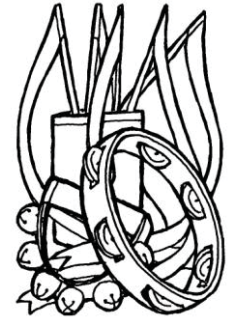
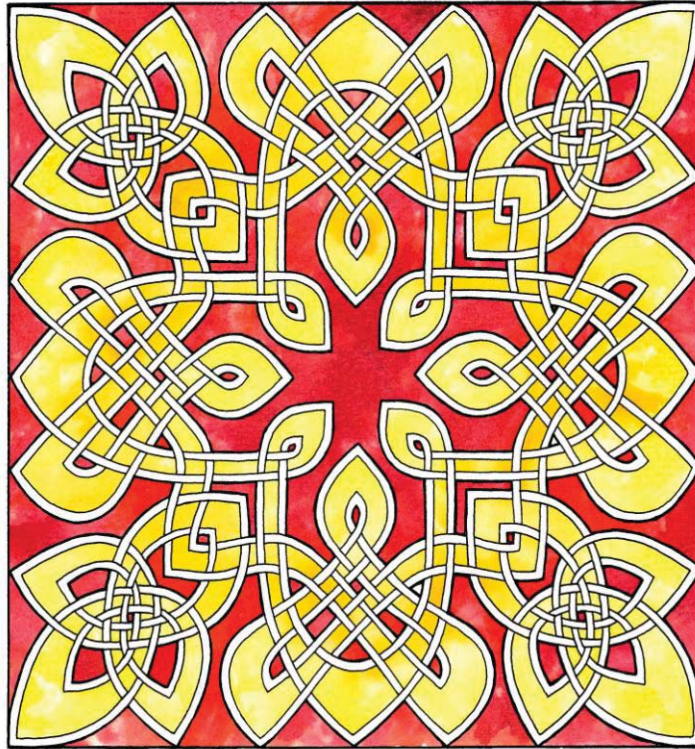
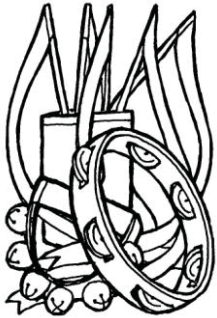


FOREST FIRE



June 2017



MAGAZINE

for the

Mid-Wydean Churches

All Saints, Newland; All Saints, Staunton; Good Shepherd, Broadwell;
St John, Coleford; St Peter, Clearwell & St Saviour, Redbrook



Mid-Wydean Churches Service times:

Sunday 25th June - United Parish Eucharist, 10.30am at the St Peter's, Clearwell

Please Note - This is the only Service in the Parish

St John's @ St Margaret Mary, Coleford:

9.30 am Eucharist 4th & 18th June
9.30 am Service of the Word 12th June

All Saints Newland:

9.30 am Eucharist 12th June
4.00 pm Evensong 18th June

All Saints Staunton:

4.00 pm Evensong 7th June

Good Shepherd Broadwell:

11.00 am Baptism 4th June
11.00 am Eucharist 12th June
11.00 am Service of the Word 18th June

St Peter's Clearwell:

11.00 am Eucharist 4th & 18th June
11.00 am Baptism 12th June

St Saviour's Redbrook:

4.00 pm All Age Worship 14th June

The Service of the Word is a non- Eucharistic service which will sometimes include a Baptism.

Service times may vary so please visit our website for up to date details:

www.mid-wydeanchurches.co.uk

Ever feel pigeonholed at church?

Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. (Acts 6:8)

What is your position in the church?' we may sometimes ask. 'What is your role?' Directed by our sense of order, we like to know who is responsible for what. As the early Church in Jerusalem began to grow, social needs appeared among the believers. It was not, however, until the Greek-speaking widows began to complain of neglect that the apostles recognised the need to delegate. So the Church chose seven men to oversee the distribution of food. One of them was Stephen.

Although these people had a specific responsibility, it is apparent that they were not confined to it. For Stephen, we read, 'performed great wonders and signs among the people'. Were the apostles surprised at this? Stephen was on the 'administrative' staff, not a member of the 'ministry' team. But there is no evidence in the biblical account that anyone tried to curb Stephen's use of his extraordinary spiritual gift.

