

# Beacon



www.beaconbenefice.org.uk

# Light Online

*...linking the Beacon Parishes*

## Sunday 28th February – 2nd Sunday of Lent

*Our churches are currently closed for public worship during lockdown*

10.30am Beacon Benefice Morning Prayer (by zoom)

### **Rector's Voice**

Usually, I seek God and then write what ever the Holy Spirit inspires me with, commenting on life and especially in this last year where we are in our response the pandemic and the restrictions placed on us. . However today I am sharing a piece with you that a friend wrote as I felt she put it so much better than I possibly could.

#### **Separating teabags.**

Once upon a time, a long time ago, I was out on a hack, when the horse I was riding lost its footing in some mud, fell onto its knees and nose, and sent me shooting off, to land badly on my right wrist. Six months, two operations, a surgical plate and a tendon transfer later, I was able to take off my cast and splints and return to normal.

Except that I wasn't. That first day of "freedom", my wrist was so stiff that I couldn't actually move it, and the grip in my right hand was so weak that I couldn't even separate two teabags. I stared at my hands in disbelief. It was a long process of rehabilitation and it was painful.

As we begin to think about coming out of lockdown, we may envisage ourselves returning to doing things exactly as we did them before- but the reality will probably be different.

We will probably find that we are in fact nervous about doing things we used to do unthinkingly. We may be made more nervous than we used to be in crowds, or if we hear someone coughing right next to us. We may find things that we haven't done for a while, like trying on clothes in shops or singing in church feel really, really odd, and not at all comfortable. Or it may be that we feel ready to go straight back to doing everything, but that our friends and family members do not.

I have already heard quite a few people expressing real anxiety about whether a return to "normality" will be safe. We have all become a little institutionalised, and we will all need time to heal and regain our strength- our emotional and psychological and spiritual strength. So, if you find that the idea of "unlocking" actually makes you feel apprehensive, be gentle with yourselves- don't rush it- and try not to rush anyone else. Take time to listen to your own feelings and to one another. Many people are coming out of this lockdown bereaved, impoverished and depressed. It's not all going to be magically "over" in June.

The letter to the Colossians says

"Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with hearts of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience."

It may take a while, but we will get there. One cup of tea at a time.

*( Written by Kalantha Brewis and shared with permission.)*

*Revd. Janet*

## ***Sunday Worship in the media***

9.00am	Live worship on the Church of England website <a href="https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online">https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online</a>	
10.15am	Gloucester Cathedral Sunday Eucharist <a href="https://www.gloucestercathedral.org.uk/worship/services/services-live-stream/">https://www.gloucestercathedral.org.uk/worship/services/services-live-stream/</a>	
8.10am	Radio 4	Sunday Worship
1.15pm	BBC2	Songs of Praise

## **Readings**

### **Collect**

Almighty God,  
by the prayer and discipline of Lent  
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,  
and by following in his Way  
come to share in his glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Psalm 22.23-31**

23 Praise the Lord, you that fear him;  
O seed of Jacob, glorify him;  
stand in awe of him, O seed of Israel.  
24 For he has not despised nor abhorred the suffering of the poor;  
neither has he hidden his face from them;  
but when they cried to him he heard them.  
25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
I will perform my vows  
in the presence of those that fear you.  
26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek the Lord shall praise him;  
their hearts shall live for ever.  
27 All the ends of the earth  
shall remember and turn to the Lord,  
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.  
28 For the kingdom is the Lord's  
and he rules over the nations.  
29 How can those who sleep in the earth  
bow down in worship,  
or those who go down to the dust kneel before him?  
30 He has saved my life for himself;  
my descendants shall serve him;  
this shall be told of the Lord for generations to come.  
31 They shall come and make known his salvation,  
to a people yet unborn,  
declaring that he, the Lord, has done it.

## ***The Gospel according to Mark 8.31-end***

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

### ***This is the Gospel of the Lord***

Just before this passage Jesus has asked- who do you say I am? The eight chapters have been supplying the evidence to who Jesus is and Peter responds with what he has learned- You are the Messiah. When Jesus responds by telling them he must suffer and die Peter strongly objects and Jesus responds to him by telling him to get behind him.

Why do you think Peter objected so strongly?

Why do you think Jesus responds in such a harsh way?

When have you objected to words that Jesus speaks – either in scripture or in your own heart?

## **Beacon People**

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

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 **George Bragg**, 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**

**From the Diocesan website:** The Diocese of Gloucester has partnered with Christian Aid to enable people to give thanks for their Covid-19 vaccine and help others in crisis across the world. In the first three weeks of this campaign, over £5,000 has already been raised. Our organisations have come together to give people an opportunity to pass on the sense of relief and blessing at being vaccinated by making a donation to Christian Aid's Coronavirus Appeal. Funds from the appeal are helping vulnerable communities around the world access soap, food and vital health information in the face of the pandemic. Bishop Rachel said. "The hope is that people will give generously to the work of Christian Aid from a place of thanksgiving. Whether people can give just a few pounds or a much larger sum, it will make a huge difference to communities across the globe."

Bishop Rachel adds: "This is a way of us sharing Christ's hope and love with our brothers and sisters across the world who are less fortunate than ourselves." Donations may be made at: <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/coronavirus-emergency-appeal>.

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**Foodbank drop off in Painswick** - 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*

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**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 that things are in motion with OneLife, and gradually we are starting as a team to get excited for what the future might hold for the ministry in this area.

Last week saw the release of our Lent Calendar (Which anyone can access at Lent Calendar<<https://bit.ly/3dnUIRw>> (<https://bit.ly/3dnUIRw>)). It has been sent out across Gloucestershire, and so pray that the families and young people who receive it would find value in it and Jesus would be made known to them.

This week the change from PSALMS to OneLife will be communicated widely across all our networks, which is a big undertaking. Pray that all those who receive letters, including yourself would feel valued and would see it as a continuation of what they have supported over the years and not an end to the work of PSALMS

Continue to pray for the two online sessions we run each week; the Tuesday Bible Study and the Thursday Games Night. I think the young people are getting to the end of their tether with zoom and looking forward to getting back to outside time. So pray that we read what the young people want, and point them to Jesus at all times, whether we see them online or not.

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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](mailto:kriding07@yahoo.co.uk).*

### **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March**

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](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 the next Beacon Light Online to [ajpleach@gmail.com](mailto:ajpleach@gmail.com) by **Tuesday 5pm at the latest**, please.

## **and Finally...**

**Seen in a pewsheet:** Barbara remains in hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests recordings of Fr. Jack's sermons.