

Breaking News The combined Benefice Profile and Mission Action Plan is now completed and available on the website. The job advertisement for a new priest will appear in the Church Times later this month.

Dear Friends

We hope you are continuing to be grateful – and with the arrival of warmth and sun, fresh spring green and blossom, nature is certainly giving us plenty to be thankful for.

Walking around the garden checking for new growth on plants and shrubshower, we see the inevitable – weeds. Weeds are after all just plants in the wrong place and are, we are sure part of an ecosystem. But the question often asked is - where is the right place?

Weeds can be like life's problems, some deep rooted and taking effort and persistence to eradicate, some small and just beginning – needing 'nipped in the bud'. But whatever stage they have reached, we need to take action, if we are not to be overwhelmed and overrun.



Such as it is in life, we need to face the issues we know are wrong and address them, otherwise we can drift into complacency.

Have we reached a point in our relationship with God and with others where we feel (too) comfortable, where we feel we do not have to make an effort, have we reached a plateau of self satisfaction?

Beware of being lulled into a false sense of security, where you stop trying and eventually slide into a state of apathy. In all our relationships we need to actively seek God's will, to be receptive to what God is asking of us. This involves being vulnerable and willing to be changed and transformed. But do not settle for second best.

Let the Holy Spirit reignite our zeal for God, where we allow him to work in our hearts. Draw near to him through confession, service, worship, prayer and studying his word.

Don't let the weeds grow in your life or your garden, may the flowers grow and blossom bringing delight to you, the people you meet and glory to God.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Service of Worship and Fellowship

Thursday 26th May -Ascension Day – Hebron Church – 2.00 pm

This is primarily for our older members of the church family who find it difficult to access an early morning service, but of course all are welcome. The service will be followed by a short time of fellowship.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Thursday 26th May – Mitford Church – 7 pm (see later in the Newsletter for further details)

Sunday 29th May - Fifth Sunday Services

Sunday 29th May – in addition to the 9.30 am Morning Praise Service at Mitford a service of Evensong (BCP) will be held at Hebron Church at 4.00 pm.

Jubilee Celebrations

Saturday 4th June – Mitford Village (see later in the Newsletter for further details)

Sunday 5th June – Mitford Church -Celebration Sunday (see later in the Newsletter for further details)



The Parishes of St Mary Magdalene, Mitford

and St Cuthbert Hebron

Annual Parish Meetings

&

**Annual Parochial Meeting of the Joint Council of the Ecclesiastical Parishes of St Mary Magdalene
Mitford and St Cuthbert Hebron**

Thursday 26th May, 2022

7.00 pm

At St Mary Magdalene Church Mitford

Since the last APCM the two parishes of St Mary and St Cuthbert have formed a Joint Parochial Church Council (JPCC) and so the format of our meeting will be slightly different.

Everyone is warmly invited to attend the meeting for 7pm.

1. Annual Parish Meeting of St Mary Magdalene Mitford to elect church wardens (only people on the electoral roll for Mitford are eligible to vote)
2. Annual Parish Meeting of St Cuthbert's Hebron to elect church wardens (only people on the electoral roll for Hebron are eligible to vote)

(* people on the electoral rolls of both churches are only allowed to vote in one election)

3. Annual Parochial meeting for both churches where elections will be held for the JPCC.

All the reports for the meeting will be available on the church website from 12th May and hard copies will be available in church for those unable to access the website.

This meeting is an opportunity to hear about and celebrate all that God has been doing in our church family in the past twelve months. Please come!

Message from the Treasurer - Reminder

Mitford & Hebron JPCC New Bank Account

Many thanks to those who have already transferred their standing order to the new bank account. For those of you yet to do this here is a reminder of the new bank details:



Bank Name:	CAF Bank
Account Number:	00034906
Sort Code:	405240
Account Name:	Mitford & Hebron JPCC

The old Barclays account is still open (for the time being!) so don't worry if you haven't managed to transfer your standing order yet. If you have a standing order set up to go to the Barclays account, you will need to cancel your existing mandate and set up a new one for the new bank account (this can be done online or at your own bank branch). Any questions, contact Carol on 07801 600807, carolhthompson@hotmail.co.uk.



