

The Buzz

June 2023

Monthly information for the Parish
of Ifield



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Thought for the Month



“I have come not to be served but to serve”. These words of Jesus, echoed by King Charles III in his Coronation prayer, set the theme of the day’s events, and of our new king’s reign.

Service is also the theme of the ordination of priests and deacons. The announcement from the Diocese of Chichester of those to be ordained at Petertide lists those “to serve” in the various parishes. Amongst them this year Dominic Desouza-Campbell “to serve at Ifield”. You will be able to read more about Dominic in next month’s issue, but for now let’s continue with this theme of service.

Almost three years ago, Revd. Christine Spencer was called to serve in the Parish of Ifield. Now, she is about to become Dominic’s Training Incumbent. This is not a role to be undertaken lightly. While it may appear that Christine will have an extra pair of hands to help her preach, lead worship, take funerals and visit parishioners, she will also have to spend a considerable amount of time helping Dominic to settle into his new role, as he gets to know our parish and its people, meets the local clergy and Funeral Directors, and familiarises himself with the crematorium and cemeteries. Christine will also be required to attend Diocesan training sessions with Dominic, and to write reports. Until he is priested, in another year’s time, Dominic will not be able to preside at the Eucharist nor take Marriage services, so Christine will still find it hard to take a Sunday off.

The life of a parish priest is not an easy one, especially for someone who is single and does not have a spouse waiting with a hot meal after a busy day. Besides Sundays, which can involve up to four services (8.0 am, 11.0 am and two Baptisms), a typical week for Christine might involve setting up for and co-leading our toddler group, Little Dragons; preparing sermons; a funeral visit to the family of the deceased and preparation for the funeral, as well as the service itself; a school governor’s meeting; a clergy chapter meeting; a school assembly; phoning the housebound and members of the congregation with sick relatives; answering emails; meeting with Stephen to plan music; attending our Friday evening youth groups (Friday is her one ‘rest day’ of the week); visiting care homes; meeting with the Parish Wardens and Reader ... the list goes on.

Besides all this, as Chaplain to the Crawley Police Christine makes weekly visits to the police station, and serves as Bishop's Chaplain as and when required. She also prays, daily, for each one of us.

We, here in Ifield, are very fortunate in having a full-time Rector, particularly at a time when we can only manage to pay about one third of our Parish Share. Christine lives in a lovely rectory, but this belongs not to the parish, but to the Diocese, who lay down strict rules for the size of clergy housing, which needs to be sufficiently large for those with a family, and must include a working space which is totally separate from the living accommodation. It is, after all, the priest's home.

One of the hymns in the Coronation service was Praise My Soul the King of Heaven. At St. Margaret's we sang this on the following Sunday, and as we did so I was struck by the words: "Slow to chide and swift to bless". May we be slow with our criticism and swift with our thanks and praise for a Rector who serves us in so many ways.

Jill

SERVICES AT ST. MARGARET'S

1 st Sunday	8.00 am 11.00 am	Said Eucharist Sung Eucharist
2 nd Sunday	9.30 am 11.00 am	FIISH for young families Sung Eucharist
3 rd Sunday	9.30 am 11.00 am	Family Worship Sung Eucharist
4 th & 5 th Sundays	11.00 am	Sung Eucharist
Wednesdays	9.30 am	Said Eucharist



PARISH HOUSE GROUPS

Mondays 10.30 am–12 noon at Tree House, Rusper Road
Please contact Jill Bell on 521699 for details

Tuesdays 7.30-9.30 pm
Venue may vary.

Please contact Jo Strutt jo@bridgeham.com for details



Our 20 practitioners are now all at caseload capacity, with referrals coming in thick and fast. Although we are working hard to support all those who come to us, we are currently having to hold waiting lists in a number of areas so that our practitioners are not overwhelmed. We have been working particularly frequently on school-related issues and mental health, where other support services are negligible. Families continue to be grateful that we are there for them, with one family sending us this message recently:

"You helped keep us going and gave us hope. We can't thank you enough for being there for us when nobody else was."

For more information, or to donate, please visit: familysupportwork.org

PLEASE PRAY FOR

All those to be ordained deacon by Bishop Ruth in Chichester Cathedral on Saturday 24th June, and particularly for Dominic Aiden Desouza-Campbell, who will be serving his curacy in Ifield.

LITTLE DRAGONS

It's church, it's messy, it's for little ones, their parents and carers!

9 till 10.30am every Monday in term time
St Margaret's Church



OUR YOUTH CLUBS

Junior Youth Club - School Years 1-4

Above Youth Club - School Years 5-8

Beyond Youth Club - School Years 9 and above

For more information, please contact Naomi Gater, Youth and Children's Officer

EASTER TEAM FOODBANK

In addition to everything else, current special needs are for nappies (sizes 5, 6 and 7); toiletries (particularly shampoo and conditioner); and washing up liquid.

Please leave items in the basket in church or contact sue@ifieldparish.org for collection.

WHO'S WHO IN IFIELD PARISH

Rector	Revd. Christine Spencer	561283	rector@ifieldparish.org
Reader	Jill Bell	521699	reader@ifieldparish.org
Parish Wardens	Andy Ironside	07758 168411	andy@ifieldparish.org
	Kevin Lawler	07792 809165	kevin@ifieldparish.org
PCC Secretary	Clare Wilson	416438	pccsecretary@ifieldparish.org
PCC Treasurer	James May	529146	treasurer@ifieldparish.org
Safeguarding	Amy Wilson	07701 098350	safeguarding@ifieldparish.org
Youth and Children	Naomi Gater	852763	ycofficer@ifieldparish.org
Lychgate Bookings	Lisa Hull	532337	lmhull@virginmedia.com

REST DAY

Please note that Friday is our Rector's rest day

PLEASE NOTE

St. Margaret's weekly notices can be viewed on the parish website

IFIELD PARISH WEBSITE

www.ifieldparish.org

Please send any information/photos for publication on the website to
Carl Peirce carl@ifieldparish.org

Follow us:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stmargaretsifield>

IFIELD PARISH OFFICE

Mondays-Thursdays 9.00 am – 12 noon

1 Lychgate Cottage, Ifield Street, Crawley, West Sussex, RH11 0NN

Parish Administrator: Mave Eshun Tel: 537578 Email: office@ifieldparish.org

Please send any updates for the July 2023 issue to Jill Bell
reader@ifieldparish.org by 19th June