

SAFEGUARDING ASSISTANTS (SGAs)

Anne Rees now works with our Parish Children and Young People (SGACYP) groups, supporting group volunteers, signposting to training, assisting Wendy by ensuring that our procedures are followed for safer recruitment. Contact her via: anne@parishofbridport.org. Alongside Anne we are **still looking for someone** in a similar role to focus on vulnerable adults. If this is something you could offer, contact Wendy or Di in the office for the role description. We feel that it is important to have this small team functioning across the parish, being known by our church congregations and available whenever a need or issue arises.



CHURCHES TOGETHER

Next CTiBD meeting is **6 February** 2025 at 7pm at St Mary's and St Catherine's Church

26 January 2025

Third Sunday of Epiphany

PARISH NEWS



Greetings from Bridport's worshipping community

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Last Saturday, we met as a parish to worship and to pray together, and in this Epiphany season, to celebrate the gifts that God has given us to use in his service.

We heard an inspirational talk from Anna Hardy on turning the financial management of our churches into something thoroughly missional. We told one another the story of our six churches.

We shared our frustrations, our future hopes and also the many exciting opportunities and initiatives that are already bubbling up in our communities.

Many people contributed to the Away-Day: all who gave up their Saturday to be there and all those who met in advance of the day or wrote in with their reflections.

I was delighted that so many people participated.

Everybody's offering made a valuable contribution to the whole – a big thank you to you all (and especially to our PCC Secretary Bridget, who worked extremely hard to make the day happen and spent a lot of the day in the kitchen with Lorna kindly serving tea and coffee to everyone).

There is much to celebrate!

The ongoing service of our faithful teams in their local churches; new forms of worship, particularly with children and young people; our eco initiatives; our community outreach and hospitality. There are also some challenges: to review our internal administration as a parish; and to improve on our communication (both internal and external). We are on the case...

All of this was very valuable work and thank you for lots of positive feedback about the away day.

Although now is not the season for writing a long-term vision plan, we are able to map where we are and what we have in this season - to notice God at work amongst us, to celebrate it and to use it as best we can to make Jesus known in Bridport.

Every blessing,
Cally.

Revd Cally Burch

AWAY with the penguins

An illustrated TALK

by Peter Wright on his recent expedition cruise to the Antarctic and Falkland Islands.

Sunday 2 February
4pm to 6pm
in Church House Hall
South St

Admission **FREE**

Donations to

COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles
the wonder of your saving presence:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your mighty power;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

(or)

God of all mercy,
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,
release to the captives,
and freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit
and set all your people free
to praise you in Christ our Lord.

Post Communion

Almighty Father,
whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
is the light of the world:
may your people,
illuminated by your word and sacraments,
shine with the radiance of his glory,
that *he* may be known, worshipped, and obeyed
to the ends of the earth;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

READINGS

1 Corinthians 12 : 12 – 31a *One body, many members*

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this.

But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Luke 4 : 14 - 21 *The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry*

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

The Rejection of Jesus at Nazareth

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

Psalm 19 : 1 - 6 *God's Glory in Creation and the Law To the leader. A Psalm of David*

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hidden from its heat.

THURSDAY PARISH PRAYER

First and third Thursdays of the month – prayer with Revd Cally Burch & Revd John Rees: **6 February** and **20 February** 3.30-4.30pm.