

Letter from the Vicar

Saturday 1 May 2021

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Happy May Day! As a child I remember people dancing round the May Pole, Morris Dancing, and there being a special service (in my dad's parish) of Blessing the Horses – the horses that pulled the horse-drawn carriages for tourists from the village to the Manor House in Cockington Park ahead of a new tourism season. That would then all culminate in a cream tea and possibly the first cricket match of the season. Happy memories. My memories are also of a warm and dry Bank Holiday weekend – neither of which are predicted for this weekend – but I suspect I'm just looking back with rose-tinted spectacles!

Last night I went into London for the first time in nearly a year. It was the first time I have used public transport since the pandemic hit and I have to say I was very impressed (although not on the way home when all the trains were cancelled!). The vast majority of people were wearing face coverings and keeping their distance. I went into London to see a friend who had directed the TV coverage of the Royal Wedding 10 years ago. Together, we watched the programme on the BBC and brought to mind our own memories. They came flooding back. It was such an honour to have been so involved in that service and we recalled our relief and joy that it all went so well. The hours of planning and diplomacy had paid off.

Talking of planning, preparations are still on-going for our emergence out of this pandemic. Things are slowly resuming or returning in a modified way. On Tuesday 4 May we will hold our first Tiny Tots in well over a year. This will be held both inside and outside (weather permitting) – making use of the French doors in the hall. Families are busy (re-) booking baptisms and wedding couples are making the necessary adjustments to their rescheduled 'Big days'. The PCC are intending to meet again in person later this month and our committees are busy planning some social and fundraising events over the summer. It will be good to return to something like normal, trusting that the Government's roadmap out of lockdown will continue to hold true.

I hope you all have a good Bank Holiday weekend and, as always, send you my love and prayers. May the love and light of the Risen Christ bring us all joy and hope in believing, for:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is Risen.
He is Risen indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia!"

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike". The signature is written in black ink and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

The Reverend Michael Macey
Vicar
01442 243258
vicar@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk