

### This month's reflection comes from Revd Louise Holliday... Hope...

Listening to the Radio on Friday afternoon, the usual traffic announcements were predictable for a bank holiday. The M5 was chaos. Five-hour trips taking more than twice as long.

Now you might be thinking that's a strange way to start a letter about hope! However, the one thing I suspect most of those caught up on the M5 had in common was the hope for a great and long-awaited holiday in the West Country. If you are planning a break this summer yourself, I hope for you it is a refreshing time. However, if like me, you're planning to stay at home, in August we are going to have a 'Holiday at Home'. During the week beginning Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> August, we will be having a social event each day, ranging from a picnic, a walk together, a quiz and fish and chip evening and finishing on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> with an outdoor concert at All Saints, Barnby. The week is simply an opportunity to enjoy each other's company. If you have any ideas, or would like to help organise an event, please let us know by email on [stgilesbalderton@gmail.com](mailto:stgilesbalderton@gmail.com), or give me a call; I'd love to hear from you.

I write this after another beautiful early summer's day. Blue skies and warm sunshine. It's so much easier to understand hope on a day like today. When we look back at the last year, I expect each of us has had a hope or two. And at times they might have felt very distant hopes, seeing family, staying well, a hug, a BBQ, a holiday. Being in church together.

What next then do we hope for?

The Christian faith encourages us to 'hold on to hope'. Hope refreshes and brings new opportunities to life. The waiting though can be incredibly hard. All last month we waited for sunshine! But hope fulfilled is a wonderful moment.

Life certainly looks and feels different to previous years. This month the restrictions may lift further, and life returns ever closer to what we had before. Yet it is different. We may each remember to thank God for the moments of hopes fulfilled. Whatever they may be.

As we continue to look forward keep an eye out for news of things coming up. The first edition of the new-look quarterly magazine, 'St Giles Today', will be launched in August – more details to follow. There will be more details of the new pattern of services across the benefice coming soon too.

There is much to look forward to during the summer months and to be hopeful for. My prayer for our community is that we will be blessed with joyful occasions, family gatherings and

opportunities to make wonderful memories together after being apart for so long, whether at a wedding, a baptism or simply enjoying the company of friends.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

*With love and prayer, Revd Louise*

### Coming up... in-person services in church:

#### Sunday 6th June: First Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am St Giles, Balderton

#### Thursday 10th June

10.00 am St Giles, Balderton

We also continue online with Encounter, Tuesday Prayer Time & our Children's Group. If you are interested in finding out more please email Revd Louise at [revdlouiseholliday@gmail.com](mailto:revdlouiseholliday@gmail.com)

### STORY QUILT

Our Story Quilt is going to be on display in St Giles for the first time this coming Sunday (6th June). Come along and take a look.

### CHILDREN'S GROUP BBQ

We are planning a summer get together on the 11th July at 4.30 pm at St Giles' Community Hall for members of our children's group. If you would like more information please do get in touch with Revd Louise. ([revdlouiseholliday@gmail.com](mailto:revdlouiseholliday@gmail.com))

### ST GILES TODAY

We are really excited that our new quarterly magazine will launch in August. Content will cover August to October inclusive so please do send in your articles for that period for consideration to [stgilesbalderton@gmail.com](mailto:stgilesbalderton@gmail.com) by 1st July. Thank you !



BBC GROUP OF CHURCHES  
**"WEEKLY VESTRY HOUR"**  
Re-opens Tuesday 1st June 2021  
6.00 pm - 7.00 pm  
St Giles' Church, Balderton

A drop in session where you are very welcome to come along to book a wedding, a baptism or for any other parish queries.

We look forward to meeting you

## The BBC Group of Churches

St Giles, Balderton, All Saints, Barnby in the Willows & All Saints, Coddington

GET IN TOUCH: Email: [stgilesbalderton@gmail.com](mailto:stgilesbalderton@gmail.com)

Tel: 01636 704811

# Our Churchwardens' Contact Details



**St Giles, Balderton:**  
Ian Lawrence: 01636 605226

**All Saints, Barnby in the Willows**  
Yvette Wellard: 01636 626780

**All Saints, Coddington**  
Yvonne Hayman: 01636 673204  
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## WALK & TALK

[WWW.BBC-CHURCHES.ORG.UK](http://WWW.BBC-CHURCHES.ORG.UK)

We're planning to meet  
EVERY WEDNESDAY at 10.00am  
outside St Giles' Church (Main Street, Balderton)  
for a walk and a chat.

Next Walks: Wednesday 26th May & 9th June

If you'd like to get involved, please do just turn up.  
Refreshments will once again be served at the end.

For more information: [greenlynn93@gmail.com](mailto:greenlynn93@gmail.com)



## This week's Readings

### 1 Samuel 8.4–11[12–15]

4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, <sup>5</sup>and said to him, 'You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations.' <sup>6</sup>But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, 'Give us a king to govern us.' Samuel prayed to the Lord, <sup>7</sup>and the Lord said to Samuel, 'Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. <sup>8</sup>Just as they have done to me, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. <sup>9</sup>Now then, listen to their voice; only—you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them.'  
10 So Samuel reported all the words of the Lord to the people who were asking him for a king. <sup>11</sup>He said, 'These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots; <sup>12</sup>and he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plough his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. <sup>13</sup>He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. <sup>14</sup>He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his courtiers. <sup>15</sup>He will take one-tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and his courtiers.]

### 2 Corinthians 4.13 – 5.1

13 But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—'I believed, and so I spoke'—we also believe, and so we speak, <sup>14</sup>because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. <sup>15</sup>Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.  
16 So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup>For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, <sup>18</sup>because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.  
5 For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from

### Mark 3.20–35

<sup>20</sup>and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. <sup>21</sup>When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, 'He has gone out of his mind.' <sup>22</sup>And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, 'He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.' <sup>23</sup>And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, 'How can Satan cast out Satan? <sup>24</sup>If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. <sup>25</sup>And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. <sup>26</sup>And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. <sup>27</sup>But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.  
28 'Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; <sup>29</sup>but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin'— <sup>30</sup>for they had said, 'He has an unclean spirit.'

31 Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. <sup>32</sup>A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, 'Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.' <sup>33</sup>And he replied, 'Who are my mother and my brothers?' <sup>34</sup>And looking at those who sat around him, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers! <sup>35</sup>Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.'

[www.bbc-churches.org.uk](http://www.bbc-churches.org.uk)

# SUMMER GAMES + FUN

SATURDAY 3RD JULY 2021  
2.00 - 4.00 PM  
ST GILES' COMMUNITY HALL

TABLE TOP GAMES / STALLS  
REFRESHMENTS / RAFFLE

OUTDOOR EVENT - DEPENDANT ON THE WEATHER

If anyone has an easily erectable pop up gazebo that we can borrow for this event please let Kath Hirst know. Thank you ! We will also need volunteers on the day - Are you available? Again please let Kath know.

0800 804 8044  
**DailyHOPE**  
A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers