



Collects for Trinity 9

Almighty God,
who sent your Holy Spirit
to be the life and light of your Church:
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
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.

Gracious Father,
revive your Church in our day,
and make her holy, strong and faithful,
for your glory's sake
in Jesus Christ our Lord.



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THE BENEFICE OF WESTFIELD AND GUESTLING

A letter from Rev Joy 14 August 2022 Trinity 9

It's Friday morning and it's been a busy week with a funeral visit and a wedding rehearsal and preparations for a baptism on Sunday at Guestling and the Westfield PCC on Monday. Every day has also brought in another enquiry about weddings in both churches in 2023, 2024, and 2025 so I will be leaving a busy diary for Sandi.

The heat is certainly building and I hope you are all coping. The participants at the wedding rehearsal really appreciated the coolness of the church yesterday afternoon. Here is a picture of Hetty and Miru earlier in the week soaking up the morning sun. I think the novelty has worn off now as they are



asleep in the shadiest spot in the sitting room at the moment. We don't take them out for their walk until the evening but at the moment it is barely any cooler. But they still enjoy catching up with the dog gossip in the neighbourhood as they slowly sniff their way along the road.

I hadn't expected the luxury of watching the European Championships hot on the heels of the Commonwealth



Games but it is filling the spot nicely. Here are my lovely flowers a week on from the baptism at Guestling when I was given them. They are still smiling and the lilies have opened today. This comes with my love and blessings as always, Joy

Westfield Church Services

Saturday 13th August

12 noon Wedding of Kim Mates and Alastair Schofield
3pm Messy Church

Sunday 14th August

8.30am BCP Holy Communion
10am Morning Praise

Monday 15th August

7.15pm PCC Meeting

Wednesday 17th August

9.30am Holy Communion
7.00pm Fellowship Supper at Naomi's

Saturday 20th August

2.30pm Wedding of Suzanne Spurrell and Tony Bond

Sunday 21st August—Please bring FSW donations to church

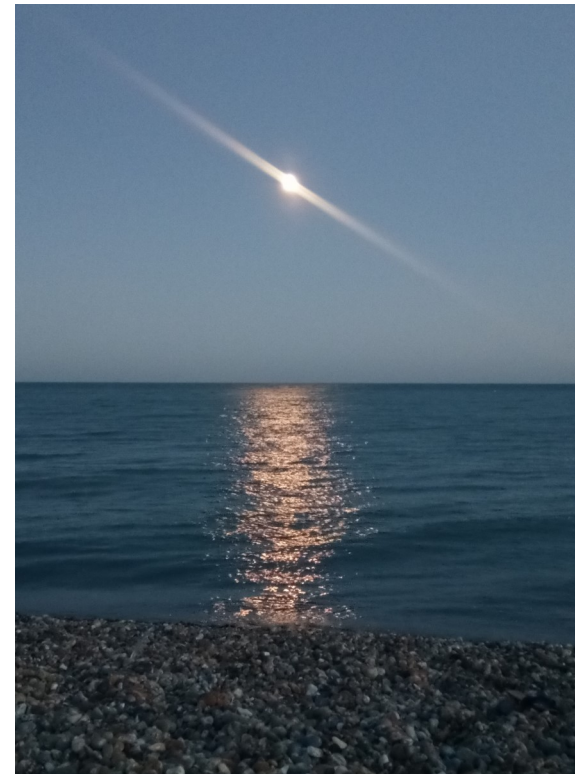
or get them to Kathy and Eric's by Wednesday morning

8.30am BCP Holy Communion
10am Holy Communion

Westfield Notices

Prayer Group meetings will resume after the summer.

Hilary is asking for some more volunteers for her cleaning rota



Clem took this photo on Monday evening this week. She had gone to another beach barbecue with her new friends—a Polish girl and her partner from the Basque country and their friend who is from Venezuela. They grilled some local mackerel among other things and thoroughly enjoyed their feast. And teh almost full moon!

A Prayer in a Time of Drought

Tears fall on cracked earth,
as plants wither, cattle weaken,
and with loving arms,
mothers cling to their children.

Move us, Holy Spirit, to be with our sisters and
brothers in their hour of need.

Work through us, we pray,
so that living streams of love and mercy flow,
bringing compassion, healing and hope.

