



# The Benefice of Tilehurst St George and St Mary Magdalen

## Benefice News No. 55

### Michaelmas Term

1<sup>st</sup> September – 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2024



#### FROM THE VICARAGE

Adam Carlill writes

Dear Friends,

This is a special issue of BN which is given over to introducing Revd Anupma Kamble-Hansell. Over to you, Anupama!

With love and best wishes,  
Adam

#### INTRODUCING REVD ANUPAMA KAMBLE-HANSELL

Anupama writes

Greetings one and all,

My name is Anupama (pronounced Aa-noo-pha-maah) and I am truly grateful to serve in this Benefice as your self-supporting clergy; all thanks to Bishop Olivia and Dr Adam for kindly facilitating the process.

Here's an introduction to me: As a boys mum, my life has been full of adventure, activity and sport both in India and this country which has been a major factor in how my personality is now formed to an easy going, extroverted, light hearted down to earth mother, wife and priest from the rather nerdy, reserved, introverted person that I was before being a parent. So just saying, you can talk to me about anything and everything under the sun and I will always be happy to lend a listening ear.

By the time the next issue of the Benefice news is printed, my two sons would have already turned aged 18 and 13. Nathanael is studying his final A levels and Joshua will be starting Year 8. As mixed-race children both boys have had extensive experience of living both in India and England being educated in the Indian boarding school education system for a few years. Both returned with mixed feelings but were extremely overjoyed to resume their British education in the state school system. Their experience is owed to my own background and upbringing,

yes blame it on me. I was born to a clergy couple in the Anglican Province of the Church of North India (CNI) from the western region of India with Mumbai (Bombay) as the capital city of the state. I was raised, educated and received my ordination training in India belonging to a strong long line of practising Christians. My great grandparents and extended family collaborated with Christian missionaries (mainly CMS and USPG) who arrived during the colonial era and were keen to set up churches, hospitals and educational institutions mostly in rural villages to make basic health provision and education accessible to all sections of society especially to deprived communities. My grandfather Dr Lemuel was a physician and my grandmother Rosemary was a nurse in the Christian mission hospitals with the wider family members dedicated to the life and ministry of the church. My father Bishop Pradip and my mother Revd Magdalene both educated in Christian mission educational institutions, retired a few years ago and they live together with three younger siblings in India. My husband side of the family are originally from Norwich where Peter was born, raised and educated.

I left my parents' home when I was about 21 for ordination training and in 2002 I was ordained deacon in CNI before I met Peter. We had a big church wedding in India with Peter's parents and brother visiting the country for the very first time on a scorching hot summers day in April. As a married couple we arrived to this country on the invitation of Ely Diocese on a glorious sunny day in June 2003. I immediately purchased my first bike and together we cycled around Cambridge through almost every narrow alley way visiting churches, passing by colleges and water streams, being introduced on the way to an entire new breed of Peter's circle of acquaintances at the Divinity Library and socialising with his friends in the dining halls. It was only in Cambridge

that it first dawned on both of us that we were a mixed race soon to be clergy couple and, on that identity, after Peter was selected for ordained ministry, we were recommended to the diverse Diocese of Birmingham to train and study at the Queens Foundation Edgbaston.

I started my curacy in the vibrant city centre church, St Martin-in-the-Bullring, not a typical parish church but offered a rich variety of experiences of engaging with the markets, visitors and civic authorities. Consequently, on being priested in St Philips Cathedral in 2004 by Archbishop J Sentamu, I was appointed to Aston University as the Lead Anglican chaplain whilst I was simultaneously studying for a Master's degree from the University of Birmingham and doing part-time teaching to pay towards my Masters.

After the birth of our first son in Birmingham, as clergy parents our ministries diversified considerably. I served in Coventry in five parishes, then we moved to serve in seven parishes in rural Norfolk where my youngest son Joshua was born in Norwich. From Norfolk, through Peters jobs in the independent school sector, we moved to Longeaton, Bristol and now here in Reading. Whilst raising two young sons and supporting Peter's jobs, I made myself useful by taking up chaplaincy roles and being predominantly involved in conservation and schools work serving as primary school governor in about five different schools in the dioceses we belonged.

Before being licensed to this Benefice, I was a PTO member of Reading Deanery for nearly five years whilst residing in a remote rural Bradfield village on the other side of M4. It has been hugely exciting to move homes and to join your Benefice but much more rewarding to get know such an incredible enthusiastic mix of people and the privilege of starting to visit many of you in the congregations who love and deeply care for their churches in so many

ways.

