



St Nicolas Church, Cranleigh
WORSHIPPING AT HOME
Sunday Next Before Lent
Quinquagesima
Sunday 14th February 2021

WELCOME to our Worshipping at Home resources for this week.

COVID-19 – LATEST for the time being, we will continue to open the Church for live worship only 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

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

Sunday 14th February – Next before Lent:

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

Ash Wednesday – 17th February

12pm Eucharist with Spiritual Imposition of Ashes

In Church and Livestreamed.

Sunday 21st February – Lent 1:

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 NEXT BEFORE LENT *Quinquagesima*

COLLECTS:

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

(or)

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts, and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING: *2 Corinthians 4: 3-6.*

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our

hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL READING: *Mark 9: 2-9.*

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

+ May my thoughts words and deeds be in the name of Christ. Amen.

Whenever I read Mark's account of the transfiguration, I am transported back to my Religious Studies GCSE lessons. Mark's Gospel was the set Gospel for my year group. I think it's probably safe to say that I was the only student really interested. We were taught by the school chaplain, The Reverend Robert Prance. The other pupils were there for the excitement of a possible theological or philosophical teenage argument, a chance to let rip at someone. Some were there to eat the chaplain's chocolates and some only there to stroke the chaplain's well behaved Jack Russell Terrier, Gigi, who lay asleep in her bed in the corner.

The Transfiguration of our Lord - today's Gospel reading - was a compulsory set text and since then I've always been able to remember the phrase 'and his clothes became a dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them.' And I imagine those dazzling clothes creating a bright light, in front of the eyes of Peter, James and John. But they could still see through this bright light. They could see Jesus, Elijah and Moses. This, combined with the voice from the cloud, proving to them - and us - that this is the Son of God. God made flesh. I also imagine this happening in the relative dark, with Jesus' dazzling clothes lightening up the darkness.

When we hear and read the Transfiguration, we find so many signposts.

- Moses and Elijah, reminding us of the prophets who foretold the coming of Jesus.

- The voice from heaven, reminding us of Jesus' baptism, when a similar phrase was heard from above.
- The bright, dazzling clothes reminding us that Jesus is the light of the world.

They all show us, just as they showed the three Disciples, that this is Jesus.

It also signposts us to the future. To the Resurrection. To the Ascension. To the longing that we have for God's Kingdom to come on this earth. The very thing that we strive for. 'Thy kingdom come' - as we will pray later in the Lord's Prayer.

When we read and hear the transfiguration we are both the audience, looking at it from afar but also given a pivotal mandate. 'This is my son, my beloved, listen to him,' said the voice from the cloud. We must listen to and listen for Christ. Listen for him in the cries of the lonely, the depressed, the sad and the grieving - particularly during this time when the pandemic has taken so many lives. Listen to Christ and show Christ. In our thoughts, words and deeds. Show the God who is love.

And what about Robert Prance, my old school chaplain? What did he have to say about the transfiguration?

He would look me in the eye (he still does look me in the eye!), with a knowing smile on his face and said:

'Focus on the geography.'

'The Transfiguration takes place on Mount Hermon, above Caesarea Philippi. This is the highest the Disciples travel. From now on it's downhill.'

Downhill to Jerusalem. On the road to the cross. This is the turning point in Mark's Gospel, where Mark moves from focusing on action to focusing on suffering. Jesus is now heading towards his suffering and death. The Transfiguration means here is the Messiah who will give his life for all.'

Amen.

WEEKLY PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

Church and Christian Ministry:

- For all who help with technology in churches across the Diocese, giving thanks for the skills of Howard Cherry and Mike Roberts, who run our live-streaming at St. Nicolas’.
- In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer – the Anglican Church of Canada.

National and World Affairs:

- For our government and nation at this time of crisis.
- For those whose role it is to deliver Covid vaccinations around the UK, especially in our Village Hall.

Community and Family:

- For those who live in Ewhurst Road.
- For the work of the Salvation Army.

The Sick and those in Need:

- Tony Black, Ray Corver, Stella Goldsmith, George Hill, Helen and David, Philip Jones, Amy and Dennis Loveless, Libby O’Brien, Brian Pettyfer, Jean Quallington, Jean Sandow, Bert and Eileen Steed, Dennis and Rosemary Talbot, Marion Tomkins, 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, Sally Rivett, Sue Simper, Jacky Williams, Alli, Judy Bolt, Sue and Dennis Evans, Sami Bennewith, Lizzy Laverty)*

The Departed:

- All we have known and loved, and especially Doris O'nions (*and from Dunsfold and Hascombe: Paddy Laverty*).

WEEKLY NOTICES:

THOUGHT FOR LENT. These Live-streamed Lent reflections will start at 10am on 25th February. The service will last approximately 30 minutes, will discuss Christ's Seven Last Words on the Cross and include hymns and prayers for the season.

25th February. 10am – The Rector ***“Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do”***.

4th March. 10am – Revd Martin Booth ***“Today you will be with me in paradise”***

11th March. 10am – Revd Rutton Viccajee ***“Woman, behold, thy son! Behold, thy mother!”***

18th March. 10am – Revd Tim Clifford Hill ***“My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”*** and ***“I Thirst”***

25th March. 10am – The Rector ***“It is finished”*** and ***“Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit”***

THE BIBLE COURSE

Rutton and Gabrielle are going to run The Bible Society's excellent product: 'the Bible Course' on Zoom.

The course will run on Wednesday nights, 8.00 to 9.00 pm, with an optional coffee and chat at 7.45 pm, starting WEDNESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 2021

Why the course? Well, if you haven't already noticed, the Bible is a very big Book! (actually it's a whole library of 66 books!) Sometimes it's hard

to understand what it's all about. But, this interactive video course, made by the Bible Society, can help us to understand the big picture of the Bible, all over 8 sessions on Zoom.

Watch this video to find out more:

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=G_kun5f15S4

Optional, but recommended:

- 15 minutes a day for preparatory reading;
- The course interactive, 3D timeline book (cost £4.99) – please order in advance

Please get in touch with Gabrielle or Rutton at

gabrielle@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk / rutton@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk if you wish to sign up.

It's a superb course, and very well presented. You won't regret it!

The Annual Women's World Day of Prayer should be held on March 5th but, under present circumstances this is not possible. However, the order of service is available from Jill Saunders (268028) and Jill wood (274390). They are happy to deliver to anyone who would like to have a copy .

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'**

LAST 'CONGREGATIONAL COFFEE' BEFORE LENT 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 on Thursday Morning at 10am. This week is the last week, due to the Lent Thursday Reflections. **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'**

TRAIDCRAFT: Sue Knight is 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 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 and furloughed Saturday)

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

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

(Currently only working Monday, Thursday and Sunday)

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

Church Website: www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk
and on **Facebook**.