

Aston Botterell,  
Burwarton,  
Ditton Priors,  
Neenton.



Chetton,  
Cleobury North,  
Loughton,  
Wheathill.

Revd Joe Simons, Priest in Charge  
The Vicarage, Ditton Priors, Shropshire. WV16 6SQ.  
01746 599217/07872 464276

*Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit,  
because apart from me you can do nothing.*



*As a Church we pray for those who are ill  
and in need and for those recently departed  
and their families.*

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**The Fifth Sunday of Easter (White)**

10.00am – Group Holy Communion – Cleobury North

Revd Joe

The Funeral Service of the late Mr. David Charles  
Spencer (David) Jones will take place on  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024, at St. John the Baptist Church,  
Ditton Priors, starting at 12.30pm

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**The Sixth Sunday of Easter (White)**

9.30am – Holy Communion – Ditton Priors

Revd Joe - Hymns – 106, 355, 293, 188

11.30am – Holy Communion – Aston Botterell

Revd Joe - Hymns – 106, 355, 293, 188

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - Ascension Day**

6.00pm – Evening Prayer – Ditton Priors

Dot Cartright - Hymns 393, 242, 475

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**The Seventh Sunday of Easter (White)**

9.30am – Holy Communion – Ditton Priors – Revd Joe

4.30pm – Worship on the Farm - Lower Cockshutt

Farm, Chetton - Revd Joe. Please see over for details



**Activities & News throughout the Benefice**

more info in Wheatland News or online at  
[www.achurchnearyou.com/Brown-Clee-Benefice](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/Brown-Clee-Benefice)

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2024, 9.00am - Breakfast at**

**The Down.** Do join us for this very popular and  
social event. Please contact Sheila on 01746  
789443 to confirm.

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024, 12.30 for 1.00pm start  
Spring Luncheon at Ditton Priors Village Hall.**

Roast beef, desserts, cheese & coffee. Tickets  
£12.50 from Marjorie Jones 01746 712423. Please  
bring own drink and glasses. All proceeds to St.  
John the Baptist Church Funds.

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – 10.30am – 12.30pm**

**The First Coffee Morning of the Month**

**At St. John the Baptist Church, Ditton Priors.**

Everyone welcome. No charge for entry

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – 2.00 – 4.00pm**

**Future Mission – Brown Clee Benefice  
At Cleobury North Village Hall**

Please see details overleaf:

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May – Bridgnorth Walk Day**

St. John's, Ditton Priors will be open from  
10.30 am onwards serving coffee, tea and cakes.

Please come along and support everyone.

Benefice Office Open Tuesday & Thursday 9.30am – 1.30pm

Email: [browncleebenefice@outlook.com](mailto:browncleebenefice@outlook.com)

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### Collect for the day

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### Readings for Sunday 28th April 2024

#### Psalm 22. 25 - end

#### Acts 8. 26 - end

#### **Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch**

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearers, so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at

Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

#### 1 John 4. 7 - end



#### **God Is Love**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

#### John 15. 1 - 8

#### **Jesus the True Vine**

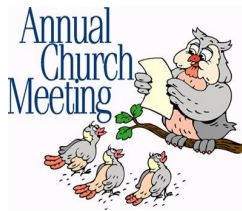
'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

**Benefice Office Open Tuesday & Thursday 9.30am – 1.30pm**

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### APCM'S IN APRIL

#### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024

St. John the Baptist, Ditton Priors  
with Wheathill & Loughton.

At St. John the Baptist Church, Ditton Priors, starting  
at 6.30pm.

### A PEEP INTO MAY!

#### **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - Tractor Run**

**The Midland Oil Engine Club**

**at Lower Cockshutt Farm. WV16 6RF.**

**Worship on the Farm with Revd Joe at 4.30pm**

The Tractor run will leave at 10am and return early  
afternoon. Tony Maiklem is kindly organising  
and taking entries for this,  
email [tonym789666@gmail.com](mailto:tonym789666@gmail.com)

Lots to see - stationary engines, vintage vehicles, military  
vehicles, agricultural plant and a few craft stalls to  
browse. On display too will be a Harrier GR3 plane  
which, weather permitting, will be started up around  
3pm. Donations on entry, proceeds to Midlands Air  
Ambulance & St Giles Church, Chetton.

### A QUESTIONNAIRE FOR YOU TO LOOK OUT FOR!

Following our discussions regarding the future of our  
precious church at Loughton and how we could establish  
a stronger community focus, allied to its importance as a

Christian Spiritual hub. We have put together a  
questionnaire which is kindly being distributed in the  
Loughton area. If you would like a copy, please contact  
the Benefice Office. Completed questionnaires can be  
left in the box at the back of Loughton church. The  
deadline for return of the questionnaire is 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024.  
Together we can breathe new life into this much-loved  
building.

