

Churchwardens' Chatter

We did it!! The Bells will ring again!

I'm sure most of you will have heard by now that the Heritage Lottery Fund has offered us the full **£90,000** we asked for to help towards the restoration and re-hanging of our four ancient bells for full circle ringing. The Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust and the Diocesan Guild of Bell Ringers have also generously supported our project. The Keltek Trust has given us two second hand bells to make a ring of six. So for the first time in over 65 years the bells will ring out again. We are aiming for our own new team to be ready to ring them for the Centenary of Armistice Day in November 2018.

Huge thanks for the dogged determination and patience of those who have worked so hard for this over four years, especially Cathy Gethin who has been involved from the outset. Now we can have confidence that the restoration of the main body of the church is likely to proceed, and St. Faith's will become a warm, comfortable and inviting place at the very heart of our community. Now the real work begins.....

Revd. Anand

Wonderful news that Anand has found the new Parish of Ickniel Way near Cambridge - so suitable for his many and varied skills.. Those who have dealt closely with him know that he has a deep and sincere faith, and a wish to develop worship, especially in the areas of music and working with young people. The new parish has got two for the price of one, as Shaila is a qualified Lay Reader with extensive qualifications in Theology. So we wish both of them every success and happiness in their new adventure.

Easter Lilies

Thanks so much to those of you who gave over £70 – the lilies lasted until the middle of May.

Memorial Garden Churchyard/Main Churchyard Maintenance

Our congregation averages twelve, so income is very limited. We try our best to keep the two churchyards tidy and the grass cut, but this is a drain on our scant resources for the day-to-day upkeep of the church. If you have family members buried here, do consider making a donation to the **separate churchyard fund** to help cover the costs of caring for their last resting place.

Please remember **NO silk or plastic flowers**, and be very helpful to us and take home all dead flowers, paper, plastic wrappings and grass cuttings.

Quiet Time in St Faith's (NB NO Quiet time in July)

Mon 5th June - 10.30a.m. – 11a.m.

Theme: 'The Beauty of Roses'

Open Gardens Weekend Sat 10th/Sun 11th June 12 noon – 5p.m.

Eleven gardens and the Memorial Garden Churchyard are open for visitors

Admission (valid both days) – £8 per person (no concessions).

All proceeds to be shared between St Michael's Hospice and Friends of St. Faith's.

Full details on <https://stfaithsdorstone.wordpress.com/fosf-events-2017/>

St Faith's Flowers in a Tea-Cup (not mugs!)

Do you still have some cups and saucers? Then please do a tiny arrangement in the cup for the Gardens weekend. The aim is to fill all the windowsills in St. Faith's – so we need about 30 on Saturday 10th. morning!

Make a Scarecrow!!

Betty had one of her brainwaves a few years ago to ask people to make scarecrows for a village event. It was such a great idea that we'd like some for **Open Gardens Weekend**, to give our visitors some surprises. 'Scarecrow co-ordinator' is **Debbie Gaze** – please let her know if you will make one.

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