



St Nicolas Church, Cranleigh
WORSHIPPING AT HOME
First Sunday of Lent
Sunday 21st 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 and Thursday morning Lent reflections – 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 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

Thursday 25th February

10am: Thought for Lent Week 1. In Church and Live-Streamed

Sunday 28th February – Lent 2:

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

COLLECTS:

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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)

Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING: 1 Peter 3: 18-22

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey,

when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

GOSPEL READING: *Mark 1: 9-15.*

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

SERMON (written by Rev Ian Maslin, Rector of Dunsfold and Hascombe):

A few years ago, a celebrated television newsreader, provoked a national debate on what constitutes news.

He remarked in a speech that news broadcasts focused too much on bad news. In the discussions that followed, many people talked about what exactly is news.

Do we presume that news is when something out of the ordinary happens, so that the commonplace events that happen are not worth talking about?

Or is news the description of events, and a commentary on their significance for society?

One critic of the newsreader said that deliberately to balance the good news and the bad news was to intervene to an unacceptable degree in the reporting world.

And anyway, who can say what is good news and what is bad news? Tragedy aside, what is good news for one person, or one country is often bad news for another.

Christian good news is quite distinct. Today's Gospel reading says that Jesus was proclaiming the good news from God. Jesus was proclaiming that God's will for the world was being fulfilled.

The Kingdom of God, the reign of God in which people are reconciled to the Father and restored into a right relationship with Him, is being established even as Jesus speaks.

So, for the Christian, good news is news that recounts the building of the kingdom of God. This is the message of Christ, His news is the good news from God, the only good news that is good for all people. As disciples gathered around Him, and as they heard and understood what the good news was, and why it would transform their lives, Jesus would send them out in their turn to spread that wonderful 'good news' to all everyone; to all people.

How do we recognise good news from God?

Jesus' preaching of the good news was accompanied by forgiveness of sins and miracles of healing.

The good news restores broken lives; it gives hope; it drives away fear; it promotes true peace; it is concerned for the well being of others who

cannot care for themselves; it is concerned with building up what is good, and destroying what is evil.

The good news is centred on Jesus; He Himself was, and is, the good news that He proclaimed.

He did not just talk about God, He is God.

He drew people to Himself and they found life in Him. That is our testimony too; when we recognise God in our lives, when we respond to Him and begin to relate to Him, we will find life; life in all its fulness.

So, our Christian life is to recognise the power of the good news; to see it has done for us; to give thanks to God; and to bring other people to receive the news with joyful hearts. This may be by acting out the good news.

It may be by speaking about God. It may be by our honest exploration of our faith with others. It may be by our prayer.

Proclaiming the good news involves us in it, and we become part of it: a people who are reconciled to God, speaking of a kingdom which we have glimpsed, and in which we long to live fully and completely.

We are not all called to be celebrated speakers and preachers, though some of us may be.

We are not all called to shout the Gospel from the rooftops and in the streets, though some of us may be.

We are not all called to write eloquent articles about our faith, or even to sell all we have and go to faraway places, though some of us may be.

But we are all called to live the life God has created us for, in living, dynamic relationship with Him.

In short, we are called to be ourselves, and we will truly find ourselves when we truly find God, our own good news.

Today is the first Sunday of Lent, and a good opportunity to reflect on our own particular part in proclaiming the good news.

It is a good opportunity to reflect on the news our lives proclaim; are we only telling about ourselves, or are we telling the story of God's love, the Good News of the Gospel?

Amen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

WEEKLY PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

Church and Christian Ministry:

- For all teachers in Church schools across the diocese.
- In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer – The Church of the Province of Central Africa.

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 Peregrine Close.
- For the work of teachers across the country.

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, John Skan, 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 Cindy Bulmer, Canon Tony Chanter, Joan Goodier, William Goodier and Doris O'nions, *(and from Dunsfold and Hascombe: Paddy Laverty)*.

Canon Tony Chanter

It is with sadness, that Canon Tony Chanter passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday, with Yvonne by his side. Tony was a former member of the Ministry team here and had been the Director of Education for the Diocese. His daughter, Fiona, writes:

'Tony was not afraid of dying and was looking forward to the hope of heaven and how he expected it to be even better than this life...maybe playing a round of golf with St Peter or watching England win at cricket. He was a great inspiration and his legacy will continue with his family.'

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!

TRAIDCRAFT:



This is a Zoom event on Wednesday 10th March at 6.30 I will be hosting with Matt Oliver from Traidcraft , He will be giving a slide presentation on forty things for Lent showing new products and sharing Producer stories . If you would like to participate please send me your email and I will send you the code and digital new catalogue. sueknight@watercottage.co.uk

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

JOIN YOUR FRIENDS FOR COFFEE AFTER 11AM SERVICE EACH WEEK Are you missing meeting up with friends over coffee after Church? We are pleased to 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'**

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'**

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**.