# NOTICES & NEWS

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### Worship in Church and Online Preachers and readings for Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June

2 Kings 2: 1-2, 6-14;

Psalm 77: 1-2, 11-20; Galatians 5: 1, 13-15;

Luke 9: 51-62

### Worship in Church: 10.30am

(Junior Church sessions are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday each month at 10.30am

June 29thJayne WebJuly 6thRussell BuleyJuly 13thRev John McNeill HCJuly 20thRev Ian Yates

Flowers in church this week have been kindly provided by Mr M Trigg

### Weekly Programme

#### Monday:

 Badminton Club
 9.30-11.30am

 Carers Coffee Morning
 10.30-11.30am

 (3rd Mon)
 2.30pm

 Friendship Club (2ndMon)
 2.30pm

 BB&GA Anchors/Juniors
 5.30-8.00pm

 (termtime)
 Welcome Cafe (termtime)
 5.30-8.15pm

 Monday Makers
 7.30-9.30pm
 Tuesday:

 JellyTotz
 10-11.30am

JUILY I ULL	10-11.50am
Parents & Toddlers	(termtime)
Men's Social (2nd Tue)	10-12noon
Step"n"Style (termtime)	4-8.30pm
Wednesday:	
Welcome Cafe	10-12noon
Welcome Garden	10-12noon
Supastrikers(termtime) 1.30-2.15pm	
Thursday:	
Welcome Cafe	10 – 12noon
Craft Group	10 - 12noon
BB&GA Company	7-10.00pm
	(termtime)
Friday:	
Friday Lunch Club	2nd&4th Fri
Saturday:	
Welcome Cafe (1st & 3rd of month)	10-12noon

Foodbank – The collection crate is available in the church entrance every week.

June 28<sup>th</sup> July 12<sup>th</sup> Sept 27<sup>th</sup> Church & PFA Events 2025 Strawberry Fayre – BB&GA Model Railway Exhibition Jumble Sale (PFA)

## The Chosen Study Group

This week was the final episode of Season 3 of The Chosen. There will then be a break for the summer and Season 4 will start in the autumn.

## Noel & Elaine Sharp - Update

During a recent trip "up north", Ron and Elaine called in to see Noel and Elaine Sharp in Hoylake.

The manse is a 2 minute walk from the promenade and a 10 minute walk from a sand dune restoration area where Elaine volunteers (needless to say the manse garden is mainly sand - not ideal for a keen gardener). There's not really a beach in Hoylake but you can see the sea. Elaine spends some of her time teaching online and some time looking after Tom and Natalie's daughter, Evelyn, who is 3 (they live in Liverpool). The rest of the family are all fine - Anna and husband live in Leicester and Matt in Stroud. Noel has 4 churches to look after directly and is also the Wirral circuit superintendent, so is very busy.

# Worship – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE: Sunday 29th June.**

Jane Webb, Co-chair of our Circuit, will be leading us in worship, joining us for lunch and leading us in a FULL CHURCH discussion on, **'Our way forward as a church'**. Everyone from our church family is invited to attend for the day. This is an important opportunity to bring ideas, thoughts and to discuss our future as HMC. Please place your name on the list on the hall notice board if you intend to stay for our jacket potato lunch. We look forward to seeing as many of you who can come. The Stewards

## **Emergency Contact Details**

The following was discussed at a recent Church Council (CC) Meeting in view of several instances in church when people had medical problems. Luckily, we were able to obtain contact details to inform relatives.

The following request was announced in church last Sunday:

As we now have many older people in the congregation who live on their own, CC felt it would be helpful if people had written emergency contact information with them when attending church (this is always good practice anyway). It simply needs to be a slip of paper kept in a purse/wallet or handbag. This would be in addition to any other ID, which does not identify next of kin.

## **Open the Book**

Elaine reports.....

It was our last Open the Book of the school year today so we had some photos taken. I thought we could run a competition to guess the story but our flammable barbecue basket isn't much of a clue! It was the Ascension. Thanks to his Hartpury driving schedule, Mark has managed to be Jesus for the Last Supper, the Crucifixion, Resurrection and Ascension. Let's hope it doesn't go to his head.... Stewart has been an angel before, but this was his first time in tinsel. (Without enlarging the photo it looks like he's got a new curly hairstyle.)



Editor: The things we do to spread the word of Christ. It suits you Sir



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Dear Friends of Gloucester Foodbank

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Vicky Ranford, and I'm writing to introduce myself as the newest member of the team here at Gloucester Foodbank, having recently been appointed as Director.

First, please accept my apologies for the delay in reaching out. Since starting, I've been focused on understanding how everything works behind the scenes, getting to know our dedicated in-house team, and ensuring that the day-to-day operations continue to run smoothly.

A little about me: I previously founded the Quedgeley Community Pantry and Community Garden, both rooted in the values of dignity, access, and community. I also sit on Quedgeley Town Council and recently completed a Business and Management degree at the University of Gloucestershire – all while raising my two young sons, aged 5 and 6.

I'm deeply passionate about tackling food poverty – an issue I believe is nothing short of a national disgrace. It's unacceptable that so many families in our community are forced to choose between heating and eating. That belief is what drives me, and it's why I'm committed to ensuring that Gloucester Foodbank continues to provide support for those in genuine crisis.

Since joining the Foodbank, I've had to make a number of difficult but necessary decisions to safeguard our long-term future. These include:

- Stopping deliveries to allow better resource management
- Capping food vouchers to keep support sustainable
- Mandating engagement with our Financial Inclusion Team to ensure clients receive holistic support

I want to be clear: these changes are not about preventing people from accessing food – they are about ensuring our limited resources are focused where the need is greatest, so we can continue supporting people in crisis for years to come.

We are entering a necessary period of change, with the goal of:

- Increasing community engagement
- Streamlining resources
- And securing the funding and focus needed to support those who truly need us

To all of you – our stakeholders, partners, volunteers and supporters – thank you for standing with us. Your continued support is vital as we move forward.

If you have questions, ideas, or would simply like to connect, please don't hesitate to get in touch. My door is always open.

With warm regards, Vicky

