

All Saints' and St. Luke's Parish Page



Dear Friends,

At last some warmth with the sunshine, and what a pleasure it is to see nature blossoming all around us! The longer days and warmth herald the beginnings of summer, and what a joy to welcome back the swallows, swifts and our other annual visitors! It all helps my soul to 'sing'!

Soul health is really important – that inner part of us, the core of who we are. Often modern ways of living deny that part of our being the space and freedom to grow and blossom. The hectic busyness of life, the scheduling of every moment of every day, trying to squeeze in time for work, family, leisure – the 'Blackberry' ever ready to call us to our next scheduled event.

Sometimes we can lose ourselves in the process, forget who we really are, our identity found in what we do and seek to achieve, rather than in that still small voice of our inner being, our spirit.

The Christian faith recognises that our soul matters – you and I matter – and yes – matter to God, as well as those closest to us. God's Spirit longs to meet with our spirit, but does so at our invitation. God's Spirit searches, is like the wind, is like fire, is personal and very real.

May is the month the Christian Church celebrates God's Spirit coming and touching ordinary people who seek to follow, however hesitantly, the path of Christ. Pentecost is the birthday of the Church – and we celebrate this together on Sunday May 23rd.

Soul health really matters. May this year be the year when we allow our souls to 'sing' and 'breathe' and 'dance' in the joy and freedom of God's Spirit!

With my warmest greetings

Revd Richard Zair

Prayer of the Month:

Almighty God,
thank you for sending your Spirit on that first Pentecost,
and for His work in your world even today.

Thank you that our souls matter to You, and that soul health is of real importance to You – that we matter to You.

Help us this Pentecost to welcome your Spirit in to our lives, so that He can breathe new life into the core of our being, of my being. Come Holy Spirit, come!

In Jesus' name.

Amen.

MAY calendar:

May 1st: 8.00am Men's breakfast at the Sports and Social Club

May 13th: Ascension Day Holy Communion 8.00pm

May 16th: Garford Café Church 9.30am

May 23rd: PENTECOST

May 30th: Trinity Sunday

The first Garford Café Church will be held in Garford village hall on May 16th. Newspapers, bacon butties and good company will be on offer from 9.30 am – so please come along and join us.

Parish Diary:

This summer we are very pleased that we can continue with improvements to All Saints' and St. Luke's churches, including redecoration. This will necessitate some moving of furniture, and possibly some internal rearrangements. Please be patient whilst this work is proceeding, and our apologies for any inconvenience whilst the work is taking place.

Parish People:

The wedding of David Smout and Tamsin Didcock was celebrated at All Saints' on 17th April.

Regular services:

Sundays at All Saints': 10am and 6pm
(8am first Sunday)

Wednesdays: 10.30am Holy Communion
at Duffield Place

Sundays at St. Luke's: 10.30 am on the first
Sunday of the month

Contacts:

Rev. Richard Zair 391319

Jill Rowe *Youth and Children's Minister* 390885

Chris Nutman *Churchwarden* 01235 521698

Janey Cumber *Administrator* 391327

Jenny Warwick *PCC Secretary* 392076