

# Beacon



[www.beaconbenefice.org.uk](http://www.beaconbenefice.org.uk)

# Light

**Online**

*...linking the Beacon Parishes*

**Sunday 26th September - 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

9.30am	Pitchcombe	Holy Communion ( <i>BCP</i> )
11.00am	Painswick	Beacon Praise
11.00am	Sheepscombe	Holy Communion
6.30pm	Cranham	Evening Worship

## **Not-the-Rector**

The first of the Church of England's declared Marks of Mission is " To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom". Are we perhaps a little uneasy at the thought of doing so outside the walls of our church building and in a situation where not everybody is a believer? If we are honest, many will admit that this takes us out of our comfort zone.

Painswick Feast last Sunday was just such an occasion . We are accustomed to worship in an atmosphere of quiet devotion – on Sunday afternoon we found ourselves at large in the world, witnessing to people who may have found the customs and conventions of church worship strange and unknown. Perhaps they , as much as we, were outside their comfort zones as the Clypping Service began . However this was a truly missional opportunity as Bishop Robert put over the message of the love of God for everyone.

It was worth being outside our comfort zones for a while to see barriers being broken down – after the service, I encountered some people in the church, who had lived here for 30 years but had rarely entered the building. On Sunday they found a welcome and a cup of tea there. It will not seem such a strange place to them in the future.

Jesus preached in the public spaces as well as in the synagogues. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom we sometimes have to take that leap of faith , take the message into the market place and deal with all the competing noises and attractions we find there.

*Revd. Andrew*

## **Readings**

### **Collect**

Gracious God,  
you call us to fullness of life:  
  
deliver us from unbelief  
and banish our anxieties  
  
with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

## ***Psalm 124***

If it had not been the LORD who was on our side  
—let Israel now say—  
if it had not been the LORD who was on our side,  
when our enemies attacked us,  
then they would have swallowed us up alive,  
when their anger was kindled against us;  
then the flood would have swept us away,  
the torrent would have gone over us;  
then over us would have gone  
the raging waters.

Blessed be the LORD,  
who has not given us as prey to their teeth.  
We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers;  
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

Our help is in the name of the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.

## ***The Gospel according to Mark 9.38-50***

John said to him, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

'If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

'For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'

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

The Gospel tells us not to set up stumbling blocks in another's path to God.

What behaviours or practices do you wish to leave behind today?

What are some stumbling blocks you have run into – either those that have been set up by others or those that you have set up in the way of others?

How do you live into Jesus' statement that whoever is not against us is for us?

## Beacon People

Our prayers are asked for all who are sick, especially **Richard Garrett, Frauke, Andrea Linsell,** and **Jenipher Pritchard.** Pray for all those people, whether they are relatives or friends, who care for the sick and disabled in their own homes and for those undergoing cancer treatment at this time. We remember also all the charities which this benefice supports, including Christian Aid, Marah, Sportily, Stroud Citizens Advice, Stroud Foodbank and The Vine Project and 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 **Sara Saunders** as well as all whose anniversaries of death fall at this time.

## Notices

**This Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 11am** everyone in the Benefice is welcome to **Beacon Praise for All!** Please come and join in this Service of informal worship at St Mary's, Painswick

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Thank you all for your generous donations to the Food bank after a break of 3 months. The **Foodbank** has now moved to new premises and is anticipating a huge need as furlough ends. However October is harvest time for churches and we felt that we would be in competition so have decided to have a big collection in November for Christmas. St Mary's has traditionally given their harvest food gifts to The Haven (10th October) so please still give generously. Our **next food bank collection** will be on **Wednesday 10th November.**

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Frances Watson and Alison Robinson wish to thank all the kind people who baked cakes and helped on the **Fairtrade Coffee and Cake stall** in the Church as part of the Clypping and Painswick Feast. The donations received came to over £200 which will pay for postage on the cards we send to Prisoners of Conscience throughout the world at Christmas and Easter.

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**Christian Aid Autumn Suppers** - After an enforced break the CA Autumn Supper has returned ... with a difference. Owing to the continuing Covid situation the committee has decided to hold two smaller suppers on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October and on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> October,** each in St. Mary's Church Rooms with a limit of 30 guests. Three courses will be served with a choice of pork casserole or shepherd's pie for the main course, selected in advance. A vegetarian option will be available if required. Tickets are £18 per person. Make a note in your diaries, or better still contact Jane Burt (810935) or Dylan Davies (812966) to purchase tickets.

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**Sportily news and prayer requests:** Give thanks for productive conversations with local schools last week, as well as some new youth turning up to Youth Club on Monday. Pray for relationships to re-form quickly, and Jesus's name to be made known in these places. Please give thanks for the safe arrival of Elias Fudge, Ben and Sarah's new son who was born last Friday. They are both well and home today. Please pray a blessing over their family in this exciting time.

This week sees the start of Multi Sports Cranham on Thurs, and possibly Multi Sports Croft on the same day Pray that the children would be responsive to the ethos and tone of the club. This Sunday, Beacon Praise is back on. Luke, our new intern will be sharing his testimony, and as he is from a different background, pray it would impact all those who are there.

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Please continue to protect yourself, your friends and family, and everyone around you by **wearing a face mask in church** if you are able to and **make use of the hand sanitiser** provided as you enter. This is important at all times, but particularly so at larger events where people have gathered from many different places. Face coverings can reduce the risk of unknowingly spreading the virus to others. Of course none of us like them, but thank you for making the effort to wear your mask and protect other people in our churches.

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### Sources of help :

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

**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)

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### Weekday Worship

**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).*

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month:** 11am. Holy Communion at Richmond Village  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month:** 10.30am Morning Prayer at Richmond Village  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month:** 11.00am Holy Communion at Resthaven

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### Services next Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October - 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity Harvest Festival at Cranham

9.30am	Painswick	Holy Communion
11.00am	Cranham	Holy Communion for Harvest

### 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:** "If you would like to make a donation, fill out a form, enclose a cheque and drip in the collection basket."