Funnily enough as I am acclimatizing once again to the rhythms and routines of parish life, I have also realized that although not much has changed on the nitty gritty scene, there is always something new and challenging to learn along the way. I do believe that the church has a very distinct transforming role in our local communities. Regardless of our origins, differences and diversity of opinions, we are all joined together through our common bond of friendship and faith and our commitment to serving the church. The unique stories and journeys of joys and struggles we share bring us together and I see myself fully immersed in parish life, upholding the two parishes and congregations in prayer; welcoming and embracing the rich diversity of people from all cultures, backgrounds and sexualities; our uniqueness made perfect in the image of God.

So let's catch up whilst I am attached to this Benefice.

### God Bless

## PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD WIDE CHURCH IN THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

### Praying for Christians around the world

- 01-Sep Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola
- 08-Sep The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma)
- 15-Sep The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)
- 22-Sep The Church of North India (United)
- 29-Sep The Church of Pakistan (United)
- 06-Oct The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea
- 13-Oct The Episcopal Church in the Philippines
- 20-Oct Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda
- 27-Oct The Scottish Episcopal Church
- 03-Nov Church of the Province of South East Asia

## BENEFICE RECORDS

### Christenings that have taken place in the Benefice

- 30-Jun Jessiah Evadney Dabreo-Falconer
- 14-Jul Touma Kamijou
- 4-Aug Aratraiyah Tiah May Sampson

### May God bless them as they begin their journey in Christ

#### Couples from the Benefice preparing for marriage or dedication of civil marriage

- 21-Sep Piero Coleine and Loraine Michelle Wilkinson
- 05-Oct Christopher Keech and Georgina Allsop

### We pray for the blessing of Love on them at this happy time.

#### Funerals from the Benefice

- 28-Jun Christopher Holder
- 09-Aug Clifford Tuttle
- 19-Aug Karen Williams
- 02-Sep Ken Baker

### May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

## WHAT'S ON

### Weekly Events

- Sun 10am, Holy Communion, St George's and St Mary Magdalen's
- Wed 10am, Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalen's, followed by coffee.
- Fri 10am, Holy Communion, St George's, followed by coffee and chat until 12pm.

### September

- Tue 3 5.45pm, Special PCC Meeting for St George's PCC, Church Centre
- Wed 4 RBC School Term Begins.
- Sat 14 10am, Benefice Hymn Practice at St Mary Magdalen's
- Sat 21 2pm, Wedding of Piero Coleine & Loraine Wilkinson, St George's. 3pm, Concert in memory of Mary and Robin Munday, by Tim Munday, St Mary Magdalen's 4-6pm, St George's, Beetle Drive
- Tue 24 5.45pm, St George's PCC Meeting, Church Centre

### October

- Tue 1 8pm, Music Committee Meeting at Helen at Jim's
- Sat 5 2pm Craft Day and Tea for Harvest, St Mary Magdalen's.
- Sun 6 10am, We welcome back Ian Westley to play the organ at St George's.
- Sun 13 3.30pm, Benefice Songs of Praise, preceded by tea and cake at 2.30pm, St Mary Magdalen's.

- Sat 19 4-6pm, St George's, Reflections from a Jamaican Anglican, with Polly.

## ADVANCED DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### November

- Sun 3 4pm, All Souls Service, St Mary Magdalen's
- Sat 9 10am, Benefice Hymn Practice at St Mary Magdalen's
- Sat 16 2-4pm, Christmas Fayre, St George's

### December

- Sun 1 10am, Advent Sunday Service, both churches

## COPY DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE

If you would like to contribute to Benefice News please email Adam Carill ([adamcarill@me.com](mailto:adamcarill@me.com)) with an article of 100-200 words and a suitable heading by

### Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2024

## ADVERTISING POLICY

If you wish to place an advert in the Benefice news please contact Adam Carill on 07753411989, [adamcarill@me.com](mailto:adamcarill@me.com).

## CONTACT US

### For Christenings, Weddings, Banns, and Articles for Benefice News Contact the Vicar

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Wed/Thur Evening Bible Study Group:  
Peter Mayers (0118 962 4409,  
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### Contacts for St George's

Church Wardens: Sue Baker (0118 962 2671), Anne Howell  
Treasurer: Bridget Britton (0118 959 6583, [rodbritton@sky.com](mailto:rodbritton@sky.com))  
MU: Gill Johnson (0118 996 8355)  
Hall Bookings: Bridget Britton (0118 959 6583, [rodbritton@sky.com](mailto:rodbritton@sky.com))

### Contacts for St Mary Magdalen's

Church Wardens: Rita Hicks (07751 885867), Carl Feltham (07305 422699)  
Treasurer: Dale Sutcliffe  
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