

*Benefice of Hazelbury Bryan and the Hillside Parishes of Belchalwell,
Fifehead Neville,
Ibberton, Mappowder and Woolland*



Benefice of Hazelbury Bryan & the Hillside Parishes

Introduction to Vacancy by the Bishop of Sherborne

Thank you for your interest in this post. As House for Duty Rector you will have pastoral care of 6 churches in the beautiful Blackmore Vale part of Dorset. A long standing covenant between the southern parishes of The Blackmore Vale Deanery has recently become the newly formed Pilgrim Group Ministry, where local clergy are encouraged to work together, support one another and have a common mission around Sturminster Newton, Stalbridge and the surrounding rural communities providing colleagues who can help make this house for duty post sustainable.

Rural ministry in Dorset is a joy and a delight. In recent years significant changes have been made in the way clergy are supported and encouraged, leading to a greater sense of collegiality in our rural areas. The Blackmore Vale Deanery, in which the benefice is situated, has been shaped to ensure there are clergy clusters, north and south for mutual support and fellowship. The southern cluster, comprising of clergy from the rural villages which include, Child Okeford, Stalbridge, Shillingstone, Hazelbury Bryan, and Sturminster Newton includes, a curate and experienced clergy committed to collaborative ministry. The Pilgrim Group of parishes have traditionally shared together in a week of pilgrimage each year. There will be a warm welcome amongst this clergy grouping for whoever comes to Hazelbury Bryan and the Hillside Parishes.

The benefice itself enjoys beautiful rural countryside yet is within easy reach of Blandford, Dorchester and Yeovil. Gillingham and Sherborne stations offer rail connections to Salisbury, Exeter and London Waterloo. Dorset attracts a significant number of clergy who come to retire in a rural location and it has been gratifying to see how a local team of lay and ordained has developed across the benefice during the vacancy to sustain a pattern of worship and ministry. There is a desire for this to continue, however, a House for Duty priest, offering Sunday

plus 2 days, is vital to serve as a point of contact for pastoral care and to develop mission and ministry further. In the diocese there is a commitment to encourage the development of Lay Ministry, and local programmes of training to develop Lay Pastoral Assistants and Lay Worship Leaders are proving to be successful particularly in our rural benefices. These courses give individuals confidence in their calling as well as support benefices in their local response to the need for worship and pastoral care.

Our Diocesan vision is to Make Jesus Known, so we are seeking someone with a heart for small rural communities, for collaborative working, who wishes to build on all that is already going on. Someone who can make the most of colleagues, hold lightly to trying to do everything and who can offer a prayerful and priestly presence. This may be a final post, or it may be that you wish to combine ministry with other interests, or work. Should you wish to know more about this vacancy please do not hesitate to pay a visit or contact the Archdeacon, The Ven Penny Sayer (01305 269074) or myself. Here in Dorset we aim to offer great opportunities, wonderful countryside, supportive colleagues and some deeply spiritual places of worship and retreat.

Bishop Karen (01747 811960)



Opportunity



One God six Parishes

The Hazelbury Bryan & the Hillside Parishes Benefice is situated in the beautiful rural location of the Blackmore Vale in North Dorset. It is in the Diocese of Salisbury, the Archdeaconry of Dorset, the Deanery of the Blackmore Vale and part of the 19 Pilgrim Parishes. (see Pilgrim Parishes below)

We are seeking a non-stipendiary house for duty Rector, licensed to the benefice of Hazelbury Bryan and the Hillside parishes, to help us explore where God is leading us and to understand what it means to be rural parish churches in the 2020s and beyond.

Depending on the skills and interests of the Rector and the needs of the parishes, details of his/her responsibilities can be developed in agreement with the archdeacon and the rural dean.

The Person we are looking for ...

..will be engaged to work for two full days and a Sunday each week, in return for a house in Hazelbury Bryan, provided by the diocese, and with the statutory holiday entitlement.

...can expect the mutual support of the other ministers within the nineteen Pilgrim Parishes.

