

May Russell

We are sad to announce the death of May, who, with her daughter Linda Frost, worshipped with us at the 11:00 AM service for a few years until she needed a level of professional care that could not be provided at home. We only knew May in her later years— but there was more to her life.

In her working years, May was a hairdresser. She took a break from that when, as one newspaper article about her put it, she “swapped her curlers for cows” and joined the *Women’s Land Army* during the Second World War. She stuck at that arduous work right to the end. Those who knew her will greatly miss her. Even those who did not know personally will want to remember our debt at her passing.



Sophia’s Lenten Challenge

Sophia Morecambe (Year 1) is attempting to raise **£100** for *Mercy Ships* in Lent. She’s reading one whole book every day for the 40 days of Lent. We will hear more about this in the 11am service on Sunday. One of the books is *Philemon* in the New Testament. That one might take two days!

The link to Sophia’s fundraiser is https://www.facebook.com/donate/2609010535864559/?fundraiser_source=external_url

or you can put your gift in an envelope marked “Sophie’s Challenge” and we will give it to Bill to pass on. Don’t forget that you can Gift Aid your donation.



Confirmation and Baptism

At present eight young people and one adult are considering confirmation or baptism. Pray for all our prospective candidates as the course continues.

It was great to get the discipleship groups off the ground. We appreciate very much Mark Sansome’s and David Tunley’s leadership and organisation. They have made it possible for people not to miss a week, even if they have cannot make a particular evening.

A Concerning View of the Future?

Last week, Raymond mentioned the Diocese of Chelmsford whose Bishop will soon become Archbishop of York. The Church Times reported: “Parishes in the diocese of Chelmsford are to be given a stark message next month: if they want a priest they will have to pay the going rate.”

In the Diocesan Synod next month, members will be asked to agree far-reaching changes



Parishes that are unable to cover the cost of a full-time stipendiary priest – a figure set at £80,180, which includes a portion for central diocesan costs and clergy training – will need to consider alternatives such as a self-supporting priest in charge, or a Licensed Lay Minister. The new processes will come into effect immediately.

The Right Revd. Stephen Cotterell said that the diocese needed “a big reality check”. My text for all this has been “The truth will set you free”. People may hate what I am saying, but it’s impossible to disagree with it: the accounts reveal everything. If we don’t make these changes, it will lead to more drastic and unplanned decisions being forced upon us”.

Our own diocese will undoubtedly be facing similar stark choices.

- take responsibility
- give generously
- have faith.

Bangladesh No 38

Until recently, Bangladesh had managed to stay clear of the kind of Islamic extremism that has plagued other parts of the world. That’s changing. The growing strength of radical Islamic groups has led to attacks on Christian churches.



Please pray for our church family

Mon 9th	Chris & Lesley Hawkes
Tue 10th	Doris Haynes
Wed 11th	John & Rachel Hodgkinson
Thurs 12th	John & Dee Howard
Fri 13th	Peter & Pam Fletcher
Sat 14th	Bill & Deana Hunt
Sun 15th	Brenda Hunt, Terry and Cathy’s knee replacement.

Prayers: This picture of **Bishop Viv and Greta Thunberg** reminds us to pray for the spiritual and physical needs of our planet. Pray for +Viv as she leads the diocese in the climate emergency, and as she points us to “the city with foundations whose builder and maker is God.” She is as much a disciple as the youngest believer. Also pray for **Joan Titcombe** who is awaiting a hip replacement.



Sunday
8th March
2nd of Lent

Mon 9th	9.30am	Pram Club
Wed 11th	1-3pm	Craft Club in Church Room
Fri 13th	10.30-1.30pm	Rock Café

Day	Time	Location
Monday afternoon	2.00pm	“Making Disciples” in The Quiet Room
Monday evening	7.30pm	“Making Disciples” at Rother Close
Tuesday evening (1)	8.00pm	“Making Disciples” in The Quiet Room
Tuesday evening (2)	8.00pm	“Making Disciples” Witts Lane, Purton
Wednesday evening	7.30pm	“Making Disciples” The Dormers, Highworth
Thursday evening	7.30pm	“Making Disciples” in The Quiet Room
Friday morning	9.30am	“Making Disciples” in The Quiet Room
Saturday morning	9.00am	“Making Disciples” in The Quiet Room



Discipleship Course information is now available on the church website including the dates of all the weeks. It is at:

<https://www.stjohnshaydonwick.org.uk/making-disciples/>

“A mind that is holy”

Services Next Week			
15th Mar	9am	Morning Prayer	Raymond Adams
	11am	Holy Communion	Raymond Adams

Time	Service	Preacher	Readings
9.00am	Holy Communion 1662	Raymond Adams	Romans 12: 1-8 Mark: 8 27-33
11.00am	Morning Praise	Raymond Adams	Romans 12: 1-8 Mark: 8 27-33

Parish Office Email: parishoffice@stjohnshaydonwick.org.uk or Telephone 726000. All items for the bulletin to the office in writing by first thing on Thursday. Thank you