



WORSHIPPING AT HOME
Epiphany 3 – Week of Prayer
for Christian Unity
Sunday 24th January 2021

WELCOME to our Worshipping at Home resources for this week.

COVID-19 – LATEST For the rest of January (and almost certainly into February), **we will only be opening the Church for live worship at 11am on Sundays – all other services are cancelled.**

In order to keep yourselves and others safe, please only come at 11am on Sunday if you are unable to access our Online Worship Resources

Do not Come to Church at all, if

- You have had a positive Covid-19 test, or are awaiting the result of one***
- You are experiencing any symptoms related to Covid***
- You have been in contact with anyone who has Covid, and have therefore been told to self-isolate***
- You have been identified as particularly vulnerable and told that you should shield***

THIS WEEK *(Events in red will be online events)*

Sunday 24th January – Epiphany 3:

10am **(Zoom)**: Church at Home.

11.15am **(Zoom)**: SEA Church (for young people)

(the Zoom joining code for both of these is

ID: 148-785-166, Password: Church)

11am: Holy Communion (CW). **In Church and Livestreamed**

Sunday 31st January – Epiphany 4:

10am **(Zoom)**: Church at Home.

11.15am **(Zoom)**: SEA Church (for young people)

(the Zoom joining code for both of these is

ID: 148-785-166, Password: Church)

11am: Holy Communion (CW). **In Church and Livestreamed**

EPIPHANY 3:

COLLECTS:

Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles
the wonder of your saving presence:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

(or)

God of all mercy,
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,
release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit
and set all your people free
to praise you in Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING: *Revelation 19:6-10*

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out, 'Hallelujah!

For the Lord our God
the Almighty reigns.

Let us rejoice and exult
and give him the glory,

for the marriage of the Lamb has come,
and his bride has made herself ready;
to her it has been granted to be clothed
with fine linen, bright and pure'—

for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

And the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' And he said to me, 'These are true words of God.' Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, 'You must not do that! I am a fellow-servant with you and your comrades who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.'

GOSPEL READING: *John 2:1-11*

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 3When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty Father,
whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments,
shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known,
worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

SERMON (written by The Rev'd Tim Clifford Hill, Assistant Curate):

(Tim has asked for this picture to be printed here – read on to discover why?)



See above, a photograph of an altar. This is the altar in the Epiphany Chapel at Winchester Cathedral and on it you will see a brand new altar frontal, designed by Sophie Hacker. Sophie Hacker's work can be found in churches and cathedrals across the country, at my theological college in Salisbury and in the private chapel of the Bishop of London.

This altar frontal was placed permanently on that altar only a few days ago. It depicts today's Gospel passage – the wedding at Cana. Where Jesus turned over 120 gallons of water into wine. You can see, on the frontal, the red colour of the wine, the clear blue water and the colour and shape of the clay jars.

This action is Jesus' first 'sign.' In the Synoptic Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, the Greek word 'Dynamis' (which means 'act of power') is used for these miracle actions. But in John's Gospel, the writer uses 'Semeion,' which means 'sign.' And he does so for a reason.

These Miracles were Signs. Signs of the divinity of Jesus. Signs that the ancient promises of the Hebrew Scriptures were coming true. Signs that were not used for Jesus' personal gain but instead for the glory of God. And this particular sign, of changing water into wine, is only recorded in John's Gospel and not in the Synoptics.