Equally surprising, perhaps, is that the skills required of those who were to distribute the food aid were not administrative so much as spiritual. 'Full of the Spirit and wisdom' (Acts 6:3) was the character specification; and Stephen is described as being 'full of faith and of the Holy Spirit', and 'full of God's grace and power' (Acts 6:5, 8).

References in several of the New Testament letters make it clear that the gifts of the Spirit were given to men and women in the Church according to God's sovereign will. To close our minds against the possibility of any member of our fellowship exercising spiritual gifts today may be defining our roles too narrowly, and even hindering the wind of the Spirit. May we all daily seek to be - like Stephen - filled with the Spirit, with faith, and with God's grace and power, and perhaps God will surprise us with new roles.

What will you do with your old £1 coins?

You have until 15th October to dispose of your 'old' £1 coins. What will you do with them? Many charities are hoping that as you find the old coins, you will donate them to the charities. Even the Royal Mint is telling charities to increase their presence on the streets this summer with collection buckets, where people are likely to have their purses out. It is thought that there are millions of old £1 coins out there, lurking in jam jars and piggy banks and pockets and drawers...

Which way to Heaven?

The Rev Dr Billy Graham told of a time early in his ministry when he arrived in a small town to preach a sermon. Wanting to post a letter before the service, he asked a young boy where the post office was. When the boy had told him, Billy Graham thanked him and said, "If you'll come to the Baptist Church this evening, you can hear me telling everyone how to get to heaven."

The boy replied, "I don't think I'll be there... You don't even know your way to the post office."

COLEFORD CHURCHES

(the News Sheet of Coleford Churches)

COMING EVENTS

If you have any exciting events planned and would like them mentioned on these pages please contact me either by phone or e-mail. Information below.

- June**
- Thursday 1 Church on the Street shop/office coffee morning, 10.00-12.00, all welcome.
- Thursday 1 Craft Club meet at Good Shepherd 1.30 - 3.30 pm.
- Thursday 1 House group meets at 21 Boxbush Road, 7.30 pm.
- Monday 5 Singing for the Brain, 1st & 3rd Monday of every month 11.00 am until 12.30 pm at Main Place, Coleford. Run by Alzheimer's Society for people with any form of Dementia and their carers.
- Tuesday 6 CAMEO meet at Good Shepherd from 2.30 pm.
- Wednesday 7 Walk for Health Initiative, start 10.15 - 10.30 am approx 1 hour, more details contact Chris Howell 836813.
- Wednesday 7 Great Oaks Hospice, Open Coffee Morning, 10.00-12 noon, coffee and chat, for more information 01594 811910.
- Wednesday 7 **NO** Active Balance Class at Coalway Methodist Church (Weekly omitting the first Wed in the month).
- Thursday 8 "All Together Now" - Home Communion 2nd Thursday each month at 2.30 pm, Community Room, Tufthorn Close. All welcome.
- Thursday 8 **No Craft Club at Good Shepherd - General Election.**
- Thursday 8 House group meets at 21 Boxbush Road, 7.30 pm.
- Fri/Fri 9/23 Year of Literary Heroes & Year of Legends at Puzzlewood - working alongside MOOT in Coleford, more info from Tourist Info Centre.
- Saturday 10 Coleford's Day of Dancing, 10.00 am - 3.00 pm, Morris Dancing plus varied selection of dance genres in Town Centre.
- Monday 12 Coleford Baptist Church, Coffee Break, 10.30-12 noon, need a lift then contact Maureen Etherington on 836303. (Meet on 2nd Monday of month.) Free tea/coffee and biscuits & warm welcome.
- Wednesday 14 Walk for Health Initiative, start 10.15 - 10.30 am approx 1 hour, more details contact Chris Howell 836813.
- Wednesday 14 Active Balance Class at Coalway Methodist Church (Weekly omitting the first in the month), 10.30 am - 12.00 noon.
- Wednesday 14 PCC meeting at The Good Shepherd, 7.00 pm.
- Thursday 15 Knit and Natter (or just natter) at Church on the Street, 10.00 am, all welcome.
- Thursday 15 Craft Club meet at Good Shepherd 1.30 - 3.30 pm.
- Thursday 15 "Hot Potato Night" at White Horse, Staunton, 7.30 pm (3rd Thurs), food and discussion group, all welcome. (Are our media a positive influence on our Society?)
- Saturday 17 Coffee and chat morning at St Margaret Mary's Hall, 10.00 am to 12 noon, no charge, no raffle, all welcome. (3rd Saturday of month.)
- Saturday 17 Coleford Busking Festival - 9.00 am - 4.00 pm. In centre Coleford for more information see www.colefordbuskingfestival.co.uk.
- Saturday 17 Great Oaks Hospice Summer Fete, 2.00-4.00 pm.
- Saturday 17 Coleford Town Football Club Veterans Match, KO approx 4.00 pm, King George V Recreation Ground, Victoria Road, Coleford.
- Saturday 17 Mustard Tree at St John's Academy, 4.30 to 6.30 pm, open to all families, organised by Mid Wydean Churches, fun and food.
- Sunday 18 Father's Day Celebrations at Puzzlewood, Hog Roast, Dad den building, numbers may be limited on the day. More info from Tourist Info Centre.
- Monday 19 Singing for the Brain, 1st & 3rd Monday of every month 11.00 am until 12.30 pm at Main Place, Coleford. Run by Alzheimer's Society for people with any form of Dementia and their carers.
- Tuesday 20 CAMEO meet at Good Shepherd from 2.30 pm.

