News for the Pews Date: 16<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Sunday: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter



#### **News and Views**

First of all, a huge thank you to everyone who helped make our Easter morning services such wonderful, joy-filled, Spirit-led celebrations of the risen Jesus! There was a real sense of the triumph of the cross and power of the resurrection. About 20 of us met at 5.45am on Napton hill to welcome the dawn and see the sun rise before lighting the Easter candle and taking it into church, then enjoying a wonderful breakfast. At St. Leonard's in Priors Marston, the church was full for our Easter Holy Communion, with people from around the Group and beyond. Thank you to the flower ladies, catering team, musicians and singers, readers, tech team, bell-ringers and everyone else who came along to help fill the church with praise and gladness.

### **Events for the week**

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April – Napton PCC meeting at 7pm in church Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April – Stockton Church soup lunch from 12noon in church Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April – Stockton PCC meeting at 7pm in church

# Looking ahead

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April – The Gathering with the Bishop of Coventry at 10.30am in St. Michael's Church, Stockton

# Services next Sunday – 23<sup>rd</sup> April – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter:

10.30am – Holy Communion by extension at St. Michael's Church, Stockton 10.30am – Morning Worship at St. Peter's Church, Wormleighton 3.00pm – "4th Sunday" at St. Leonard's Church, Priors Marston 5.00pm – BCP Evensong at St. Lawrence's Church, Napton Bible readings for the week are: Acts 2:14, 36-41 and Luke 24:13-35

#### And finally

As I relinquish responsibility for the "cure of souls" in our six parishes, I'd like to commend to you this example from the book of Acts about how the disciples of the early Church lived their lives as Christians: "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and generous hearts, praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." [Acts 2:42-47]

God bless, Gillian

(For more details of events and diary dates, see our website: www.thebridgesgroup.org.uk or the parish magazines)

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