We are hoping to find someone who:

- Has the capacity to lead the benefice in building its vision for mission and in encouraging spiritual development;
- Understands the needs of that part of the community which does not currently support the church and endeavour to reach out;
- Can recognise the importance of time being put aside for reflection and quiet days and will encourage those around to do the same;
- Wish to preach the orthodox faith as revealed in scripture in an engaging way and who can inhabit a variety of worship styles;
- Can encourage and lead study groups whenever the need arises;
- Understands and can be sensitive to the varied pastoral needs of the community;
- Is willing and able to delegate and can use the voluntary administrative support which is currently available.
- Ideally the person appointed will possess a strong wish to live and work in rural parishes. The benefice is rural and attractive but can be a challenge to get around in winter by car and on foot.
- We are seeking an individual with strong communication skills.
- He or she should have a creative vision of the church, especially in work with children and families.
- We would expect that our priest would conduct one Eucharistic and one other service on a Sunday within the benefice, working closely with ordained and lay ministers and volunteers, to maintain a reasonable balance between traditional and modern services.
- We would hope that the person appointed would be available to conduct occasional offices and make some pastoral visits calling on the help of other priests and lay ministers within the pilgrim parishes when necessary.

Our Vision

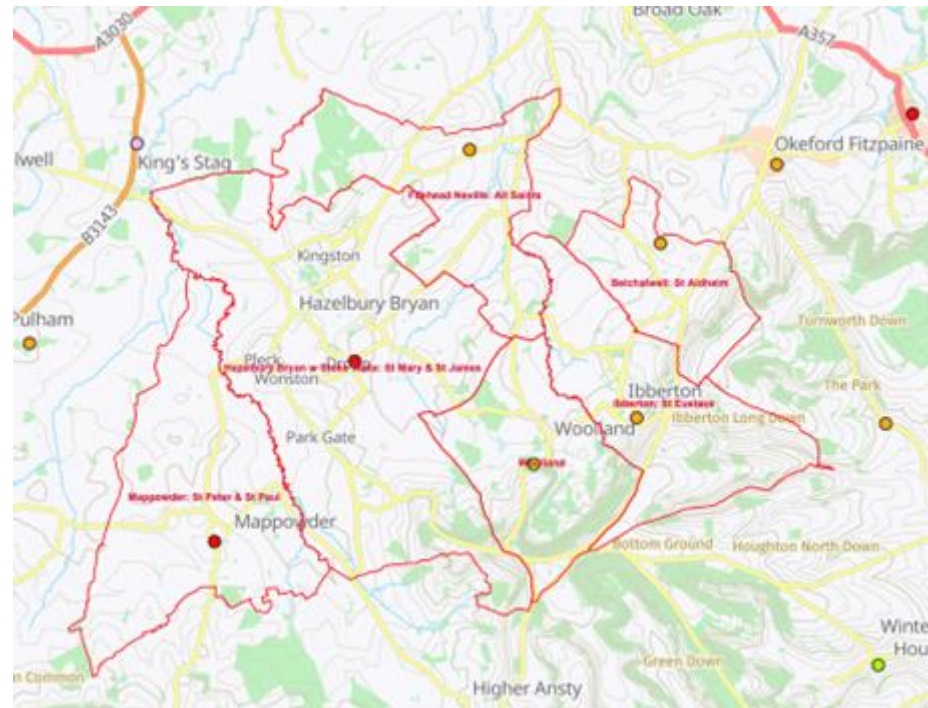
Hopes for the future

- To be open and accessible to all generations
- Continue to strengthen relationships between congregations sharing resources & ideas
- Develop new and existing lay leaders for mission, ministry and worship
- Be more integrated and relevant to our communities
- Explore new forms of worship in our communities alongside much loved traditional worship

The Challenges/opportunities

We're not perfect but we are willing!

- To find a balance between a desire to explore new forms of worship & valuing deeply held traditions
- To maintain places of worship
- Core members of the Church Communities are ageing, but there are many in the 50+ age group we're keen to engage with – especially those showing interest in church life
- To encourage families with children that church to take part in church life



Benefice Life

We are a group of six parishes and six churches, Belchalwell, Fifehead Neville, Hazelbury Bryan with Stoke Wake, Ibberton, Mappowder and Woolland.

