

# St Leonard's Church, Ryton-on-Dunsmore: Newsletter May 2021

**Rector:** The Reverend David Wintle  
**Reader:** Mrs Rosemary King  
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 Mr John Church

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## SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE: MAY 2021

**N.B.** These are the services that we hope to hold in our churches, but owing to the Covid crisis, some may have to be changed, cancelled or take place via Zoom. Please see our weekly email updates, or phone/email the Rector ([dandfwintle@gmail.com](mailto:dandfwintle@gmail.com)) to find out the current situation.

**AT THE MOMENT, ALL OUR CHURCHES ARE OPEN FOR  
PUBLIC WORSHIP AT THE STATED TIMES.**

DATE	Bubbenhall	Baginton	Ryton
<b>May 2</b> <b>Fifth Sunday of Easter.</b>	11.00 a.m: <b>Holy Communion</b>	10.00 a.m: <b>Village Service</b>	9.30 a.m: Parish Communion 6.30 p.m: Evensong
<b>May 9</b> <b>Sixth Sunday of Easter.</b> <b>Rogation Sunday</b>	6.30 p.m: Evensong	10.00 a.m: <b>Holy Communion</b>	8.00 a.m: <b>Holy Communion</b> 11.00 a.m: <b>Village Worship on ZOOM</b>
<b>Thursday, May 13</b> <b>Ascension Day</b>			7.30 p.m: <b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>May 16:</b> <b>Seventh Sunday of Easter.</b> <b>Sunday after Ascension .</b>	11.00 a.m: <b>Mattins.</b>	10.00 a.m: <b>Holy Communion.</b>	9.30 a.m: <b>Parish Communion.</b> 6.30p.m: Evensong.

<b>DATE</b>	<b>Bubbenhall</b>	<b>Baginton</b>	<b>Ryton</b>
<b>May 23:</b> <b>Pentecost.</b> <b>(Whit Sunday)</b>	<b>8.00 a.m:</b> <b>Holy Communion.</b>	<b>10.00 a.m:</b> <b>Holy Communion.</b>	<b>11.00 a.m:</b> <b>Family Service on ZOOM</b> <b>6.30 p.m:</b> <b>Holy Communion in church.</b>
<b>May 30:</b> <b>Trinity Sunday</b>	<b><i>Fifth Sunday in the Month: One United Benefice Service for all our churches.</i></b> <b><i>This time, it's at <b>Bubbenhall: Parish Communion at 11.00 a.m.</b></i></b>		
<b>June 3:</b> <b>Corpus Christi.</b> <b>Commemoration of the institution of Holy Communion.</b>			<b>7.30 p.m:</b> <b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>June 6:</b>	<b>11.00 a.m:</b> <b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>10.00 a.m:</b> <b>Village Service</b>	<b>9.30 a.m: Parish Communion</b> <b>6.30 p.m:</b> <b>Evensong</b>
<b>June 13:</b>	<b>6.30 p.m:</b> <b>Evensong</b>	<b>10.00 a.m:</b> <b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>8.00 a.m:</b> <b>Holy Communion</b> <b>11.00 a.m:</b> <b>Village Worship on ZOOM.</b>
<b>Every Wednesday at Ryton: 9.30 a.m, (except on May 19): Holy Communion.</b> <b>May 19: No service, sorry.</b>			

### **Thank you..**

John & Marilyn would like to thank everyone for their cards and good wishes they gave for their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Also John has decided to hand over the clock to Thom and will be there for him if and when any help or cover is needed. A big thank you to Thom.

## From the Church Register:



On April 20, at Oakley Wood Crematorium, the funeral of **Mary Allatson**, of Bubbenhall.

*May she rest in peace.*



## Frank Tunney, R.I.P: A message from his family.

Myrtle and Family would like to thank the Revd. David Wintle for the farewell service he gave Frank, Barbara Marsh for arranging the choir and beautiful singing during the service and thankyou to everyone for the cards and messages received as well as the contributions to the church and for the people who stood at the roadside to pay their respects.

## Easter at Church.



**Very many thanks to Janet Smith, to the kind and generous friends who donated to the Easter Flowers, and to the ladies who gave their time, gifts and generosity in making the church look so beautiful with their stunning floral arrangements.**

**Thank you!** Very many thanks to the volunteers who so kindly distributed the **leaflets** about Easter services to every house in the village. Your help is much appreciated.

