



Cotswold Edge

July 2023

The Church Newsletter for
Marshfield, Cold Ashton,
Tormarton and West Littleton



Benefice Contacts

**For information about Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals or Pastoral Visits
please contact the Vicar, The Rev Sally Wheeler
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Associate Minister: Rev. Lynne Godfrey 01249 446734**

Lay Ministers	Aurea Hart (LLM)	01225 891453
	Mike Strathdee (LLM)	01225 891001
	Andrew Gammie	01225 892392

Safeguarding Officers	Aurea Hart	01225 891453
	Sally Kerr	01225 892126

St Mary's Church, Marshfield

Churchwardens	Eric Pullin	01225 891351
	Paul White	01225 891765
PCC Secretary	Steve Williams	
PCC Treasurer	Kate Brain	01225 892582
Gift Aid/Giving Officer	Peter Brunyate	01225 891508
Bell Ringers	Doug Bond	01225 891228
Church Bookings	marshfield.benefice@gmail.com	

Holy Trinity, Cold Ashton

Churchwarden	Monica Green	01225 891669
PCC Secretary	Scarlett Wyatt	07432 050503
PCC Treasurer	Georgina Perceval-Maxwell	07771 776290

St Mary Magdalene Church, Tormarton

Churchwardens	Richard Lawrence	01454 218730
	Stewart Waters	01454 218393
PCC Secretary	Vacant	
PCC Treasurer	Janet Wells	01454 218549

St James' Church, West Littleton

Churchwardens	David Adams	01225 891100
	Becky Derry-Evans	
PCC Treasurer	Michael Horgan	01225 891486

Marshfield Chapel	David Spence	01225 891115
Cotswold Edge Items:	godwinluana@gmail.com	
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***Benefice website* www.marshfieldchurch.org**

To put items on website please contact Richard Shreeve 01225 891169

Tormarton www.tormarton.org West Littleton www.westlittleton.com

Bristol Diocese www.bristol.anglican.org/

Church of England www.churchofengland.org

For information on Christian Faith: www.christianity.org.uk.

Greetings!

We are approaching the summer months when many will take time out for a break, which is so important for our well-being – mentally, physically and spiritually.

A planned change in routine can reinvigorate, enabling us to reflect on our lives and gain perspective. Jesus often took time out to climb a hill and have time to be still and enjoy the company of God or to go to friends, as at the home of Lazarus, Mary and Martha. I pray you have some way in which you can be refreshed and enjoy Sabbath rest and restoration, whether in your own home or away somewhere.

One of the things which gives me joy and refreshes without going away, me is the work I do with those exploring vocation. I am a Diocesan Vocations Chaplain and meet with people exploring a call to serve God in their church: some end on a path to ordination, others to Licensed Ministry, others realise the timing isn't quite right for them as yet. I am also privileged to be involved with Discernment days for those whose calling has been recognized and who are now going forward for selection for training.

What is so refreshing is to see people, often young, always passionate and wonderfully gifted, having the courage to respond to God's call on their lives. The future of the Church looks positive with so many ready and willing to serve. One such person is our Trinity Ordinand, Jodie, who has been with us on placement for a month as part of her training. It has been a joy to welcome her and our love and prayers go with her as continues the journey towards ordination next year.

Rev. Sharon Robert's has just finished that training and is being ordained on July 2nd in Bristol Cathedral before beginning her curacy with us and is another sign of that hope – of gifted and willing responders to God call to serve his people and his church. Sharon introduces herself and tells us more about her journey in this magazine, and Jodie has also written a reflection on her time with us.

God is good and faithful to call and equip us to serve one another. If anyone would like to talk to me about different callings I'd love to hear from you!

Blessings, Sally

MARSHFIELD CHURCH FETE July 1st 2pm -5pm at the Church – with Marshfield Band, teas and cakes, stalls, face-painting and activities for children

INVITATION TO ALL: COLD ASHTON AFTERNOON TEA AND STALLS

July 2nd 3pm-5pm in the Churchyard – a chance to meet our new Curate, Rev Sharon Roberts and to enjoy a relaxed time at lovely Cold Ashton Church.

NEXT MONTH: Meet our Village Agent Aimee Cherry-Williams

From the Benefice Registers

Weddings in June

Elinor Read and John Pullin married on the 17th June at St Mary the Virgin Church, Marshfield

Baptisms in June

Welcome into the Church family to: Oscar and Arabella Bush, baptised on the 10th June in St James' Church, West Littleton

Funerals in June

The funeral and burial for David Milburn took place on the 14th June at St Mary Magdalene Church, Tormarton.

The funeral for Stuart Durnell took place on 22nd June at St Mary the Virgin Church, Marshfield, burial in Marshfield cemetery.

