdalene, Milton.

CHURCHYARD REPORT



In March the Community Service started the
grass strimming. They also cleared an area
of earth between the graves and where the
sycamores were ground down behind the
church hall. This earth was put on the bank
there in the hope to create an area for pyra-
cantha to grow which will keep intruders
away from that area at the back of the church
hall.

A few days later a second visit by the
Community Service with a different crew,
given to us free of charge, cleared the west
side of the churchyard from overgrown
shrubby and also cut up and brought to the
bonfire site, three large branches which were
brought down during the gales a few days
before. The bonfire site was set alight a few
days later and the fire brigade had to be
called!

Youngsters have twice been on the flat roof
at the back of the church and the police were
called on the second occasion.

In April I heard from Alan that it was
impossible to get his lorry near the site to
clear it. I have since asked the Community
Service to help us and they are in the
process of organizing a crew to come and fill
the first skip- paid by us – to start to clear the
site. Before Easter they came to strim the
grass as usual.

The Aubriettia at the Garden of Rest this
month is stunning and the churchyard on the
other side of the church is awash with
bluebells.

Chris Carian