**Hanging Baskets.** Barbara Marsh and Carolyn Reily will this summer again be making up hanging baskets in aid of church funds. Ready in June. Please contact Barbara for details 02476 304295/ email [geoffandba@gmail.com](mailto:geoffandba@gmail.com)



## **New Chairs in Church Centre!**

**When we are allowed to use the Church Centre again, you will notice the smart new and comfortable chairs, which were gifted to us by the College of Policing. Thank you to all who made this possible, especially to Craig Smith who transported the chairs into our Church Centre, and to John, Marilyn, Frances and Janet, who cleaned and “Covid disinfected” them.**

**Our much loved- and well-worn- old chairs have been gratefully received by the Abbey Church, Nuneaton, where Fr. Tom Wintle was recently Vicar.**







**Easter Garden.** Thank you so much to Hazel Smith and Carolyn Reiley who constructed a beautiful Easter Garden outside the old West Door of the church. They were sad that, owing to Covid restrictions, our children could not help them in this task as they usually enjoy doing, but we hope that this will be possible again in 2022...

He is not here... he is risen!



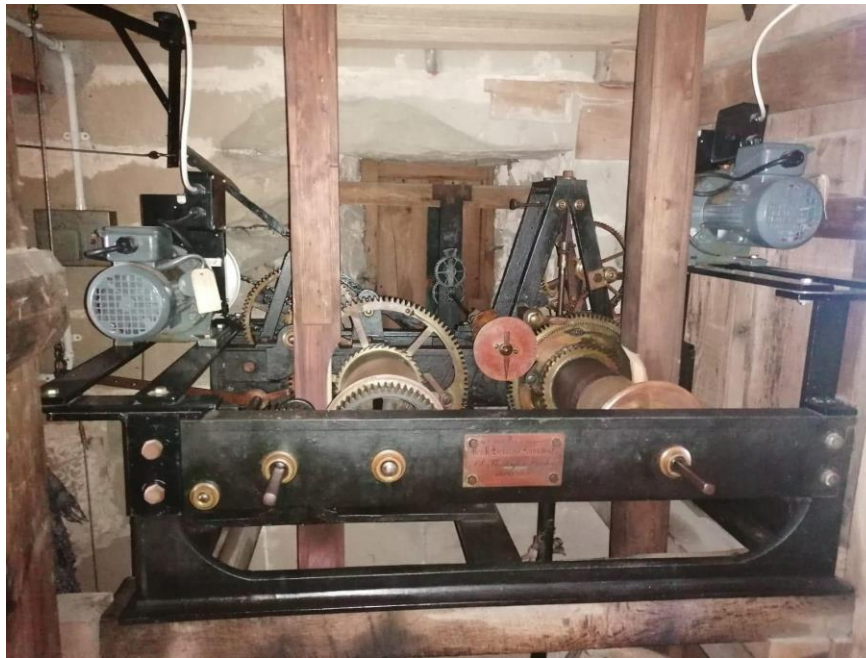
**Church Clock.** For many years, John Lee has faithfully wound the church clock every week, and our especial thanks are due to him for continuing to do so throughout the Covid lockdowns. It was a consolation to see that, although (during the first lockdown) we could not enter the church building, still the clock chimed out, marking the hours and bearing witness to all who passed by that St Leonard's was still there, ready and waiting for when it would be legal to meet there for worship again.

John is now training Thom and Suzie Bargewell to climb those stairs and wind the clock, so that they can help him and share the task.

We are very grateful to John for his faithful years of service, and to Thom and Suzie, as representatives of the next generation, for stepping forward to learn the job.

