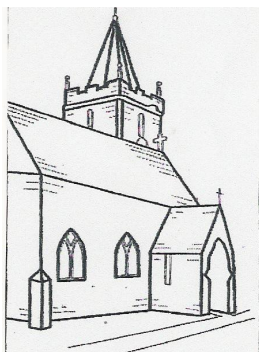


FREE PARISH NEWS



Rector:	Revd Richard Hall	(872275)
Curate:	Revd Dr Catherine Sourbut	(874459)
Reader:	Anthony Acton	(873955)
Wardens:	Anthony Birts	(873815)
	Debbie Parfrey	(873887)
PCC Treasurer:	David Parfrey	(873887)

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ALL SAINTS, CORSTON

DIARY

MARCH

Thursday	4 th	9.00am 10.30am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Corston/Newton Lent Course, Corston Church
Saturday	6 th	10.30am	Corston Village Market
Sunday	7 th	11.15am	Family Communion
Wednesday	10 th	12.00-1.30pm 7.30pm	Soup and Sweet Lunch, Corston Village Hall Corston PCC meets in church
Thursday	11 th	9.00am 10.30am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Corston/Newton Lent Course, Newton Church Room
Saturday	13 th	6.00pm	Beetle Drive, Corston Village Hall
Sunday	14 th	11.15am 4.00pm	Family Service for Mothering Sunday Parish Communion
Thursday	18 th	9.00am 10.30am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Corston/Newton Lent Course, Corston Church
Sunday	21 st	11.15am 4.00pm	Family Service Prayer Book Evensong (lay-led)
Thursday	25 th	9.00am 10.30am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Corston/Newton Lent Course, Newton Church Room
Sunday	28 th	8.00am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Evensong – Isaac Watts Service
Tuesday	30 th	9.00pm	Compline

APRIL

Thursday	1 st	9.00am 10.30am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Special service for Maundy Thursday – <i>for details see overleaf</i>
Friday	2 nd	10.30am	Morning Service for Good Friday
Saturday	3 rd	10.30am	Corston Village Market
Easter Day	4 th	10.30am 11.15am	Short service of Holy Communion, followed by Family Service with Easter Bonnet Parade

CORSTON BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Corston Bible Study Group hopes to meet again in late April/May. For further details see next month's magazine.

BEETLE DRIVE – in aid of Village Hall Funds

Saturday, 13th March, at 6.00pm

Venue: Corston Village Hall

HAITI DISASTER APPEAL

On a grey wet afternoon in January, Buzz Club Mums and Helpers set up a stall outside the Village Shop ("Thank you" Glenys and Jim), to raise money for the Haiti Appeal. This was achieved with just a few days notice and the response was great. We had a table groaning with delicious homemade goodies to sell and people bought the lot, as well as giving donations.

Our final total was £500

Someone remarked it was a pity it was raining and we were getting wet. We all knew, after seeing the pictures from Haiti, how lucky we were to be in our village. Thank you all.

RE-ORDERING IN CHURCH

At the end of January we removed, under our Temporary Licence, the chancel pews. The work was carried out by our local craftsman, Kevin Ashman, together with his son, Michael.

Anyone who lives in an old property or has watched Grand Designs on the television will know that working on an old building can be challenging and interesting at the same time. So it has proved to be in our church. When the pews were removed, the floors were not solid but boarded. These boards were found to be unsafe and the supporting beams underneath were rotten. Boards and beams had to be removed and we are lucky in many respects that this was discovered before the situation worsened.

The reason for the floor boarding is that, under each side of the chancel, there is a void. The Church Architect believes these are Victorian reverberation chambers created to improve the acoustics of the choir. These chambers are, therefore, part of the archaeology of the church and when we re-board over them we hope to provide access for viewing. At some future date, a glass floor panel may be introduced. At the time of writing, the Architects have produced a design for rebuilding the floor and Kevin has commenced the first stages of reconstruction. T.R.

THE NIGHT BEFORE

Jesus was executed by crucifixion, he spent a final evening with his closest friends. During it, he washed their feet, a task usually only performed by the most menial of servants: he gave them a new commandment "*Love one another*". It is from *mandatum*, the Latin for commandment, that the word Maundy is derived. This year **Maundy Thursday** is on 1st April.

On that night at 7.30pm, in Corston Church, we shall remember, reflect on and seek to enter into the experience of the disciples that evening. We use three different parts of the building to focus on the three different phases of that night. We begin in the Nave where we symbolically wash one another's hands as we recall Jesus' instruction "*Do to others as I have done to you*". Then we move into the Chancel, the Upper Room, where we gather to eat the Bread and sip the Wine, as we recall His words "*Do this in remembrance of me*". After this re-enactment of the Last Supper, we sing a hymn, as the disciples did as they left, and move to the side chapel, the Garden of Gethsemane: we listen and watch and recall Jesus praying until the soldiers, with Judas, come to arrest him. We leave in silence.

The Maundy Thursday service is very moving and each year has seen more people coming and valuing it. It is a good preparation for our observance of **Good Friday**.

This service is not just for Corston and Newton but for anyone who would like to come.

Canon George Farran

"ISAAC WATTS" SERVICE

On 28th March, which is Palm Sunday, our Evensong will be a celebration of the work of the famous hymn-writer, Isaac Watts, who wrote some of our favourite hymns, including appropriately enough, "When I survey the wondrous cross". Do come and join us.

Would you please note that, as British Summer Time commences that day, our evening services will revert to 6.30pm.