

*Online*

*…linking the Beacon Parishes*

Sunday 15th November - 2nd Sunday before Advent

***Our churches are closed for public worship until after 2nd December***

10.30am Beacon Benefice Morning Prayer (by zoom)

***Sunday Worship in the media***

9.00am Live worship on the Church of England website

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online>

10.15am Gloucester Cathedral Sunday Eucharist

<https://www.gloucestercathedral.org.uk/worship/services/services-live-stream/>

8.10am Radio 4 Sunday Worship

1.15pm BBC1 Songs of Praise

**Rector’s Voice**

Today in the church calendar is designated second Sunday before Advent- a count down to the start of Advent which actually begins a time of waiting and watching. Of course, in our lives at the moment we are on countdown- countdown to the 2nd December when we are hoping that the latest lockdown will be lifted, countdown to the production of a vaccine and the hope it holds for us for the future.

In Advent our waiting and watching, our countdown is towards the coming again of the one true Hope, the child of Bethlehem, the Prince of Peace- Jesus. As we begin to think about Advent there are numerous ways in which we can mark it- from the children’s Advent Calendar which counts down the days to Christmas Morning, the backwards advent calendar where each day something is put aside for a local foodbank, and many Bible studies which help us in our preparation. What will you do this year , a year marked by so much waiting, to make Advent special for you?

*Revd. Janet*

Readings

***Collect***

Heavenly Lord,

you long for the world’s salvation:

stir us from apathy,

restrain us from excess

and revive in us new hope

that all creation will one day be healed

in Jesus Christ our Lord.

***Psalm 90. 1-8,12***

1 Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

2 Before the mountains were brought forth,

or the earth and the world were formed,

from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

3 You turn us back to dust and say: ‘Turn back, O children of earth.’

4 For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday,

which passes like a watch in the night.

5 You sweep them away like a dream; they fade away suddenly like the grass.

6 In the morning it is green and flourishes;

in the evening it is dried up and withered.

7 For we consume away in your displeasure;

we are afraid at your wrathful indignation

.8 You have set our misdeeds before you

and our secret sins in the light of your countenance

12 So teach us to number our days

that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

As it was in the beginning is now and shall be forever. Amen

***The Gospel according to Matthew 25.14-30***

‘For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, “Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.” And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, “Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.” Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, “Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.” But his master replied, “You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

Although the talent in this reading is an amount of money – we can also read it as the talents God has given us in our understanding of the word- gifts, abilities. It is easy to spend our lives wishing we were the other person, the person with the lovely singing voice, the one who always was chosen to be the main part in the school play, the one who always got all their maths home work correct, the one who always seemed to get promotion, and so it goes on. But God wants us to be ourselves, and to make the best use of the talents He gives us.

What talent has he given you?

Are you using it to the best of your ability?

Are you content with who you are and how he made you?

Beacon People Our prayers are asked for all who are sick, especially **Ursula Daws, William Daws, Andrea Linsell, Rowland** and **Maggie Oxland.**

Pray for all those people, whether they are relatives or friends, who care for the sick and disabled in their own homes, for those undergoing cancer treatment at this time and for all from our churches and villages who work in the NHS and in care homes. Pray also for all who are worried about the future at this uncertain time.

We also remember before God all who have died recently, especially **Gina Griffiths**, **Hazel “Jane” Hemming** and **Phyllis Russell,** as well as all whose anniversaries of eath fall at this time.

*Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord*

*And let light perpetual shine upon them*

*Churches Open for Private Prayer in the Beacon Benefice*

Churches are closed for public worship until after 2nd December but will be open for individual prayer from next week as follows:-

**St John the Baptist Edge** Thursday mornings 10-11am

**St Mary’s Painswick** Monday and Thursday mornings 10am -11am

**St John the Baptist Pitchcombe** Thursday afternoon 3pm-4pm

**St John the Baptist Harescombe**- opening by appointment, please contact Tamsin 07880 791012 or Brian 07790 886307 .

**St. John the Apostle, Sheepscombe** is closed, but has chairs placed outside overlooking the village, for those who wish to have a time of quiet contemplation.

