



St Peter & St Paul's Church, Cranfield

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS & DIARY

July 2021

Information and Contacts

Rector:

Rev. Isaac Pain

Tel: 07484 734135

01234 750214

rector@cranfieldchurch.org

(Day off – Friday)

Reader:

Trevor Dimmock

Tel: 01234 751321

ttdimmock@btinternet.com

Churchwardens:

Andrew Pearson

Tel: 07898 022118

Jo Stannage

Tel: 01234 752116

churchwardens@cranfield
church.org

Parish Safeguarding Officer:

Anne Dimmock

Tel: 01234 751321

This Newsletter is available on the Church website. If you'd like to sign up for an email copy, please let us know.

Printed copies may be collected from Church.

For more information on our churches look online at:

www.cranfieldchurch.org

[www.hulcotewithsalford
churches.co.uk](http://www.hulcotewithsalfordchurches.co.uk)

or on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/
cranfieldchurch](https://www.facebook.com/cranfieldchurch)

“Make a joyful noise to the Lord!”

It's strange to find myself half a year into post here and yet to have sung inside the church building with the church family. I confess to being slightly concerned that once they hear my singing they may change their mind and send me back!

Now, rather than writing a political article bemoaning the continued restrictions in England on congregational indoor singing, I thought this month would be a good opportunity to consider briefly the role and the place of sung worship within the life of the Church.

I specifically write 'sung worship', because of course the bible teaches that the whole of our lives are to be lived as worship to God. Paul writes in Romans 12:1: "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship." This means that every part of our lives is to be lived as worship to God; from doing the dishes, to watching the TV, to filing your tax returns. The whole of life is worship.

And yet, the bible is equally clear that singing is a particular way in which we worship God. After all no other way has an entire book of the bible dedicated to it! Psalms is the songbook of the people of God. And in the New Testament we're instructed: "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your hearts to the Lord." (Ephesians 5:19). This verse tells us that singing is for mutual edification as well as for praising God; we're to sing to "one another" as well as "to the Lord".

We can all probably remember times when we have been deeply encouraged by hearing the singing of our church family. It's not weird or rude to look around at one another when we sing. When we do get to sing again, if you take a moment to look around at each other singing our hearts out I think you'll find yourself strangely encouraged. In fact, some church buildings deliberately set their chairs up in such a way that the congregation in part faces one another when they sing.

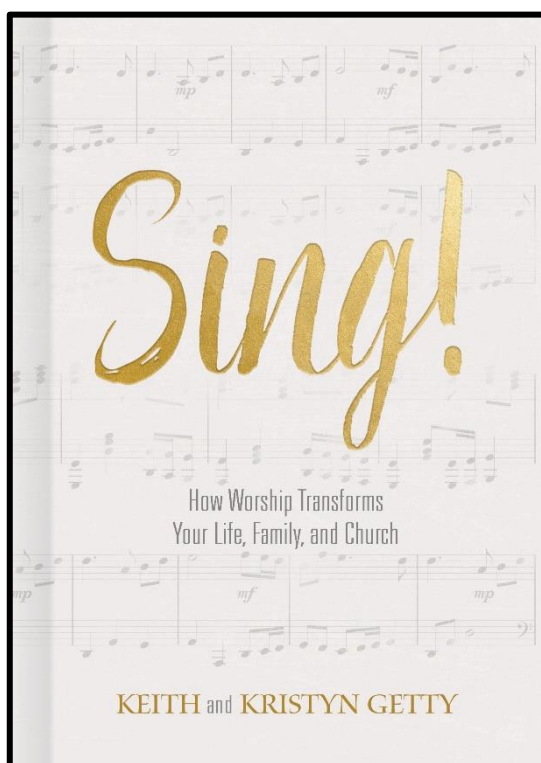
And so, though worship is much more than singing, it's not less. Therefore, it should be no surprise that a church that misses out on singing for over a year would suffer some spiritual effects from that. Singing for a Christian is not simply having a nice singalong – it's both praise to the God of Heaven, and a way in which we edify and build one another up.

I'm really looking forward to congregational singing returning very soon, and pray that as it does not only will God receive the glory, but also we would all be blessed and encouraged by one another.

Rev. Isaac Pain

DIARY FOR JULY 2021

Day	Time	Service/Event	Venue
Friday 2nd	1:00pm	Wedding: Craig and Charlotte	Cranfield Church
Sunday 4th	9:00am 10:30am 7:30pm	Holy Communion Morning Service Whole Benefice Prayer Meeting	Salford Church Cranfield Church Zoom and Phone
Friday 9th	7:30pm	Home Group via Zoom – Contact Linda Pearson (<i>l.d.pearson@btinternet.com</i> – Tel. 751358)	Zoom
Sunday 11th	9:00am 10.30am	Holy Communion Morning Service (with Holy Communion)	Hulcote Church Cranfield Church
Sunday 18th	9:00am 10.30am	Holy Communion Morning Service (with Baptism)	Salford Church Cranfield Church
Monday 19th	7:30pm	Cranfield PCC	Zoom
Friday 23rd	7:30pm	Home Group via Zoom – Contact Linda Pearson (<i>l.d.pearson@btinternet.com</i> – Tel. 751358)	Zoom
Sunday 25th	10.30am 2:30pm	Morning Service (with Holy Communion) Baptism Service	Cranfield Church Hulcote Church
Saturday 31st	10:30am	Music and Coffee Morning	Cranfield Church



If you're interested in thinking a little bit further about the role of singing within the life of the Church a great place to start would be to read: Sing! The authors, Keith and Kristyn Getty, are convinced that when churches sing together they transform our lives, our families, and our witness.

MOTTO 2021 "These were written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." John 20:31