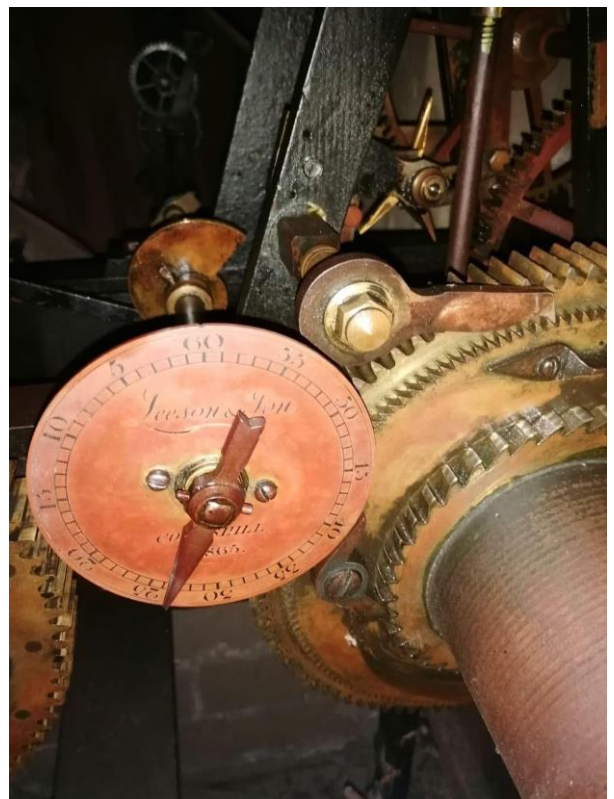


**The steep spiral staircase leading to the clock.**



**The mechanism. Date: 1865**

***Thank you for the pictures, Thom, and for volunteering to take on the task of winding our clock every week.***





## **CHURCHYARD**

Our Churchyard was a hive of activity on Saturday, April 3, when 12 volunteers, organised by Mark Jones, worked hard on Tidy-Up Afternoon.

We are most grateful to you all, and also to the people who work in the churchyard at other times too: thank you all very much. Here are pictures of some of the hard work going on:







Mark Jones writes:- At the beginning of April we had another very successful churchyard tidy up. We very much appreciated the help from all the volunteers who turned up. 12 of us worked in the churchyard cutting the grass, edging pathways and doing general maintenance. A BIG THANK YOU to each and every one of you. We meet on the first Saturday of the month, so the next tidy up session will be on Saturday 1st May 2pm-4pm. If you would like to join us for all or part of the time you will be very welcome. We hope as lockdown restrictions ease we will be able to offer refreshments, but for now please bring your own. For more details and offers of help

please contact Mark Jones on 024 7630 2272

## **The Bells of St. Leonard's.**



Our ringing chamber is unfortunately too small to permit socially- distanced ringing at the moment. We look forward to hearing the St Leonard's ringers, under the able tutelage of John Hammond, ringing our bells again. Thank you all very much for your enthusiasm and perseverance.

**In normal times, we meet at the church on Monday evenings from 7:30pm. Details**

**from John Hammond on 02476 511130.**

**email [john.hammond@1910@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:john.hammond@1910@yahoo.co.uk)**



**For your diary: Tuesday, May 25 at 7.30 p.m, possibly on Zoom:  
Annual Parish Meeting/Annual Parochial Church Meeting .**

**Details and Zoom invitation later.**

These two meetings – which are so close together that they feel like one meeting – will take place this year on May 25th .The meeting will start at 7.30p.m. Both meetings are open to anyone who wishes to attend, though there are restrictions on who may vote.

**The Annual Parish Meeting** is for the election of Churchwardens, and anyone on the civil electoral roll who lives in the parish of St Leonard may vote.

**The Annual Parochial Church Meeting** receives reports on the life of the church and hears any questions which you may have about St Leonard's. It also elects members to the PCC, and anyone who is on the church electoral roll may vote.

**Please also consider carefully if you are able to offer to serve on the PCC (Parochial Church Council). New ideas, new enthusiasm and new energy are always needed to ensure the vitality of your Parish Church into the future. Please have a word with the Churchwardens or Rector if you would like to serve your Parish Church in these ways.**

**All our normal social activities have had to be suspended owing to the Covid crisis. These include:**

**Ryton Evergreens 50 + Club.**

In normal times, our meetings are held in the Village Hall on the first and third Tuesdays of every month from 1.45pm to 3.45pm.

New members are welcome. Please contact John Loudon 02476301269

We use the village minibus to our meetings in the Village Hall.

**Lunch Club.** We hope that at some point we shall be able to welcome you again on the second Wednesday of every month.

***Special thanks to our catering team and to all helpers.***

**Ladies' Guild.** In normal times, we meet in the Church Centre at 7.45 on the first Thursday in each month.

**Ryton History Group.** We meet on the fourth Friday of every month from 7.30-9.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

***Details from Steve Garrett 76639228 or Ann 76302695***

**We hope that social activities will be allowed to start again soon.  
Meanwhile, please stay vigilant and help drive the infection rate down.**

## **Children at St. Leonard's Church: Provision in normal times.**



We love having children in our church, and there is **always provision for them at our 9.30 a.m. services**. All families with babies and children are sure of a warm welcome whenever they can join us. All our Sunday morning services start **at 9.30 a.m.**, and the pattern is:

### **2nd Sunday in every month: Village Worship.**

The most informal of all our services. We start in the Church Centre (warm and welcoming) with workshop activities for children, and coffee, puzzles and chat for grown ups to get to know one another.

