

A close-up photograph of a bee on a white flower. The bee is positioned in the center-right, facing left. It has a yellow and black striped abdomen and a fuzzy thorax. The flower is white with prominent stamens. In the background, there is a red fruit, possibly a cherry, and green leaves. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PARISH OF CALNE & BLACKLAND

*... keeping you in touch
with your church family.
May 2025*

Parish contact details

Team Rector:

The Reverend Caspar Bush

Email: caspar.bush@mardenvale.org.uk

Tel: 01249 914364 (day off Monday)

Team Vicar:

The Reverend Sarah Errington

Email: sarah.errington@mardenvale.org.uk

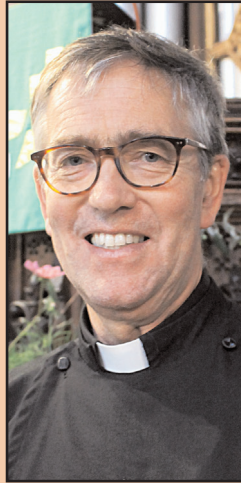
Tel: 01249 263430

Parish Administration:

Church House,
30 Church Street, Calne,
SN11 0HU

Email: enquiries@mardenvale.org.uk

Tel: 01249 816522



*Church House is open from 10.00am to 12noon
on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.*

Prayer for May

*Prayer to Welcome May, May you be happy
May you be well, May you be safe
May you find comfort, May you have strength
May you have courage, May you have healing
May you find peace, May you have joy
May you be filled, With loving kindness
May you be blessed
Today and always.*

Church addresses

Holy Trinity Church, Quemerford, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 0AR

St Mary's Church, Church Street, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 0HU

St Peter's Church, Blackland, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 8UQ

Website: <https://www.mardenvale.org.uk>

Find us on facebook @stmaryschurchcalne

Thought for April – “Come to me”

Since the financial crisis of 2008, it has become ever clearer that we’re all at the mercy of events and forces over which we have no control. The pandemic rocked the foundations of all our lives, and its ongoing impacts are like a series of ‘after-shocks’. Financial news gets worse and worse: we feel as if we have no protection from spiralling inflation, and cuts in jobs and wages, which leave people with huge bills and nothing with which to pay them. We’re left feeling scared and uncertain because there’s no sense of security in our lives.

Of course, the truth is that even in the best of times, none of us knows what’s just around the corner. Sudden death, terminal illness, serious injury, or redundancy can devastate any of our lives at any time.

Jesus understood the pressures under which people live. In his days, most people were extremely poor by our standards. They knew that, humanly speaking, it was chance whether or not they would survive from one year to the next. Bad weather meant bad harvests, which meant

that food ran short. There was little knowledge as to how to treat illness or injury, and many people died quite young. People lived on a knife edge, which left them carrying huge burdens of worry.

Jesus spoke to people facing all these pressures, concerns and worries. He said to them, “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

In another part of the Bible, in a different context, God says to his people, “Test me in this, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it”.

So if you’re worried and harassed, may I invite you to put God to the test? Come to Jesus, and see if you don’t find rest for your soul. Any of the churches in Bremhill, Calne, Derry Hill or Foxham would be very glad to see you, and to help you if you want to find out more.

*With my prayers, and very bestwishes
Sarah Errington Team Vicar
(email address see page 2)*

Quiet Revival – (from Grapevine, 10th April)

Have you heard of the Quiet Revival? It’s a report from the Bible Society which reveals how young people 18 – 24 are turning to faith and it’s happening in our Diocese. Read about the event in Melksham. *There is a link to the report on the Bible Society Website.*



80th Anniversary of VE Day

On 8th May 2025, we mark the historic 80th anniversary of VE Day, with the peoples, families and communities of our great nation coming together to unite and celebrate 80 years of peace since the end of World War II in Europe that so many millions paid the ultimate sacrificed to achieve.

VE Day 80 is not only a tribute to those who fought for the freedom we all enjoy today, but also a powerful reminder of the resilience and unity that have defined our country ever since.

At 9.00am Town Criers will undertake the VE Day Proclamation as the VE Day 80 flags are raised, and at 12.00 noon,



Pipers will play a unique tune especially written for the occasion entitled 'Celebratum' from the top of the UK's four highest Peaks and at 6.30pm, Cathedrals and Churches will ring out in united celebration throughout the nation. At 9.30pm over one thousand beacons and hundreds of Lamp Lights of Peace will shine throughout the United Kingdom.

"Together, we honour the past and celebrate a future built on unity, hope, love and peace"

Go to <https://ve80.com> for more information.

*from Bruno Peek,
Pageant Master for VE80.*

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The APCM took place on 6th April at St Mary's Church. The important business that was conducted included; electing PCC members and Church Wardens. Church Wardens are Jonanathan Billings, Stever Keighly, for St Mary's, Lucy Hemmings and Caroline Williamson for St Peter's, Philip Bond for Holy Trinity. Carolyn Burleson-Webb was elected as a new member of PCC and other members are as before. See the benefice website for more details.

The treasurer's report and accounts were accepted and there was a vote of thanks to Graham Spencer for all his

work with the parish finances.

St Mary's re-ordering was discussed. The South Chapel leaks when the wind blows from the South, the roof needs to be repaired and the South Chapel should be redecorated. We are currently working on seeking funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The PCC may need to look at asking a professional bids writer to aid us in the preparation of the grant applications. This work will be alongside fund raising for installing a toilet and kitchen and other works identified to make St Mary's more suitable for a variety of uses.

Newsletter Group

The newsletter group has four members who meet once a month to sort out the material that has been sent in for the newsletter. We could really do

with, either one more person to help; or for all of you loyal readers to send in articles or ideas for articles. Contact details are on page 7.