### Fundraising

Don't forget you are able to support Chetton & Neenton  
Churches by shopping online via Easy Fundraising



[Easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)  
<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>



### Open Meeting on Future Mission

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**at Cleobury North Village Hall,  
2.00pm – 4.00pm**

Revd Joe will share his thoughts on Mission & Vision  
which is starting to emerge across the Benefice. This will  
be a good opportunity for us to talk as a group about our  
own thoughts and direction on Mission here in the  
Benefice and also look at the implications. We would be  
grateful if you are able to confirm if you can attend to  
help with numbers for refreshments



### Praying Together as a Benefice **Brown Clee Benefice Prayer Group (BCB Prayer Group)**

We are now running our informal way of praying  
together in to the community with a WhatsApp Group.  
Please let Karen Simons know if you would like to be  
included, with your contact details, direct on her mobile  
07748987318 so that she can add you to the group.  
Do let us know if you have any questions on how you  
can be involved. We look forward to hearing from you.



### On our pew sheet we will be featuring the Saints dedicated to our Benefice churches. This week is the turn of St. Giles, Chetton

Saint Giles was born in Athens and lived as  
a hermit and a monk in the forest near Nimes  
In medieval art St. Giles is shown with his symbol the  
hind. His other emblem can also be an arrow. He is the  
patron saint of people with disabilities, as after being  
pursued by the Kings hunters' an arrow meant for the  
deer wounded the Saint instead. He is the Patron Saint of  
Edinburgh and also Blacksmiths. Giles of Provence is  
remembered in the Church of England  
with a feast day on 1<sup>st</sup> September



### Did you know the answers to last week's Coffee time Quiz?

1. There are only two monarchs who have not been crowned in Westminster Abbey since 1066. Who are they?  
**Edward V (the prince who disappeared) and Edward VIII who abdicated 11 months after succeeding his father.**
2. Which bishops acted as the bishop's assistants to Queen Camilla at the Coronation?  
**The Bishop of Hereford & The Bishop of Norwich.**
3. Which cathedral is said to have the oldest cat-flap in the world?  
**Exeter – it has a 400-year-old door with a hole cut in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century to allow cats to keep the rodents under control!**
4. What, historically, was a pittance?  
**A gift or bequest to a religious community, or a small charitable gift.**
5. Which King founded the College of St. George at Windsor Castle?  
**King Edward III.**
6. Where is the oldest stained-glass window in England?  
**Canterbury Cathedral placed in 1184.**
7. On the top of which cathedral can you watch the 'Live Peregrine Webcam?' (it's well worth watching when up and running!)  
**Salisbury Cathedral.**
8. On which British Island in 2017 did archaeologists find remains of one of the oldest churches ever found?  
**Lindisfarne.**
9. Where are the oldest church bells in the UK?  
**St. Lawrence's Church, Ipswich.**
10. Where does the coronation anointing oil come from?  
**From the Mount of Olives, at the Monastery of Mary Magdalene and the Monastery of the Ascension. The olives were pressed just outside Bethlehem.**



### Did you unscramble these popular hymns?

1. Evniid vole.  
**Love Divine.**
2. Mlaeusejr.  
**Jerusalem.**
3. Lal fo rdlo eophlfusens.  
**Lord Of All Hopefulness**
4. Losu nkgi fo het ym vheean siaepr.  
**Praise My Soul the King of Heaven.**
5. Het nieht eb lrGyo.  
**Thine Be the Glory.**
6. Fo rodl necda eth.  
**Lord of The Dance.**
7. Hsa kborne ginnomr.  
**Morning Has Broken.**
8. Lal eht ssinta ofr.  
**For All the Saints.**
9. Nese aehv mnei snee het ryogl.  
**Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory.**
10. Cegra zgnimaa.  
**Amazing Grace.**

### Our Diocesan Cathedral at Hereford

In the Middle Ages books were rare and valuable and so chaining books to shelves became a very effective security system. The largest surviving chained library in the world is at Hereford Cathedral! All the books are still kept under lock and key in their original chains, rods and locks in a specially built temperature-controlled room. The cathedral's earliest and most important book is the 8<sup>th</sup> Century Hereford Gospels.

The Mappa Mundi also housed at the Cathedral is drawn on a single sheet of calf skin. It records how 13<sup>th</sup> Century scholars saw the world in spiritual as well as geographical terms. There are 500 drawings which include 420 cities & towns, 15 Biblical events, 33 plants, animals, birds and strange creatures, 32 images of the peoples of the world and 8 pictures from classical mythology. It is said to be the most remarkable illustrated manuscript of any kind. You can visit the Mappa Mundi all year round (except in Jan when closed for cleaning!)

And finally - Places of worship for you to unscramble!

- adlrhatec
- hneirs
- pmltee
- hcrcuh
- snteymaor
- ueoggysna