

SAINT MARY'S BUTTSBURY NEWSLETTER



Services – AUTUMN 2013 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

All services are BCP unless otherwise stated.

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|-------------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 September | 8.45am | Holy Communion |
| 8 .. | 11.15am | Matins |
| 15 .. | 3.30pm | Evensong |
| 22 .. | 3.30pm | HARVEST Festival |
| 29 .. | 10.00am | Benefice Service at MARGARETTING |
| 6 October | 8.45am | Holy Communion |
| 13 .. | 11.15am | Matins |
| 20 .. | 3.30pm | Evensong with Communion |
| 27 .. | 3.30pm | Evensong |
| 3 November | 8.45am | Holy Communion |
| 10 .. | 3.30pm | REMEMBRANCE Service |
| 17 .. | 3.30pm | Evensong with Communion |
| 24 .. | 3.30pm | Evensong |

CYCLE RIDE

The annual cycle ride (or walk if you prefer) in support of the Friends of Essex Churches will take place on Saturday 14 September. One half of the money raised goes to the church nominated by the participants and the other half to the Friends of Essex Churches from whom Buttsbury Church has had a number of generous grants. Sponsorship forms may be obtained from Daphne Bishop.

LAMMAS

The festival of Lammas was celebrated in Buttsbury on Sunday 4th August. As has been the custom for some years the first fruits of harvest in the form of a freshly cut sheaf of wheat kindly provided by Lord Petre and a loaf of bread baked by John Bishop were presented and blessed at the altar.

OPEN DAY

The Open (half) Day at Buttsbury on 22 June was a success. It was a good social occasion and successful financially too. Takings after expenses were £561. Our grateful thanks go to all those who helped in any way and to those who came to support us.

.CHURCH OFFICERS

| | | |
|---------------------|--|-------------------|
| Priest-in-Charge | Rev'd Jean Halliday | Tel: 354359 |
| Churchwardens | Daphne Bishop | Tel: 01245 400136 |
| Deputy Churchwarden | Trevor Reeves | Tel: 07595826300 |
| Secretary | Arline Leaves | Tel: 653604 |
| Treasurer | Bryan Shedel | Tel: 352213 |
| Flower Rota | Christine Makings | Tel: 840615 |
| Sidesmen | Frances Baggott John Bishop Arline Leaves Christine Makings & Betty Weavers | |
| Pianists | Jean Bourne | Tel: 840466 |
| | Mary Cole | Tel: 840485 |
| | Frank Hatch | Tel: 658186 |

A MESSAGE FROM THE REV'D JEAN HALLIDAY

Once again we are at the time of year when we give thanks and celebrate God's goodness to us through the harvest. We will be giving all the food donations to the Brentwood Food Bank. As the fields are cleared of crops with the rich colours of ripe corn and wheat, we can think of this as an ending. However, as soon as the crops are in, farmers then begin to prepare the fields for planting seeds for next years crops. The cycle of life continues year in, year out. A little like our lives. There are endings but also new beginnings. This Harvest Service will be my last at Buttsbury church as I am retiring.

The harvest we celebrate on the 22nd September is two-fold. The first is giving thanks to God for all he gives us and what we can give to others in need. The second is giving thanks for the congregation and how we have grown together during the last 4 years.

Now is the time for the church warden and the PCC to begin to prepare the ground with the PCCs from Margaretting and Mounnessing to welcome the next Priest-in-Charge as the new growth begins for the future years. I will also be preparing the ground for my own journey and growth elsewhere. I have enjoyed my time at Buttsbury very much and will be taking away many happy memories. As we all journey forward, wherever that may be, I pray that the church will continue to be a place of prayer and praise as well as a quiet space for those who enter the church during the week. My harvest is rich with all the love and support given to me. Thank you.

I will continue to pray for Buttsbury congregation in the years ahead. I pray that God will continue to bless you as you keep the church alive. May your next harvest be plentiful.

Revd Jean

HARVEST SUPPER

This year the three churches of the Benefice are again joining together for a Harvest Supper on Saturday 28 September. Margaretting will host the event which will be held in Margaretting Village Hall. Tickets are available from Daphne on 01245 400136.

BENEFICE SERVICE 29 SEPTEMBER

This Benefice service will be at Margaretting at 10am. **There will be no service in Buttsbury this day.**

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

Sunday 29 September has again been appointed nationally as "**Back to church Sunday**". There are many people in our communities who for one reason or another have lost touch or simply just stopped going to church. Christ has appointed us all to be his disciples and this is a golden opportunity to invite a neighbour or friend to join us.

A LETTER FROM GRANDMA

The other day I went to a Christian bookshop and saw a "Honk if you love Jesus" sticker and put it in my car. I'm so glad I did – what an uplifting experience followed!

I had stopped at a red light at a busy crossing, just lost in thought with the Lord, and how good He is, and I didn't notice that the lights had changed. It was a good thing someone else loves Jesus, because if they hadn't honked I wouldn't have noticed. I found that lots of people loved Jesus! While I was sitting there a man behind me started honking like crazy, then leaned out of the window and screamed "For heavens sake GO GO GO!"

What an exuberant cheerleader he was for Jesus, and everyone started honking! I just leaned out of my window and started waving and smiling at all those lovely people. I even honked a few times myself to share in the love.

I saw another man waving in a funny way – with only two fingers stuck in the air. When I asked my teenage grandson (sitting behind me in the car) what that meant, he said it was probably an Hawaiian good luck sign or something. Well I've never met anyone from Hawaii, so I gave him the good luck sign back. My grandson burst out laughing: even he was enjoying the religious experience.

A couple of people were so caught up with the joy of the moment that they got out of their cars and started to walk towards me. I bet they wanted to pray with me or ask me which church I attended. This was when I noticed that the lights had changed again, and so, not wishing to hold anyone up I gave a cheery smile and drove off. In my mirror I noticed that I was the only car that had got across before the lights changed again.

I felt very sad that I had to leave them all behind after all the love we had shared, so I slowed down, leaned out of the window and gave them the Hawaiian good luck sign as I drove away.