Anna Chaplaincy Blog

Anna Chaplaincy News

We now come into May, a lovely month around our Northumberland countryside and coastline. The forget-me-nots are blooming in profusion in the church yards and also the white cherry blossom. Wonderful to see as we and others walk by and a reminder of God's wonderful creation to us all. This Sunday may enable a glimpse of the blossom on the Vicarage apple tree - and if laden with blooms this promises a bumper crop of apples and our ready supply for the Harvest 'apple crumbles'! Around us there has been so much pink cherry blossom, the run into Morpeth towards the roundabout at Mafeken Park and the route to Bedlington via Nedderton in particular have been glorious. We are blessed to have such a magnificent display on our doorstep.



More and more we are experiencing the joy of going out and about again, going places, visiting and seeing family and friends. Certainly, it takes time to gain confidence and to forget the worry of the many rules and regulations, thankfully now lifted.



Our first get together was indeed happy and thank you to all who supported the Easter Coffee Morning at Hebron to raise money for the people of Ukraine. Thank you to our most senior lady in the Benefice, Liz Craig's, for her suggestion to have this event and also to for the lovely flowers, cups and saucers and tablecloths she so kindly provided. The sun shone, people arrived & coffee, scones, hot cross buns and Easter cake were enjoyed by all. There was a raffle, a cake stall and craft making table. Overall, a very happy atmosphere, and our thanks to all our helpers for their hard work and to those who supported for their generosity and kindness at a church family event. £ 400 was raised.

We hope that the Easter Card, prayers and Palm Cross were a focus for you during Holy Week and that the Simnel Cake was enjoyed with a cuppa! A big thankyou to our team of helpers who visited your homes and duly delivered, they too enjoyed meeting and talking to many of you and sharing conversations as well as cups of tea. Not forgetting -a special thankyou to our 'more senior ladies' who arranged truly beautiful flowers for the churches this Easter and also to us having a joyous, poignant Easter Garden at the foot of the Altar, again thanks to our more senior members.



During this month, as you will see from the church notices, we have our Service on Ascension Day, Thursday 26th May, 2-00 pm Hebron, to which you, all congregation members, friends and community are welcome on this significant day in the church calendar. Afterwards there will be a cup of tea and time for fellowship.



We come soon to the Jubilee celebrations when we share at Mitford Church, Sunday 5th June, a glass of fizz and a slice of celebration gateau. Our generation will well remember Coronation Day and all the celebrations that went on in our homes and our communities. We had a lot of memorabilia, some of which you may well have kept tucked away and so we would like to have a memorabilia table in the Stable Room of items that you might wish to share with others, particularly the younger generation. i.e., posters, flags, mugs, photos, books & so on! Please name items carefully and give to Janice or Mary, who will display and ensure safe return afterwards. Any other ideas just let either of us Know!

We still need help and ideas for the kneelers and any suggestions for our needs at church.!

We offer 90th birthday congratulations to Ann Coates- Happy Birthday Anne on reaching this special age. Thank you for all the work you have done over the years at Mitford, with glad heart and great humour. A lady with a great zest for living. With love and thanks from us all.

Thank You and Goodbye

We recently said goodbye to Wendy Talkes whose service was held at Cowpen. Wendy was a well -respected member of the congregation who regularly attended early morning services and evensong at which she very often read the lesson. She worked continually for the Children's Society within the church and had many friendships within the congregation. Condolences to Brian and family.

The hymn sung at the service is set out below for your thoughts and memories of Wendy.

Glad that I live am I; That the sky is blue;
Glad for the country lanes, And the fall of dew.
After the sun the rain, After the rain the sun;
This is the way of life, Till the work be done.
All that we need to do, Be we low or high,
Is to see that we grow,
Nearer the sky.

Love and prayers,

Janice and Mary

PASTORAL CARE

*"A new commandment I give unto you that you love one another as
I have loved you"*

We must indeed care for each other as he commands us.
If you need help, support, advice, or prayer, or know someone who does.