The area is predominately rural. The population (1,710) has a diverse spread of ages with a good proportion of young people and families. Many now commute to their place of work, out of the villages, and there are a number of holiday homes in the area.

Where a month has a fifth Sunday there is a joint benefice service which is rotated around the parishes. This may be Holy Communion or a Service of the Word. An attempt is made to allow the parishes to share equally in the Mothering Sunday, Palm Sunday and other services during Holy Week. Special services are often held for major church festivals such as Plough Sunday, Candlemas, Holy Week, Harvest, Advent and Christmas. On Palm Sunday, the procession through one of the villages led by a donkey has become a regular feature.

Over the last twenty years, a group has met fortnightly for Bible study, largely under the guidance of James Hepburn, licensed lay minister.

There is a friendly relationship with the Bulbarrow Christian Fellowship which meet at Broad Oak Chapel, and the licenced lay ministers have been known to take their services.

The six benefice churches all give regularly to mission and six parish Lent lunches are arranged every year with proceeds given to charity. The six parochial church councils within the benefice work to maintain their churches and support the mission of the church. PCC meetings are generally chaired by the vice-chair (lay person). The churchwardens of the benefice meet with the local ministry group every three months.

In 2021, a local ministry group was re-commissioned by the Archdeacon

of Sherborne to oversee the mission and ministry of the benefice. The local ministry group consists of Jestyn Coke (licensed lay minister), James Hepburn (licensed lay minister), Revd David Dunning (retired minister), Revd Chris Jervis (retired minister) and David Sinclair (lay permission to officiate). This group meets monthly (second Saturday at 9am currently) and every three months it is joined by the two lay worship leaders and they, along with some church wardens, conduct non-Eucharistic services. All parishes have a team of readers organised locally.

There is a benefice choir, based at Hazelbury Bryan, but it also sings around the parishes. All churches possess a musical instrument (organ, harmonium or clavinova). Hazelbury Bryan also has a 'loop' sound system, a CD player and hymn backing tracks.

A parish magazine is edited voluntarily and produced in ten issues throughout the year at a small charge. It is distributed widely across the Benefice by a team of volunteers. This encompasses both church and village news from around the six parishes. In addition, a pew sheet is produced and delivered bi-weekly to all churches in the Benefice.

There is an online presence with the website <https://hazelburybryanhillsideparishes.co.uk/> and a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/369357260969623>



The Parishes



Belchalwell

The Parish of St Aldhelm

The village is one of the smallest in the group, with a population of about 75, and 27 names on the electoral roll. The very old church is in a good state of repair and the churchyard is immaculate. There is a flourishing Sanctuary Guild who make sure there are fresh flowers in the church each week. The average congregation is nine, but festivals are always well attended.

*Together we are the Benefice of
Hazelbury Bryan & the Hillside Parishes*



Fifehead Neville

The Parish of All Saints

The Parish of All Saints at Fifehead Neville and Fifehead St Quintin comprises sixty households scattered across the valley of the River Divelish with a mixed population of about 150.

The church dates partly from 15th century with 18th century modifications and is in a good state of repair. The churchyard is closed to new burials, but there is a peaceful graveyard just up the lane. Most maintenance work is carried out by volunteers. There is a small hall which is church property, administered by a separate committee, providing a venue for local functions and church events.

Over the years we have evolved with young and old, traditionalists and others, being open to change and developments in liturgy. We currently have two services each month, usually these are Holy Communion and Morning Prayer, with one being taken from the Book of Common Prayer, the other following Common Worship. At major festivals our small church is usually full with visiting and local families, we can comfortably seat around seventy people.

In our small villages, the village hall committee, Churchwardens and PCC members are responsible for spearheading most community events, including the annual summer fete, Lent lunches and coffee mornings. Whilst helping to raise essential funds, these occasions provide a wonderful opportunity to involve all members of the wider community and the PCC sees this as an essential part of its Christian mission.

Hazelbury Bryan



The Parish of St Mary and St James with Stoke Wake

The earliest known record of a church on its present site dates back to 1246. It is situated in the settlement

known as Droop which is thought to originally have been the centre of the village, but we understand it separated out into different settlements after the Black Death. The present village is Thomas Hardy's 'Nettlebury, with a population of just over a thousand spread between the seven hamlets. Some of these have grown into each other.

