



# St Peter & St Paul's Chaldon Newsletter



May 2021

## May Madness, the Joy of Spring, and Holy Fools.....

I was asked recently about a phrase used in our 'Pop Up Eucharist' **'love wastefully'**

At first sight this is a puzzling command - to be wasteful is surely foolish.

Are fools always bad or wrong? Is wasteful love a sin?

Foolishness plays an important part in traditional May Day celebrations and in Shakespeare's plays fools speak truth to power.



May is traditionally associated with being suddenly released into a world bursting with fertility and energy, think of May Pole Dancing and Mummers and Morris Dancing. May madness, foolishness, wasteful love all can seem both attractive and dangerous and perhaps that is their appeal.

This may seem rather pagan for a church newsletter, and yet traditions usually have roots in something deeply embedded in what it is to be human.

To frolic, to have fun just for the sake of it is good for us – it lifts our spirits, and I am quite sure that Jesus and his disciples needed it just as much as we do.

Can you remember the last time you had a fit of uncontrollable giggles?

It doesn't happen often or easily but I feel sure God is smiling when it does.

As we begin to ease up the restrictions imposed by Coronavirus it seems rather appropriate to be enjoying the blossom, feeling a little giddy even, about new found freedoms, or even perhaps feeling a little alarmed.

Freedom and frolicking is both attractive and alarming - do we laugh at the fool or do we feel discomfited by the home truths hidden in the foolery?

What about that loving wastefully – is that a foolish command?

For me the most wonderful thing about love is that it is boundless, we don't get an allowance of love that runs out, and as Christians we are specifically called to love without limit.

As we watch spring unfold around us, as we see trees bloom and hear birds sing - simply because they can; let's remember that Jesus commands us to love without limits (John 13.34) - simply because we can – and what better time of year to remind us of this than springtime?

So, does the God of love invite us to be wasteful?

Yes I think so .....and what does it look like to love wastefully?

- The most apparently wasteful story in the whole of the New testament is the story of the woman with the alabaster jar - pouring hundreds of pounds worth of nard onto the feet of her Lord and Saviour
- We have a creator God who loved the world into being without any limits on the resources except our own greed.
- We have a sun that shines with apparently infinite light and heat, that rises without fail.
- A sparrow that sings for no reason other than to sing.

Every Friday at Evening Prayer on Zoom, we say these simple words:

**For a deeper generosity .....we pray**

May you know, receive and reflect the deep generosity of God in all creation this spring, and may you love wastefully, but live simply, so that others may simply live.

*Rev Helen*

## Services at Chaldon Church in May

### Sunday Services

#### 8am BCP Indoor Service

Limited seating must be prebooked

#### 10.30am Outdoor Sunday Service

All are welcome, please bring something to sit on.

### Thursday Services

#### 6th May 10.30am Indoor Service

Limited seating must be prebooked

#### 13th and 20th May 10.30am Outdoor Service

#### 27th May 10.30am Indoor Service

Limited seating must be prebooked

Please contact [pa@chaldonchurch.co.uk](mailto:pa@chaldonchurch.co.uk)  
to book Indoor services.

## Pentecost Picnic Sunday May 23<sup>rd</sup>

*In the spirit of fun and foolishness  
(if the weather and the  
lifting of restrictions allow it)*

We join together for a Pentecost Picnic in the church yard.

Bring your own everything - including a light hearted and a simple lunch.



## Evening and Night Prayer in May

On Zoom at 6.30pm Tuesdays, Wednesdays,  
Thursdays & Fridays

Night Prayer on Zoom at 9.30pm Sundays

Evening and Night Prayer with music will be offered on Zoom on each week for 30 mins

Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82053753781>

For Password please email: [vicar@chaldonchurch.co.uk](mailto:vicar@chaldonchurch.co.uk)

## The Friends of Chaldon Church



### Join the Friends of Chaldon Church

[www.friendsofchaldonchurch.org](http://www.friendsofchaldonchurch.org)

Proceeds from the Friends of Chaldon Church for the preservation of the church building and the mural.



## Walking with Pilgrim Hearts in support of Christian Aid

We have organised 5 daily local walks which are open to everyone.

Each weekday from **May 17<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>** we will meet at **11am** for a guided walk interspersed with prayer and silence as well as lots of opportunity for chat and a picnic.

Each walk will conclude with Evening Prayer.

Please support this mini pilgrimage by donating to Christian Aid via the link here

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/chaldonandwhyteleafedailypilgrimage>

and by joining us for the walk and/or for Evening Prayer which will also be on Zoom.

Daily details to follow by email.

## Mowers Required

If you have any free time and would like to volunteer to help cut the grass in the churchyard at Chaldon please contact either Jane Edwards or Stella Fladgate.



Food for the Caterham Foodbank may be left in a box in the porch of the church.

The foodbank is currently asking for powdered milk, small packets 3of tea bags, instant coffee, ketchup, salad cream & long life fruit juice.



You can all raise money for Chaldon Church every time you shop online with over 4400 shops and sites and it won't cost you a penny extra.

This includes all the big names like eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos, ASOS, Expedia, Waterstones, Just Eat and many more!

Just open the link below and sign up today

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stpeterstpaulchurchchaldon>