

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

THE BULLETIN

A weekly publication for the Benefice

Sunday 7th February 2021

2nd Sunday before Lent

**I am
the Way,
the Truth
and the
Life**

John 14:6

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

Bible Readings for Today

Collect

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Proverbs 8.1, 22-31

Does not wisdom call,
and does not understanding raise her voice?
The Lord created me at the beginning of his work,
the first of his acts of long ago.
Ages ago I was set up,
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.
When there were no depths I was brought forth,
when there were no springs abounding with water.
Before the mountains had been shaped,
before the hills, I was brought forth—
when he had not yet made earth and fields,
or the world's first bits of soil.
When he established the heavens, I was there,
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,
when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains of the deep,
when he assigned to the sea its limit,
so that the waters might not transgress his command,
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,
then I was beside him, like a master worker;
and I was daily his delight,
rejoicing before him always,
rejoicing in his inhabited world
and delighting in the human race.

Gospel Reading: John 1.1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Post Communion Prayer

God our creator,
by your gift
the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:
may we who have been nourished at your table on earth
be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
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 Sarah 'Sally' Wooderson, Hilda Cooper and Peter Hedley Mansfield.

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.

From the Rector

It has been very moving to read all the many tributes to Captain Sir Tom Moore following his death earlier this week from coronavirus. What a life he lived and especially in this last year – raising £32 million+ for NHS charities; gaining promotion to honorary colonel of his old regiment; becoming the oldest person ever to record a number one single; becoming a Knight of the Realm as well as inspiring a nation and, indeed, nations.

One of the most moving tributes was from Captain Tom's local primary school:

'As time goes by and we remember you, we won't remember a caped crusader but a superhero who showed us how to spread kindness and compassion to a whole world of people and to...

**“soar up on wings like eagles...to run and not grow weary,
to walk and not be faint”**

Isaiah 40.31

Thank you Captain Tom, today we are so sad to lose you but “tomorrow will be a good day”.

**From everyone at
Marston Moreteyne School'**

What a beautiful tribute! As a priest, I was particularly pleased to see the quotation from Isaiah not just included but in bold type, too.

One of the key words that has been used to describe Captain Sir Tom Moore has been that of a 'beacon'. The gospel reading set for this week is the famous introduction to John's Gospel we mostly use at Christmas 'In the beginning was the Word...'. We might think it slightly strange having it set for a Sunday looking ahead to the observance of Lent but, in many ways, it is entirely appropriate. It is a constant reminder that God is with us in the person of Jesus, a light which the darkness cannot and shall not ever overcome.

We all need beacons in our life. More than that, though, the call of Jesus reminds us that we can be beacons, too, even when we don't

feel that we can shine very much or that we would rather ‘hide our light away’ (Matthew 5.14-15). As John reminds us, Jesus is ‘the true light, which enlightens everyone...’ Amen!

Lent Reading

There is something very powerful about knowing others are reading the same book as you. Accordingly, I would like to recommend two books for Lent 2021.

Firstly, ‘Thy Kingdom Come’ by Stephen Cherry who is the Dean of King’s College, Cambridge. The book takes the Lord’s Prayer as a basis for Lenten reflections and is divided into six sections – Heaven, Earth, Bread, Forgiveness, Temptation and Glory. It is currently priced on Amazon at £7.38.

The second book is a more traditional approach to a Lent book having a prayer and reflection for each day – ‘The Little Book of Lent: Daily Reflections from the World’s Greatest Spiritual Writers’ is compiled by Canon Arthur Howells and is currently priced £3.74 on Amazon.

If you are able, please do use Amazon (or another supplier such as ‘St Andrew’s Bookshop’) to order your copy. If you would like a copy ordered for you please get in touch on 01332 864741 as soon as possible and I will order a copy and ensure it is delivered.

Every blessing,

Steve

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

Dear everyone,

Then afterwards
I will pour out my spirit on all flesh;
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
your old men shall dream dreams,
and your young men shall see visions.
Joel 2.28

It has been a very long 12 months! Although we are not yet able to predict when restrictions will be fully dispensed with, we can still make plans for the future. To this end, the Parochial Church Council (PCC) has begun looking in earnest at what God might be calling us to do in a post-covid future. This work also seeks to compliment the work on vision that has begun at Diocesan level. As a PCC, the next phase of our planning and 'dreaming dreams' as the prophet Joel terms it, is through a 'SWOT' (Strengths, Weaknesses, Threats, Opportunities) analysis with each of us contributing a questionnaire. All of us as council members, would also be very eager to hear from anyone in the wider congregation or community who would like to offer thoughts and suggestions as part of our 'swot' analysis. For ease of purpose, although any PCC member may be contacted, Marcus Nolan may be reached via email on: thewordsmith@gmail.com or telephone 01332 863001 He is collating replies from PCC members **by the 12th February**. The full list of our PCC membership is:

Brian Dollamore, Rachel Coupe. Ros Bell, Karen Grewcock, Gordon Hughes, Steve Webster, Brian Bolton, Griselda Kerr, Simon Collins, Alan Winfield, Terry Gilbert, Linda Latchford, Marcus Nolan, Steve Short, Brian Bolton, Nigel Coupe.

Thank you for taking the time to read this through and for any reflections you are able to offer.

In Christ's service,

Steve, Terry and Linda

Rector and Church Wardens

Musings...

