

Beacon



www.beaconbenefice.org.uk

Light Online

...linking the Beacon Parishes

Sunday 21st February – 1st Sunday of Lent

Our churches are currently closed for public worship during lockdown

10.30am Beacon Benefice Morning Prayer (by zoom)

Rector's Voice

We have entered Lent- a time of preparation – and in the past a time of abstinence and self-sacrifice. However, this year I know of many colleagues who are struggling with the thought of a second Lent- feeling that we have not really ever left last Lent behind. I am reminded of Bishop Rachel's words to us which was to have a quiet Lent and as we start the 40 days I am aware that perhaps what we need most this year is to sit quietly with God, to rest in His presence more than ever, not to hurry through it, nor to 'work' at it, but to allow God to minister to us through His Holy Spirit as the angels ministered to Jesus at the end of his fast. Our Psalm today is a reminder that God is merciful and just, and that He guides us and leads us. So this year let us rest with Him and allow Him to lead us into His new paths as the future unfolds before us - a future that is going to be very different to what we expected this time last year.

Revd. Janet

Sunday Worship in the media

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| 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 |

Readings

Collect

Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm 25.1-10

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame,
but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated.
- 3 Make me to know your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you have I hoped all the day long.
- 5 Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth
or my transgressions,
but think on me in your goodness, O Lord,
according to your steadfast love.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord;
therefore shall he teach sinners in the way.
- 8 He will guide the humble in doing right
and teach his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.
- 10 For your name's sake, O Lord,
be merciful to my sin, for it is great.

The Gospel according to Mark 1.9-15

The Baptism of Jesus

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Jesus hears the voice of His father- this is my son, the well beloved in you I am well pleased.

Do you hear God's word spoken to you today- you are my child?

Is God well pleased with us?

How can we draw closer to God and hear His whispers?

Beacon People

Our prayers are asked for all who are sick, especially **Andrea Linsell, Frankie Marsh, & Sue Stanley.**

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 **Nigel Burt, Patricia Lisle and Maggie Oxland,** as well as all whose anniversaries of death fall at this time.

*Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord
And let light perpetual shine upon them*

Notices

Last call to join a Lent group via zoom! A number of new Lent books have been written this year including "Thy Will be Done" by Stephen Cherry who is the Dean of Kings College, Cambridge. His book is a study of the Lord's Prayer. It is divided appropriately into six sections and each section is subdivided into six short chapters. Chapter headings are Heaven, Earth, Bread, Forgiveness, Temptation and Glory. The book takes us deeply into the Lord's Prayer and its implications and lends itself to group study. If you would like to join a group please contact Michael Irving as soon as possible - phone 01452/814242, email mi@vale-view.co.uk.

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**Foodbank drop off in Painswick** - On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February we had another very successful collection – a huge thank you to each and every one of you! We were very grateful that the weather turned milder on the day and perhaps encouraged a few more people to venture out to the collection points. By 12 noon we had three cars full with tins and jars of food, and also lovely treats such as chocolate and biscuits. We know these will be so much appreciated and enjoyed by those who receive them. It's quite humbling to see people carrying heavy bags across the village to support the Foodbank so enthusiastically. It is clearly a charity and a cause that is close to many people's hearts. When we delivered the donations to the Foodbank at Brimscombe, the volunteers there were amazed that we had collected so much in just two hours! They assumed it had been over several days. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Please may we ask for another great turn out in March? We never take it for granted. The next drop off will be in Painswick on: **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March** 10am-12noon in Stamages Lane car park, outside the church and by the stocks. Suggested items are:

**baby wipes, toilet roll, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, pack of razors, toothpaste, toothbrush, washing up liquid.**

But, as always, any non-perishable items will be gladly received. Please do check use by dates so that we can provide the most appropriate support to those in need.

We also continue to collect **laptops and ipads** for Archway School so if you still have an unused item lurking somewhere, please do consider donating it to young people who are struggling with online learning.

*Joan Warner, Philippa Miller, Margaret Radway, Pippa Dickinson, Pippa Medcalf, Jude Lindley 07950 651228*

**Compline** will be said on each Thursday evening in Lent from the 18<sup>th</sup> February until the 25<sup>th</sup> March. The invite for this service will be sent out each Wednesday and we hope you can join us for this ancient time of prayer at the ending of the day.

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PSALMS/OneLife Prayer Requests: Give thanks for the Beacon LMG that ran last Thursday evening. Victoria Soutar did a brilliant job in leading us as we were joined by Tim Hastie-Smith, who is part of the OneLife Team. Give thanks that he was able to answer many of our questions about the merger and practical implications for the Beacon area going forward. Give thanks, that the OneLife Team are equally as passionate about reaching Children & Young people with the Gospel of Jesus.

Pray for the 32 young children who have received a Pancake Pack for Pancake day. In it are some crafts, and fun challenges and activities but also some small messages about what we can learn from God. Pray that the spirit would move amongst the families as they open and engage with the packs and some of the truths of the bible stand out to them amid the chaos of pancake flipping!

Continue to pray for the OneLife Leadership Team, as they now are leading and navigating us both in operations and strategy going forward. Pray for effective communication and for a good working relationship to be built with us working on the ground and the team elsewhere.

PSALMS has created an interactive 'Lent Calendar' which you can find below by clicking on the link. It is for anyone who we know or work with, and aims to help everyone through Lent whether they are giving something up or not. We'd love it if many people in Gloucestershire engaging and interacted with it, so please pray the right people would see it and it would help them each new day.

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#### **Sources of help :**

**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

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Weekday Worship

Each evening:

I invite you to join me in lighting a candle and praying at 6pm.

Prayers can be found at: <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/prayer-nation>

Thursday weekly :

9.30am Morning Prayer via Zoom from Sheepscombe

If you would like to join in or would like a copy of the service sheet please email Karen Riding kriding07@yahoo.co.uk.

Thursday 25th February

9.30pm Compline (via Zoom)

Invitations on Wednesday – continues every Thursday through Lent

Weekday worship in the media

9.45am Daily Service - Radio 4 (Long Wave)

3.30pm Wednesday Choral Evensong - Radio 3

The Church of England website;

<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

Associate Priest: Revd. Andrew Leach Tel: 07564 448692 Email: ajpleach@gmail.com

Website: www.beaconbenefice.org.uk

Information for the next Beacon Light Online to ajpleach@gmail.com by **Tuesday 5pm at the latest**, please.

and Finally...

Seen in a pewsheet: Lent is that period for preparing for Holy Week and Easter.