



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

Notices 7th March 2021

LENT 3

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

SUNDAY 7TH MARCH – LENT 3

No Holy Communion

9.30am – JOY! The House on the Rock (via Zoom)

For more information, please contact Vivien at:

vivien_s_hall@yahoo.co.uk



10.30am – Sunday Service (on our website)

Sid Mitchell will be leading the service this Sunday, Katharine Bacon will be preaching, Edward Hine will be leading us in intercessions, Sally 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

11.30am – Time for a Cuppa (via Zoom)

Please join us for a cuppa after the online service.

MONDAY 8TH MARCH

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

7.00pm – PCC Meeting (via Zoom)

FRIDAY 12TH MARCH

9.00am – All Parish Morning Prayer (via Zoom)

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

SUNDAY 14TH MARCH – MOTHERING SUNDAY (LENT 4)

No Holy Communion

10.30am – Sunday Service (on our website)

11.30am – Time for a Cuppa (via Zoom)

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

1 Corinthians 1:18-25 and John 2:13-22

LOCKDOWN LETTERS *From The Rectory and Beyond*

by Katharine Bacon

Today, we're spoilt for choice in our readings. It was a difficult choice but I've left out God giving Israel the Commandments and opted for Jesus's Cleansing of the Temple and Paul's 1st letter to the Corinthians explaining the strange upside-down nature of our faith. I know you'll know the 10 Commandments by heart! (It's Exodus 20:1-17 if you'd like to refresh your memories.)

In John, Jesus makes a whip out of some cords. We have a mental picture of 'gentle Jesus meek and mild' but on occasion he can be angry and this is one of those occasions! There's a marketplace in his father's house in the outskirts of the temple! In the area reserved for non-Jewish believers. A tradition of changing your money for the temple money to pay the temple tax, and easy access to perfect animals to be offered up as sacrifice, have both sprung up in there over the years. So practical!

But you can imagine the racket the animals make, their squeals as they're slaughtered, the pungent smells, the shouts of bartering and the clink of the money being handed over – all hugely distracting to anyone seeking the presence of God, despite the practicality of it all. And remember the added interest charged by the money lenders, the inflated prices for the perfect animals and the temple tax keeping the destitute physically away from worshipping God.

The Temple's very opulent rebuilding was paid for by the corrupt Herod and his father.

It's no surprise Jesus wanted to clear his father's house. To make it holy again. And to make it accessible to all, Jew and Gentile alike.

And that's what he's talking about in his words about the Temple. His body encloses God. He is the Temple. Not this building of stone and gold leaf. Whatever is done to him cannot truly destroy who he is, because he is God, and he will cause himself to rise again in three days. That was the sign to his challengers.

Paul talks of the message of the cross being foolishness. Christ was traditionally imagined as a hero sent by God to save Israel. To link Christ with the scandalously, shameful death of a cross made no sense at all. It was an impossible juxtaposition. And yet, that's what Christ did to save us.

That's why it takes a step of faith to believe, because it is so upside down and there is no sign or proof that can be offered that will blast away another's disbelief, only the visible effects of God in our lives as, despite the temptations to do otherwise, we love God with all our heart, our soul, our strength and our mind and our neighbours as ourselves.

And I think the challenge we can give ourselves in the days ahead is to see if we have kept the space clear in our hearts that we reserve for God's worship. Have we let it get cluttered with other things? What distractions get in the way? Do we bargain with God? Can we clear the way between God and us and then clear the way between God and others?

Because it's the greatest relationship ever!

God bless,
Katharine

TIME TO PRAY

Meditation from Holy Island

Help me, Dear Lord,
to care too much,
to love too freely,
to pray unceasingly,
to forgive endlessly,
to laugh fearlessly,
to question,
to live,
to be who I am,
to be where I am,
to hope,
to believe,
to reach out my hand.
Amen

by Mary Fleeson

AN EASTER APPEAL FOR OUR LOCAL FREE SCHOOL MEAL FAMILIES

Before I move onto the reason for reaching out to you, I just wanted once again to express our thanks for your kindness and generosity in response to the Christmas appeal. The amount of food we collected was phenomenal and helped families across multiple villages at a time of great need and hardship. In case you were wondering whether your contribution made a difference, without mentioning any names, I just wanted to share with you a note of thanks we received from one of the families.



