



...linking the Beacon Parishes

Sunday 20th March –3rd Sunday of Lent

9.30am	Painswick	Holy Communion
11.00am	Edge Village Hall	Holy Communion
6.30pm	Cranham	Evensong (BCP)

*We ask you to please **wear a face mask in church**, unless you have a medical reason not to and **make use of the hand sanitiser** provided as you enter. Whilst face coverings are no longer legally required, this measure will help us keep our community safe. Good ventilation is part of covid precautions and our churches may be less warm as a result. Please dress accordingly.*

Not the Rector

As we continue to watch the situation in Ukraine, perhaps we wonder what we personally can do. Those who are able, will have become involved in sending aid or other practical help. If we cannot do that then at least we can pray – the following suggestions from the diocesan websire may be useful:

So many words come to mind as we watch and hear events unfold in Ukraine and indeed in Russia. Knowing what and how to pray, in such a traumatic time can be difficult, especially as households or communities across generations.

These Hearts of Prayer resources have a focus on the needs of people caught up in war. They can be used as a reminder to ‘pray without ceasing’ and to provide some words which might help us to focus our prayers.

It might also help to commit to a specific time to pray. We don’t want our children to arrive at school or go to sleep with hard thoughts in their minds, so find a moment when it’s appropriate and you have time to respond to their feelings and questions. It might be that when they come to you with questions is exactly the moment to pray.

We all have pain in our hearts and distress in our minds about this conflict, perhaps prayer will help us find courage in our hearts and purpose in our minds so we can be our best selves as we discover how to support people in such need. Resources can be found at : <https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/2022/hearts-of-prayer-ukraine/>

Revd. Andrew

Readings

Collect

Eternal God,
give us insight
to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm 63.1-9

O God, you are my God, I seek you,
my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.
So I will bless you as long as I live;
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.
My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips
when I think of you on my bed,
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;
for you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.
My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.
But those who seek to destroy my life
shall go down into the depths of the earth;

The Gospel according to Luke 13.1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.'

Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

The parable of the fig tree symbolizes how quickly we are prone to giving up on people, situations and circumstances without tending to the root of the problem. If we can move past the surface of what is or is not bearing fruit and address the foundation of a given issue then we are able to nurture the depths of diversity needed for healing and growth.

- Is there a time when you gave up on something or someone and later wished you hadn't?
- How are you nurtured?
- What is at the root of who you are?
- What are your support networks?

Beacon People

Our prayers are asked for all who are sick, especially **Rebecca Applebee-Crabb, Richard Garrett, Frauke Hankamer, 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 pray also for all the charities which this benefice supports, including Christian Aid, GARAS, 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, as well as all whose anniversaries of death fall at this time. May they and all the departed rest in peace and rise in glory.

There will be a **memorial service for the late Joy Butler** of Richmond Village on April 1st at 12.00noon. All are invited to attend.

Notices

Beacon Praise this month falls on **Mothering Sunday** and we will be doing things a little differently at St. Mary's. We will **start at 10 o'clock** with crafts for children and refreshments for adults followed by a shorter service including distribution of posies for our Mums. Please do come and support the worship and take the opportunity to invite your neighbouring families to the celebration. Join in, enjoy some pastries, coffee, crafts, music and time to celebrate mothers! Everyone's welcome. Book at <https://bookwhen.com/sportilybeacon> or just turn up on the day. (Helpful if you book, so we can know numbers to cater for). See you there!

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The **Christian Aid** committee will hold **Lent lunches** of soup, bread and cheese in St. Mary's Church rooms from midday to 1.30pm on Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 13th April. Proceeds will go to Christian Aid's Ukraine appeal. Make a note in your diary!

**Attention all Gardeners** During Christian Aid week, 15-21 May, there will be a bring and buy garden shop on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>. If any keen or budding (pun intended) gardener would like to grow plants for the shop or is dividing some clumps it would be greatly appreciated. Information on the salmon supper, lunches and cream teas will be available closer to the time.

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The next **Foodbank collection** will be on **April 13th** , 10am-12.noon at the Stocks and Stamages Lane Car Park. Foods needed are: tinned vegetables, tinned potatoes, fruit juice, longlife milk, jams & spreads, sweet and savoury treats, coffee, laundry liquid/powder. Thank you.

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**PAINSWICK MUSIC SOCIETY'S 76 th Season** comprises four wonderful concerts to look forward to, all taking place in St Mary's Church on Saturday afternoons.

*26 th MARCH* at 3pm - Carducci Quartet with Clare Hammond (piano). Programme: Schumann's Piano Quintet and works by Fanny Mendelssohn and Shostakovich

*9 th April* at 3pm - Jess Gillam (saxophone) and James Baillieu (piano). Programme includes works by Telemann, Poulenc and Piazzolla

*30 th April* at 4pm – Voces8. Programme: Choral Music Celebrating Regeneration

*14 th May* at 3pm - Iyad Sughayer (piano). Programme includes works by Haydn, Schubert, Schumann, Sibelius and Helen Ottaway

Memberships and tickets can be bought online at: [www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk](http://www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk) All ticket and membership enquiries to Edward Bowron: [tickets@painswickmusicsoc.co.uk](mailto:tickets@painswickmusicsoc.co.uk) or 07789 006006

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A request from Eastwood Park:With films being streamed being on the increase, there may be some of you who have DVDs and DVD players sitting around doing nothing. If this is the case for you, please would you consider donating to HMP Eastwood Park (where I work as a CofE Chaplain)? We are looking to start up a borrowing scheme for enhanced prisoners as a reward for good conduct. Please bear the following information in mind: No 18 certificates, No USB or Bluetooth devices. Thanks in anticipation for your help. Gill Martin, Chaplain (Church of England), HMP Eastwood Park, Falfield, South Gloucestershire, GL12 8DB, 01454 382105.

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

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

**The Painswick Community Support initiative** provides community support for Painswick. If you need support, please contact 07956 203087

[painswickcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:painswickcommunity@gmail.com)

**Painswick Community Hub** Tea, coffee and home-made cakes in the Town Hall every Friday 9.30-11am. All are welcome. Please note that Richmond Village has kindly offered to host the Painswick Community Hub coffee morning on **Friday March 25<sup>th</sup>** in the **Auditorium 9.30-11am**, ending promptly at 11am due to a class taking place immediately afterwards. Transport to and from the Town Hall will be provided by the Richmond Village minibus from in front of the Town Hall at 9.45am as limited parking is available at Richmond.

## Weekday Worship

**Wednesday weekly:** 9.00am Benefice Prayer time via Zoom

*The weekly Zoom invitation will be sent out with Beacon Light each week. Lindsay Gardiner ( [lindsay.gardiner@icloud.com](mailto:lindsay.gardiner@icloud.com) ) Karen Riding ( [kriding07@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kriding07@yahoo.co.uk) )*

**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:** 10.30am Holy Communion at Richmond Village

**3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month:** 11.00am Holy Communion at Resthaven

## Services next Sunday 27th March – Mothering Sunday

|                |             |                      |
|----------------|-------------|----------------------|
| 9.30am         | Pitchcombe  | Holy Communion (BCP) |
| <b>10.00am</b> | Painswick   | Beacon Praise        |
| 11.00am        | Cranham     | Morning Prayer       |
| 11.00am        | Sheepscombe | Holy Communion       |

***Please note 10am start time for Beacon Praise at St. Mary's***

## Contacts

Rector: Revd. Janet Turville

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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: “Bertha Belch, a missionary, will be speaking tonight at Evensong. Come and hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa. ”