PLEASE know that you can contact the Pastoral Care Team.

Dick Quinby 07960792198

Mary Dowswell 07890269028



Jubilee Celebrations

Saturday 4th June 2022

Mitford Village are finalising plans for their celebration and have now produced the poster shown. Sounds like it will be a good day.

Please join them for the festivities and come along to church on the Sunday to have a weekend of celebration.

Sunday 5th June 2022

Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration – Mitford Church 10 am

Over the Bank Holiday weekend at the beginning of June, we are being encouraged to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee (and please note how Mitford Village are celebrating) We have decided that in our Benefice we will widen our celebrations. We want the occasion to acknowledge and mark all the special events we as a church family have not been able to celebrate together, all the birthdays, anniversaries, births, new jobs, retirements, new homes, graduations, exam results etc.

There will be a service of thanksgiving and celebration starting at 10 am in Mitford Church, this will be followed at 11 am by cake, bubbly and coffee.

Please save this date for this very special family occasion.



Ukraine -Ways to pray.....

.....With sunflowers and tea.

The Sunflower is the National flower of Ukraine.

A great reminder to pray for UKRAINE and the end of the War, and for refugees, etc. is to find a photograph of a Sunflower or buy some sunflowers and have a visual reminder to pray.

The national flower of Russia is the Chamomile, a symbol of healing. Find some Chamomile tea and make it a daily practice to drink the tea and pray for healing in our world, in Russia and Ukraine, pray for peace and those working for peace around the world and especially in Russia.

Breathe in the scent of the tea as well as tasting it!





A Message from Liz

Luke 24:13-27

1. I read about that walk
To Emmaus on that day
Cleopas and someone else
The Bible didn't say
 2. They were both so sad and miserable
Their faces told this story
Their Saviour- crucified and dead
Far from expected glory
 3. Just ordinary people
Just like you and me
Going through a bad time
Just going home for tea
 4. And then another came along
Walked slowly by their side
'What's ailing you?' he asked them
Well, they had nothing left to hide
 5. They told him all their worries
About Jesus being crucified
And how they'd expected something else
Were despondent now he'd died
 6. And the stranger gently chided them
Talked of Scripture and God's plan
How all that suffering had been foretold
The Servant and the lamb
 7. They listened to what was being said
But they didn't understand
And they invited him to eat with them
Meet the others in the band
 8. And as he sat and broke the bread
Gave blessings, then they could see
That this was Jesus- he'd come back!
Yes, truly it was he!
 9. Just ordinary people
Just like you and me
Struggling to understand
How all of this could be
 10. So, we can all walk to Emmaus
In life- come what may be
Cleopas and someone else
And that someone else is me
 11. And as we read within the Bible
The message right from the start
Is God's redeeming love through Christ
In the language of God's heart
 12. So, listen on life's journey
To Jesus, your travelling friend
And remember that Emmaus Road
And God's love right to the end.
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CONTACT DETAILS

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Sunday Service Pattern

Sunday	Service
Sunday 1	9.30 am Morning Praise and Holy Communion MITFORD
Sunday 2	9.30 am Morning Praise MITFORD 4.00 pm Contemplative Worship HEBRON
Sunday 3	9.30 am Morning Praise MITFORD
Sunday 4	9.30 am Café Church HEBRON* 9.30 am BCP Service MITFORD
Sunday 5	9.30 am Morning Praise MITFORD

*Café Church – Breakfast at 9.15 sharp for worship at 9.30 am. A family friendly informal style of worship.

Service Times in the West

Date	Location	Service	Time
8 th May	Whalton	HC	10.30 am
15 th May	Whalton Netherwitton	Family Service HC	10.30 am 10.30 am
22 nd May	Bolam	HC	10.30 am
Thursday 26 th May Ascension Day	Netherwitton	Ascension Day Service	5.00 pm
29 th May	Meldon	HC	10.30 am
5 th June - Pentecost	Bolam Hartburn	Family Service HC	10.30 am 10.30 am