- Wednesday 21 Walk for Health Initiative, start 10.15 - 10.30 am approx 1 hour, more details contact Chris Howell 836813.
- Wednesday 21 Active Balance Class at Coalway Methodist Church (Weekly omitting the first in the month), 10.30 am - 12.00 noon.
- Wednesday 21 "Meet and Eat" (Staunton house group) at White Horse, Staunton. Open to all (12 noon. Cost: £5 soup & roll tea/coffee.) (3rd Wed of month.)
- Thursday 22 Craft Club meet at Good Shepherd 1.30 - 3.30 pm.
- Thursday 22 **Christian Aid Pudding Evening at Good Shepherd, from 6.30 pm, (cheese will also be available).**
- Thursday 22 House group meets at 21 Boxbush Road, 7.30 pm.
- Saturday 24 Monthly Charity Coffee Morning at Coalway Methodist Church Hall 10.30 am, all welcome.
- Wednesday 28 Walk for Health Initiative, start 10.15 - 10.30 am approx 1 hour, more details contact Chris Howell 836813.
- Wednesday 28 Active Balance Class at Coalway Methodist Church (Weekly omitting the first in the month), 10.30 am - 12.00 noon.
- Thursday 29 Craft Club meet at Good Shepherd 1.30 - 3.30 pm.
- Thursday 29 House group meets at 21 Boxbush Road, 7.30 pm.
- Friday 30 Friday Lunch Club meets at St Margaret Mary's RC Church Hall, details from 01291 625013.(Last Friday of month.)

July

- Monday 3 Singing for the Brain, 1st & 3rd Monday of every month 11.00 am until 12.30 pm at Main Place, Coleford. Run by Alzheimer's Society for people with any form of Dementia and their carers.
- Tuesday 4 CAMEO meet at Good Shepherd from 2.30 pm.

LIFE AFFECTED BY CANCER? LET CHARLIE'S HELP YOU.

Charlie's (A Community Interest Company for Charitable Purpose) Cancer Support Group - Supporting people with and post cancer. Free Holistic Therapies, friendship and support, relaxing atmosphere, tea, coffee and cake. Like minded people coming together.

Monthly group to be held on the last Friday of every month, 10.00 am - 2.00 pm at The Belfry Hotel, Littledean, contact Madelaine - 07773 200145 or Jo - 07786 547439

wwwcharlies.org.uk email - Charlies2014@yahoo.co.uk

CHRISTIAN AID DATES - PLEASE ADD TO YOUR DIARY:

Pudding Evening at Good Shepherd, 22nd June, from 6.30, come when you like and go when you like. (Cheese will be available for those who don't have a sweet tooth)

<p>THE NEXT DEADLINE DATE FOR MAGAZINE ARTICALS WILL BE ON THE 20th JULY</p>
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REMEMBER: If you belong to whatever church (or none) you are welcome to come to any of the services or events listed above.

TO ALL READERS/CHURCHES - PLEASE PASS ON ANY DATES OF SPECIAL SERVICES OR EVENTS THAT YOU WANT PUBLISHED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ROBERT RIVERS, HIS E.MAIL ADDRESS IS DETAILED BELOW.

This news sheet is produced by Robert Rivers - Tel No 836593 - rivers_robert@hotmail.com
Produced by St John's Church, Coleford, on behalf of the Coleford Covenanting Churches.
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10 TIL 12 Cafe

Open on Tuesday and Friday
Drinks and a selection of homemade
cakes are available.

