



Parish of Wiverton in the Vale:  
One flock, One Shepherd, Six Pastures  
Notices 7<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
2 BEFORE LENT

**DIARY FOR THE WEEK** *(correct at time of going to press)*

**SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY – 2 BEFORE LENT**

**No Holy Communion**

**10.30am – Sunday Service** (on our website)



Katharine Bacon will be leading the service this Sunday, Revd Fred Connell will be preaching, Jane Turner will be leading us in intercessions, Julie Coles will be bringing us the bible reading and Dorothy Thompson will be leading us in sung worship. Please [click here](#) to join the service at

10.30am (or later). [www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/online-services](http://www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/online-services)

**11.30am – Time for a Cuppa** (via Zoom)

Please join us for a cuppa after the online service.

**4.30pm – JOY! Noah's Ark** (via Zoom) For more information, please contact Vivien at [vivien\\_s\\_hall@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:vivien_s_hall@yahoo.co.uk)

**Please note the later start time!**



**MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

**9.00am – All Parish Morning Prayer** (via Zoom)

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

**10.30am-12.30pm – St Giles' Cropwell Bishop, open for private prayer**

**FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

**9.00am – All Parish Morning Prayer** (via Zoom)

**5.00pm – Colston Bassett's Evening Prayer** (via Zoom)

**SUNDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY – SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT**

**No Holy Communion**

**10.30am – Sunday Service** (on our website)

**11.30am – Time for a Cuppa** (via Zoom)

**LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD**

**Ash Wednesday Meditation** - Wednesday 17th February, available from 7.00pm onwards, online via the website



**THIS WEEK'S READINGS**

Colossians 1:15-20 and John 1:1-14

**Sometimes we just have to wait – by Sid Mitchell**

We were walking along the canal during last week's cold weather. The canal was mostly frozen and white over with frost except for some small, sheltered areas beneath the overhanging trees. We could see a swan in the distance and decided that would be our turning point. The cold wind blowing across the fields brought an unpleasant chill despite the warming temperatures so we would be happy to turn then.

As we approached, we realised that although there was movement, the young swan wasn't moving on the canal. Was it stuck in the ice? It wriggled its tail and stretched out a wing and a webbed foot but its body and other leg appeared to be stuck fast. Such a beautiful creature that would normally glide so effortlessly through the water was now impeded and unable to go where it wanted, or so we thought.

We phoned the RSPCA, who didn't seem to think it worthy of an emergency rescue. They humoured us, asking us to wait a few hours and then contact them if the swan was still there. They also asked us to download an app which would give a three-word code which would give them an exact location.

We did return but thankfully there was no sign of the swan except for a trail of broken ice through the canal towards the bank. All appeared well after all! We speculated as to whether it was the warmth of the swan's body or the moving flow of water from the field that had raised the temperature enough to bring the release from lockdown which I'm sure was appreciated by the swan. In fact, we later discovered that swans very rarely get stuck in ice and the movement we saw was natural. They keep their feet warm under their feathers, stretching them occasionally to keep the blood flowing, they don't waste energy moving and are quite capable of getting away from the ice if they need to. They have been wonderfully created with an ability to survive!



As I write this it's the Day of Celebration of Christ at the Temple in the Church Calendar and we read in Luke 2.22-40 that Simeon realised that his time of watching and waiting for The Messiah was finally over saying: *"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."* The prophet Anna had also been waiting patiently for many years for this moment and at last at the age of 84 she could also speak out about what this meant as the fulfilment of God's promise of salvation to her people in Jerusalem.

As we come to the end of Advent we naturally think about and reflect on the year that has ended and the New Year which has begun.

We also appear to be stuck, in lockdown, unable to make progress and do what we usually do so effortlessly. We continue to wait through the doom and gloom, frustration, challenges, fear, and despair. We can feel that we are unable to get on with the work which God has for us to do. We feel stuck!

How apt that at this time of celebrating the presentation of our saviour, Jesus, we wait patiently for the time of celebrating what He did for us in His death and resurrection at Easter. We can look forward with faith for better days, patiently waiting, for the warmer brighter days of Spring with the reassurance that God knows exactly where we are and what our circumstances are. He knows what the outworking of the pandemic, Brexit and any political situations will be. He keeps His promises. Release will eventually come.

Sometimes we too, like Simeon and Anna, (but maybe not the swan) just have to wait.

### **ARCHBISHOPS' DAILY PRAYER**

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York are inviting the nation to join them in prayer every evening at 6pm. It follows their call last week for people to pause, 'reflect on the enormity of this pandemic' and pray for the nation. Archbishop Justin Welby led a prayer session on Monday at 6pm, which you can view on [his Facebook page](#).

### **TIME TO PRAY**

Father God we pray for all those affected by the ongoing pandemic as we hear daily of the terrible extent of the sickness and death at home and abroad.

Using the words of the prayer written by our archbishops in their call for us to pray we pray for those who mourn, we thank you that death does not have the last word and that in your kingdom every tear will be wiped away:

Gracious God,

As we remember before you the thousands who have died,  
Surround us and all who mourn with your strong compassion.

Be gentle with us in our grief,

Protect us from despair,

And give us grace to persevere

And face the future with hope

In Jesus Christ our risen Lord

**Amen**

## IT'S GOOD TO TALK!

In these strange and worrying times, we realise that not everyone has someone to talk to, or that they may have concerns they'd rather not express to their nearest and dearest. If that's you, please feel free to give me a ring on 0115 9894836. If I'm not in, leave a message and I'll get back to you. We're all in this together!

Hilary Tabron, RLM, Pastoral Care.



## KEEPING IN TOUCH; STAYING INFORMED

These **notices** are posted week by week on the Parish website:

[www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk](http://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](http://www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/subscribe)

### KEY CONTACTS

**Rev. Rachel** - On sick leave

phone: 07944 992178 email: [rector@wivertoninthevale.co.uk](mailto:rector@wivertoninthevale.co.uk)

**Parish Administrator:** Anna Hemati Kang Sofla:

phone: 07592 873751 email: [administrator@wivertoninthevale.co.uk](mailto:administrator@wivertoninthevale.co.uk)

Working hours: 10am-2pm Tuesday & Thursday

**Pastoral Care Coordinator:** Hilary Tabron RLM

phone: 0115 9894836 email: [hilary.tabron@wivertoninthevale.co.uk](mailto:hilary.tabron@wivertoninthevale.co.uk)

**Parish Treasurer:** Max Jordan:

phone: 0115 9899299 email: [treasurer@wivertoninthevale.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@wivertoninthevale.co.uk)

Any concerns regarding a safeguarding issue should be directed to:

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Gareth Parker

phone: 07738 091338 email: [gareth.parker@wivertoninthevale.co.uk](mailto:gareth.parker@wivertoninthevale.co.uk)

**Further information and contact details can be found on the parish website at [www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/whos-who](http://www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/whos-who)**

**Copy deadline for items to be included in next week's Notice Sheet:  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February, to the Parish Administrator.**