The church seats about 130 people, and there are currently 43 on the Church Electoral Roll. St Mary & St James is the largest church in the Benefice and has a car park with a benefice office and a disabled WC.

The congregation varies from about 20 on some Sundays to 30 for the Family Communion service. There are 4 services each month, with a balance between Book of Common Prayer and Common Worship. With its space, the church often plays host to special services, such as the Gift and Christingle services, the Easter service, All Souls' Day, Trinity Sunday and Remembrance Sunday. At Christmas there is a midnight Holy Communion and a family service on Christmas Day.

There is a set of 6 bells which are rung on special occasions by a team drawn from surrounding villages. There is a fine Henry Dyer organ in the church, moved and renovated in the last 6 years and back-up music system linked to a sound system in the church.

Most years there is a flower festival which usually coincides with the annual church and village fete which is held in the garden of the adjacent Manor Farm by kind permission of the owners. Their barn is also sometimes used for church activities.



Ibberton

The Parish of St Eustace

Ibberton is one of the Hillside Parishes which, together with Belchalwell and Woolland, joined the Benefice of Hazelbury Bryan toward the end of 1991. The village has a

population of approximately 108 and there are 30 on the electoral roll.

St. Eustace Church Grade 2* is late 14th century and lately restored from a near derelict condition in the early years of 20th century. The village is set at the foot of Ibberton Hill and the church is reached by a steep halterpath and two flights of steps. The parish has always paid its share in full. It is generally in a good state of repair apart from the corner of the North Aisle wall. Planning for remedial work is underway at the moment.

The village houses a pub and a village hall, which is shared with Belchalwell and Woolland. Each month there are two main services in the Church, on the first Sunday at 10.30 am Holy Communion and on the third Sunday a Family Service. Special family services occur at Christmas, Easter and Harvest and a children's area is established. Light refreshments are served at the end of each service.

The PCC regularly organise community events that help to add to the Churches funds, e.g. music, open gardens, harvest and safari suppers. Each summer a Hillside Parishes fete is held at the Village Hall organised by the PCC's of Belchalwell, Ibberton and Woolland.

A bi-monthly newsletter related to Ibberton, Belchalwell & Woolland is emailed and printed with news from the Churches and Village Hall, shared by the three parishes.





Mappowder

The Parish of St Peter and St Paul

Mappowder is a village of some seventy houses, including outlying farms (population about a hundred and seventy). The centre of the village is listed as a conservation area. The population is a mix of those who have chosen to come and retire in the village and those who earn their livings elsewhere, with a few of the original village families still left. There is a very small number of children and teenagers who travel outside the village to schools.

There are nine on the fairer share count. The monthly Morning Praise service usually about 16 people, including the Benefice choir. The monthly communion service (alternate months Book of Common Prayer, and Common Worship) normally attracts about 8. The church is generally well attended for the Christmas Eve Carol Service and, reflecting its farming origins, the Harvest Festival.

The local churchgoers are a lively group, actively involved in village matters, including events at the village hall and the production of a monthly village newsletter. The church itself is a mixture of medieval and Victorian. The church and its environs are well maintained on a routine basis thanks to the efforts of a small band of people, not all of whom are church goers.

The bells were re-hung at the millennium, using an anonymous donation, and there is an enthusiastic team of bellringers drawn from the surrounding villages.



Woolland

The Parish of Woolland

Woolland lies at the foot of Woolland Hill, deep in Hardy Country in an area of outstanding natural beauty. The village boasts few public amenities, but it does have a lovely 19th century church which affords very fine views across the Blackmore Vale. The present church was built as a chapel by Sir Gilbert Scott. The spire was rebuilt in 1987, some £20,000 having been raised to pay for the work. It has unusual, sepia-coloured windows and other attractive features, and the churchyard is home to a famous yew tree, reputedly at least two thousand years old. It is some time since we had a Quinquennial Review but the church is in a reasonable state of repair.

Average attendance at the monthly Family Service is approximately 10. Woolland, Ibberton and Belchalwell combine to hold an annual church fete. Woolland Church has always paid its Share in full. We have one Churchwarden and the PCC comprises six other people. Our building is open every day during daylight hours. There are 40 households in the village.

