

Westfield Notices

Home groups Wednesdays every week 7:30pm @ Cathy and Howard's Cockmartins Farm or Dawn and Jez @ Apple Tree Down.

Prayer Group 1st, 3rd (and 5th when there is one) Tuesdays 7:30pm @ Cathy and Howard's Cockmartins Farm.

Youth Church Zoom 1st and 3rd Saturdays 4pm.
Email kathyandericdarvill@gmail.com for an invitation.

Messy Church 2nd Saturday in the month at 3pm in the church hall. (so October's is today!)

Parents, Toddlers and Babies every Wednesday in church 1.30-3pm

Guestling Notices

Choir Practice Dates

October 21st and November 11th and 25th.

STOP PRESS

Lady Mary Ashburnham's Memorial Service

at St Laurence's will be on Tuesday 26th October at 2pm.

Our new web-site is now live

Thank you to Rev'd John Burgess for all his work on our new website for Guestling Church.

<https://www.guestlingchurch.org.uk> (control and click)

Rev Joy Collins, Priest in Charge of Westfield and Guestling

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THE BENEFICE OF WESTFIELD AND GUESTLING

A letter from Rev Joy 10th October 19th after Trinity

This is one of our more recent arrivals joining our family of houseplants. It's a Cape Primrose or Streptocarpus called Falling Stars and has lovely lavender blue flowers which match the paler walls of our sitting room.

It's Friday lunch-time and I'm just catching my breath (and some food) before returning to Guestling church this afternoon. Guestling Bradshaw School had their first whole school assembly since lock-

down this morning to celebrate Harvest. It was an uplifting occasion—Molly's piano sounded wonderful as Mrs Andrews played, the children's singing was as good as always and the prayers and readings by the children all hit the spot. Meriel talked about Farm Africa with a spade and a sprouting potato as some of her visual aids. I talked about Seaview and its work with the homeless. There was a marvellous spread of harvest gifts generously donated by the children and their parents and we have transported them to church where they will raise funds for both charities and also provide Seaview with produce and supplies for their kitchen and the food-bank they run for their clients. Thanks are due to Neil, Gaye, Ken and Beryl and Meriel for their help with the transportation and to Logan and some year 6's who helped pack bags and boxes and carry them out to the cars. Sainsbury's would



have been proud of us all! I've also had a call from Westfield School inviting me to attend their Harvest Assembly later this month - another celebration. I'm so sorry I missed Westfield's Harvest Service but I'm making up for it now! Home now after helping out a bit at Guestling this afternoon. The church looked good and the flower ladies and Bill did a great job. I got to sit in the sun on my favourite bench while I waited for my cab. It was glorious! I hope you too have had some opportunities for a bit of R and R this week.

This comes with my love and prayers for you all, Joy

Westfield Church Services

Sunday 10th October Trinity 19

8.30am BCP Communion

10am Morning Praise

Wednesday 13th October

9.30 Holy Communion

1.30-3pm Parents and Toddlers in Church

Friday 15th October

11am **Funeral of John Chittenden**

Sunday 17th October Trinity 20

8.30am BCP Communion

10am Holy Communion

Guestling Church Services

Sunday 10th October HARVEST

11am **Holy Communion**

FARM AFRICA auction and Harvest Lunch afterwards

Saturday 16th October

2.30pm **Baptism of Rupert and Myrtle Tannett**

Sunday 17th October

11am **Morning Praise in Church—thank you to Ken who is now well enough to minister in church**

Animals are portrayed as fellow creatures of the earth, and once befriended, they become helpers to the saints. . . . In telling the stories of their saints, Celtic hagiographers sought to teach lessons, reinforcing a perspective that humans and animals are all related to one another, and that we are meant to enjoy each other's company as well as alleviate each other's pain. . . .

Ciaran of Clonmacnoise had a fox who acted as a sort of mail carrier between him and another monk. . . . Ciaran of Saighir . . . had his monastery built with the help of animals "as if they had been his monks" . . . St. Colman's monastic inhabitants—a rooster, a mouse, and a fly—ministered to him. . . . Otters ministered to Cuthbert when he spent a night in the cold ocean waters praying, by warming his cold feet with their breath, even drying them with their fur. A bear helped Gall build a fire when the saint had twisted his ankle in a fall; a white bird guided Brendan on his voyage to the Promised Land, and the whale, Jasconius, provided his back for Brendan's boat to rest on. . . .

Kindness, compassion, loving respect on the part of the saints elicits from their creature partners trust, caring, and love—which, in turn, increases the happiness of everyone. . . Above all, the stories show how much our fellow creatures can contribute to our own lives without having to give up theirs, so that we can all experience, like Columba, the shared joy of partnership.

From Edward C. Sellner, Celtic Saints and Animal Stories: A Spiritual Kinship (Paulist Press: 2020), 93, 94, 6, 7, 93, 95–96, 98.



A Loving Partnership

A sense of kinship with animals was an intrinsic aspect of Celtic Christian spirituality that affected not only those living in Celtic lands, but also significantly influenced later saints who were raised in geographical areas on the Continent, ministered to by Irish missionaries. . . . The numerous animal stories associated with Francis and his attitude of compassion toward animals and birds as “sisters” and “brothers” reflect the spirituality of the Celtic saints. . . .

As the Irish scholar John Scotus Eriugena (c. 810–877 CE) states, “Every visible and invisible creature can be called a theophany, that is, an appearance of the divine”. . . . Celts, both ancient and Christian, experienced an outright mystical connection with nature. This sense of spiritual kinship is reflected in their profound respect for the earth and the natural rhythms of body and soul, precisely because they did not see themselves as “lords” over creation, but spiritually, emotionally, and intellectually connected with it.....

Trinity 19 Sunday 10th October 2021

Collect

O God, forasmuch as without you
we are not able to please you;
mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit
may in all things direct and rule our hearts;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen

Guestling Readings for Harvest

Psalm 65:5-13 Matthew 13:31-35

Westfield Readings for 18th Sunday after Trinity

Romans 2:6-16 Mark 10:17-31

BCP Readings: for Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

Ephesians 4:17-end Matthew 9:1-8

Faithful Lord, whose steadfast love never ceases
and whose mercies never come to an end:
grant us the grace to trust you
and to receive the gifts of your love, new every morning,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Current COVID Guidelines in Church

We keep our masks on until we sit down when we can remove them for the service and singing. Please replace them when Communion is distributed. If you would prefer to sit with people who are masked please sit towards the back of the church. Westfield church is now open every day and Guestling on most days (not Tuesday or Friday). Thank you to everyone who is making this possible.

**Thought of the Day from
Guestling Bradshaw School's
Newsletter**

The whole school gathered today for our Harvest Festival. It was a wonderful celebration with poems, bible readings, artwork and beautiful singing. We were very proud of all our children. Representatives from our local churches attended and collected all the donations of food to auction on Sunday at St Laurence's Church, Guestling. The proceeds will go to two charities: Farm Africa and a local charity- Seaview. Thank you to all our guests- especially Reverend Joy and Meriel for talking to the children about the two charities we are supporting. They are overwhelmed by the generous donations made- Thank you so much!



Prayer by Lisa in Year 2:

**Dear God,
We thank you for food.
We wish that other people
had enough food like us.
We are thankful for the harvest and our families.
Amen**

Around the time of Clem's birthday in September we had a mooch around the Old Town shops and I bought a second hand book by Eleanor Farjeon, a marvellous children's author and poet, famous for writing Morning Has Broken. The prestigious Eleanor Farjeon Award for children's literature is still presented annually in her memory by the Children's Book Circle. The book that I found is called Martin Pippin in the Daisy Field and is dedicated "to the children of Sussex who skipped in my lane." Wandering minstrel, Martin Pippin, encounters six little girls on his travels - who beg him to tell them stories. This he does whilst they are making daisy chains, and so his wonderful tales of magicians, mermaids, pirates and pigs are here recounted. The best known of these stories is Elsie Piddock Skips in her Sleep. Not surprisingly it has several skipping rhymes in it which are said faster and faster to match the skipping.

Andy
Spandy
Sugardy
Candy,
French
Almond
Rock!

Bread and butter for
your supper sally our
mother's GOT!