Diary Dates

Café Church: Monday 3rd July, in Marshfield Church Hall from 12.30 pm-2.00 pm. Come and join us for a light lunch and a light touch 'Thought for the Day'. (Take place every first Monday of the month)

Village Midweek Communion for Church and Chapel together:

Tuesday 11th July in St Mary's Church at 10am. All are welcome for a time of informal fellowship.

Village Prayer: Every Tuesday at 10am in the Chapel apart from when Village Midweek Communion is taking place. Village Prayer then takes place in St Mary's church.

Fortnightly Prayers 10.30am in St Mary's Marshfield: July 6th and 20th.

Benefice Study Group in Marshfield

A friendly fortnightly Bible study group, open to new members anytime on Monday 3rd July and Monday 17th July 7.30-9.00pm at the home of Melanie and Rowan Hardy: Broadway Cottage, Sheepfair Lane, Marshfield. Details: lynne.rev@sky.com; 01249 446734

Benefice Events

- **West Littleton Open Gardens** took place on 10th & 11th June
- **June's Family Service with Trevor Ranger** - Holiday Club 16th - 18th August
- **Marshfield Church Fete** - 1st July
- **Cold Ashton Church for 'Afternoon Tea, Cake and Stalls** on 2nd July 3-5pm
- **Benefice Weekend Away at Lee Abbey** in 2024 Aurea Hart, Sally Wheeler or Janet Spence would like to know if you are interested

Good to know!

Charitable Donations Update from Marshfield Church Collections 2023:

- **Plough Sunday** raised £351.28 for Farming Communities Network
- **Lent Lunches** raised £433.00 for Doorway - the homeless charity in Chippenham
- **Bristol Diocese Projects** through Mothers Union received £284.26
We will also be making donations to Katia Rocks our CMS mission partner and Trevor Ranger of Synergy Trust

Transport Links in Marshfield and Surrounding Villages:

WESTlink is a new type of bus service which operates in the majority of the West of England, outside of Bristol and Bath city centres and will drop you at park and Ride centres or other hubs for onward travel. It runs without a fixed timetable or route, and is booked 'on demand' by users through the **WESTlink** app or by phone. tel:0117 457 8561.
[Home - WESTlink \(travelwest.info\)](http://travelwest.info)

A note from Trinity Ordinand Jodie Ward, on her time with us

I'm writing this halfway through my short time (just a month) of being with you in Marshfield Benefice. You might have seen me at Café Church, Edward Bear toddler group, Wednesday's Lunch Club, or at services at Marshfield or West Littleton. I'm two years into my ordination training at Trinity College, Bristol, with one year left before hope- fully beginning a curacy. Over the last two years, my husband Billy and I have felt prompted to explore whether rural ministry is something God might be calling us to, and this is what led me to join you in Marshfield for my summer placement.

We never expected that we would feel called to rural ministry. In the last ten years I have explored mission and ministry opportunities in Muslim communities in Bahrain, with victims of exploitation in Edmonton (Canada), with the homeless in central London, with refugees living in Manchester, with marginalised children in Romania, and with young people just up the motorway in Gloucester. The challenges of rural life and ministry are very different to the other contexts I've mentioned, but for every context in which we find ourselves, there is one fundamental truth: wherever people live who do not know Christ we must join in God's work to make his name, and his love known. So, whether it be halfway across the world or right here in these villages, my prayer is that you will be strengthened to know that God can and will use you to bring his light to the people around you.

With my prayers, Jodie Ward

A warm welcome to Sharon Roberts

Hello!

I am really excited to be joining the team in the benefice as curate following my ordination on July 2nd at Bristol Cathedral. It will be so lovely to start meeting everyone at last, as the first conversations about me coming to Marshfield began almost a year ago! I will certainly not be the youngest curate the benefice has ever seen and, I might even be the oldest (!), but I sense a new adventure as together we explore all the good things God has in store.



As a child, I attended a Brethren Chapel and then a large Baptist Church in Torquay. I first encountered the Church of England at university, where I read Theology, and have since worshipped in a variety of churches in Manchester and Bristol. Since 2016, I have been based at Bristol Cathedral, but last summer I spent time in Bybrook Benefice and discovered just how special rural churches can be and this contributed to the process of coming to the benefice. It will be good too to have an office base in the Chapel in Marshfield - a real return to my roots!

I have the joy of two wonderful adult children and have had a very busy and fulfilling career in Education from which I retired in March. The last three months have given me time to finish some assignments, with some times of retreat and also a great holiday in a vintage caravan in Dorset. Being in beautiful places really does help me to connect with God in a different way to being in the city. I am a keen walker and enjoy landscape photography. I then love playing with the images to create more abstract pictures in collage.