Mothers' Union

We had a speaker from The Leprosy Mission at the Mothers' Union meeting in April. We were few in number but it was an interesting meeting. We had an illustrated talk on the way leprosy affects people in the developing world and the work that the Leprosy Mission does to cure the disease and improve the lives of the sufferers. This includes pro-

viding reconstructive surgery to hands and feet. It costs just £24 to cure someone of leprosy and members gave financial support.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 13th May when Doug Edge will be speaking about Calne charities.

*Jenny Colby
Branch Leader*

Join us on the coach to Salisbury Cathedral!

On Sunday 29th June, our new benefice curate Carly Taylor will be ordained in Salisbury Cathedral, and we are all invited to be part of this very special service, in this amazing building. To that end we have booked a 50-seater coach! It will leave at 8.30am from outside the library in Calne, getting us there in plenty of time for the 10.30am service.

Afterwards there'll be time to enjoy a picnic lunch (bring your own!) and soak up a bit of Salisbury atmosphere before the bus leaves Salisbury at 3.00pm. The price is £15 per person. Please book your place with Ann in the benefice office.

(Contact details on page 2)

*Revd Caspar Bush
Team Rector of the Marden Vale Benefice*



Farewell to CAMEO

CAMEO has been running since January 2011, on the 3rd Friday of every month. Recently, our numbers have dropped considerably with only 5 or 6 attending regularly.

Although the monthly meetings are stopping after the April meeting, we plan to offer a lunch on one Friday in

June, October and January for anyone who would like to attend. There may even be a game of Scrabble after for those who would like to play!

Thank you to all who have supported us over the last 14 years.

*Deirdre, Jeanette, Maggie and Jane
(The CAMEO team)*

Saint Dunstan

Saint Dunstan of Canterbury, (born near Glastonbury 924, to May 19, 988), was an English abbot, celebrated archbishop of Canterbury, and a chief adviser to the kings of Wessex. He is best known for the major monastic reforms that he effected. There was a Witan at Calne in 978 in an upper room where all except for St Dunstan fell from the upper floor. This was seen as divine intervention in support of St Dunstan's reforms and restrictions to monastic life. St Dunstan was also a skilled metal worker and is the patron saint of bell founders, bellringers and metal workers.



Indifference or When Jesus Came to Golgotha

(A Poem suggested by one of our readers)

When Jesus came to Golgotha
They hanged Him on a tree,
They drove great nails through hands
and feet,
And made a Calvary.
They crowned Him with a crown
of thorns;
Red were His wounds and deep,
For those were crude and cruel days,
And human flesh was cheap.



When Jesus came to Birmingham,
They simply passed Him by;
They never hurt a hair of Him,
They only let Him die.
For men had grown more tender,
And they would not give Him pain;
They only just passed down the street,
And left Him in the rain.

Still Jesus cried, "Forgive them,
For they know not what they do."
And still it rained the winter rain
That drenched Him through and
through.
The crowds went home and left the
streets
Without a soul to see;
And Jesus crouched against a wall
And cried for Calvary.

*Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy (1883-1929)
Known as Woodbine Willie.
Matthew 25:31-46*

Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy, MC, 'Woodbine Willie', was a brave WWI chaplain known for giving soldiers cigarettes and Bibles. A compassionate preacher to the poor before the war, he later became a popular and outspoken speaker and author on faith and social issues.

Dates for your diary

- 1st Feast Day of St Philip and St James
 - 8th 80th Anniversary of VE Day
 - 13th Mothers' Union. 2.00pm in Church House
 - 14th Feast Day of St Matthias, Apostle
 - 19th Feast Day of St Dunstan – former Archbishop of Canterbury
 - 29th Ascension Day
 - 31st Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth.
-

Focus for Prayer

Please remember to pray for ...

- The changes planned for St Mary's Church and the team working on this.
 - Carly Taylor and her family as she prepares for her ordination and they all prepare to move to Calne.
 - Peace in our beautiful world.
 - Financial stability in our nation and for our community. Especially for people who are anxious because of debt.
 - Our NHS: everyone who works in the NHS and all who depend on its care.
-

Editorial Team:

Sue Twyman, Jane Ridgwell and Jack Robinson.

Illustration, Graphic Design and Layout: Alex Grenfell.

And finally ...

If you organise any groups or events in the parish and would like them to be included in this newsletter then get in touch with the editors.

We would also love to have articles about the different groups in the parish to spread the word more widely and encourage people to come along.

Please email or give copies of items to us in plenty of time for the next newsletter, the deadline is 10th of the preceding month.

email: cbp.news.editor@gmail.com



Regular Activities in the Parish

*Please check Website or Parish Notices for Zoom Link.

Day	Time	Place	Activity
Sunday	8.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion (NOT 4th Sunday of the month).
	9.30am	St Peter's	Holy Communion (BCP) – (4th Sunday of the month).
	10.00am	Church House	Sunday Club for 4–11s. (1st Sunday of the month)
		St Mary's	Parish Eucharist (4th Sunday of the month; Morning Praise).
	10.45am	Holy Trinity	Holy Communion (4th Sunday of the month).
	3.00pm	Holy Trinity	Family Service (3rd Sunday of the month).
Tuesday	10.00am	Church House	SMUF's parent and toddler group. Only during term times.
Wednesday	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion (Mothers' Union Corporate Service 1st Wednesday of the month).
	3.30-5.30pm	Church House	Wednesday Club for 4–11s. Only during term times.
Friday	8.30 am	Zoom	Morning Prayers – Whole Benefice*
	7.00pm	St Mary's	Choir Practice.
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing	Please contact Jane Ridgwell for further information.

If you wish to make a donation to the Parish of Calne and Blackland you can use this QR code