“To everybody involved in the kindest donation of the Christmas Hamper! I would just like to pass on the biggest thank you that words can express. We have been sadly very affected by Covid 19, my son suffers from chronic liver failure and has had to shield from early March 2020. My husband also lost his job of 14 years. It became a really awful situation of suddenly having no income, a very sick child along with another younger child to support. This was a situation totally out of our control and the battle continues!!! We are so very grateful that at a time of year that should be happy (and we were all struggling), that you all did something so generous when like us I am sure you all had daily struggles too.

A card cannot express how grateful we are, but I had to write how touched we were that our Parish that we live in helped!! All of our love to you all... The Family”

So, everyone please know that what you did was so needed and so appreciated and thank you And to the family who shall remain nameless, if you are watching today or reading this note then thank you so much for taking the time to send this card of thanks to our Parishioners; whilst we do not do it for thanks, it is always nice to know that our efforts are making a real difference; we wish you all the best and hope things start to improve soon for you.

So back to today..... as we look forward at the first half of 2021, it is becoming increasingly clear with the advent of the new COVID strains that although thankfully we can see light and optimism due to the vaccine roll-out; there are still many challenges ahead. With that in mind and looking forward to the Easter Break, we start once again to think about our struggling families. Thankfully, we already know that the free school meals scheme will support them with the basics during the Easter Break in Nottinghamshire, but we thought it would be a great idea to do an Easter focused campaign where again we could provide our families with Easter themed goodies to bring them a little joy over the break and to let them know they are still thought of and supported. As at Christmas they are unlikely to buy these little extras themselves and that is where we come in.

So once again we would like to reach out to our Parishioners for some help for these families...

Now, before we ask I would like to re-iterate what I said in November; many people are suffering particular hardship this year and we are all endlessly asked to support various causes so if you are realistically unable to help then please do not do anything to support this that would be to the detriment of yourself or your family..... and please do not feel guilty about that decision either; we can all help at different times and we all need help at different times... if we just do what we can when we can then that is more than enough.

For those in a position to and would like to help, our idea is that between now and mid-March we each order between 1 and 3 Easter themed items to add to the collection (you can only eat so much chocolate so we don't need to collect as much as we did at Christmas – although the children may disagree 😊).

I just want to re-iterate at this point we are looking to collect only 1-3 items each please. It will be tempting to collect or provide more but this is a smaller campaign and we need to also be cognisant of the load on the school team in co-ordinating distribution as well – so please no more than 3 items each.

One of our parishioners who is already aware of this collection suggested that maybe we should put easter cards in our collection bags with best wishes or messages to our families – I think this is a nice idea, but I don't think we should request it from everyone, cards are expensive..... but if you would like to do something of this ilk then please do, I am sure it would be warmly received.

The collected items will then be passed over to the Head at the local school on Wednesday 24th March who will review what we have collected and distribute it fairly amongst our local children and families across the villages. These goodies need to be able to be carried home so if you could collect your items in bags then that would be really helpful.

So, what are we looking to collect?

We are looking to collect Easter themed items – remember nothing needing refrigeration or with a short used by date please.

Please add whatever you find to your shopping list that would fit under an Easter theme but to give examples of the sorts of items we are talking about – Easter eggs, Easter Logs, Easter cupcakes, mini eggs, walnut whips, crème eggs, hot cross buns, Malteser easter bunnies, even dried Easter themed baking packs you can buy with all the ingredients in to make your own muffins/cakes – these would be nice as they are also something for the family to do together. (Let's face it anything chocolate counts at Easter 😊)

It might be nice to buy the odd thing for mum and dad too – maybe a bottle of wine, some nuts or chocolates perhaps.

Please collect as many items as you want, up to 3 each, BUT if you can only afford a single chocolate bar then that's still that fantastic and will still make a huge difference. We must remember that these children and families are struggling, so everything helps!!!

I know times are difficult and we all get asked to support so many schemes, but if you can help it would be greatly appreciated.

We have arranged 4 drop-off points on Tuesday 23rd March in Langar, Granby, Colston Bassett and Cropwell Bishop, a huge thank you to Robin, Maureen, Hilary and Jackie for offering their services and houses to receive items for the collection.