Our policy is always "all welcome".



What the Benefice can offer..

- A delightful house with amazing views towards the Dorset Gap, in the parish of Hazelbury Bryan, in return for work on two days and Sunday each week
- The water rates and council tax are paid by the Diocese while the electricity and oil bills are the responsibility of the Rector. Telephone and other parish expenses are for an agreement between the clergy person and the benefice.
- An annual retreat, funded by the benefice
- The full support of the other pilgrim priests
- Respect for the priest's days off and full awareness of his/her working times and what duties he/she may be reasonably expected to do within the contracted period
- Encouragement and funding for any in-service training
- The services of three licensed lay ministers and an active retired priest help with administration
- The production of a bi-weekly pew sheet by lay volunteers, delivered to all churches within the benefice and available electronically
- Regular meetings with local ministry group and churchwardens to discuss challenges and opportunities.
- Some parishioners are happy to open their homes for meetings, and the school hall is available.
- The churchwardens and PCCs are pledged to support the Rector in whatever way they can, including help with pastoral and administrative work, promoting outreach and mission initiatives, nurturing individual special skills, and having care for his/her personal spiritual and physical wellbeing.

The Rector's Residence



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Parish Services

Hazelbury Bryan and the Hillside Parishes		
Time	Church	Service
First Sunday of the month		
9.00am	Mappowder	Holy Communion
10.30am	Ibberton	Holy Communion
10.30am	Hazelbury Bryan	Morning Prayer
6.30pm	Belchalwell	Evening Prayer
Second Sunday of the month		
9.00am	Woolland	Holy Communion
10.30am	Mappowder	Holy Communion
9.30am	Fifehead Neville	Morning Prayer
6.30pm	Hazelbury Bryan	Evening Prayer
Third Sunday of the month		
10.30am	Belchalwell	Holy Communion
10.30am	Hazelbury Bryan	Family Worship
10.30am	Ibberton	Family Service
Fourth Sunday of the month		
9.30am	Fifehead Neville	Morning Prayer
11.15am	Hazelbury Bryan	Parish Communion
6.30pm	Woolland	Evening Prayer
Fifth Sunday of the month		
10.30am	Churches in turn	Joint Benefice Service
4.00pm	5 th at 4	Contemporary Service

Book of Common Prayer Services appear in Old English Font

Common Worship Services are in plain type

Benefice Administration

Currently the administration is undertaken by a number of people, and it is intended to appoint someone to help. The scope of the help will be discussed with any new incumbent.

Rotas: Preparing skeleton rotas, agreeing with Ministry group and churchwardens.

Liturgy: Printing and distributing to relevant churches of any special service sheets, together with hymn words and music when required. Ensuring that all persons with a 'need to know' get advance copies of any such material. Obtaining palm crosses, advent candles etc. as required.

Weddings: Taking initial details for wedding bookings and passing information to the churchwardens and church flower ladies. Arranging for choir, bells and organist if necessary. Preparing Banns and notifying churchwardens and clergy of dates of reading. Writing up the registers (the most convenient time for this would appear to be after a rehearsal). Attending weddings if necessary and returning appropriate documents to the Registrars. Confirming details to couples and collecting and administering fees.

Baptisms: Taking initial details of baptisms and passing information to churchwardens. Maintaining a benefice baptism record.

Funerals and Memorials: Notifying churchwardens and church flower ladies, arranging organist, collecting and accounting for fees and maintaining a benefice record of all funerals and memorial services held in the benefice. Sending out application forms and collecting fees for memorial stones and plaques and monitoring churchyard plans

Assisting with meetings as required

School: Making sure church is available and heated for school's act of collective worship and other assemblies, attending these occasions, liaising with school over yearly prizes, and the availability of church car park.

Secretarial: Dealing with correspondence as necessary. Circulating up-dated information to churchwardens, PCC secretaries or treasurers as required. Sundry photocopying as required. Maintaining the benefice photocopier and making it available to those who wish to use it. Purchasing all necessary stationery.

