

Beacon



www.beaconbenefice.org.uk

Light *Online*

...linking the Beacon Parishes

Sunday 21st March – 5th Sunday of Lent Passiontide begins

Our churches are currently closed for public worship during lockdown

10.30am Beacon Benefice Morning Prayer (by zoom)

Rector's Voice

This Sunday marks the first Sunday of our exile from our church buildings. The first Sunday in living memory when no service was allowed in any worship space and we moved all worship into our homes. Through the generations and across the world there have been times when worship has had to move underground and take place in homes but even in the past that usually meant a small group meeting together- last year even that wasn't allowed. We learnt to depend on God in our isolation, to trust Him in the darkest days, and I hope we all learned new ways of being with God and of praying. As time went on, we have learnt how to reach out through new technology, how to meet via 'zoom' how to connect and keep in touch when we can't see each other, when we have to smile through masks, when we are finding ourselves in a 'new land'.

As this first year anniversary passes there will be so many milestones to remember, loved ones who we have lost, families who we long to see. As a church and a community there will be times of lament and sorrow, but also as we look forward, we can do so in hope. AS Jesus turned His face towards Jerusalem and the coming trial and death, he did so in sorrow but also in the hope and knowledge of what was to come. Jesus looked beyond the present to the future hope of resurrection, of being lifted up from the earth. May we look upwards and forwards to a brighter hope and future as restrictions are lifted, as we can meet together once again and we begin a new resurrection life as individuals, church and community. We don't know how long we may have to wait but we know it is coming.

Revd. Janet

Readings

Collect

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm 51:1-12

1. Have mercy on me, O God, in your great goodness;
according to the abundance of your compassion
blot out my offences.
- 2 Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I acknowledge my faults
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
- 5 So that you are justified in your sentence
and righteous in your judgement.
- 6 I have been wicked even from my birth,
a sinner when my mother conceived me.
- 7 Behold, you desire truth deep within me
and shall make me understand wisdom
in the depths of my heart.
- 8 Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean;
wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness,
that the bones you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Turn your face from my sins
and blot out all my misdeeds.
- 11 Make me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy spirit from me.

The Gospel according to John 12:20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—"Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

I love the fact that Greeks- those from outside the Jewish faith came and asked to see Jesus. His good news was spreading beyond the immediate circle but Jesus also knew that the time was coming when the Jewish authorities and the crowds would turn against him, when he would be lifted up first in crucifixion and then in ascension.

1. Who drew us towards Jesus? - give thanks to God for them today.
2. Who do we draw towards Jesus? - Pray for them today
3. How can we be better signposts of the hope that God offers to all? - pray for yourselves today.

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	BBC 2 Songs of Praise

Beacon People

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

We also remember before God all who have died recently, especially **Frankie Marsh, Maggie Oxland** and **Ivor Price**, 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

Holy Week: As we prepare for our return to our church buildings on Easter Sunday, we can also prepare our hearts through the days of Holy Week. We are offering the following services across zoom :-

<i>Monday – Friday</i>	9.30am Morning Prayer.
<i>Monday</i>	6.30pm Compline
<i>Tuesday</i>	6.30pm Lindisfarne Evening Prayer
<i>Wednesday</i>	6.30pm Poetry based service theme Hope
<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	6.30pm Evening prayer based around the Last Supper and the Garden of Gethsemane.
<i>Good Friday</i>	2pm – An hour at the Cross.

Zoom invites will be sent out at the beginning of the week.

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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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Foodbank: Thank you again for your very generous donations and braving the wind and cold. Below is the preferred items for April but as as always any non- perishable items will be gratefully received. Please do check use by dates so that we can provide the most appropriate support to those in need:- *UHT fruit juice, UHT milk, Tinned fruit, Tinned custard, tinned tomatoes, tinned puddings savoury snacks.*

PS: I have just heard that Archway are still needing laptops and iPads.

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**GetOneGiveOne** - Since it began here - and so any residents have already generously contributed - I thought that I should report that we have raised nearly £100,000 already for vaccinating people in low income countries. The idea that we should show our gratitude for the free NHS jabs by donating directly to the GAVI/COVAX programme has proved popular. However, the challenge is huge. Anyone who would like to join in can do so at <https://covaxamc.ctdonate.org/index:payment.html> . *Nicky Tyler*

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OneLife/PSALMS Prayer Requests: The Croft and Cranham Schools are really keen for what we are offering and keen to have us back in, so give thanks for them being so open.

Please pray for this Thursday as Nathan trials an afterschool Ultimate Frisbee club in Cranham School, pray that, due to being unconventional and no one having a prior understanding of it beforehand, it will engage a wider audience. Pray that the Holy Spirit helps to rekindle relationships with the young children in that school.

Pray for TRAC this week as we look to open online bookings and starting pushing it this Wednesday. Please pray for the young people to sign up and have something to look forward to! If you'd like to donate some money towards a young person attending, then please let Nathan know.

Nathan is meeting with quite a few young people this week for mentoring. Pray that he would be Christlike in his ability to listen and to encourage them to develop in their giftings going forward. Pray that he would be a light to them and would give of the fragrance of Christ .

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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 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

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: “Applications are now being accepted for 2 year-old nursery workers. “