When I saw that altar photo – on Winchester Cathedral's Twitter page – and as I read this passage, I was reminded of a Deacon or Priest's 'hidden' prayers, during a communion service. In some traditions in the Church of England, there are specific prayers that a Deacon or Priest says, to themselves (or sometimes aloud) at certain points in a service. They include:

- Before the proclamation of the Gospel. *Cleanse my heart and my lips, Almighty God, that I may worthily proclaim your holy Gospel.*
- At the Lavabo, when a Server pours water over the Priest's hands to cleanse them (or in the current climate, when Roy squirts hand sanitizer!). *Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.*
- Or during the Offertory, as the Priest pours the water into a chalice full of wine, mixing the two together, they pray. *By the mystery of this water and wine, may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.*

For the Church of England, this week has been about encouraging us to share, as we travel through the week of prayer for Christian Unity, of

which today is the penultimate day. We've been praying for and with our Brothers and Sisters in Christ of different denominations. Particularly here in Cranleigh, for Father David (at the Roman Catholic Church), Keith (at the Methodist Church), Dave (at the Baptist church), all of their congregations, and many others too.

We share many aspects of our faith with these denominations, including communion. There are different schools of thought about what happens to the bread and wine at the altar but, in our hearts – and when not obstructed by a global pandemic - when we eat the bread and drink the wine, we are partaking in the body and blood of our Lord and Saviour. And at the end of a Eucharist, we are sent out. Sent out to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

In our Gospel today, Jesus tells his mother that his hour had not yet come. The hour he refers to is the hour of his death. As we know, that hour did finally come, on Good Friday. It is because of that death and the resurrection that we can now share. Share Jesus with everyone we meet and alongside our fellow Children of God, whatever denomination they may be.

May I end with a prayer for Christian unity, which is prayed at Lambeth Palace (the home of the Archbishop of Canterbury) every morning.

Lord Jesus, who prayed that we might all be one, we pray for the unity of all Christians, according to your will, according to your means. May your Spirit enable us to experience the suffering caused by division, to see our sin, and to hope beyond all hope.

Amen.

WEEKLY PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

Church and Christian Ministry:

- For all members of General Synod, especially those clergy and laity representing our own diocese, and keep them steadfast in faith and united in love.
- In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer – the Church in Bagladesh.
- In this week of Prayer for Christian Unity we pray for all our brothers in sisters in the other churches in Cranleigh, and especially for their ministers, David, Dave and Keith.

National and World Affairs:

- For our government and nation at this time of crisis.
- For Joe Biden as he takes on the heavy responsibility of the American Presidency.
- For those whose role it is to administer the delivery of Covid vaccinations around the UK.

Community and Family:

- For those who live in Furniss Court.
- For the volunteers and medical staff operating the Vaccination Centre in the Village Hall.
- For all who work for Surrey Fire and Rescue, and especially our team in Cranleigh.

The Sick and those in Need:

- Ray Corver, Stefan Godier, Stella Goldsmith, George Hill, Philip Jones, Amy and Dennis Loveless, Libby O'Brien, Brian Pettyfer, Jean Quallington, Jean Sandow, Bert and Eileen Steed, Maureen Steele, Dennis and Rosemary Talbot, Marion Tomkins, Mac Walker, Darcy

Wigfield, Angela Wild, Henry Young and Nicholas. *(and from Dunsfold and Hascombe: Amanda and Hugh, Tim Bailey, Michael Burt, Sarah Godwin and John Davies, Jan and Mark Knott, William and James Mason, Sally Rivett, Sue Simper, Jacky Williams, Alli, Judy Bolt, Sue and Dennis Evans, Lorna Thompson, Sami Bennewith, Lizzy and Paddy Laverty)*

The Departed:

- All we have known and loved, and especially Alan Chivers, Doris Cooper, Daniel Gibbin, Alan Griffin, Roy Marriott, Ivy Shepherd, Jack Sieber *(and from Dunsfold and Hascombe: Norman Edsall, Peter Williams, Ian McClune).*

WEEKLY NOTICES:

RECTORY FETE 2021 It is hoped to hold a Rectory Fête on Saturday 10th July. With this in mind, and with many of us having spare time on our hands, and perhaps sorting out all those cupboards we haven't looked at for some time, we could put aside some items for the fête, such as bags, scarves, jewellery, and of course new items for the regifting stall. There is also the craft stall and I know many of you are knitting and making things. We could have a bumper craft stall. If anyone has more ideas for what we could do please do not hesitate to contact me on 275643. Sandra Keeping

CHURCHYARD MOWING The team did a grand job last year, despite lockdowns etc. We're hoping that they will feel able to do the same this season - I regard it as socially distanced exercise - but as usual there have been departures for various reasons. We need new volunteers to join in, particularly from our newer and younger parishioners. The commitment is two periods of two hours each between March to October, and I look

forward to hearing from anyone interested by the middle of February, when the rota will be sent out.

