

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN MELBOURNE, SMISBY,
STANTON-BY-BRIDGE AND TICKNALL

THE BULLETIN

A weekly publication for the Benefice

Sunday 13th December 2020

Advent 3



Across the Benefice Today

- 10.30am** **Parish Eucharist – Melbourne**
The Revd Steve Short / The Revd Alan Winfield
- 9.15am** **Holy Communion – Ticknall**
The Revd Michael Rogers
- Stanton-by-Bridge – At Swarkestone**
- 5.30pm** **Evening Prayer – Smisby**
Canon David Edwards
- 6.30pm** **Advent Carol Service – on Facebook**

From the Rector

This Sunday is 'Gaudete Sunday', the Advent equivalent of the Lent 'Laetare Sunday' (also known as Mothering Sunday or even 'Refreshment Sunday') where it is traditional to relax slightly during what is a penitential season. I've always seen Advent in a slightly different light to Lent where, although we are 'putting our house in order', it is primarily a season of hope and expectation rather than the cross-focussed, wilderness journey of Lent. To reflect this relaxation liturgically, rose vestments rather than purple may be worn in churches where available. In the Gospels, Jesus labels himself 'the Lord of the Sabbath'. The Sabbath was a day given by God as part of the original covenant with God's ancient people, the Jews. It was expected that God's people would take time for rest, refreshment, renewal and recreation. Jesus, too, modelled this in his ministry – often when people wanted him, they couldn't find him as he withdrew to spend time in prayer or stillness. Even in these incredibly busy times when so many are facing exhaustion in their daily lives, it is still (at the very least) aspirational to have the time for leisure. In short, if Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath, we need a Sabbath for him to Lord of!

Advent Hope

Between 30 November 2020 and 24 December 2020, Bishop Libby invites us to join her each week for an hour of prayer and reflection based upon seasonal Bible passages and collects as together we look for the coming of Christ and the hope that gives us of his kingdom. Advent Hope is open to all and will be held on Mondays from 8am-9am and repeated on Thursday 8pm-9pm.

Please email halina.johnson@bishopofderby.org for the access link.

Advent Reading

Advent is a time for devotional reading and, amongst other favourite books, I will be reading new this year:

'Into the Heart of Advent – Twenty-five conversations with Jesus' by Penelope Wilcock, SPCK publishing

Re-reads are:

'The Little Book of Advent' compiled by Canon Arthur Howells, William Collins publishing.

'A Shaking reality – daily reflections for advent' by Bishop Peter Price, DLT publishing
Every blessing as we wait upon God this Advent, moving from darkness to light.

Compline

Each Wednesday of Advent at 9pm there will be a service of Compline in traditional language shown live on our Facebook page ('Melbourne Parish Church'). Everyone is warmly invited to join together in these acts of worship – an opportunity to slow down and wait upon God. These are the links for each Wednesday:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-in-daily-prayer/night-prayer-traditional-wednesday-2-december-2020>

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-in-daily-prayer/night-prayer-traditional-wednesday-9-december-2020>

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-in-daily-prayer/night-prayer-traditional-wednesday-16-december-2020>

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-in-daily-prayer/night-prayer-traditional-wednesday-23-december-2020>

Every blessing, Steve

Community Development

The COVID - 19 pandemic has highlighted how closely we are connected to one another and the importance of community. As we move into 2021, I believe that it is time for us to review how we provide support, development and care to both our church members and the wider community.

I have asked a small team comprising: Alan Winfield, Andrew Baldwin, Linda Latchford, and Kit Emery to undertake a scoping study to review current support mechanisms and the needs of our community and then to present suggestions as to how we should develop new ways of providing community support. They will be talking to church members across the Benefice. If you would like to contribute to this study please contact Andrew Baldwin via: andrewbaldwin2012@gmail.com or via 07526 162305.

- Steve

Parish Safeguarding Officer

As a parish we are very grateful indeed to Ros Bell for all her many years of work as one of our safeguarding officers. Now that Ros has stood down from the role with our thanks, we are looking for someone to fill the vacant position. If you would like to explore this opportunity further, please speak to me, one of our wardens or to Nigel Coupe as our remaining parish safeguarding officer.