Such other duties as maybe required and agreed by negotiation

Travelling expenses, stationery, and postal costs are claimed from benefice.

The Pilgrim Priests

Over the past decade, the deployable clergy servicing the southern parishes of the Blackmore Vales Deanery have worked collaboratively as the Pilgrim Parishes. Recently it has been agreed that they will be a Pilgrim Group Ministry which has been formalised and mandated to support each other. In essence, although each benefice will have an incumbent who is totally autonomous, she or he will be mandated to support the other priests in the group.

Regarding the benefices themselves, at the end of any incumbency they will have a right to review the arrangement and consider whether they wish to continue as a benefice linked to the Pilgrim Group. It is also accepted that the relationship of the benefice to their patrons will be undisturbed by the grouping and they will have direct access to the patrons but will consult with the Pilgrim Group on matters that concern the patrons.

At full strength, the Pilgrim Priests are the three stipendiary incumbents based at Shillingstone, Sturminster Newton and Stalbridge and two non-stipendiary house for duty priests based at Marnhull and Hazelbury Bryan. They are ably assisted by the Lay Ministers and retired priests.

The new Rector will be a key member of this clergy group. The friendship and professional support that this pattern offers have been among the greatest benefits of the pilgrim group.

Individual priests also offer areas of expertise across the Pilgrim Vale. Such skills might be in teaching, work in schools, the ministry of healing, spiritual direction, etc. It is hoped that the new person appointed as house for duty at Hazelbury Bryan would want to be part of the pilgrim project and share in its development and service for God's kingdom across the nineteen parishes.

The Pilgrim Group (5 Benefices - 19 Parishes)

Hazelbury Bryan and the Hillside Parishes: Hazelbury Bryan with Stoke Wake, Fifehead Neville, Mappowder, Ibberton, Belchalwell and Woolland

Marnhull

Spire Hill: Purse Caundle, Stalbridge, Stock Gaylard and Stourton Caundle

Sturminster Newton, Hinton St Mary and Lydlinch

The Okeford Benefice: Child Okeford, Manston, Hammoon, Okeford Fitzpaine and Shillingstone

See Appendices A & B for more detail

Blackmore Vale Deanery

The Blackmore Vale is an extensive lowland valley in the northernmost part of Dorset, a large expanse of green fields and hedgerows, a patchwork of lush, low-lying pasture on mostly poorly-draining clay and greensand soils. This is Thomas Hardy's "Vale of the little dairies" (Tess of the D'Urbervilles) and today it still supports mostly small dairy farms. It is the catchment area of the upper reaches of the River Stour, which has its source at Stourhead just over our northern boundary in Wiltshire. The river and its tributaries flow through every one of our eight benefices, linking them together like beads on a necklace. For 25 miles the Stour rolls southwards before finally leaving the Vale at Blandford Forum, a town nestled in a cleft between the Dorset Downs and Cranborne Chase. The Blackmore Vale is God-made; it is very green and rural; it is very beautiful.

The Blackmore Vale Deanery is the work of human hands. Its 34 parishes (eight benefices) cluster into two halves: the northern parishes (three benefices) congregate around the larger towns of Gillingham and Shaftesbury and have an informal arrangement of cross-border cooperation and mutual support. There are currently five full-time posts across these three benefices, including a pioneer vicar in Gillingham.

The southern parishes (five benefices, of which Hazelbury Bryan and the Hillside Parishes is one) gather around the smaller population centres of Marnhull, Stalbridge, Sturminster Newton and Shillingstone. The Group scheme, formally established under Pastoral Order, enables sharing of ministry and collaboration between clergy, who meet together regularly as a Group Chapter. The incumbents and priests-in-charge of each benefice have a duty to assist each other so as to make the best possible provision for the cure of souls across the whole area.

Notwithstanding the above, there is a sense of shared identity, purpose and mission across the whole Deanery. Deanery Chapter meets monthly for prayer, lunch and fellowship. Deanery Synod meets three times a year in January, May and September, and we have a fruitful and long-standing relationship with the Diocese of Lui in South Sudan.