At about 10.00 we move into church for a short and child-centred service.

There is no need to be there on the dot of 9.30- people drift in as soon as they can make it

### **4th Sunday in every month: Family Service.**

An all-age service of readings, songs and activities with everybody young and old in church together. Children always participate in the readings/ drama sketches etc. Tea/coffee and cake after the service in the Church Centre.

### **1st and 3rd Sundays in every month: Parish Communion with Sunday School.**

In normal times, we offer tea/coffee and the chance to socialise after every service. Children start the service in church with their parents, and after the first hymn go out for Sunday School activities in the Church Centre, returning to receive a blessing at the time of Communion. Parents are welcome to accompany their little ones to Sunday School and stay with them if they lack confidence at first.

At these services, we also have a robed choir which includes older children (aged about 8 and upwards) and teenagers: anyone whose son/daughter likes singing might consider encouraging them to join the choir. If your son/daughter might like to be part of the choir, please contact Barbara Marsh, our choir mistress on [geoffandba@gmail.com](mailto:geoffandba@gmail.com) (tel. 02476 304295)





We also offer the opportunity for children and young people to train to become altar servers at the Parish Communion services at both Bubbenhall and Ryton. Contact Rosemary on [rbking007@btinternet.com](mailto:rbking007@btinternet.com) (tel 01788 573067) about this.

We value children, and make them and their parents welcome.

## **Organ Fund reaches £17,698.00 !**

### **A message from Churchwarden John Church:-**

The total raised for the Organ Fund to date is £17,698.00, this includes £1,459.00 from the Tree of Light, and an anonymous donation of £5,000.00.

I would like to thank everybody for their support and generosity. It has been a fantastic achievement to

have raised so much money over the last 3 years, so that St Leonard's can have an excellent organ to help lead our services, whenever we are able to come back to church to sing.

It is hoped that work can start on the organ some time in June or July, as soon as the necessary parts are available.



**Well done everyone, and thank you!**

### **When we are allowed to- Come and enjoy breakfast in BUBBENHALL Village Hall!**



First Saturday in the month,  
from 9.00 – 11.00 a.m.  
Full English £5.00, or bacon/  
sausage etc. batches, tea, coffee-  
priced per item.  
Proceeds in aid of St. Giles'  
Church.

## Our organists: Thank you!

When our much loved and sadly missed friend and volunteer organist, John Hathaway, very sadly became too ill to play, and subsequently died in August 2015, we were very blessed that **Anne Walters** very kindly stepped forward to play for the Sunday morning Parish Communion services, as well as for weddings and funerals and special services such as Ascension Day and weekdays of Holy Week.

Anne has also very ably and willingly acted as accompanist to the special events sung by the Augmented Choir.

More recently, **Michael Spencer** has joined us to play for the evening services- why not came along and enjoy his playing at traditional Evensong, for example? (6.30 p.m. every first and third Sunday, plus second Sunday at Bubbenhall) Michael has also kindly taken over the duties of accompanist and funeral/ wedding organist, when Anne has not been available, and he played for the Easter Vigil service on Holy Saturday this year.

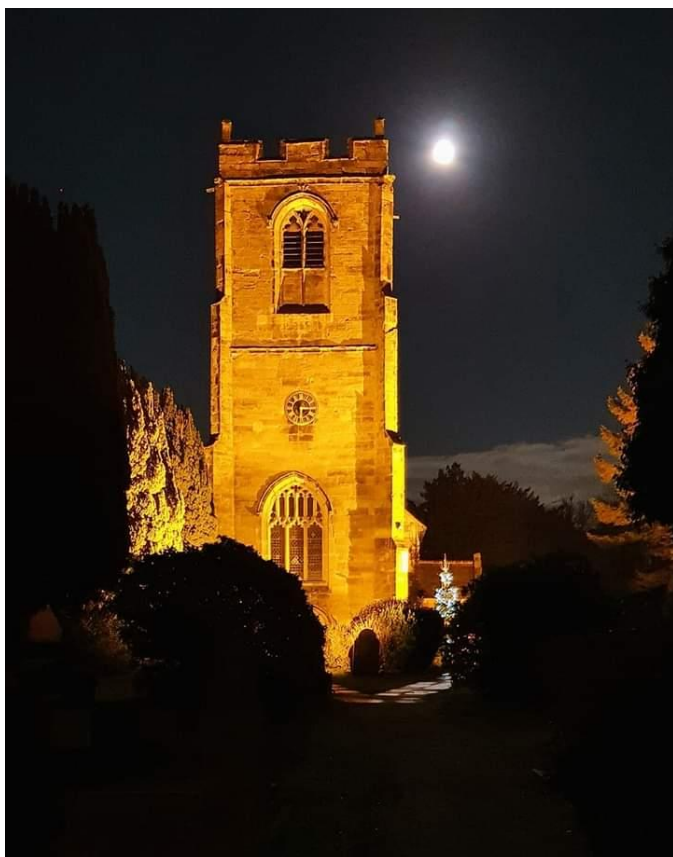
And more recently still, we have welcomed **Mark Jones**, who plays for some of the family services, as well as singing in the choir at Parish Communion. All these talented people play on a voluntary basis, and do not receive any fees for their services.