Steve

Quiz

In this strangest of years, some things remain. As a result of massive demand (well, three of you asked...) there is still a Choir quiz this year! Due to our altered circumstances, it isn't practical to charge for it, although as always donations will be gratefully received! There will be paper copies available in Church, it will be on the Church Facebook page, or available direct from clive.r.avery@btinternet.com. Happy quizzing, and we hope that by the time the results come out there may be a path back to normality.

Clive Avery

Prayer Pilgrims

Friends will be aware of the opportunity made for private prayer in Melbourne Parish Church during the COVID-19 crisis.

Following feedback, the Prayer Pilgrims Wednesday midweek slot has been moved to straddle the lunch break (12:30-14:00) so that people at work in the town (either from home or at their place of work) can take advantage of Covid safe peace in the church building for prayer and reflection.

As the church will be opening up on 6 December, Saturday sessions will not take place December onwards.

Please let your friends and neighbours know of this opportunity.

No need to book, just turn up wearing a mask if you can.

If anybody else would like to join the volunteer team please contact Marcus Nolan on: (07966)545281 or by email : thewordsmith@gmail.com

Thanks,

Marcus Nolan



Online Advent Calendar

Many thanks to all who have contributed to the online Advent Calendar. This is available on our Facebook page each day during Advent. I will endeavour to post first thing each morning something from either a member of our Benefice congregations or an item from another source.

Many Thanks

Alan Winfield



Christmas Window Trail

Christmas in Melbourne is likely to be rather different this year with many of our village traditions unable to take place as normal. Churches Together in Melbourne wanted the children and families of Melbourne to have something to look forward to and so have organised the "Melbourne Christmas window trail".

The trail will run from 18th December until 1st January 2021 4pm-6pm daily. Windows in homes, shops and public buildings will be decorated to depict different Christmas carols. Children will be asked to guess the Carol. Trail maps will be available to download from the Melbourne Methodist Church website. Paper copies will be available in The Rectory porch, Church Square, DE73 8JH or from 15 Packhorse Road, DE73 8EG. Many thanks to everyone who is decorating their windows to support this new village event.

Church booking for Christmas

Booking is now open for the following services:

Sunday 20th December 10.30am – **Melbourne**

Christmas Eve Midnight Mass 11.00pm – **Ticknall**

Christmas Day 10.30am – **Melbourne**

Sunday 27th December 10.30am - **Melbourne**

To book for the Melbourne services please contact Rachel Short on 07747 898638 or by email at rach.short27@gmail.com

To book for Midnight Mass at Ticknall please contact Mary Hirst on 01332 862647 or by email at rtmh2007@yahoo.com





CHRISTMAS SERVICES ACROSS THE BENEFICE 2020



Sunday 20th December

11.00 am Christmas Communion

- St Michael, Stanton-By-Bridge

6.30 pm Carol Service

-St Michael with St Mary, Melbourne

This service will be pre-recorded 'live' and uploaded to our Facebook page ('Melbourne Parish Church'). There will also be an order of service to download also from Facebook.

Thursday 24th December-Christmas Eve

4.00 pm Christingle and Crib Service

This year our Christingle will be broadcast live on our Facebook page. We will be putting together Christingle Bags that will contain everything (apart from an orange) you need to make a Christingle. These will be available to pick up from Melbourne Rectory in the days before Christmas Eve-check our Facebook page for more details!

11.00 pm Benefice Midnight Mass

-St George, Ticknall

*To book your place, please phone
Mrs Mary Hirst on **01332 862647***

Friday 25th December - Christmas Day

9.00 am Holy Communion

-St James, Smisby

10.30 am Family Eucharist

-St Michael with

St Mary, Melbourne

*to book your place email:
rach.short27@gmail.com
or phone **07747 898638***



An Invitation to Join Carols on the Doorstep

During the run up to Christmas many of us like to go to a Carol Service or Community Carol Singing event, this year we cannot do that but that does not have to stop us having a good sing with our neighbours and our community. On Sunday 20th December at 5:30pm the whole country has the chance to join in Carols on your Doorstep. All you need to do is have a radio at hand. That can be a DAB radio, Freeview on your TV (725) or the Premier Radio phone app. Premier Radio will play 3 or 4 carols for everyone to sing along to. A carol sheet will be posted through your door nearer the time.

This is a good chance to dust off that festive jumper or your most festive headwear if you like. It will be family-friendly so children welcome to bring something to shake or rattle along too.

