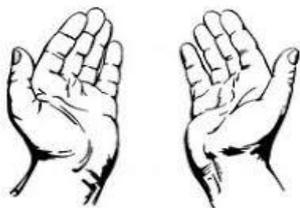


Information for the Parish of Hellesdon St. Mary's, St. Michael's and St. Paul's

Coryn Stanforth writes ...

You would probably think a BAP was a bread roll, something to be transformed with the addition of a burger or a sandwich filling. However BAP is also an abbreviation for a Bishop's Advisory Panel (for training for ordained ministry) which was what I attended in June. I travelled to Woking where a gruelling three days lay ahead of me.

The whole panel is set within a framework of prayer and worship but is unbelievably intense. Among other things you have to give a presentation, chair a group discussion and then summarise the discussion. I based my presentation on our 40 days of prayer during Lent last year. You also have three fifty minute interviews where the intense questions demand much thought and real honesty.



Finally you have to write a letter in response to a difficult pastoral situation. The advisors really get to see the best and worst of you. I felt I was myself and the advisors understood me. It is made harder by the fact that you are observed throughout the whole process.

I felt very much held in prayer throughout the three days. You are not in competition with the other candidates.

Late on the Wednesday afternoon I travelled back home ready to put the whole process in God's hands. The following weekend I was at Belsey Bridge conference centre with my Readers in training and Ordinands assessing preaching. I had no choice but to lay the decision making in God's hands. I received a text from the Diocesan Director of Ordinands on the following Thursday to tell me the report had arrived. Finally on the Friday, 9 days later Bishop Jonathan phoned me to tell me I had been recommended for training

As many of you have been aware this has been a lengthy process for me. One of the things I have learned is that our whole idea of time is very different to God's understanding of time and sometimes we just have to leave things in God's hands however difficult that may be. The last few years have been an amazing time for me to experience personal growth as well. This is partly due to the warmth of welcome you have all shown me in Hellesdon. In particular training and mentoring the AWAs and the opportunity to begin funeral ministry are some highlights.

Also there have been opportunities about how to meet with God in different ways such as through Café Church, the forty days of prayer and in home communions. Working with such a supportive incumbent as Louise has really been key and I have realised the importance of collaborative ministry.

God though had other plans for my life. I have realised that part of my priestly vocation will be linked to education. Doors have opened over the last few years to work with the training of Readers in training and Ordinands. As well as mentoring Readers in training I have been able to teach course modules such as preaching.



Over the past few weeks I have become increasingly aware that I need to place the journey and myself in God's hands. This is quite difficult for somebody who likes to be planned, independent and in control...

So I go to Westcott House in Cambridge on Sunday 23rd September. I will be resident there Monday to Friday and back home at weekends. I know I am likely to do some placements in Norwich diocese but nothing has been decided on this. I hope to be back to visit you all at some points during the next two years.



Please can you pray that I am able to put my trust in God for the next stage of the journey, that I may settle into Westcott House and quickly make friends as well as prayers for safe travelling? (I will be racking up quite a number of miles!)

Information and dates for our Parish Harvest Celebrations

St. Mary's Harvest Thanksgiving - 23rd September 11:00 am

St. Paul's Harvest Thanksgiving - 14th October 9:30 am

Parish Holy Communion with Harvest Praise - Sunday 7th October 10:00 am at St. Mary's

Harvest Lunch - Sunday 7th October at St Mary's 12 noon (after coffee)



Food gifts for Food Bank, donations to Toilet Twinning
(Gift Aid envelopes will be in church).

Mothers' Union

2:30 pm
St. Paul's Church

Tuesday 11th September

Speaker: Mr. Howard Norton

St. Paul's Wives Fellowship

2:00pm
St. Paul's Church

Wednesday 5th September

*A.G.M. with 40th Anniversary Service
&
Beetle Drive*

Parish Services

Sunday 2nd September
10:00 am
St. Paul's
Holy Communion



Sunday 30th September
3:00 pm
St. Mary's
Holy Communion



Sunday 7th October
10:00 am
St. Mary's
Holy Communion

The late Reverend Philip Brown

Back in March we heard the sad news that Reverend Philip Brown, who was Vicar in Hellesdon from the mid 1960s into the 1970s, had died at the age of 87. The members of our congregation who remember him decided that they would like to make a donation in his memory. A collection was taken and a donation of £65 was sent to St Michael's Church, Teignmouth as requested by his family.

The Psalms

Psalm 133

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe.

It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion.

For there the LORD bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.

Marlpit Community Choir

The choir will be performing at
St. Mary's Coffee Morning on Saturday 6th October 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Prayer Triplets

As you meet together to pray this month, please consider the following:-

Teachers and children as they return to school

The "Toilet Twinning" initiative

For all those involved in "Sharing the Journey".

Men's Breakfast Saturday 6th October

9:00 am
The Oaks, Cromer Road

Please bring a friend or a neighbour!



A Fairtrade Update

Fantastic news:

The Traidcraft Exchange appeal this year was entitled “Hidden Entrepreneurs”. It aimed to raise funds to support entrepreneurs (not necessarily wearing suits and driving flash cars) and our Big Brew/Church Sale event way back in early February supported this appeal. The appeal has been nationwide and also fund matched by the government and the final amount (not yet including Gift Aid) is an incredible

£1,097, 060



Yes that really is One million, Ninety Seven thousand and sixty pounds!!!!

This money will fund business skills training sessions, help fund new tools and equipment, give training on reaching new markets and diversifying income and will help to set up farmers and artisan groups who can lobby for fairer contracts and better working conditions.

Also, a massive thank you to all those who support our Traidcraft stall on a regular basis **all year round**. It really does make a massive difference. As well as actually buying the products we were also able to give our half yearly profit of £58 to church funds.

Now, I know you'll hate me for this but 'autumn' is just round the corner and, while I won't mention the actual word, those 'festive' gifts and cards may be ordered soon!!!!.

Thank you again and please keep on supporting the work of Traidcraft: Fair trade for all.

If you would like any other information, you can contact us on

lou.ogradey1@gmail.com or 01603 405550

Lou and Kevin O'Grady

Please pray for

Robert Wilson and Eleanor Rodd who marry in Eaton, Norwich on 1st September

Matthew Whiffin and Alice Corder who marry Alive, Nelson Street, Norwich on 1st September

and

Tony Warnes and Stephanie Chapman who marry at St Mary's on 22nd September