

TEAM NOTICES

'Come & Sing' Choral Evensong this evening, 8th June at 6.30pm in St Mary's Church. Our guest this month is David Flood, formerly of Canterbury Cathedral. *Come and Sing* event is open to all singers. Arrival at St Mary's is for a 4.00pm rehearsal start. Cups of tea are provided between the rehearsal end and the service start at 6.30pm. All Welcome. Music provided. Just come and sing!

All Saints Family Fun Day – Saturday 14th June, 2.5pm. Come and enjoy activities for all ages. With plenty of tea and cake!

Summer Fete, Sunday 15th June, 2-5pm. You are warmly invited to the garden at **The South Canonry 71 The Close, Salisbury, SP1 2ER** for the long-standing summer fete. This is the major fundraising event for the Sudan Medical Link each year. The Sudan partnership is in its 52nd year which is more important now than ever. A wonderful team of volunteers come together to provide a fun and traditional afternoon for all ages. Attractions include teas by the river, games, plants, tombola, camels, sheep and musical and dance entertainment plus more. Admission: Adults £2, children free. (*See posters for more details*)

Revd Natalie's ordination - Revd Natalie will be ordained priest in **Salisbury Cathedral** at 4.30pm on **Saturday 28th June** and will celebrate her first Eucharist on Sunday 29th June at St Mary's at 10.30am. All are very welcome to attend to support Natalie as she takes this important next step in her vocation.

Vocal consort **The Gesualdo Six** join forces with trumpeter **Matilda Lloyd** to present 'Radiant Dawn', a stunning programme that explores different shades of light through music **Thurs 3rd July at 6.30pm** in St Mary's Church, Swanage. Tickets £25; or £20 online from www.eventbrite.com.



All Things Bright and Beautiful takes place in St Mary's Church each Tuesday from 2.30pm – 3.30pm. A short service, which includes well known hymns, is followed by tea and cake. All Things Bright and Beautiful is particularly suitable for carers and those for whom they care and is dementia friendly. Is there someone who you could bring along or encourage to come? All are welcome.

On your own on a Wednesday? Or new to the area and would like to chat to others? **T-Pot is held** every Wednesday from 10.00am to 12.30pm in the Rectory Classroom. Come along for a cuppa and a chat, we'd love to see you.



Friday Fun Club – meets on Friday evenings 6.30-8pm in the Rectory Classroom for 10-13 yr olds to enjoy food, games and chat. All are welcome.

REFLECTION

Genesis 11:1-9 Acts 2:1-21 John 14:8-17

The story of the Tower of Babel told in Hebrew is odd. Why would such remarkably uncharacteristic unity on the part of humanity be met with such resistance by God that he destroys the city and scatters the people over the face of the earth? The medieval French Jewish commentator, Rashi, suggests that God is affronted by the prospect of a successful collective take-over bid. The 19th century Lithuanian commentator, Netziv, notes the repetitive rhetoric in the little story expresses a driving group-think. In a sequel, by contrast, we read of an individual, Abram, being called to leave the security of his family and city – deeply transgressive in that society - and discover God through the creation of a new family and a journey to a promised land which is never quite completed in geo-political terms. From God's command to Noah and the ark's survivors to be fruitful and fill the earth, to another exodus from the relentless making of bricks for the slave-drivers of Egypt to discover freedom in a promised land, we begin to see the Babel story contrasts totalitarianism in all its human forms as a fundamental crime against God's will – which is freedom, freedom necessarily resulting in diversity. The story of Babel reversed in *Acts* takes us back to Genesis and God's powerful speech-act which creates the world. The disciples speak God's deeds of power in the new creation of the world by the death and rising of Christ, and creation reflects that power in darkness, earthquakes and rushing wind and fire.

In the stillness of the upper room, by contrast, John weaves this all quietly into Jesus's Trinitarian expression of God's very nature. Jesus speaks of the indwelling of Father, Son and Spirit, and assures the disciples that they *know* the Spirit of truth who abides with them. If they don't believe this stupendous, impossible state of things, they need only look at Jesus's life. What he is and does through the Spirit demonstrates his truthfulness. Father, Son and Spirit are one, and if we love him, we are peaceful and at one with that Trinity of freely-giving love. Within God's many mansions, there is no driving, no compulsion, no uniformity, but a peaceful household where each may live and each may love and be loved.

Revd Terence Handley MacMath

Team Contact details

Team Rector

Team Vicar

Parish Administrator

Parish Office

Revd Dr Ian Bird Tel: 01929 422916 (normal day off Friday)

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