I, and most people I talk to, feel that this post-Christmas lockdown is a real struggle. The novelty and lovely weather of L1 have gone, the anticipation of the festive season of L2 has gone and we are left with the seemingly interminable tedium of L3. Why, oh why, do people keep enquiring, “What are your plans for tomorrow?” So, in the face of all this gloom and despondency, I thought I would go all Pollyanna-ish and try to think of 10 reasons to be glad.

1. I have 3 wonderful daughters who ring daily, do my shopping and think of little treats. The only downside is that occasionally calls from New Zealand come at 6am or when Junior Bake Off is on.
2. I can still walk and know I am blessed to be near the Pool and the Reservoir and have a variety of routes around the village.
3. My neighbours: next-door’s Christmas lights are still on and I can lie in bed and see them twinkling cheerfully. Every now and again, one or other of us has a baking spree and shares the products with all and sundry.
4. Our church family: texts, emails and phone calls keep us in touch and Facebook enables us to worship together.
5. Painting: small signs of improvement from a very low starting-point.
6. Writing my memoirs (supposedly for my grandchildren but actually for me) reminds me that I have had a very good life.
7. The pleasure of ‘small things’ – an actual letter or postcard, completing a really tricky jigsaw, birdsong, snowdrops, seed catalogues...
8. Dave!! Who knew there were so many past editions of “Would I lie to you”?
9. The weekly copy of the Bulletin, delivered by a smiling courier. Thank you, Sophie.
10. Hope: Spring is on its way, more and more people are being vaccinated, holidays are being dreamed of, if not actually planned and, following my shoulder surgery, I think I may be able to reach to hang out my washing come the better weather!

Alison Gregory

A walk in The Dower House garden

We last welcomed visitors in February 2020 before we knew anything of the virus which was to sweep the globe: that weekend the garden had to close half way through the weekend because of a storm. This February we do hope we can welcome visitors again - at the time of writing we can do so but with considerable restrictions. The garden will be open from 10.00am to 4.00pm both Saturday and Sunday 13th and 14th February BUT ONLY FOR PEOPLE LIVING LOCALLY - national covid guidelines allow for only local exercise and this falls into that remit. Tickets will be £4 each (children free, dogs on leads). To meet covid restrictions and for all our safety, EVERY TICKET MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE ON LINE at ngs.org.uk/view-garden/20945. There will be no tickets sold on the day. In this way numbers can be controlled so that everyone can remain at a safe distance avoiding the formation of groups. Exit will be via a different route to the entrance.

Every penny of the proceeds from opening the garden will go to the National Gardens Scheme which supports so many people in need - in particular cancer charities such as Macmillan, that have struggled so much to raise funds during this terrible pandemic. There will be an honesty box for plant sales and a donation box at the exit.

For anyone who really cannot go on line, please telephone Griselda Kerr on 07799 883777 to enquire about availability of time slots and payment. There will be no widespread publicity to discourage people from travelling (there is no parking at or near the Dower House). The garden is off Church Square - turn right before the Church just past the War Memorial.

Griselda Kerr

Music Suggestions

I hope everyone is keeping well. Here are this week's music selections. As we all know, YouTube provides us with an opportunity to hear pretty much any music we want to listen to even if some performances are not as good as others! However, I do like to hear the church music "in context", reminding me that this music was usually written for our liturgy rather than concert performance and, at the moment, I find whole services of particular comfort whilst public worship is not available "on site". For choral services, this week I was moved by the final service of the Dean of Hereford as he retired after 19 years exemplary service to that Cathedral and City (still available on their website) – he had delayed his retirement because of the pandemic but now the planned 4 services on his retirement day also had to be scrapped. There was also a Candlemas service from York Minster which gave the opportunity to hear the new Archbishop of York preach <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z72exOqoy2c> and this week's archive recording of Radio 3 Choral Evensong was from Truro Cathedral which has one of our country's finest Cathedral Choirs <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000rw9d> - some lesser-known music to enjoy from there. Please stay in touch: 07808 474236 or simon.e.collins@btinternet.com

Hymns

O Christ the same through all our story's pages <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1bD7axvbylk>
Peace perfect peace, in this dark world <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X7Sdy4-OSaU>
All creatures of our God and King <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kJRqM45Y8Gk>
For the beauty of the earth <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tOVFvctxv6c>
Thou, whose almighty word <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mbv6SIUBOJK>
O worship the King, all glorious above <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YQygFycpvBA>

Choral Music

John Rutter: Hymn to the Creator of Light https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=InI__zYVxfc
Silesian arr. Martin How: Fairest Lord Jesus <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MOEuvLQ-Gy4>
Philip Stopford: For the beauty of the earth https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZIZVOPk-_kk
Thomas Tallis: O sacrum convivium <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPibhyQm2Xs>
Herbert Sumsion: The Spacious Firmament <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OfPI6-QRDpk>
Joseph Haydn: The Heavens are telling <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OwqqfbinUDY>

Organ Music

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor: Impromptu in C <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=USDIXXM97FY>
Noel Rawsthorne: Prelude on Londonderry Air <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E2eS69jN8PI>
Walther: Gott des Himmels und der Erden <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p4lLkWW3qso>
Bach: Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier (BWV634) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4aXakl-pbOI>
Nicholas Choveaux: Toccata on Lasst uns erfreuen
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUgydWimSGk>

I look forward to when we can meet in person again.

With very best wishes,

Simon Collins

Director of Music