The Benefice Area

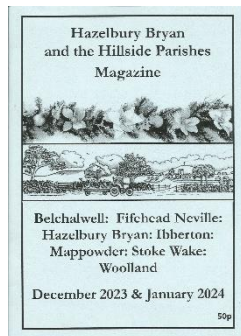
The Benefice of Hazelbury Bryan & The Hillside Parishes to the South of the market Town of Sturminster Newton and West of Blandford Forum. The total population is approximately 1,500 the largest parish has about 1,025 people and the smallest 40. It is a cohesive cluster with eight miles (17 minutes) between the furthest villages and each church less than 10 minutes' drive from the next.

We are a beautiful rural area known as the part of the Blackmore Vale below Bullbarrow Hill from which you can view the whole of the Vale. Three of the villages are spring line villages. A main line station is at Gillingham about 30 minutes away and the wonderful Jurassic Coast, just 75minutes away.

Within the Benefice we have:

- Village shop with a visiting post office
- garage
- three public houses
- swimming pool
- a wide variety of small businesses ranging from speciality cakes to dog training.
- several fishing lakes
- one recreation field – and various sports clubs
- four village halls with a wide range of activities & societies
- County Primary School and nursery – services are sometimes held in the Church





Outreach

Within the Benefice we have the monthly Magazine, 'Hazelbury Bryan and the Hillside Parishes Magazine', which reaches many in the wider community who do not necessarily attend the churches beyond the key festivals.

Through the Blackmore Vale Deanery we are linked to the Lui diocese in South Sudan and have funded two teachers through teacher training.



Lent Lunches

Each Parish arrange Lunches during Lent in a variety of locations. Bring and buy stalls and donations are collected for various local Charities.

Ascension Day Service & Breakfast

Led & cooked by the Hepburn family with members from the whole Benefice.



Families



Family services are regularly held in some of our churches and a special focus is made at Christmas, Easter and Harvest including Easter Egg Hunts in the church yard!

School



We are fortunate to have close links with Hazelbury Bryan Primary School, where we lead a weekly Christian Assembly. Their annual Carol Service is held in Hazelbury Bryan church. Active involvement in the school is seen as a very important part of our outreach to children, families and the community.

The school is very friendly with wonderfully dedicated staff, about 85 pupils and some marvellous facilities, including a swimming pool, extensive playing fields and a forest school. The Pre-school shares the building and grounds. Some of the Governors are members of our Church communities.



Appendices

APPENDIX 1

A Rule of Life agreed by the Pilgrim Priests in November 2009

‘The ordained priest is called to reflect the priesthood of Christ and to serve the priesthood of the people of God, and to be one of the means of grace whereby God enables the Church to be the Church’ *Michael Ramsay*

A.

- We believe that in order to fulfil our calling as Christian priests serving the Pilgrim Benefices we should recognise that to reflect Christ’s priesthood we must make as an absolute priority in our lives:
- A pattern of prayer which includes public daily offices, private prayer and the Eucharist which will enable our relationship with the Father to deepen through Christ and in the power of the Spirit.
- Adequate time set aside for reading, study and reflection that we may grow and develop in our understanding of Christian theology and of the world in which the Church is called to give its mission. Some of this time will be regularly spent together as pilgrim priests for mutual support and encouragement.
- A proper amount of time given for our relationships with our families and friends and for necessary restoration and recreation through a variety of activities.

B.

We believe that if we establish and maintain these priorities (if we become “Fully Alive” as priests), then we shall be in the best position to serve the priesthood of these people of God by:

- Exercising a sacramental ministry
- Preaching the gospel

- Teaching and nurturing discipleship within, and on the margins of, the Church

C.

We believe that if we serve the priesthood of the people of God in this way, then we shall be a means of grace whereby God enables the Church to be the Church so that it:

- Proclaims the Good News of the kingdom of God
- Makes new disciples through baptism, nurture and teaching
- Responds to human needs by loving service within our communities
- Seeks to transform the unjust structures of society
- Strives to safeguard the integrity of creation that the life of the earth may be sustained and renewed.

(These represent the *Five Marks of Mission*)

Consequently, we undertake to live our lives according to this rule.

The Pilgrim Priests.

