



As I write this newsletter, we await the funeral, on Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup> of our Queen Elizabeth. So much has been spoken and written about her faith, her devotion to her country and commonwealth, her steadfastness, her constancy. And of course, there were other sides to her: Just the day before she died, I read this story told in a book by the Revd. Richard Coles, about a surgeon who went from Britain to work in Syria – he “worked in a hospital through bombardments, gas attacks, and the horrors of the civil war there. He was home only a day or two when he was asked to lunch at Buckingham Palace by the Queen. She sat down next to him and asked him what it was like in his hospital and he found that he could not speak, it was too much, and the Queen, noticing this, said very gently, “Would you like to feed the corgis?” and produced a packet of treats, and they quietly fed the dogs until he regained his composure.”

**St. Botolph's life:**

On August 24, several of us from St. Botolph's joined members of Castle Methodist and enjoyed a picnic in Castle Park – under a tree: it was one of those very hot afternoons!

On September 01, several people from St. Botolph's attended a service at Castle Methodist to welcome their new minister, the Revd. Chris Preese.

On September 4, Canon Revd. Paul Norrington took his last service at St. Botolph's, a Holy Communion service, as he was about to retire; we are so grateful to Paul for all that he has done for us during the last 2 years, and we shall miss him greatly. After the service he joined us for coffee and cake in the hall.

A few days later, David received an e-mail from Paul, in which he thanked us “for the generosity and love shared by the St. Botolph's community”. He said that he was “overwhelmed by our kindness, and Glyn also sent her thanks for the lovely gifts”. He added that we are “in his prayers at this time of real concern in our nation and communities.” Paul and Glyn are moving to a house near the Suffolk coast in an area where they have spent many caravan holidays.

## Forthcoming Services

18 September Morning Worship Battle of Britain Sunday Service Revd. John Chandler

25 September Holy Communion Ven. Michael Fox

02 October Morning Worship celebrating Harvest Clive Joyce LLM

We will bring canned and packet food items and/or toiletries for the Food Bank, and there will also be a Red Bucket collection for Self-Help Africa.

After the Harvest service, there will be a lunch in the church hall, to which we are also inviting members of Christ Church and Castle Methodist.

09 October Holy Communion Ven. Michael Fox

16 October Morning Worship Revd. John Chandler



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