Home Cooked Food
served from 11:30 am to 1.30 pm
The Salvation Army, 43 North Rd,
Broadwell, GL16 7BX
salvationarmy-fod.org.uk

St Margaret Mary's Church Hall - High Nash

Busy Bees Parent/Carer Toddler Group
Sessions held every Wednesday at 9.30 - 11.00
am, activities for ages 0-5 years, £1 donation, all
welcome.

Also

Friday Lunch Club, last Friday of every month.
Everyone is welcome is welcome, phone for details
01291 625013.

Family History Help Desk at Coleford Library

The help desk is no longer going to be at Coleford
Library on the First Friday of the month, if
anyone needs help please contact Chris Howell on
836813.

Coleford Baptist Church

Tiggys Parent And Toddlers Group

Meet Friday mornings from 10.00 am to 12.00 pm during
term time. Only £1 per family. For further info contact
Donna Saunders on 01594 832278 -
colefordbaptists.org.

It is a chance for mums, dads, grandparents or carers
to meet in the large hall, play and craft activities and
offer drinks for the adults, fruit and milk for the
children.

"MUSTARD TREE" AT ST JOHN'S C OF E ACADEMY -

Bowens Hill Road, Coleford, the group
meet for family fun faith and food. It is organised by
members of Mid Wyedean Churches. They meet once a
month on the school premises from 4.30 to 6.30 pm. It
is open to all families and it is not necessary to belong
to any church.

Little Angels - Parent and Toddler Group

Mount of Olives Church.
Tuesdays 10.30 am - 12.30 pm, in term time.

Coleford Book Group

3rd Tuesday of the month at members homes

for more information please ring Anita on Dean
835344

Celebrating our 999 service

The 999 emergency service was introduced 80 years ago this month - on 30th June 1937, in the London area only.

It was the first service of its kind in the world, and a notice in the *Evening News* suggested that the public should use it only if "the man in the flat next to yours is murdering his wife, or you have seen a heavily masked cat burglar peering round the stack pipe of the local bank building".

For less urgent matters, such as a lorry coming to rest in their garden, people were advised to "just call up the local police".

The first call resulted in the arrest of a would-be burglar, but not all were so serious. Of 1336 calls made in the first week, 91 were prank calls.

One of the more unexpected results of the 999 service was its effect on telephone switch-rooms, where a "raucous buzzer" sounded when someone dialled 999. It was reported that "a few of the girls found the situation too much and had to be carried out".

Despite that, 999 was a big success, but it wasn't until after World War Two that it reached most other parts of the UK. It became available to the entire country only when all the telephone exchanges were automated in 1976.

The idea for an emergency number came after operators couldn't be reached to alert the fire brigade to a fire that killed five women in London's Wimpole Street in 1935. The number 999 was chosen because it was easy to dial, even in the dark, on old-style phones. The US waited until 1968 to introduce its own emergency number, 911.

More than half of genuine 999 calls ask for police assistance. The next most requested is the ambulance service, followed by the fire brigade and, finally, the coastguard.

Some churches have used the idea of an emergency service for people in need of various kinds of help - though in those cases the number 999 is replaced by a series of Scriptural references.

June 2017

imagination

Opening new paths to faith

Placing schools at the heart of our mission with creative connections between churches and schools

Alone we can do so little – together we can do so much!

Rachel Howie, Diocesan Director of Education and CEO of DGAT



I find it hugely energising to see the creative connections between churches and schools in and around the diocese and I am excited about the possibilities that lie ahead. When parishes and schools work together great things happen.

I am continually surprised by the ‘hidden gems’ of innovative partnerships that I hear about all over the diocese. From children asking churches for their prayer requests so they can pray for them in their collective worship, to churches providing mentors for children who need some extra support.

Activities such as these are going on around us but often we never hear about them. We need to share these ideas and inspire others to try something a little different in their context. What we take for granted on our own patch will be a light-bulb moment for someone else.

Partnerships between churches and schools don’t have to look ‘churchy’. Many of the wonderful things I see involve faith in action, children living out the Christian values they learn about, alongside members of local churches. Enjoying each other’s company, raising money for the same cause, sharing news from one another’s newsletters, gardening together, eating with one another, learning together and of course praying and worshipping together are all ways that connections between our churches and schools are being developed. Of course it is not the partnerships for their own sake, these connections and relationships help us all to grow as disciples and learn more about who we are and who others are in Jesus. Alone we can do so little – together church, school and the Holy Spirit - we can do so much!