Thankyou everyone for your consideration.

When and where do I have to drop them off?

Please drop all items you have collected to one of the following locations on Tuesday 23rd March. If you need directions for a specific drop off point phone numbers are attached below.

- Langar Church Porch between 2pm - 4pm
- Maureen's house at Granby (01949 850441) between 2pm - 4pm
- Hilary's house at Cropwell Bishop (0115 989 4836) between 9am-12noon
- Jackie's House at Colston Bassett (01949 81476) between 9am - 4pm

What should I put what I collect in?

As outlined earlier please put them in bags that the families can use to carry their items home.

What shall I do if I have collected some items, but I cannot deliver them myself to the collection point?

Do not worry, write to katharinebacon@hotmail.com and let us know and we will arrange for someone to collect them from you.

I have another question who can I contact?

Please email to katharinebacon@hotmail.com

WATER AID APPEAL

While we face a particular challenge at the moment, we should not forget the ongoing basic challenges facing less developed countries all the time. That's why we have encouraged support for Water Aid during Lent for many years and are doing so again this year.

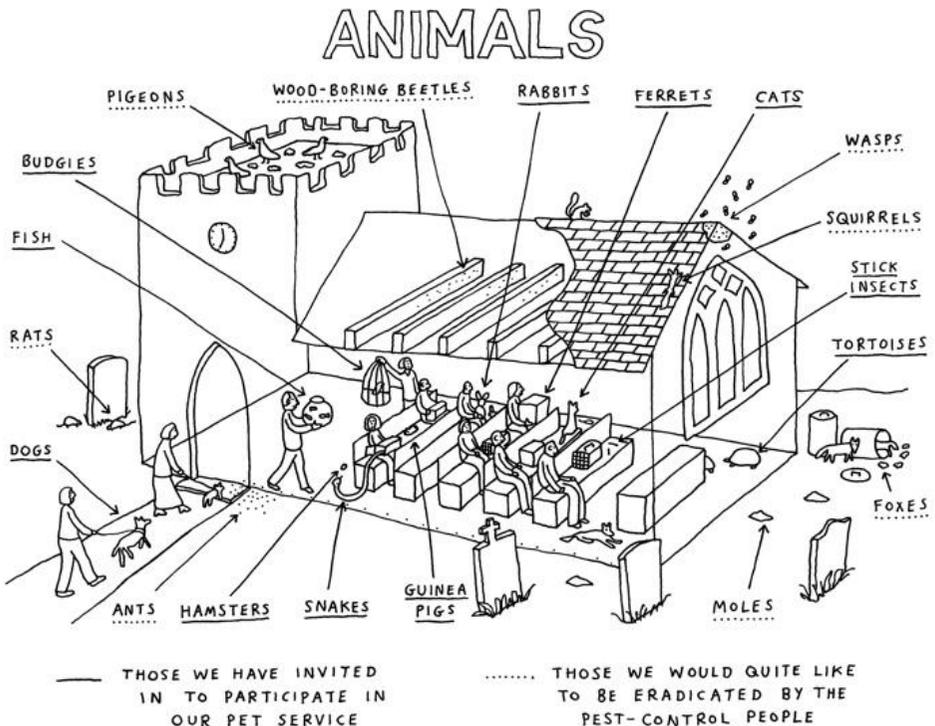
On their website, WaterAid state, "Clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene are basic human rights. They should be a normal part of daily life for everyone, everywhere – but they aren't. That's why we're here."



Visit their website www.wateraid.org/uk/ to read more about their work.

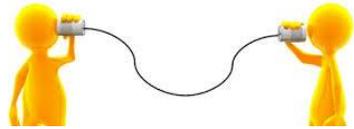
To donate to the charity through our appeal, visit the giving page on the Parish website: www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/water-aid or alternatively send a cheque payable to Water Aid, directly to our Parish treasurer, Max Jordan.

Thank you!



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

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

Revd. Rachel - On sick leave

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

Parish Administrator: Anna Hemati Kang Sofla:

phone: 07592 873751 email: 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

Parish Treasurer: Max Jordan:

phone: 0115 9899299 email: 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

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

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