

Sunday 7th May – Easter 4 – White

9.00am	Holy Communion	Chacombe	JD
10.30am	United Morning Praise	Middleton Cheney	Meth
10.45am	Holy Communion	Greatworth	PB

Sunday 14th May – Easter 5 – White

9.30am	All Age	Marston	Lay
10.30am	Holy Communion	Middleton Cheney	PF

Sunday 21st May – Easter 6 – White

9.00am	Holy Communion	Chacombe	VB
10.30am	All Age	Middleton Cheney	CB
10.30am	Coffee & Praise (Refreshments from 10.00am)	Greatworth	Lay
10.45am	Holy Communion	Thenford	VB

Sunday 28th May – Easter 7 – White

10.45am	Benefice Communion	Warkworth	TR
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CB – Chris Bazeley; JD – John Duncan; PF – Paul Franklin; SP – Stuart Pascall; TR – Terry Richards; VB – Viv Baldwin; WA – Will Adams; PB – Dr. Philip Brook

Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms ... contact

Rev. Simon Dommett, Rural Dean

Email: the.revd.simon@gmail.com

Phone: 01869 810903

Post: The Rectory, Croughton Road, Aynho, Banbury, OX17 3BD.

Articles for 'Pews News' - deadline 15th May for next issue

David Barber 01295 713652 / kyle.farmhouse@btinternet.com

And for the latest Benefice updates and news, you can connect with our website - <http://chenderit-c-of-e.org>

'Pews News'

April/May 2017

Seeking To Make Christ Known
The Church of England in Chacombe, Greatworth,
Marston St. Lawrence,
Middleton Cheney, Thenford & Warkworth

PAYING OUR WAY

The Diocesan Board of Finance write: As you may be aware, 2017 is the final year of the five in which it was agreed to invest significant diocesan reserves in supporting the growth strategy, which has been led by Bishop Donald and which has begun to bear fruit. We are reaching the limit of our capacity to support such growth from this source.

The budget for growth was based on the assumption that a growth in numbers of committed parishioners would lead to an ability to pay higher levels of parish share, so that the budget would balance when we reached the point when it was no longer possible to subsidise it from reserves.

Sadly, parish share payments have not as yet risen as much as was anticipated. We are extremely grateful to all those parishes which have been able to pay 100% of their parish share request for 2016, but unfortunately the overall rate of payment has been 90%, leaving a shortfall of over £700,000.

The Diocesan Board of Finance can and will make cuts to central expenditure to seek to address some of this shortfall.

We have already begun to tighten budgets. We could decline to fill staff vacancies when they arise and, even, in the worst case scenario, make redundancies, but these will limit the extent to which diocesan staff are able to support mission and growth in the parishes

and the most savage cuts at the centre would not produce all the savings required.

Current estimates are that the level of giving by parishioners to the church in this diocese is a little over 3% of personal income. If giving to PCC funds reached the minimum 5% level which the Church of England has long recommended, our financial situation would be transformed.

In personalised figures, this would amount to an average weekly increase in stewardship giving from £10.55p to £16.

Indeed, if all our 10,500 regular givers in the diocese increased their giving by just £2 a week, that would raise over £1 million and easily make up the shortfall.

Bearing in mind that some are already giving their widow's mite in full, a better way to raise what is required may be for the 1,000 highest earners to give an extra £20 per week.

The current financial difficulties of Peterborough Cathedral are not connected with the above in any way. There may be cost savings to be made for both parties in combining some office functions with the Cathedral, but it is the Church Commissioners rather than the diocese who are providing the Cathedral with interim financial liquidity.

We rejoice in the growth that we are beginning to see, and urge you to do all you can to ensure the fuller payment of parish share to enable this growth to continue.

With all good wishes.

Yours sincerely,



Chair



Vice-Chair

Services for April/May 2017

Sunday 2nd April – Lent 5 – Purple

9.00am	Holy Communion	Chacombe	VB
10.30am	Songs of Praise	Middleton Cheney	SP
10.45am	Holy Communion	Greatworth	VB

Sunday 9th April – Palm Sunday – Red

9.30am	All Age	Marston St. Lawrence	Lay
10.30am	All Age	Middleton Cheney	CB

Friday 14th April – Good Friday (No hangings)

11.00am	Easter Garden (followed by an Easter Egg Hunt)	Chacombe	Lay
11.00am	Easter Garden	Middleton Cheney	Lay
2.00pm	Vigil	Chacombe	Lay
7.30pm	Vigil	Middleton Cheney	Lay

Sunday 16th April – Easter Sunday – White

9.00am	Holy Communion	Thenford	JD
9.00am	All Age	Chacombe	Lay
10.30am	Holy Communion	Middleton Cheney	PF
10.45am	Holy Communion	Marston	PB
6.00pm	Songs of Praise	Greatworth	TBC

Sunday 23rd April – Easter 2 – White

9.00am	Holy Communion	Chacombe	VB
10.30am	Holy Communion	Middleton Cheney	WA
10.45am	Holy Communion	Warkworth	TR
10.45am	Holy Communion	Marston St Lawrence	VB

Sunday 30th April – Easter 3 – White

10.30am	Benefice Communion	Middleton Cheney	JD
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