November 2009

APPENDIX 2

The group ministry for the benefice of Hazelbury Bryan and the Hillside Parishes, the benefice of Spire Hill, the benefice of Okeford, the benefice of Sturminster Newton, Hinton St Mary and Lydlinch, and the benefice of Marnhull

MISSION AND PASTORAL MEASURE 2011

The benefices of Hazelbury Bryan and the Hillside Parishes, Spire Hill,
Okeford,
Sturminster Newton, Hinton St Mary and Lydlinch, and Marnhull
in the diocese of Salisbury

PASTORAL ORDER

Under section 17 of the Measure

WHEREAS

1. I, Stephen, Bishop of Salisbury in the diocese of Salisbury, being of the opinion after consultation with the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee of the diocese of Salisbury that a group ministry should be established for the benefice of Hazelbury Bryan and the Hillside Parishes and the benefice of Spire Hill and the benefice of Okeford and the benefice of Sturminster Newton, Hinton St Mary and Lydlinch and the benefice of Marnhull in the said diocese, have prepared proposals for establishing the said group ministry, being proposals which could be implemented under Part 3 of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011;

2. the interested parties as they are defined in the said Measure have consented thereto in accordance with the provisions of section 17 of the said Measure;

3. the said Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee has prepared a draft Order to give effect to the said proposals and has submitted the same to me:

NOW THEREFORE I, Stephen, Bishop of Salisbury, do make this Order under my seal – this day of 2022.

Establishment of group ministry

1. (1) A group ministry to be known as "Blackmore Vale Pilgrim Group" shall be established for the benefice of Hazelbury Bryan and the Hillside Parishes, the benefice of Spire Hill, the benefice of Okeford, the benefice of Sturminster Newton, Hinton St Mary and Lydlinch, and the benefice of Marnhull in the diocese of Salisbury.

S.35(1)

(2) If immediately before the Order establishing the group ministry comes into operation the Reverend Canon Richard Hancock holds an ecclesiastical office in the benefice of Spire Hill, he shall be the first person to hold that benefice as a benefice in the group.
S.35(3)

Coming into effect of these proposals

2. This Order shall come into operation upon the first day of the month following the date of it being made by the Bishop. *S.14(2)*

S.39(3)

SIGNED by the Right Reverend Stephen,)
Bishop of Salisbury)

SIGNED, SEALED and DELIVERED with his)
Episcopal Seal)

in the presence of:-)

NOTES:

Clause 1

The Reverend Canon Richard Hancock will become the incumbent of the benefice of Spire Hill by virtue of being named as the first person to hold that benefice as a benefice in the group.

Any clergy appointed to any of the five benefices before this Order takes effect will need to be named in this scheme. All existing churches, parishes and benefices will remain unaltered by these proposals which will create a group ministry across all five benefices to enable sharing of ministry and collaboration between clergy.

Sharing of ministry within the group

The benefices within the group will retain their separate and distinct existence but each of the incumbents (and any priests-in-charge) will have authority to perform in the area of every benefice in the group all such offices and services as may be performed by the incumbent of that benefice. When acting outside his or her own benefice an incumbent must act in accordance with the directions of the incumbent concerned (and in giving such instructions an incumbent should follow the House of Bishops' Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priests, made in conjunction with the Bishops and Priests (Consecration and Ordination of Women) Measure 2014, that any directions under Canon C8.2(a) relating to a parish which has passed a resolution under the House of Bishops' Declaration should not conflict with the nature of the conviction on this issue underlying the PCC's resolution). The incumbents also have a duty to assist each other so as to make the best possible provision for the cure of souls throughout the area of the group ministry. (S.35(1) of the Mission and Pastoral Measure.)

Group Chapter

The incumbents (and any priests-in-charge) must meet together regularly as a chapter for the purpose of discussing and reaching a common mind on all matters of general concern or special interest to the group ministry [and a chairman must be elected, normally for a term of three years - (S.35(4) of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011.)

Consultation on appointment of new incumbent

A patron of a group benefice must consult the other incumbents (and any priests-in-charge) in the group before seeking the approval of the parish representatives (as defined in s.11(7) of the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986), and of the bishop, to

the making to a priest of an offer of appointment. (Paragraph 3 of Schedule 3 to the Mission and Pastoral Measure.)