



Parish of Wiverton in the Vale:
One flock, One Shepherd, Six Pastures

Notices 12th July 2020

TRINITY 5

DIARY FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

For reasons of online security, we are no longer publishing Zoom links in the newsletter or on our website. Please contact Revd Rachel if you would like to receive these links by email. (rector@wivertoninthevale.co.uk)

SUNDAY 12TH JULY

10.30am – Pause for Prayer and Reflection (on our website)

The service this Sunday will be led by Revd Rachel, Revd Fred will be preaching, Sid will be leading the intercessions, Lucy will be reading and Dorothy will be leading sung worship and Cate will be telling part of her story.

Please [click here](#) to join the service at 10.30am (or later).

www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/ppr

11.30am – Time for a Cuppa (via Zoom)

Please join us for a cuppa after the service which is now starting at 11.30am. There should still be plenty of time to grab a drink first...

MONDAY 13TH JULY

9.00am – All Parish Morning Prayer (via Zoom)

All are invited to parish prayers via Zoom on Mondays and Fridays

WEDNESDAY 15TH JULY

NO – Coffee, Cake & Chat

Meetings will resume in September.

7.30pm – Alpha (via Zoom)

Alpha is an 11-week course that creates a space where people are excited to bring their friends for a conversation about faith, life and God. Please contact Rachel and Sid on 07944 992178 for more details.



FRIDAY 17TH JULY

9.00am – All Parish Morning Prayer (via Zoom)

All are invited to parish prayers via Zoom on Mondays and Fridays

FROM THE RECTORY

She was very wary, and not about to join the ‘God Squad’ without asking every question imaginable.

Also, wasn’t religion for nice people; good people who didn’t swear, or drink, who wore hats (and worse...headscarves) and lived dull, sepia lives, having given up all worldly pleasures?

However, there was something about these people; a warmth, a kindness and acceptance for her and her friend that drew them back week after week.

There was plenty to talk about at the pub after too, often prompting more questions.

Eventually, at last, an opportunity came to bombard the church leader with question after question. One evening the conversation turned to a story in the bible about a father with two sons. One of the sons hurt his dad badly by running off with his dad’s money and being an absolute idiot. Realising his own stupidity and feeling incredibly sorry for himself he decides to go home. What would his dad do?

She realised at this point that her friend listening to this story had put himself in the place of the son in the story and was genuinely concerned that the father would not welcome the son back.

This was madness! This was a good Father, she thought, a loving Father. Hadn’t this Father been waiting for his son’s return. Longing for him to come home. And, as for her friend; this was a good person. If God was like the father in the story, then of course God the Father would welcome her friend home.

It was obvious! Blindingly obvious!

At the end of the evening, the church leader looked her friend in the eye and said, “God loves you.”

It was clearly the words he needed to hear.

She then felt his eyes on her and heard the words, “God loves you too”.



It was if a light had been switched on in a dark room. As if a dam had been breached. She realised that God loved even someone like her. She was good enough. This was not the end of life. Or the beginning of a sepia non-existence, but the beginning of a technicolour life full of possibilities, and full of love; God's love. She could not remember feeling so excited about the future...

I will be forever grateful to the person who invited me to church. I most certainly didn't look like 'good Christian material' and definitely not like the future Rector of the Parish of Wiverton in the Vale. No doubt it took courage to dare to ask me.

This is just part of my story. A story within a story. We all have a story to tell. Perhaps, like mine there, were definite points where you made a specific decision or when your life was touched by God.

Maybe you have always known Jesus, have always been aware of how much your faith means to you. There may be a story that illustrates this, perhaps a specific example or experience.

So, I wonder;

What was life like before you came to faith?

What happened?

What is life like now?

Three good questions to think about as we begin to write our own stories and wonder about opportunities God might give us to share them.

I love listening to people telling how they have experienced God in their lives. Being willing to listen often leads to questions and the opportunity to tell a little of our own stories.

With love,
Rev'd Rachel

**In case you need
this today:**

- You are not a failure
- You are not a waste of space
- You are loved
- You are wanted
- I believe in you
- You got this

God loves you

READINGS

Matthew 28: 16-20

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."



Colossians 4: 2-6

²Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving. ³At the same time pray for us as well that God will open to us a door for the word, that we may declare the mystery of Christ, for which I am in prison, ⁴so that I may reveal it clearly, as I should.

⁵Conduct yourselves wisely toward outsiders, making the most of the time.

⁶Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone.