I vividly remember someone suggesting to me at the age of 18 that I should consider ordained ministry... so the journey has taken a while! In 2017, I sensed that it was time to look at ordination again; I felt that if I did not explore a sense of calling then, I would look back at the end of life and regret it, and suddenly it was all systems go! I have been training at Sarum College in Salisbury and have thoroughly enjoyed getting back into some theology.

Over the last couple of years I have been reminded again and again that God continually makes all things new and it is my prayer that together we can all learn more about being lovers and bearers of Divine Beauty. So, if you see a new face out and about and they happen to be wearing new dog-collar... it is likely to be me – so please do introduce yourself - it will be so good to meet you!

Benefice Prayer Diary JULY 2023

Marshfield with Cold Ashton and Tormarton with West Littleton

A Benefice Prayer: *Lord, let us not labour for you in vain. Teach us to pray, deepen our fellowship, enable our ministry, strengthen our benefice, and nurture our children. That, united in Christ, we might indeed become a holy temple in which you dwell by your Spirit. Amen*

Week 1: 1st-8th July During the week, please pray:

- for the people of Marshfield, its PCC, and churchwardens
- that God will give us grace in all our relationships
- for the toddlers, parents and helpers, as Edward Bear Toddler Church meets on Fridays at Marshfield Chapel

Week 2: 9th-15th July During the week, please pray:

- for other Christians who live in our communities but are not part of our parish churches
- for the people of Tormarton, its PCC and churchwardens
- for the children and young people of our communities who will be changing schools or going on to further education in the Autumn

Week 3: 16th-22nd July During the week, please pray:

- for the people of West Littleton, its PCC and churchwardens
- for our linked CMS mission partner Katia Rocks and her family Joanna and Davi as they develop a ministry of outreach in Brazil
- that we reflect the fruits of the Holy Spirit - love, peace, joy, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, patience, self-control and kindness

Week 4: 23rd-31st July During the week, please pray:

- for the people of Cold Ashton, its PCC, and churchwarden
- for the Benefice Ministry Team - Rev Sally Wheeler, Rev Lynne Godfrey, Rev Sharon Roberts, Andrew Gammie, Aurea Hart, and Mike Strathdee
- for our diocesan Bishop Vivienne Faull and Diocesan staff team
- for the unity of God's people and that we may show respect and understanding in our relationships with those of other faiths

A Prayer for Refugees

God creator of all, for people who are displaced, may they find a safe refuge.

For those who have lost control of their lives may they know a sure

foundation. For those who live in fear may they be given a strong fortress.

For those who are disillusioned may they have hope in a future. Loving father in times of crisis, sorrow and uncertainty we ask you to draw near

Please Note:

If you would like a prayer included in Tuesday prayer group or in this Prayer Diary, please contact Paul Sawyer, 16, Fairfield Close, Marshfield (891436)

Benefice Services for July 2023

Please note: 10.30am services can be joined on Zoom marshfieldchurch.org

Sunday 2nd July

8:30am Breakfast Church	St Mary's Marshfield	A. Gammie
9:00am Holy Communion	Holy Trinity Cold Ashton	Rev L Godfrey
10.30am Family Service	St Mary's Tormarton	A. Gammie
10.30am Morning Worship	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev L Godfrey
6:00pm. Evensong	St Mary's Marshfield	Aurea. H/ LG

Sunday 9th July

9:00am Holy Communion	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev SW/SR
10:30am Benefice Service	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev SW/SR
7:00pm The Well	St Mary's Marshfield	A. Gammie/FG

Sunday 16th July

9:00am Holy Communion	St Mary's Tormarton	Rev SW/SR
10.30am Morning Worship & KC	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev L Godfrey
4:00pm Together @4	Holy Trinity Cold Ashton	Rev SW/SR
6.00pm Holy Communion	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev SW/SR

Sunday 23rd July

9:00am Holy Communion	St James' West Littleton	Rev LG/SR
10:30am Holy Communion & KC	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev LG/SR
6:00pm Evensong	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev. SR/AH

Sunday 30th July

10:30am Benefice Holy Comm.	St Mary's Marshfield	Rev L Godfrey
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Chapel Programme for July

Sun 02	10.30am	Mike Strathdee* (Spiritual Growth)
	6.00pm	Paul Sawyer (I am the bread of life)
Sun 09	10.30am	Join with St Mary's
	6.00pm	Peter Misselbrook (I am the light of the world)
Sun 16	10.30am	Cafe Church with 4H
	6.00pm	Andrew Gammie* (I am the gate)
Sun 23	10.30am	Jason Lee (Spiritual guidance)
	6.00pm	John Schofield (I am the Good Shepherd)
Sun 30	10:30am	James Alsop (Spiritual strength)
	6.00pm	Wendy Hounsfeld (I am the resurrection)

(* Communion services - the offerings will go to Operation Mobilisation)