Malcolm Keeping malcolm.twoaks@btinternet.com 01483 275643

JOIN YOUR FRIENDS FOR COFFEE AFTER 11AM SERVICE EACH WEEK

Are you missing meeting up with friends over coffee after Church? After the success of last week's trial, we will be making it a regular feature to meet on Zoom when the 11am Service ends, for a chat and a catch up! The scheduled Zoom Meeting will be open from 11.45 onwards. **Meeting ID: 830 2040 3902 and the Passcode: 'Coffee'**

'CONGREGATIONAL COFFEE' ON THURSDAY MORNING EACH WEEK

Another new Initiative this week! While we are not able to meet in person, you can meet members of the Ministry Team and other friends online (Zoom) over a cup of coffee each Thursday Morning at 10am. **Meeting ID: 819 9819 4645 and the Passcode: 'Thursday'**

MIDWEEK MORNING PRAYER Members of the Ministry Team say Morning Prayer each Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 8am. In normal times we meet in Church, but during this lockdown we are meeting on Zoom. If anybody else would like to join us, the Zoom codes are: **Meeting ID: 546 358 461 Passcode: 'MP'**

ZOOM CHURCH FROM HOME Please note, in future, the Zoom Code will include the **Passcode: 'Church'**. The Meeting ID will remain the same, but please make sure you know the Password if you would like to join us at 10am. **Meeting ID: 148 785 166 Passcode: 'Church'**

JOB OPPORTUNITY: Since September, Nicola has been our Interim Church Administrator. We are now looking to make a permanent appointment. Any expressions of interest should be made to The Rector

by email roy@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk or telephone 01483 800655 by Wednesday 27th January.

COMING TO CHURCH – RULES AND REGULATIONS in connection with COVID-19 are changing fast at the moment – *****PLEASE SEE NOTICE ON PAGE 1***** Whilst our entry to National Lockdown has not significantly changed the regulations regarding Corporate worship, cases in our area are still high, and the danger is still significant. If you are aged over 70, or clinically vulnerable and are able to access our worship on-line, please consider not coming to church for the next few weeks in order to reduce the risk to yourself and others. We will make every effort to keep you up to date with what's happening, but it should always be remembered that our printed material may have gone out of date by the time you read it!

If you know of anyone who does not have internet, and who would like a written communication from us each week, please email: nicola@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk or call the Parish Office on 01483 273620.

TRAIDCRAFT: Sue Knight is still offering Traidcraft goods for sale by appointment or would be willing to deliver to Cranleigh on receipt of an order. She will have catalogues or you can go on line at www.traidcraftshop.co.uk to see the whole range and if she has to order it in, this usually takes about a week. You can pay for any orders by BACS or she will accept cheques. Call Sue on 275032 or 07950 025137.

KEEP IN TOUCH:

Rector - Revd Canon Roy Woodhams

(Day off: Monday)

Tel: 01483 800655. Email: roy@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Curate - Revd Tim Clifford Hill

(Day off: Monday)

Tel: 01483 276267. Email: tim@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Part time Curate - Revd Rutton Viccajee

(Works Wednesday, Friday, Sunday)

Tel: 01252 910212. Email: rutton@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Interim Administrator - Nicola Craven-Smith

(Works Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.30-2.30)

Tel: 01483 273620. Email: nicola@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Young People's Minister - Gabrielle Clarke

Tel: 07427 748408. Email: gabrielle@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Church Website: www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

and on **Facebook**.