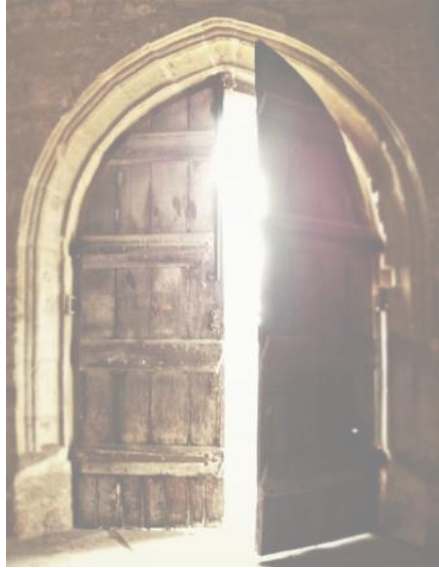
We **can NOT** have
The same **expectation** of
ourselves as we would
in a **normal week**
because these are
NOT normal weeks; be
patient with yourself.

RE-OPENING ST GILES FOR PRIVATE PRAYER



St Giles' Church
Cropwell Bishop
is now able to offer
Limited Opening
for
Private Prayer

each Monday
10.30am – 12.30pm
from Monday 13th July



THE INTERVIEW WITH GOD, by Author, unknown

I dreamed I had an interview with God.

"So would you like to interview me?" God asked.

"If you have the time". I said.

God smiled, "My time is Eternity." "What questions do you have in mind for me?"

"What surprises you most about humankind?"

God answered, "That they get bored with childhood; they rush to grow up and then long to be children again;

That they lose their health to make money and then lose their money to restore their health;

That they live as if they will never die and die as though they had never lived;

That by thinking anxiously about the future they forget the present such that they live in neither the present nor the future."

God's hand took mine and we were silent for a while and then I asked, "As a parent, what are some of life's lessons that you want your children to learn?"

God answered -

- "To learn they cannot make anyone love them, all they can do is let themselves be loved;
- To learn to forgive by practising forgiveness;
- To learn that it takes only a few seconds to open profound wounds in those they love and it can take many years to heal them;
- To learn that there are people who love them dearly but simply yet do not know how to express or show their feelings;
- To learn that it is not enough to forgive one another but they must learn to forgive themselves;
- To learn that it is not good to compare themselves to others;
- To learn that two people can look at the same thing and see it differently."

"Thank you for your time," I said humbly. "Is there anything else you would like your children to know?"

God smiled and said, "Just know that I am here – ALWAYS".

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

PRAYER MATTERS *Please remember in your prayers this week:*

We give thanks for:

Our stories that tell of your grace and goodness towards us, your love and your faithfulness.

Where we feel pain and grief at so much loss over the last months we thank you for the hope we find in your Son, Jesus Christ.

The greater freedom from restrictions and the loosening of lockdown

Our own health and wellbeing.

Laughter, humour and fun.

Our ability to love and encourage one another.

We pray for:

Those who are facing redundancy, uncertainty, and the loss of livelihoods.

Our church leaders facing the challenges of navigating government regulations and church guidelines in order for our churches to open safely.

Those who have joined the Alpha course. For good communication with each other and with you, and a growing sense of awareness of the Holy Spirit and the person of Jesus Christ and God the Father.

Our schools; teachers, children and staff.

Business, both large and small, adjusting to the challenges of doing business in these challenging times.

Our farmers and farm workers.

Our health workers and key workers.

A desire to listen to the stories of others, a greater understanding and empathy towards the BAME community and a willingness to work together against all forms of injustice, racism and discrimination.

We remember;

Those we know and love who are sick at this time in body, soul and mind.

Those for whom we have been asked to pray and all who love them including Dick, John, Sarah and David. The family and loved ones of those who have died recently especially the family of Mary Mackie and Mary Moulds.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayers.



HOW CAN WE GIVE? The Church of England receives no government funding other than some tax concessions, and our churches are dependent upon money given or raised locally to fund their ministry and upkeep, including heating, insurance and maintenance.

Since we are not able to host services, if you are not already contributing by standing order, this might be the right time for you to consider this.

If you would like to find out more about this, or to change an existing order, please contact the Parish Treasurer in confidence, see below for details.



KEEPING IN TOUCH; STAYING INFORMED

These **notices** are posted week by week on the Parish website: www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk

To receive a copy of these notices by email every Saturday, please subscribe to the website notification service at:

www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/subscribe

KEY CONTACTS

Rev'd Rachel

phone: 07944 992178 email: rector@wivertoninthevale.co.uk

N.B Rachel's day off: Friday

Parish Administrator

Anna Hemati Kang Sofla: 07592 873751

Email: administrator@wivertoninthevale.co.uk

Parish Treasurer

Max Jordan: 0115 9899299

Email: treasurer@wivertoninthevale.co.uk

Safeguarding Officer

Gareth Parker: 07738 091338

Email: gareth.parker@wivertoninthevale.co.uk

Any concerns regarding a safeguarding issue should be directed to the Safeguarding Coordinator for the Parish.

Further information and contact details can be found on the parish website at www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/whos-who