



**St Gregory's Church
Castlemorton
WR13 6BQ**

**NEWS 18
June 2024**

Rector (Day off Monday)	The Revd Julie James	01531 651795
Licensed Lay Minister	Michael Harper	01684 830133 / 07942 390194
Churchwardens	Mark Lister	01531 631503 / 07908 967165
	Sarah Musgrave	01684 310330 / 07715 562311
PCC Secretary	Christina Leake	01684 310409 / 07979 553074

Dear Friends

Sometimes life is difficult - things don't work out as they 'should', and we get confused; where is God in it all?

I confess that I gave up trying to second guess God a long time ago. And recently I've been captivated by a book called *Faith of our Father* by Dale Ralph Davis; it's about Abraham, who had more reason than most to be confused by his Creator. God promised him a son and heir with Sarah when he was in his eighties and did so again when he was not far off 100 - but promised that it would be 'within the year', this time. Sarah, his wife, laughed, not surprisingly; God said 'why are you laughing?' and she fibs 'I wasn't' (but she jolly well was) - and God says, well, when your son arrives, you call him Isaac (it means laughter). I love the humour!

But through this delayed fulfilment of God's promise, and other really difficult situations, Abraham learns to trust God. I believe God teaches us the same way, if we will just see lived Christian faith as a pilgrimage, a learning experience with God, no less. Sometimes we think, God and me, we can do this; no - *God* can do it, and we must just stick close to Him, especially through confusing times.

Two small encouragements. The first is a story I came across recently about a little boy who went to bed and shortly afterwards fell out. His Mum went to him and comforted him and asked what happened. Said he, 'I fell out of bed because I stayed too near where I got in'. Well, that can happen with our faith too. If we don't develop it by walking with Jesus, we can drift away from it; indeed, fall from it - but that would be a great loss to us.

The second is some lovely words from Psalm 131, and I finish with them:

O Lord, my heart is not proud, nor my eyes raised too high; I do not occupy myself with things too great, too difficult for me. But I have calmed and quieted my soul.

May our souls be like that; calmed, quieted, consoled, healed as we draw close to our Lord. I pray that especially for those who I know are experiencing trials, confusion and griefs.

Michael Harper
Licensed Lay Minister

Diary Dates

Services across the Berrow and Longdon benefices

Sunday Trinity 3	16 June	8.30am 10.30am 10.30am	BCP Holy Communion Family Communion All Age Worship	Pendock Castlemorton Berrow
Sunday Trinity 4	23 June	10.30am 10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Family Communion Kaleidoscope	Birtsmorton Longdon Castlemorton
Sunday Trinity 5	30 June	10.30am	Open Air Service followed by Summer Picnic	Berrow Churchyard
Sunday Trinity 6	7 July	8.30am 10.30am 10.30am	BCP Holy Communion Church @ The School Family Communion	Eldersfield Eldersfield School Queenhill
Sunday Trinity 7	14 July	8.30am 10.30am 6.30pm	BCP Holy Communion Holy Communion Evensong	Bushley Berrow Hollybush
Friday	19 July	2.00pm	School End of Term Service	Castlemorton
Sunday Trinity 8	21 July	8.30am 10.30am 10.30am	BCP Holy Communion All Age Worship Family Communion	Pendock Eldersfield Castlemorton
Sunday Trinity 9	28 July	10.30am 10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Family Communion Kaleidoscope	Birtsmorton Longdon Castlemorton
Sunday Trinity 10	4 August	8.30am 10.30am 10.30am	BCP Holy Communion Café Church Family Communion	Eldersfield Eldersfield School Queenhill
Sunday Trinity 11	11 August	8.30am 10.30am 6.30pm	BCP Holy Communion Holy Communion Evensong	Bushley Berrow Hollybush
Sunday Trinity 12	18 August	8.30am 10.30am 10.30am	BCP Holy Communion All Age Worship Family Communion	Pendock Eldersfield Castlemorton
Sunday Trinity 13	25 August	10.30am 10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Family Communion Kaleidoscope	Hollybush Longdon Castlemorton

Refreshments are served after most services and children's activities are provided at St Gregory's during morning services. All are very welcome.

St Gregory's Church Register

Saturday 25 May

The marriage of Christopher Dixon and Joyce ('Flick') Wiggins of St Gregory's, Castlemorton

Other Events at Castlemorton and in the wider benefice

Friday	14 June	7.30pm	<i>Songs of Nature</i> – a concert presented by The Hills Singers	Castlemorton Church
Saturday	29 June	10.30-12.30	Coffee Morning to share memories of the past – BCH Archive	Castlemorton Parish Hall
Saturday	6 July	10.00	CaCoffany!	Castlemorton
Tuesday	9 July	10.30 - 12.00	Bible Study	Thistledown Pendock
Saturday	13 July	6.00pm - 10.00pm	BBQ for all in Berrow and Longdon Benefices	Thistledown Pendock
Saturday	13 July	2.30pm onwards	Summer Shindig on the football pitch	Castlemorton Common

Castlemorton Concerts

Songs of Nature
presented by **The Hills Singers**
Director Carol Green
Piano Tim Sidford



Music by Debussy, Elgar, Josquin, Vaughan Williams, Rutter and many others

St Gregory's Church, Castlemorton
WR13 6BQ
Friday 14 June 7.30pm



Tickets £12.50 from Sarah Musgrave
01684 310330/07715 562311
Email: simusgrave33@gmail.com



Bar open throughout the evening, interval refreshments
proceeds support Maggs Day Centre

Kaleidoscope



An alternative setting of evening worship at St Gregory's on the **4th Sunday of each month** starting at 6.30pm.

Come and join us in a relaxed service which offers a blend of traditional and modern music and songs, readings and a short talk.

Sunday 23 June 2024 6.30pm



This month, Kaleidoscope will explore the ways we can draw peace and comfort from God in prayer, readings and music.

Do come along for an hour of quiet contemplation.

Summer BBQ

Saturday 13 July at Thistledown, Pendock

6.00pm – 10.00pm



Bring food to cook on the BBQ and drinks – the rest will be provided. Open to all.



'Local Entertainment in the Past'

What do you remember of entertainment at Castlemorton Parish Hall in the past? Do you remember dances at Hollybush Church Room? Or even whist drives at Coombe Green Mission Room? Or pram races at the Farmers Arms? Come and share memories (plus photos & memorabilia if you have them) at:

A COFFEE MORNING

on Saturday, June 29th, 10.30-12.30
at Castlemorton Parish Hall.

Alternatively, just come and enjoy refreshments and browse all our archive material.

Our Journals will be on sale.

FREE ENTRY - ALL WELCOME!

Parish News

Parishioners and friends have been shocked and deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Cecily Howick's daughter Jen and her granddaughter Agnes Lily earlier this month. Our thoughts and prayers are very much with Rob, Jen's husband, Rudy, their little boy, and Cecily and her family. They have requested that they may be kept in our hearts but ask us to respect their privacy at this very sad time.

RIP

Jennifer Rose Cahill (née Howick)

21 June 1989 - 4 June 2024

Agnes Lily Cahill

3 June 2024 - 7 June 2024

