

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

THE BULLETIN

A weekly publication for the Benefice

Sunday 10th January 2021

Baptism of Christ



**Join us for livestreamed worship on our
Facebook page (Melbourne Parish Church)
at 10.30am**

Bible Readings for Today

Collect

Heavenly Father,
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:
may we recognize him as our Lord
and know ourselves to be your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 1.1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Gospel Reading: Mark 1.4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

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.'

Prayer after Communion

Lord of all time and eternity,
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:
by the power of your Spirit
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth
through the waters of the new creation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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 and Hanna King.

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 Rex Hallifield.

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.

Our 3rd Lockdown

It has been quite a start to 2021. We have entered our 3rd (and hopefully final) national lockdown as virus cases continue to rise at an alarming rate. Although the government hasn't this time closed places of worship in law, myself, the wardens and church councils of Melbourne, Smisby, Stanton-By-Bridge and Ticknall have, with heavy hearts, taken the decision to suspend public worship for the time being. As with the first and second lockdowns, there will be live worship each Sunday morning at 10.30am on our Facebook page.

With my colleague wardens here in Melbourne, after thoughts from our PCC members, we have also taken the reluctant decision to close the church for private prayer visits, too.

It is my fervent hope and prayer that, as the vaccines are rolled out across the country, we will, in the not-too-distant-future, be able to return to our church buildings when it is safe for everyone to do so.

Many national leaders have forecast that these will be difficult weeks and even months. We have, to our cost and our benefit, learned much over these months - primarily, what is most important in and for our lives. We are created by God in, through and for relationship and it continues to be a great challenge to us that we cannot spend time or even share space with those we love whether far or near.

Jesus once issued the stark challenge and reminder 'the poor you will always have with you (Matthew 26.11)'. There are, sadly, too many ways of being impoverished – yes, financially but also mentally and socially; two factors greatly exacerbated by the pandemic.

We continue the ministry to each other and into our communities of eradicating poverty of all kinds and in all places. In the meantime, please be assured of my prayers for you and everyone across our benefice communities.

The United States

In saying that it has been a difficult start to 2021, really it has been a difficult continuation of 2020. Seeing on Wednesday evening the then unfolding events on Capitol Hill, Washington DC, I'm sure many of us were filled with horror. In many ways, sadly and tragically, this lawlessness and violence has been stoked by Donald Trump from the outset and is 'merely' a continuation of his contempt for the constitution he swore to uphold. I quote from the BBC news website:

Congressman Adam Kinzinger from Illinois has become one of the first Republicans to call for use of the 25th Amendment, saying: "Fires stoked by the president finally leapt out of the pan."

It is right that we continue to pray for healing in the midst of much division – may we all know what it is to disagree well. Prayer is where we begin and where we end but we also seek words to try and make sense of where we are under God.

To that end, in the midst of so much turmoil, I offer you a quote from a hero of mine Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sachs who sadly died in November last year aged only 72. The quote is from one of his last publications (one I urge everyone to read) titled 'Morality – Restoring the Common Good in Divided Times' and are the first words of the introduction 'Cultural Climate Change':

"A free society is a moral achievement.

Over the past fifty years in the West this truth has been forgotten, ignored or denied.

That is why today liberal democracy is at risk.

Societal freedom cannot be sustained by market economics and liberal democratic politics alone. It needs a third element: morality, a concern for the welfare of others, an active commitment to justice and compassion, a willingness to ask not just what is good for me but what is good for all-of-us-together. It is about 'Us', not 'Me'; about 'We', not 'I'."

Prophetic words that challenge and affirm; prophetic words that suggest that the actions of some are to be found wanting. Bishop Nick Baines wrote for Thursday's 'Pause for Thought':

'Today might just hint at the beginning of a new awakening to the reality of the myths that power that great country. God bless America, maybe, but don't just assume it.'

Every blessing, Steve

Parish Safeguarding Appointment

After Ros Bell's very much appreciated years of service in safeguarding for our parish, I am very grateful indeed to Jenny Halliday for taking on the role as our second Parish Safeguarding Link (working alongside Nigel Coupe). Jenny will be known to some of you as a valued member of our ringing team and will bring much to this important role.

Daily Hope from the Church of England

It is very important to remember those who do not have access to the internet especially when it comes to sharing in public worship. Please do recommend Daily Hope to anyone you think would benefit from it.

0800 804 8044

A free phonenumber of hymns, reflections and prayers



Stewardship Giving

In the absence of in-person public worship, if you have any giving envelopes or donations you would like processing, please do post them through the rectory letterbox. Any money given is then passed on to one of our finance team for counting and banking. Thank you.

Mailshot

Every week since the first lockdown, copies of the bulletin and relevant order of service have been delivered in hard copy and also emailed out electronically. If you know someone who would like to be included on the mailshot and/or email distribution please email the parish office on:

melbourneparishchurch@gmail.com

or phone on: 01332 862153 (where a voice message can also be left).

Likewise, if you know of any children who would like a copy of the 'Young Church Mag' then please let me know and I will get those out to them.

Many thanks, Rachel Short

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 – 07838 685243

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/>

Music suggestions

We continue into Epiphany with this week concentrating on The Baptism of Christ. The suggestions include many of the items we would sing and hear at Melbourne during this season and I hope that there is something for everyone. More next week. Please stay in touch: 07808 474236 or simon.e.collins@btinternet.com

Hymns

Crown him with many crowns <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kc3UnhPHTOo>

Hail to the Lord's anointed <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d71Y6vGQkRQ>

When Jesus to came to Jordan <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g9LAgLLzfnC>

From the Eastern mountains <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eXuCu96KTfo>

Spirit of the Living God <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p5JYgmsy7X4>

God is working his purpose out <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F8EcuV1SOFU>

Choral Music

John Gardner: Tomorrow shall be my Dancing Day

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qT52VMD9XpU>

English Trad arr. David Willcocks: Dancing Day <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rtv7QDYjceY>

Philip Wilby: Breathe on me, breath of God https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_oT3kA-KDCE

Thomas Tallis: O Lord, give thy Holy Spirit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IOLNSh-W5r8>

Herbert Howells: Here is the little door <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4cHUoP8F7c>

Grayston Ives: Listen sweet dove <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CJnNAoa0Ypg>

Organ Music

Bach: Christ unser Herr zum Jordan kam (BWV685)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OOY6dgWvnfE>

Telemann: O Lamm Gottes unschuldig <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZgxbhfT-avU>

Buxtehude: Christ unser Herr zum Jordan kam

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3LBI2e6NsvE>

Marcel Dupré: The Holy Child shall be my consolation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gorb9pb2d84>

Max Reger: O Lamm Gottes unschuldig <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=04TfWdzZaH0>

I look forward to seeing you in February.

With very best wishes,

Simon Collins

Director of Music