

**Welcome to the Mells Group of Parishes**  
**Chantry, Great Elm,**  
**Mells with Vobster, Whatley**

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July - Sixth Sunday after Trinity**

10.00am Group Service at Whatley led by David Gatcliffe

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July - Seventh Sunday after Trinity**

9.30am Holy Communion at Mells led by David Gatcliffe

9.30am Matins at Whatley led by Hazell Tovey

11.00am Matins at Chantry led by Val Rawlins

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**News from The Diocese**



It was a weekend of celebrations as new deacons and priests were ordained at Wells Cathedral in services this weekend. The services presided over by Michael Beasley took place in Wells on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. Our ordinands come from all walks of life, from the teaching profession, aircraft engineering, and children's work.

We offer our prayers for the new ordinands as they embark on their journey of faith and service, asking God to guide and strengthen them in their calling. We also give thanks for the mentors, family, and friends who have supported and nurtured them, praying for continued blessings on their lives.

**The new deacons will take up curacies as follows:**

Farhad Khodabakhshi Chermahini - Benefice of Yeovil Holy Trinity with Barwick  
Jane Hoe - United Benefice of Batheaston with St Catherine and Bathford  
Julie Kimber - Benefice of Beercrocombe w Curry Mallet, Hatch Beauchamp,  
Orchard Portman, Staple Fitzpaine, Stoke St Mary w Thurlbear and West Hatch  
(Seven Sowers)

Julie Pelling - Benefice of Bridgwater St Mary and Chilton Trinity

Samuel Thompson - Benefice of Frome Holy Trinity

Lucy Davies - Benefice of Milton and Mead Vale

Jolyon Stonehouse - Benefice of Alham Vale

James Hall - Diocese of Hong Kong

**The new priests are serving their curacies as follows:**

- Lucy Blows - Benefice of Pill With Easton in Gordano and Portbury
- Rob Cromwell - Benefice of Wilton
- Edward Day - The Cathedral Church of St Andrew in Wells
- Emma King - Benefice of Weston All Saints with North Stoke and Langridge
- Jo Moule - Benefice of Long Ashton with Barrow Gurney and Flax Bourton
- Ben Notley - The Marlbrooke Team Ministry
- Coelette Parkes - Benefice of Ham Hill Villages
- Rachel Pengelly - Benefice of Street with Walton and Compton Dundon
- Fran Smettem - United Benefice of Winford with Felton Common Hill and Chew Stoke with Nempnett Thrubwell (to be known as Chew Valley West)
- Louise Southgate - Benefice of Dulverton with Brushford, Brompton Regis, Upton and Skilgate
- Alison Tolson - Benefice of Porlock and Porlock Weir with Stoke Pero, Selworth and Luccombe AND Benefice of Oare with Culbone
- Harry Wainwright - Benefice of Frome Christ Church with St Mary's
- Nathanael Worsley - Waterside Benefice

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**Bishop Michael** asked the crowd at Glastonbury Festival to contemplate a different reality when he took to the Pyramid Stage at 3pm on Sunday, 30 July.

Bishop Michael looks out at the crowd at Glastonbury Festival Bishop Michael on the Pyramid Stage at Glastonbury Festival Bishop Michael arrives at the Pyramid Stage at Glastonbury Festival

Bishop Michael's address to Glastonbury Festival It's brilliant to be able to welcome you to God's own county of Somerset. We're so glad you're here at the festival and I hope you're having a wonderful time.

I live just down the road from here in Wells, which is the smallest city in England. Normatly, because we're in Cheddar Cheese Country, this place is some fields full of cows. But during this festival weekend, the number of people here is about 20 times the population of my entire city.

This leaves me feeling that I've entered into a different reality, And I wonder, wherever you've come from, if that's your experience of Glastonbury too? And by this I don't just mean how you feel about the state of the loos! But rather of what it's meant to you on being here to live life to a different beat, to experience a time of different priorities, to live in a reality that's very different to everyday existence.

You're probably thinking that anyone who's a bishop must spend their days living in a different reality most of the time. And you might well be right. Because that, for me, is what faith is all about. Of seeing the world from a different perspective. A different vantage point. The Bible has lots of stories that illustrate this. One of my favourites comes from the first part of the Bible that Christians call the Old Testament. It tells about a prophet called Elisha and his servant, getting surrounded by the forces of a hostile army. The servant gets very upset. He sees that he and his master are heavily outnumbered. He reckons that their prospects are not good. But then Elisha says to him. 'You're not seeing the whole of reality. And then Elisha prays that the servant's eyes will be fully opened. When they are he's able to see that the whole host of heaven is with him and his master - horses and chariots of fire. The help that's on hand is more than able to get them out of the fix they're in. I wonder how you're seeing things during this time that you've stepped out of everyday life into the very different reality that is Glastonbury? As you compare what it's like to be here with your existence back at home, what has being here said to you about what you value most? The kind of world you want to live in? The life you'd like to live? For me, as someone who tries, not always successfully, to follow Jesus Christ, I hope that the perspective I have on these things is shaped by his life, his love for this extraordinary planet that we've been given to live upon. In Jesus, I encounter someone who had 20:20 vision. He was able to see what was most important, to live it, and act upon it. Or as Jesus put it, to know life in all its fulness. If you've not encountered Jesus's life, might you like to find out more? We've great people in our church tent opposite here and just above the big camping ground. There to help you explore what I've found in Jesus: a bigger picture, a wider and better vision of what it might mean to be a human being and to live well in our world. I invite you to discover in him a different reality altogether."

Bishop Michael

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## **Sixth Sunday after Trinity**

### **Collect**

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## **First Reading: Ezekiel 2:1-5**

He said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD.' Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

## **Psalm 123**

I lift up my eyes to you,  
to you who sit enthroned in heaven.  
As the eyes of slaves look to the hand of their master,  
as the eyes of a female slave look to the hand of her mistress,  
so our eyes look to the Lord our God,  
till he shows us his mercy.

Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy on us,  
for we have endured no end of contempt.  
We have endured no end  
of ridicule from the arrogant,  
of contempt from the proud.

## **Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 12 2-10**

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses.

But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given to me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.' So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

## **Gospel: Mark 6 1-13**

He left that place and came to his home town, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, 'Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?' And they took offence at him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Prophets are not without honour, except in their home town, and among their own kin, and in their own house.' And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, 'Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.' So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

## **Post Communion**

God of our pilgrimage, you have led us to the living water: refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.