We are most grateful to them for giving so generously of their talents and time to enhance our worship.



*From the margin  
of a medieval manuscript.*





**Church Floodlighting.** Our Treasurer reports that donations made by parishioners wishing to mark a special celebration, or to remember someone on the anniversary of their birthday or death, has recently reached the grand total of £10,000 for church funds. Thank you to all who have contributed over the years, and especially to June Backholler, who has been running the scheme since the death of her husband Ron, who started the scheme some years ago. If you would like to light up the church to mark a special memory or celebration, please get in touch with June on 02476 302353.

### **Church Floodlighting April- May 2021.**

- April 14: Birthday memories of Jackie Simmons.
- April 15: Anniversary Memories of Barry Thorpe
- May 3: Birthday memories of Doreen Sylvia Howard.
- May 4: In memory of John Thorpe.
- May 7: Birthday memories of Daisy Jones.
- May 8: Loving memories of Ron Backholler
- May 19: In memory of Ann Crosbie
- May 22: In memory of Letty Wright and Doris Backholler.

### **Sunday, May 23: Pentecost (Whit Sunday)**



Pentecost, Christmas and Easter are the three major festivals of the Church's Year. Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit, is often called the birthday of the Church, and we shall be celebrating it with Holy Communion at 6.30 p.m. and Family Service at 11.00 a.m. on ZOOM. Holy Communion will also be celebrated at BUBBENHALL Church at 8.00 a.m, and at BAGINTON Church at 10.00. a.m.



### **Action Medical Research.**

Plant and cake stall to be held at St Leonard's Church on Thursday 27th May at 2-30pm. Refreshments depending on restrictions.

**Thursday, June 3 at 7.30 p.m. in St Leonard's Church: Holy Communion for Corpus Christi**

*Everybody welcome- do come along and celebrate Our Lord's institution of Holy Communion.*



### **Lent jars in aid of the Alzheimer's Society.**

Some generous donations have already been received: if you have not yet returned your donations for this year's Lent Jars appeal, can you please do so as soon as possible? If anyone has a jar and is unable to get it to church, please contact Gill on 07522868524 to arrange collection.

Thank you very much for your generosity.



### **Used ink cartridges please!**

The PCC has agreed to register with a scheme to recycle printer ink cartridges to raise funds for the church.

We will be putting recycling envelopes at the back of church, so if anyone has any used cartridges they can use the envelopes to send them free of charge. There is also a plastic box outside the door to the Church Centre, for you to deposit used ink cartridges. The church will receive £1 for each cartridge, thus raising money for the church and helping to save the planet.

**Thank you very much to those who have already contributed used cartridges, but please note that we have now been informed that, unfortunately, used toner cartridges, also Brother, Epson and Kodak cartridges are not acceptable**



## **Why not join the choir? Why not become a server?**

At St Leonard's, we have a **robed choir** which includes older children (aged about 8 and upwards) and teenagers: anyone whose son/daughter likes singing might consider encouraging them to join the choir.

New adult choir members always welcome too: If you enjoy singing and would like to join either the **robed choir** who sing for services twice a month, or the **augmented choir** (not robed) who sing for special events such as the Carol Service, please contact Barbara Marsh on 02476 304295. You do not have to be able to sight-read music- we are all learning!



*At choir practice we work hard- but each practice only lasts one hour! And we have a brilliant director! Come and join us for fun and fellowship as we work together to produce a good sound.*

We also offer the opportunity for children, young people and adults to train to become **altar servers** at the Parish Communion services at both Bubbenhall and Ryton churches.

