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Churchwardens

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Services

5th 11:00am Holy Communion

12th 9:30am Sunday School

19th 11:00am Service at St Peter's

26th 11:00am Service at St Peter's

(1:00pm Baptism in St Michael's)





Childs Ercall APCM will be taking place on

May 23rd at 7.30pm

Childs Ercall Church

All very welcome to attend



May 2024 Clergy Letter



When I last wrote in March, I was anticipating the birth of my first grandchild. Little Levi William kept us all waiting. He was due on March 13th and finally arrived on the 23rd; fit, healthy and eagerly taking in this new strange world and the faces smiling down on him. My son said how difficult he found those 10 days of waiting; not knowing how or when things would happen; struggling to concentrate on the everyday demands of ministry in his 3 Cumbrian parishes. For first-time parents it is truly a paradigm shift when new life arrives; a couple walk into the hospital and a family walk out... life will never be the same!

This month we celebrate 2 church festivals: Ascension and Pentecost, also known as 'Whit Sunday'. Ascension occurs 40 days after Easter and marks Jesus' return to his Father in heaven. Before he left his disciples, he instructed them, "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptised with water, but in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit." (Acts 1:4-5). He had indeed talked about the Holy Spirit at the Last Supper. He described the Spirit as a Counsellor and a Comforter, who would guide them into truth, remind them of his teaching and be God's presence within them. After Jesus' ascension, the disciples including the women and Jesus' mother and brothers gathered in the Upper Room to watch, wait and pray. For how long? – they did not know.

Ten days later at Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came as a rushing wind and tongues of fire. It brought such a change that these disciples would never be the same – new life; new spiritual life welled-up inside them and overflowed in word and deed to the world. They were bound in a closer fellowship or family. The church was born. The Holy Spirit works in 3 main ways in a believers' life, it draws us closer to God as our Father 'Abba'; it builds relationship between believers despite our differences, and it sends us out to witness to the world; to show and tell the Good News of God's forgiveness and love.

The 10 days between Ascension (May 9th) and Pentecost (Sunday 19th) have become a time of waiting on God and praying for a fresh gift of his Spirit. We try consciously to bring ourselves, our family, friends and community before God and simply pray in the words of the Lord's Prayer, 'Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.'

Wherever you are – at home, at work or at church – we invite you to join us in this simple prayer. More things are changed by prayer than this world dreams of.

Rev Becky, 22/4/24



Church Open

We are very lucky here at Childs Ercall to have the church open daily from 10.00 – 4.00 pm for everyone to enjoy. We would like to thank all those who make this possible

foodbank The Food Bank collection point is in the church porch. All donations gratefully received

The food left with us is sent on to Market Drayton where it is distributed back to local families

LADYBIRD FACTS

Ladybird, ladybird fly away home......

There are about 5,000 different species of ladybirds worldwide and in many cultures they're considered good luck. They come in many different colours and patterns, but the most familiar in the UK is the seven-spot ladybird, which has a shiny, red-and-black body. Most people like ladybirds because they are pretty, graceful and harmless to humans. But farmers love them because they eat aphids and other plant-eating pests. And boy do they eat — in it's year-long life, a single seven-spot ladybird can gobble more than 5000 aphids! The ladybird's bright colours act as an important defence mechanism, warning animals they'd best not eat them. When threatened, the bugs secrete an oily, yukky, yellow fluid from joints in their legs — and their colouring acts a reminder to any peckish predators who've eaten their kind before that they taste disgusting! Seven-spot ladybirds are native to Europe but were introduced to North America in the mid-1900s to control aphid populations. These incredible insects are happy in many different habitats, including grasslands, forests, cities, suburbs and along rivers. During spring and summer, when they are most active, these incredible insects can be seen fluttering around or walking on the leaves of plants. But when the weather turns colder in autumn, they look for a warm, secluded place to hibernate, such as in rotting logs, under rocks or even inside houses. They like to group together, too, and these hibernating colonies can sometimes contain thousands of ladybirds!



FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

16th September 2024

Horse Dog and Agricultural Show

Plus bar by the Club to continue the show into the night

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Saturday 28th September 10:30-3pm
Forest Church Away Day
At Hodnet Hall Gardens

#### **Sunday School**

Anyone can come to Sunday School we have a great group of people and love for more to join. Our next Sunday School will be in Church on

12th May at 9:30am

### Jubilee Hall 2024 Events Calendar

- 11th May Quiz Night
- 17th May An Evening at the Theatre
- 22nd June Quiz Night
- 6th July Party in the Park Free Event
- 7th September Bollywood Night
- 19th October OktoberFest Band & Dinner
- 7th December Christmas Dinner Dance
- 14th December Breakfast with Santa

For tickets contact childsercallca@gmail.com



Thank you to all our friends who have joined or have continued to be part of this fund raising for the church. We now have all spaces filled, have donated over £500 the church.

The first draw will take place soon.

Each month over 230 houses receive the Newsletter and I would like to thank all those who make this possible. If you would like to volunteer or have any thing you would like to add in the Newsletter – special Birthday, or announcements you wish to share with everyone, please contact Gill Mellor and we will ensure it is added.

## May 2024

| Church                      | 5th May               | 12 <sup>th</sup> May  | 19th May              | 26th May                |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
|                             | Easter 6              | Easter 7              | Pentecost             | <b>Trinity Sunday</b>   |
|                             | Acts 10:44-the end    | Acts 1:15-17          | Acts 2:1-21           | Isaiah 6:1-8            |
|                             | John 15:9-17          | John 17:6-19          | Jn 15:26-27, 16:4b-15 | John 3:1-17             |
| St Peter<br>Stoke on Tern   |                       | 11 am                 | 11.00am               | 11 am                   |
|                             |                       | Café church           | Holy Communion        | <b>Morning Prayer</b>   |
|                             |                       | <b>Rob Richards</b>   | Rev B Richards        | <b>Brian Hatton</b>     |
| St Michael<br>Childs Ercall | 11.00am               | 9.30am                |                       | 1:00 pm                 |
|                             | <b>Holy Communion</b> | <b>Sunday School</b>  |                       | Baptism                 |
|                             | Rev B Richards        | Lay lead              |                       | Rev C Simpson           |
| St Luke<br>Sambrook         | 9.30am                |                       | 9.30am                | =                       |
|                             | Holy Communion        |                       | Village Service       |                         |
|                             | Rev B Richards        |                       | Lay lead              |                         |
| St Oswald<br>Hinstock       |                       | 10.00am               | 10.00am               | 10.00am                 |
|                             |                       | Café Church           | Holy Communion        | <b>Morning Prayer</b>   |
|                             |                       | <b>Rob Richards</b>   | Rev B Richards        | Lay lead                |
| St Swithun<br>Cheswardine   | 10.00am               | 10.00am               | 10.00am               | 6.00pm                  |
|                             | Morning Worship       | <b>Holy Communion</b> | <b>Family Worship</b> | Evensong                |
|                             | Barney Reeve          | Rev B Richards        | Rob Richards          | John Naylor             |
| St Mary<br>Hales            | 6.00pm                |                       |                       | 10.00am                 |
|                             | Evensong              |                       |                       | <b>Holy Communion</b>   |
|                             | Barney Reeve          |                       |                       | Rev C Simpson           |
| St Lukes<br>Hodnet          | 11.00                 | 11.00am               | 11.00am               | 11.00am                 |
|                             | Morning Prayer        | Holy Communion        | Holy Communion        | <b>Morning Prayer</b>   |
|                             | Janice Parker         | Rev B Richards        | Rev C Simpson (P)     | Janice Parker           |
| The Epiphany<br>Peplow      |                       | 6.30pm                |                       | 11.00am                 |
|                             |                       | Evensong              |                       | <b>Holy Communion</b>   |
|                             |                       | Rev B Richards        |                       | <b>Rev Janet Holmes</b> |

<sup>\*</sup>Family Worship Theme: Crossing the Red Sea (God's guidance and protection)

#### WEEKDAY SERVICES IN THE MONTH

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion St Peters, Stoke on Tern 9.30am - Rev C Simpson Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Holy Communion St Swithuns, Cheswardine 10.00am -Rev B Richards

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Childs Ercall Morning Prayers—Every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month. All Welcome



April Riddle: I'm as small as an ant, as big as a whale. I'll approach like a breeze but can come like a gale. By some, I get hit, but all have shown fear. I'll dance to the music, though I can't hear. Of names, I have many, of names I have one. I'm as slow as a snail, but from me, you can't run.

May Riddle
What do Alexander the Great and Winnie the Pooh have in common?



