



St Peter & St Paul's Church, Cranfield

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

& DIARY

June 2021

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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)

'Come Back Peter, Come Back Paul'

On 29th June the Church of England commemorates the Apostles Peter and Paul, so this month seemed an appropriate time to reflect a little on their relationship to one another.

In England there are 1327 churches dedicated to St. Peter, 667 to St. Paul, and 299 to both St. Peter and St. Paul. This isn't a surprising statistic, but the numbers do aptly illustrate a theological point: not everyone is convinced that Peter and Paul got along so well.

In the 19th century the German theologian Fredrick Christian Baur argued that Peter represented a more 'Jewish Christianity', whereas Paul represented a more 'Gentile Christianity', and not until the second century were these two contrary theologies synthesized.

However, while it is the case that we do have some evidence of a confrontation between Peter and Paul, there is little to suggest that they represented different messages or theologies. In Galatians 2 Paul writes of an occasion when he publically rebuked Peter for denying the gospel with his actions. Peter had refused to eat with Gentile believers who were not circumcised, thus declaring that circumcision was necessary for full Christian fellowship. Paul starkly writes in Galatians 2:11: "When Cephas [Peter] came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned." And yet, despite this moment of confrontation, it is clear that Peter and Paul believed and preached the same gospel of salvation in Jesus.

In fact, when Peter himself mentions Paul and his writings in one of his epistles he does so in staggering terms. In 2 Peter 3:16 Peter writes of Paul: "His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction." What is especially significant here is that Peter equates Paul's writings as on a par with the Old Testament Scriptures; he describes them as being like "the other Scriptures". Peter clearly held that Paul was an authoritative apostle of the Lord Jesus, just as he himself was.

A more helpful perspective on the relationship between Peter and Paul would be to consider something like Vern Poythress' short book 'Symphonic Theology', which explores how the various human authors of the divinely inspired Scriptures work like a symphony. While it is true that different authors have their own style and emphasis, together they form a divine unity that support and compliment one another, much like the different musical instruments in an orchestra.

So, who knows, maybe in years to come we'll find more churches dedicated to both St. Peter and St. Paul.

Rev. Isaac Pain

DIARY FOR JUNE 2021

Day	Time	Service/Event	Venue
Saturday 5th	12pm	Student BBQ	The Rectory
Sunday 6th	9:00am 10:30am 7:30pm	Holy Communion Morning Service (with Baptism) Whole Benefice Prayer Meeting	Salford Church Cranfield Church Zoom and Phone
Friday 11th	7:30pm	Home Group via Zoom – Contact Linda Pearson (<i>l.d.pearson@btinternet.com</i> – Tel. 751358)	Zoom
Sunday 13th	9:00am 10.30am	Holy Communion Morning Service (with Holy Communion)	Hulcote Church Cranfield Church
Wednesday 16th	12:30pm	FiLL visit to Frosts Garden Centre	Frosts
Thursday 17th	11:00am	Wedding: Simone and Sylvia	Cranfield Church
Sunday 20th	9:00am 10.30am	Holy Communion Morning Service	Salford Church Cranfield Church
Monday 21st	7:30pm	Cranfield PCC	Zoom
Tuesday 22nd	7:30pm	Bedford Deanery Synod	Cranfield Church
Friday 25th	7:30pm	Home Group via Zoom – Contact Linda Pearson (<i>l.d.pearson@btinternet.com</i> – Tel. 751358)	Zoom
Saturday 26th	10:30am	Music and Coffee Morning	Cranfield Church
Sunday 27th	9:00am 10.30am	'Giving Sunday' Morning Prayer Morning Service (with Holy Communion)	Hulcote Church Cranfield Church

FiLL
Faith in Later Life

FiLL, a new St. Peter and St. Paul's Church group for those aged 50+, are organising a visit to Frosts Garden Centre for an opportunity to socialise in a COVID safe way. After exploring the centre we plan to enjoy a coffee and cake in the cafe.

All are welcome to join us for this social event, simply meet us in the Frosts carpark.

Wednesday 16th June
12:30pm

Frosts Garden Centre



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