Contact Rosemary on [rosiking2963@gmail.com](mailto:rosiking2963@gmail.com) or 01788573067 about this.

## **Flower Rota.**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Altar</u>	<u>Pulpit</u>
May 9	In memory of Ron Backholler	
May 16	In Memory of Jean Smith (Auntie Jean)	
May 23	In memory of Dennis J Hill	
May 30	In memory of Letty Wright	

**Janet Smith writes: Thank you to all for donations and gifts of flowers for Easter.**

### **People of all ages get involved at Village Worship and at Family Service.**

**Village Worship:** Second Sunday of every month, 9.30 a.m.

**Family Service:** Fourth Sunday of every month, 9.30 a.m. Bible story, songs and Activities for children and grown ups

Do come along to these friendly and informal services- and bring the children!

### **Can anyone help?**

**Bubbenhall Church would be very grateful if anyone has a Bluetooth speaker to gift – possibly after an upgrade to your own equipment? This would be to support the congregation in singing hymns when we are allowed to sing in church again.**

**Please contact Rosemary on 07877666123 or email [rosiking2963@gmail.com](mailto:rosiking2963@gmail.com)**

**if you are looking for a good home for your redundant Bluetooth speaker. Thank you for reading this.**

**The death of HRH Prince Philip** prompted memories of the day in 1980, when he opened the Sky Blue Connexion and visited St Leonard's Church, which was celebrating its 900<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Vicar Fr. Trevor Sykes, and the Churchwardens, showed him round the church, and he inspected the uniformed organisations and was presented with a book created by the children of Ryton First School (now Provost Williams School)



Hazel Smith and June Backholler spoke on Radio CWR about their memories of the day, and Hazel recalled: "The most surprising thing was that each of the children (now in their 40's) who contributed to the book received an individually named letter from Buckingham Palace sending Prince Philip's good wishes for Christmas and a photo of him in uniform."



Here are some pictures of that memorable visit. You may recognise some people you know- or even yourselves.



What a lot of very smart Cubs!

## Thought for the Month: Trinity Sunday.



On Sunday, May 30, we shall be celebrating Trinity Sunday.

What's that then? you may well ask.

What's all this Father, Son and Holy Spirit business? Do Christians worship one God, or three gods?

It's impossible to answer these questions without being accused of one heresy or another; all you can say for certain is that God, being entirely Other, and infinite, is ultimately unknowable to us finite mortals. But that's not much help in getting our poor little minds to apprehend what's meant by the Holy Trinity.

In the novel, *The Shack*, the main character, Mack, is rushed into hospital following a horrific car crash. As he lies there in a coma, from which it is feared he may not recover, he apparently has what is known as a Near Death experience. And, as is often reported by people who have been in comas, or clinically dead and then been resuscitated, in this Near Death experience, Mack meets God. God as Trinity: three persons, one God.

First he encounters a motherly black woman, who disconcertingly invites Mack to call her Papa.

She, it appears, represents to Mack God the Father.

Then an elusive kind of Asian lady in floaty garments and hair constantly waving in the breeze- even when there is no breeze- comes on the scene.

She calls herself Sarayu, and represents the Holy Spirit.

Rather less weirdly, a not terribly good-looking but very friendly man of Middle Eastern appearance and wearing jeans, comes in from his workshop, where he has been doing a spot of carpentry.

This man, as you will guess, represents Jesus, God the Son.

At one point. Mack in puzzlement asks the three characters- "so which of you is God?"

"I AM", they instantly and simultaneously reply.

Three Persons, one God. The Holy Trinity.

When Mack meets the three persons of the Trinity in *The Shack*, a lot of very interesting and thought-provoking conversations result. Through these conversations,

Mack comes to realize that God loves him, “I’m especially fond of you” is how God puts it.

And subsequently He makes it clear that He is “especially fond” of each individual person who has ever existed.

Because God- whether we encounter Him first and foremost as Father, Son or Holy Spirit- God is Love. (1 John 4:8 & 16)



**And finally..... recipe for the meetings of our PCC?**

*The meeting  
will be gin  
with prayer.*



**Contributions for the June Newsletter by May 20<sup>th</sup> please.**  
**Please encourage others to ask to receive the Newsletter by email: the email version contains more news than there is room for in the paper version, and sometimes cartoons, pictures and jokes. Just contact Rosemary on [rosiking2963@gmail.com](mailto:rosiking2963@gmail.com) and ask to be added to the list. No charge!**