

Breaking (good) news

Four weeks it's been since I started a new pilgrim ministry in Portishead. Arriving here has been a soft landing, and I'm grateful for all the hard work that has allowed me to settle in quickly. So what does a Team Pilgrim do, when she's ministering? It's a question I ask myself every day...

In these few weeks I've got to know the area by walking about and getting lost. I've chatted to people in parks, visited a pre-school, been to meetings about park use, visited a peer support group for breastfeeding mothers, helped out at LLaDs, enjoyed jazz at the Marina, taken the sculpture trail, met with headteachers and police officers, had a drink with the bell-ringers, and been to the carnival....to mention just a few things.

As I go I ask God: 'What is the Good News for the people of Portishead?' At Jeremy's ordination we were reminded it's the church's task to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ afresh in every generation. What is this good news? Most Christians would agree it's about God coming to us in Jesus Christ, so we can know God's amazing love for us, and be connected with him and each other in a dynamic way.

However, for different people at different times the good news takes on a particular slant depending on their specific situation. To starving people God is the great provider. To torture victims, God at the crucifixion shares in their terrible suffering. To the woman who's weighed down with guilt, God offers unconditional forgiveness and freedom. To the young person lacking meaning in his life, God has a plan and purpose for his future.

What is the good news for you? Could you find an answer to that question? It might be as long as a book, or as short as a tweet. The important thing is that it's honest and real.

In due course I'll be asking you to help me answer the question: 'What is the good news for the people of Portishead?' What is the good news of God in Jesus Christ for you? And what is it for the people around us? And how do we make it known afresh in our generation in new and creative ways?

Tina

From the Church Registers:

Baptisms

At St Peter's Church *26th June*

Alexander Christian, son of Christian and Katie KNEE,
of Fennel Road

Sienna Grace Alexandra, daughter of Christian and Katie KNEE,
of Fennel Road

Emily Sarah, daughter of Mark and Sarah WILSON, of Brock End

Charlotte Rose, daughter of Edward and Amy DUCKWORTH,
of Brock End

Violet Rose, daughter of Craig and Louise SOMERS,
of Rosemary Crescent

Christopher William, son of Craig and Louise SOMERS,
of Rosemary Crescent

At St Peter's Church *10th July*

Freddie Joseph, son of Laurence and Marcia MILES,
of Phoenix Way

Jayden James, son of James and Vicky HUNT, of Todwick, Sheffield

Weddings

At St Nicholas' Church

9th July Mark John Northcombe and Catherine Jane Batt

Funerals

30th June Ivor Bennett (88) **13th July** Edna Milsom (92)

6th July Greg Lane (73) **19th July** Dennis Keith (77)

6th July Roger Yeoman (68)

8th July Bert Barnett (92)

8th July Evelyn Wilson (90)

13th July Lionel Pursey (85)

Church Calendar

Please use this as a focus for prayer during August

Sunday 31st July

Trinity 6

James 5.7-20, Matthew 14.13-21

2.00pm and 3.00pm Baptism at St Peter's Church

6.00pm Healing service at St Peter's Church

Thurs 4th 10.30am Holy Communion at St Peter's Church
7.30pm Visiting Bellingrings from Congresbury at St Peter's
Fri 5th 2.30pm Informal Parish Prayers at St Peter's Church
Sat 6th 9.00am Prayers for the World at the Wesley Centre

Sunday 7th August

Transfiguration

Genesis 37.1-4, 12-28; Romans 10.5-15; Matthew 14.22-33*

1.00pm Renewal of Vows at St Peter's Church

6.00pm Evensong at St Peter's Church

Thurs 11th 10.30am Holy Communion at St Peter's Church

Sunday 14th August

Trinity 8

Genesis 45.1-15; Romans 11.1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15 [10-20] 21-28*

Weds 17th ***Magazine copy deadline***

Thurs 18th 10.30am Holy Communion at St Peter's Church

Sunday 21st August

Trinity 9

Exodus 1.8-2.10; Romans 12.1-8; Matthew 16.13-20*

6.00pm Evensong at St Peter's Church

Mon 22nd Buildings Action Group at 25 Beach Road West
Tues 23rd 8.00pm Baptism Preparation at St Peter's Church
Thurs 25th 10.30am Holy Communion at St Peter's Church
Sat 27th 10.00am Walsingham Mass at St Nicholas' Church

Sat 27th 12.00pm Wedding Blessing of Matthew Verrell and
Rowena English at St Peter's Church

Sunday 28th August

Trinity 10

Exodus 3.1-15; Romans 12.9-end; Matthew 16.21-end*

2.00pm and 3.00pm Baptism at St Peter's
6.00pm Evensong at St Peter's

Mon 29th *Bank holiday*

Weds 31st 12.00 noon Wedding at St Nicholas' Church

Thurs 1st 10.30am Holy Communion at St Peter's Church

Fri 2nd 2.30pm Informal parish prayers at St Peter's Church

Sat 3rd 9.00am Ministry Team meeting at St Peter's Church

9.00am Prayers for the World at the Wesley Centre

10.30am LLADs at Trinity School

2.00pm Rehearsal for School Bag Sunday

Sunday 4th September

Trinity 11

Exodus 12.1-14; Romans 13.8 – end; Matthew 18.15-20

9.15 service at St Peter's is celebrating School Bag Sunday

11.30am Nautical Service at St Nicholas' Church

6.00pm Evensong at St Peter's

Grant us a vision Lord

To see what we can achieve

To reach out beyond ourselves

To share our lives with others

To stretch our capability

To increase our sense of purpose

To be aware of where we can help

To be sensitive to your presence

To give heed to your constant call

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