At this challenging time for all of us let's try and bring a little joy to our community this Christmas. Why not dust off your favourite festive jumper or headwear too? More information can be found

at <https://www.facebook.com/CarolsOnTheDoorstep> or www.newcastledistrictmethodist.org



A pattern for daily prayer, so that, at home or at church we can pray together:

Monday: Those in great poverty or need.

Tuesday: Those who have asked for our prayers: Anne Brazier, Roo Hubbard, David Ingram, Kate Landenberger, Bob Smith, Joan Tatam.

Those in Derby's hospitals and hospices. All at Pool Cottage. All who are suffering from Covid-19.

Wednesday: Our benefice and our diocese. For our bishop, Bishop Libby and our cathedral dean, Peter.

Thursday: Our schools as they continue their new academic year. The church worldwide. All Christian people. The local church. The Anglican Communion.

Friday: All in need, especially the hungry, poor and homeless.

The Departed

In our prayers this week, we remember those who have died recently and also those whose anniversaries occur near this time, among them Ray Stockley and Audrey Clifford.

Bible Readings for Today

Collect

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-end

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the broken-hearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,

and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.
I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Gospel Reading: John 1.6-8, 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord" ', as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Prayer after Communion

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever. Amen.

Daily Hope

The Church of England continues to run a free phonenumber service of hymns, reflections and prayers. To access call: **0800 804 8044**

Contact Us

Rector: the Revd Steve Short (day off Monday) 01332 864741

Email: rector@melbourneparishchurch.co.uk

Churchwarden: Dr Terry Gilbert – 07852 974147

Churchwarden: Mrs Linda Latchford – 01332 862307

Assistant Curate: the Revd Alan Winfield – 07796 560814

Email: winfieldalan28@yahoo.co.uk

Parish Office: 01332 862153

Email: melbourneparishchurch@gmail.com

Website: www.melbourneparishchurch.co.uk

Facebook: Melbourne Parish Church or

<https://www.facebook.com/Melbourne-Parish-Church-Derbyshire-198938417583824/>

If there is anyone you know who would like to go on our prayer list or who would appreciate a phone call, do please contact Steve, one of the wardens or the parish office. Thank you.

**Please take this bulletin home with you to
minimise any risk of transmission.**

Music suggestions

As promised, this week I provide a second selection of Advent Music including many more items we would sing and hear at Melbourne and I hope that there is something for everyone to remind you of our usual marking of the Season. Members of the Church Choir are planning to record an Advent Carol Service this weekend and a Christmas Carol Service next weekend which we will upload to the Church Website and Facebook Page. The orders of service will be available alongside them, so please join in heartily with all the Advent Hymns and Christmas Carols from home. Please stay in touch: 07808 474236 or simon.e.collins@btinternet.com

Hymns

O come, O come Emmanuel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qcllZpnZPgo>
On Jordan's Bank <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=plr21lLgFpg>
Creator of the stars of night <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9yEEDodsLtg>
Like a candle flame https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XmwdZyTGa_A
Hark! what a sound <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkeMTbilzXE>
Lo he comes with clouds descending <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PrzmHLiAsuQ>

Choral Music

Richard Lloyd: Drop down ye heavens from above
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nrz5wnF28ps>
Anon 16 th Century: Rejoice in the Lord alway <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=azVITZ-zNAs>
Orlando Gibbons: The Record of John <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XhB89IDI7e4>
Otto Goldschmidt: A tender shoot <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7MLDZdL-bMs>
William Byrd: Vigilate <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wejrKHre90s>
Charles Wood: O thou the central orb <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qf202pdjMZk>

Organ Music

Alec Rowley: Fantasy on Veni Emmanuel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=opRUYh7rlqQ>
Flor Peeters: Wachet auf <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6uyqTu8AGc4>
Bach: Nun komm der Heiden Heiland (BWV661)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lq6PHDHguDw>
Arr. Ben Bloor: Creator Alme Siderum <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=liDuJGTyCI4>
Buxtehude: Herr Christ, der ein'ge Gottes Sohn <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s3Oa5Mnlw7g>
Kenneth Leighton: Fantasy on Veni Emmanuel https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TePJ_Or9YUc

I look forward to seeing you soon.
With very best wishes,
Simon Collins
Director of Music

