



The West Hereford Team Ministry  
The Team Office, Vowles Close, Hereford,  
HR40DF 01432 273086 / [www.westherefordteam.org.uk](http://www.westherefordteam.org.uk)

Hello everyone,

Last week we promised to give you as up to date as possible with the services scheduled for the Autumn, and this week we would like to keep you as updated as possible about other happenings across the Team. We realise how removed some of you must be feeling from church at present and it is our hope that the updates below enable a bit more connection to be felt. Of course almost all of the regular events have not taken place, but there have been groups of people working hard behind the scenes to move forward with a few items. If you have any thoughts, comments or questions about any of these, please do let us know and we would be glad to feed them into the groups responsible. And finally, please pray for all of these groups and their work!

In your mailing this week you will find the weekly readings, intercessions, the Team intercessions list, plus 2 sermons; 1 from The Rev'd Dr Jacky Sewell for this Sunday, and 1 from Bishop David for Holy Cross Day on Monday 14th September.

Don't forget you can ask for a chat, or prayer, by phoning 01432 273086 or your Pastoral Coordinator.

We hope these resources help you feel connected as we worship as a scattered Church. And as we hear of potential changes in restrictions again, please do stay safe and well!

God Bless,

Ruth and Jo

### **Updates:**

Last week we told you about the **Special Services Planning Group** that would help to enable us to celebrate the many upcoming festivals as faithfully and creatively as possible. The group met this week and:

'...had a really good meeting looking at which festivals were highly valued by each church, and what was possible under current restrictions so that each church was able to celebrate what was dear to them. Next meeting we will look at the Plan B, should restrictions tighten and we have to think more creatively.'

*Chair: Bishop David Thomson. Members: Janine Vince, Abi Weller, Jane Hayes, Jackie Mumford, Chris Webb, Nicky Geeson. Reader: Stuart Vince, Clergy: Ruth Hulse and Jo Burden*

## **Church at the Crossroads (St. Nicholas' )**

You will probably be aware that for some time the PCC at St. Nicholas' has been giving consideration to ways in which we might secure a future for our church buildings

We always have been outward looking and are keen to ensure that anything we might do by way of re-ordering of the church or redevelopment has an emphasis on reaching out to our local community and making our faith relevant for the community we witness to and serve.

Our 'project' has been bubbling away slowly for a while, not helped by the Covid-19 pandemic!

Suddenly however a possible opportunity has arisen which has given a bit of oomph to The Church at the Crossroads!

A central government initiative, known as the 'Towns Fund' is making large sums of money available to revitalise certain towns and cities in the UK. Hereford is one of the chosen places. Herefordshire Council are charged with administering the scheme, and bids for funding need to be submitted to them by the start of January 2021.

We have swung into action. Meetings have been held with a potential partner, several Diocesan officers, including the Diocesan Surveyor and a local architect has agreed to assist us.

It's a fast moving story and we would like to ask you to pray for all involved and who will become involved. We pray for God's guidance as to the form that this initiative takes, for wisdom and fortitude!

When more details can be given we will update everyone and make sure that different views are taken into account.

*Chris Webb and Denise Bradley-Lloyd*

### **Updates continued:**

## **Progress on the vacancy for our new Rector for West Hereford Benefice**

The ten Parish Representatives along with Ruth, and with the occasional advice of the Archdeacon and a representative of Crown appointments at the Cabinet Office no less, have been beaver-ing away. We must have had some 12 or more Zoom meetings but no physical meetings.

We now have drafts of the West Hereford Benefice Profile, the qualities we would like to see in a new Rector and priest, and the individual Parish Profiles for each of our four churches: All Saints, Holy Trinity, St Nicholas' and St Michael's. Current drafts are being presented to each of the four PCCs for comment. The intention is that the drafts will be freely available to all at the Annual Parochial Church Meetings.

Our discussions have ranged from the sense in which West Hereford is or can be a team, through the fact that we are four diverse churches, to the issue of a mission or vision that might attract good candidates. All the individual Parish Profiles are now in draft form and nothing has been finalised.

The Diocese has arranged the interviews for Thursday 21st January 2021 with a Parish Orientation day on the 20th January. We know. It seems to be taking forever! Covid 19 has not helped. The vacancy will be advertised in late November with shortlisting early January. If you would like to know more or have comments at this stage do not hesitate to speak to the parish representatives. We all welcome your views. We are there to represent them.

*Richard Glasspoole, Peter Hallybone, Robin Richmond, Grahame Sherfield, Bruce Wallace, Paul Tompkins, Denise Bradley-Lloyd, Ed Helgeson, Nick Rynn, Jon Weller*