**Sources of help during the lockdown:**

**St. Mary’s Pastoral Link system:**Anyone who is self-isolating or unable to get out, we can help you by getting shopping, prescriptions etc.  Please contact Delyth Allen (St. Mary’s Pastoral Link Coordinator) on 813182 or 07854262517 or email [delyth\_allen@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:delyth_allen@hotmail.co.uk)

**Painswick Community Support:** The Painswick Covid-19 Community Support initiative set up in March will be providing ongoing community support for Painswick with the same telephone number but an updated e-mail address. If you need support, please contact 07956 203087 or [painswickcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:painswickcommunity@gmail.com)

**Cranham Covid-19  Community Response Team:** The initial contact for Cranham residents is: [nigelrobincooper@gmail.com](mailto:nigelrobincooper@gmail.com) Tel: 07973 340227

Notices

This Sunday I shall be leading **Morning Prayer on zoom at 10.30am** - the invite has been emailed out to all those who receive their Beacon Light by email. If you don’t receive it by email but would like the invite details please contact me. Also being emailed out is a copy of the Morning Prayer service I will be using. *Rev Janet*

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**St. Mary’s Church Garden appeal:** The pamphlet distributed to the congregation at the last service had the wrong bank details, the sort code should have read 30-98-29. If you wish to make contact phone Freda Steed 01452 812376.

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***Foodbank Donations*** *-* Drop off day to fill the Christmas hampers that will be given to hundreds of hungry adults and children in our area. The suggested Christmas list is: Christmas cake, Christmas pudding, mince pies, hot chocolate, nuts, sweets/ chocolate, luxury crisps, savoury crackers, gravy granules, dried stuffing, tinned ham, Christmas preserve. But any non perishable items will always be welcome. Monday 14 December10-12 noon Painswick Church and Stamages Lane Car Park.

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**PSALMS News and Prayer Requests**

* Pray for the PSALMS team meeting with all the OneLife Team to discuss the merger and any questions we have. Many of you will know that PSALMS is merging into OneLife to become an even greater facilitator of Sports Ministry going forward. But this of course raises a few questions and many things to pray about. So pray for a good connection with new people meeting for the first time.
* Pray for our lunchtimes every Weds in Cranham, where our aim is to carry on our connection with the young people there and build long lasting relationships with them through sport and play. Give thanks, that last week the Lord went before us and calmed any unease that the school and children had with us, and pray that going forward the Holy Spirit would help dictate how we should be running the session.
* Pray for online Club Pulse and online Bible study which start back today and tomorrow. Pray that those in the Beacon area would feel at ease joining in with the sessions, and zoom wouldn't be too draining for them.

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**Weekday Worship**

9.30am Thursday weekly via Zoom from Sheepscombe Morning Prayer *If you would like to join in or would like a copy of the service sheet please email Karen Riding*[*kriding07@yahoo.co.uk*](mailto:kriding07@yahoo.co.uk)*.*

***Weekday worship in the media***

9.45am Daily Service - Radio 4 (Long Wave)

3.30pm Wednesday Choral Evensong - Radio 3

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044.

Contacts

Rector: Revd. Janet Turville Tel:01452 245526 Email: [janetbeacon6@gmail.com](mailto:janetbeacon6@gmail.com) Associate Priest: Revd. Andrew Leach Tel: 07564 448692 Email: [ajpleach@gmail.com](mailto:ajpleach@gmail.com)

Website: [www.beaconbenefice.org.uk](http://www.beaconbenefice.org.uk/) Information for next week’s Beacon Light Online to [ajpleach@gmail.com](mailto:ajpleach@gmail.com) by **Tuesday 5pm at the latest,** please.

and Finally…

**Seen in a church notice sheet:** “The Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals.”