We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

by Rachel McCarthy/CAFOD

Remembering Patrick Cox Smith with love

Chapel of Christ's Stillness

Situated within the grounds of Moon Cottage,
Humphrey's Farm Friars Hill, Guestling East Sussex TN35 5HJ

Website: thechapelofchriststillness.co.uk

M: [07837 933 583](tel:07837933583) L: [01424 813 068](tel:01424813068)

Monday 22nd August Memorial Service, 3pm

St Mary's Church, Rye

Monday 5th September Memorial Service, 11am

St Andrews Church, Fairlight

Friday 16th September Memorial Service, 4pm

More events at The Chapel of Christ's Stillness

Wednesday 17th August—24th August

The Flower Festival in the Chapel starts

Thursday 18th August

Art Day

A day of creativity in the shade of the big tree

Starting with prayer in the Chapel at 11.00am

Stop for lunch at 1pm

Bring your own picnic lunch with tea/coffee provided

Final Session 2-4pm

Free with donations gratefully received

to help out when one of her regulars is poorly or away.

In the same way Dawn needs more volunteers for the coffee rota after church on Sundays to cover holidays and sickness if you can't manage it regularly

Fellowship Suppers through the Summer

Please bring your own plate, bowl, knife, fork and spoon to make life easier for the hosts

Wednesdays at 7pm

Aug 17th at Naomi's

Aug 24th at Brenda's

Aug 31st at Dawn and Jess's

Guestling Church Services

Sunday 7th August

11am Morning Praise

Wednesday 3rd August

11am Choir Practice

Sunday 14th August—Patronal Festival

11am Holy Communion & Baptism of Malcolm Locke

After this service there will be some refreshments and a sale of some special items to raise money for St Laurence's on our festival day.

Wednesday 17th August

11am Choir Practice

Sunday 21st August

11am Morning Praise

There are details of Memorial Services for Patrick Cox Smith on page 4 plus some forthcoming events at the Chapel of Christ's Stillness

My thanks to Neil who wrote and presented this vote of thanks at my final Guestling PCC Meeting

GUESTLING PCC MEETING – 1st AUGUST 2022

**A VALEDICTORY VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING MINISTER,
REVD JOY COLLINS**

As you approach your retirement on 18th September 2022, and considering that there might not be another opportunity for Guestling PCC to express its gratitude to you, we thought it was appropriate that there should be a vote of thanks to you now.

We first had the privilege of meeting you in 2014 when you were appointed as curate under Robert Mulford's wing. You rapidly became a much-loved member of the ministry team and your appearances at Guestling became more frequent as you were permitted to "fly solo".

Much has changed in the Benefice since 2014, but what has not changed is the respect Guestling has for you. We have appreciated the warmth of your welcome at services, your concern for individuals and your ministry style and preaching ethos which draws from the finer things in life: from an appreciation of flora and fauna, shared by many of your congregation, to the lessons from the Bible which find goodness in personal relationships, and to your love of poetry. You have faced many challenges in the Benefice, not least since you were appointed Priest in Charge in March 2020 and were then immediately thrown into the confusion of COVID - 19 which brought with it rather severe restrictions on church life. You tackled these with energy and seemed to draw on the experience and organisational powers learned in a

previous life in local government.

We want you to know that we appreciate what you personally did to ensure continuity of worship by undertaking weekly you-tube recorded services, and by making the big commitment of publishing a weekly newsletter. These things kept us together and were a source of comfort and inspiration at a difficult time when what people craved was denied to them i.e.the comfort of attending shared worship in church every week. Your leadership was key.

Of course, there have been other challenges but you have met them with resolve and now that we have returned, post-COVID 19, to some sort of normality in church life you must have been looking forward to a quieter period and the opportunity to develop the Benefice along your path. Naturally, we were as shocked as you must have been when premature retirement was more or less thrust upon you. No doubt you were looking forward to completing your contractual period in Spring 2023.

Now, as you approach retirement you should be aware that you have done a fine job at Guestling – and no doubt Westfield feel the same – and that you will be long remembered for your sympathetic ear and caring ways. Your legacy may be judged not only by the affection of your regular congregation but also by the attitude shown by: the many couples you have married here; parents whose children you have baptised; and relatives you have comforted during funeral processes.

From us: many thanks; don't forget us; and you are always welcome here.