Growing links between church, school and community

The gardening club at Linden Primary School in Gloucester will be sowing a new plot this summer, in the grounds of St Paul and St Stephen’s Church. The Revd Ruth Fitter is planning to get her hands dirty and help the children to cultivate a new community garden. The children will learn gardening skills and be able to take the produce that they grow home.

Ruth said: “The church building and grounds are not just for the people who go to church and this is great a way of demonstrating that. The community garden is for all of us to share together.

“My dad is a farmer and an excellent gardener, but unfortunately it hasn’t rubbed off on me! I am looking forward to learning more about gardening with the children and getting to know them.”

Teacher Eileen Pegram said: “As a school, we believe that children learn through having experiences, so being part of a community garden project is very exciting for us.”

A listening ear



Children in the Stroud area are getting a helping hand and a listening ear to get them through tough times with a mentoring scheme. The PSALMS sports ministry team goes into schools to support them. PSALMS youth worker Andy Poole said: “We work with students that the schools are saying need support, get alongside them, hear their point of view and give them support for dealing with challenges.”

One of the schools taking part is Nailsworth Church of England Primary School. Head teacher Vince Southcott said: “It has been really successful. The mentors see the children once a week and talk about what’s gone well, what hasn’t and to think about targets and strategies for the next week. The children have a good relationship with their mentors and feel like the sessions are their time. The child is supported to deal with things in school, at home, and helped academically. It’s Christianity in action and that’s fantastic.”

The schools report that it has made such a difference in children’s lives that PSALMS is recruiting more mentors from local church congregations for a new and separate ‘god-parenting scheme.’ In this scheme, young people will be linked with people from the local churches for conversation, friendship and support in faith.

The Revd Mike Smith said: “Some of the congregation at St George’s feel that their youth work days are passed, but that this is something that they can offer. With the right training, they are able to be that listening ear and an older friend. Since the schools scheme started, the children taking part have had an increase in self confidence, and have learnt to deal with issues in their own lives more readily as well as being better able to articulate their feelings.”

To learn more about mentoring in schools schemes, contact PSALMS General Manager Fiona Gill on fiona.gill@psalms.uk.net

Events and training

Abundance—resourcing Christian mission in rural communities at Hartpury College

Saturday 10 June, 10am to 4.15pm

Resourcing Christians in working effectively with their local communities, providing inspiration and ideas that are tailored to the rural context. £10 including lunch and refreshments. Booking form www.gloucester.anglican.org/event/abundance

Social media training at the Oasis Centre, Cheltenham.

Wednesday 21 June, 7pm to 8.30pm

Would you like to become more confident in using social media to promote your church or share your faith story? Come along to one of the diocesan Communications Team’s new monthly deanery social media training sessions. Free— reserve your space by emailing kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk

Have your say: Visit Facebook [/Diocese.of.Gloucester](https://www.facebook.com/Diocese.of.Gloucester), email Katherine at kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk, follow us on Twitter [@glosdioc](https://twitter.com/glosdioc), view videos on YouTube [Diocese of Gloucester](https://www.youtube.com/DioceseofGloucester) or visit our website Gloucester.anglican.org

Bookings

If you would like to find out about or arrange a wedding or a Christening (they are free) in one of the churches, then you can contact either Revd Sarah Bick on 01594 835476 or Revd Alan Wearmouth on 01594 832660

Baptisms

07/05/2017	Taylor-Jay SMITH
07/05/2017	Marnie Elizabeth Daphne BAKER
14/05/2017	Charlie Mae FLYNN



We pray for those baptised and their parents that they might come to know the love of Christ

Weddings



06/05/2017	Richard BROOKS and Nicole HADLEY
08/05/2017	Robert Henderson COLLINS and Hannah Louise KEAR
12/05/2017	Steven DAVIES and Rebecca BRAIN
27/05/2017	Bradley KEARNEY and Rachel DUNN
28/05/2017	George Matthew MILSOM and Naomi Jayne Hannah ADAMS
29/05/2017	Adam SWALLOW and Lucy VENMAN

We pray for these couples that their love may come to mirror the love of Christ.

Funerals

21/04/2017	Ivan Thomas (Cookie) POWELL
02/05/2017	Jean Lillian MUMFORD
04/05/2017	Leslie Edwin (Les) GWILLIAM
31/05/2017	Rosemary RICKARD

We pray that they may rest in the love of Christ and those who mourn may find comfort in the love of Christ.



"KNIT AND NATTER" FOR CHRISTIAN AID

This was an extremely successful morning so it is intended to continue with a "Knit and Natter" Group, probably on 3rd Thursday of the month from 10-12, although it might move to a different day according to demand, at the Church on the Street, 6a St John's Street, next Thursday 1st June.

Now cabbage is cool

You may have nightmare memories of boiled cabbage at school dinners, but forget them. These days, cabbage is totally cool. It all has to do with the 'clean eating' craze that is sweeping the UK. Pickled cabbage can do no wrong, it seems. Sauerkraut and kimchi are appearing in all sorts of restaurants. Sales of cabbage at Sainsburys are up 39 per cent since Christmas, and sales of cider vinegar is up by 17 per cent. The British Brassica Association asserts that cabbage is very good for you - high in vitamin C, vitamin K, and it also has anti-carcinogenic properties.



St RICHARD of CHICHESTER

St Richard of Chichester, who lived from 1197 to 1253, is patron saint of the English county of Sussex.

In 1244 Richard was elected Bishop of Chichester but King Henry III wanted someone else as bishop and he ordered that no one should feed or house Richard. So Richard lived with a friend who was a parish priest and visited his entire diocese on foot for two years until the king relented.

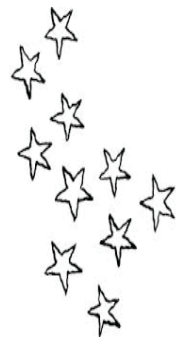
Richard is widely remembered today for the prayer he is supposed to have said as he was dying. The prayer was adapted for the song 'Day by Day' in the musical Godspell and it is in this form that most people know it today:

Day by day,
Dear Lord, of thee
three things I pray:
To see thee more clearly,
Love thee more dearly,
Follow thee more nearly,
Day by Day.

SOUNDS STRANGE

There are still quite a few people called Richard today but some saints' names sound very strange to our modern ears - how many of these names are saint's names and how many of them are something else all together? Answers at the bottom of the page.

1. Wenceslas
2. Mesrop
3. Blaise
4. Porphyry
5. Waudru
6. Methodius
7. Attracta
8. Sebbi
9. Fiacre
10. Budoc



What do you call a man with a map on his head?

Miles.

What do you call a woman with a tortoise on her head?



Shelley.

What do you call a man checking your homework?

Mark.

What do you call a Vicar on a moped?

Rev.

Answer: all of them are saints listed in the Penguin Dictionary of Saints – honestly.

Mid-Wyedean Churches

All Saints, Newland; All Saints, Staunton;
Good Shepherd, Broadwell; St John, Coleford;
St Peter, Clearwell & St Saviour, Redbrook

Benefice Website - www.mid-wyedeanchurches.co.uk

Ministry Team:

Revd. Sarah Bick, The Vicarage, 40 Boxbush Road, Coleford, GL16 8DN (Dean 835476)
(sarah@thebickerage.org.uk)

The Revd. Alan Wearmouth, "Windhover", Broadwell Bridge, Broadwell. (Dean 832660)
(alanw22uk@yahoo.co.uk)

Licensed Readers:

Mark Bick

Denise Hogan

Parish Co-ordinator: Alison Stuttard

Parish Office:

Church on the Street, 6a, St John's Street, Coleford, GL16 8AR. Tel: 01594 368849
office.midwyedean@gmail.com

Arrangements for Baptisms, weddings etc. should be made in the first instance to Rev Sarah Bick.

Parish Warden

Sarah Codd 07759693213

Assistant Wardens

All Saints, Staunton

Sue Simmons 833432
susan.simmons.staunton@googlemail.com

St John's, Coleford

Penny Rayner 837386
mrspennyrayner@btinternet.com

St Saviours, Redbrook

Richard Fordham 01600 714459

All Saints, Newland

Bea Erskine 835744
berskine@bells6.demon.co.uk

St Peters, Clearwell

TBC

Parish Secretary Alison Stuttard 810934 ali_stuttard@hotmail.com

Parish Treasurer Rosemary Ward 837579

Finance Reps

Terry Bovill 837447 John Simmons 833432

Pat Shuttleworth 01600 713418 Betty Weaver 562680

Alan Day TBC