

The Benefice Bulletin

21st April 2024 – Third Sunday after Easter

The Vicarage, Church Lane, Barton under Needwood DE13 8HU

Please take this bulletin home with you



Here for the first time? Relax. Please make yourself at home and please sit where you feel comfortable. Those who greeted you, our wardens, or the clergy will answer any practical questions that you may have. Posture notes on the service sheet and verbal instructions are intended for those who can comfortably follow them. We hope you enjoy worshipping with us.

Services this week

Sunday 21st April

08:00 BCP Holy Communion

St James', Barton

09:00 Holy Communion

St Mary's, Dunstall

10:30 Lay Led Service

St James', Barton

13:30 Baptism of Isabella

St James', Barton

Wednesday 24th April

9:15 WoW Wednesday

including informal worship at 10:00

St James', Barton

Thursday 25th April

9:15 WoW Thursday

including informal worship at 10:00

Tatenhill Village Hall

13:00 Wedding of Beth and Dominic

St Michael's, Tatenhill

Friday 26th April

13:00 Funeral of Gordon Stevens

St James', Barton

Readings and Prayers

Sunday 21st April – Third Sunday after Easter

Psalm 23

Old Testament Acts 4.5-12

New Testament 1 John 3.16-End

Gospel John 10.11-18

The Collect – Third Sunday after Easter

Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer – 3rd after Easter

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to . **Amen**

Clergy

Revd Andy Simpson ☎01283 712359

Revd Liz Chamberlain ☎07917 077014

Licenced Reader

Matt Edwards ☎07772 830945

Coordinator

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Acts 4.5-12

⁵The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. ⁶Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. ⁷They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! ⁹If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, ¹⁰then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. ¹¹Jesus is "'the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.'" ¹²Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

1 John 3.16-End

¹⁶This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? ¹⁸Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. ¹⁹This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²²and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

John 10.11-18

¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. ¹³The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."

For your prayers

The World: We pray for His Majesty King Charles and Queen Camilla, and the wider Royal Family. We pray for all areas where there is terrorism, conflict, hunger, drought and poverty, especially areas that face humanitarian crisis.

The Anglican Communion: The Anglican Church of Australia

Our Diocese: We pray for Bishops Michael and Matthew and Archdeacon Megan.

Our Deanery: Along with our Deanery, we pray for the Parish of St Mary's in Tutbury and all those who minister and worship there.

Our Benefice: We pray for those who live and work on Dogshead Lane, Bar Lane and Green Lane in Barton, The Dunstall Estate in Dunstall and Sweeney Drive and Anglesey Street in Tatenhill. May God be with all those who live and work in these places as they go about their daily lives this week. We also pray for our link Parish in Abbeystrewery and all they do this week.

Those who are not well: Bob, Suzanne, John, Jess, Coral, Joanne, Pat, Felicity, Revd Preb Tony Wood, David, Joyce, Janet C, Revd Frank Finch, Shirley

Those who have died: June Yardley, Gordon Stevens, Joan Williamson, Robert Sims. We pray for all those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

In Benefice News...

- **APCMs** will be taking place across all our churches over the next two months. Please do speak to Rev Andy, the wardens or Beth if you are interested in serving on the PCC or joining the sides team at any of our churches.
- We will once again be meeting our **Cork Link Churches** later in May. If you are interested in becoming part of the link team, please do speak to Rev Andy so we can get the link up and running with our brothers and sisters in Abbeystrewery.
- **Home Group** will be restarting on Monday 6th May, with sessions starting at 7:00pm at The Vicarage. The sessions will take place on the 1st Monday of each month. Join Revd Andy as he takes an in-depth look and opens discussions and questions about areas of faith and spirituality.
- **Spring Sunday Sesh** will return on Sunday 5th May. We will be looking for a team of people to help so if you would like to join us, please speak to Andy or Beth.
- The **YMCA Food Bank** continues to need our donations for those in the most need across our communities. Donations can be left at all of our churches, and these are delivered to the Food Bank regularly.

If you would like a home visit from Rev Andy or Matt, then please contact the Benefice Office on 01283 712359 to arrange a time.

Diary Dates for the Week Ahead

Monday 22nd April

Tuesday 23rd April

Wednesday 24th April

09:15 WoW Wednesday

inc informal worship at 10:00am

St James', Barton

Thursday 25th April

09:15 WoW Thursday

inc informal worship at 10:00am

Tatenhill Village Hall

13:00 Wedding of Beth and Dominic

St Michael's, Tatenhill

Friday 26th April

13:00 Funeral of Gordon Stevens

St James', Barton

Saturday 27th April

Sunday 28th April

09:00 Holy Communion

St Michael's, Tatenhill

10:30 Sung Eucharist

St James', Barton

13:30 Baptism of Clementine

St James', Barton

18:00 Prayer and Praise

St James', Barton

Future Dates

1st May

13:30 Cork Link Zoom Meeting

5th May

14:30 Spring Sunday Sesh

St James', Barton

7th May

19:30 Tatenhill APCM

St Michael's, Tatenhill

8th May

18:00 Barton Live

Holland Sports Club

9th May

19:00 Ascension Day Service

St James', Barton

10th May

19:00 Evening Prayer for Thy Kingdom Come

Our Lady's RC Church, Wales Lane

12th May

09:45 Christian Aid Week Big Brekkie

St James', Barton

13th May

19:00 Evening Prayer for Thy Kingdom Come

Our Lady's RC Church, Wales Lane

19:30 Churches Together AGM

Our Lady's RC Church, Wales Lane

14th May

19:00 Evening Prayer for Thy Kingdom Come

Barton Methodist Church, Crowberry Lane

Hello all,

Alleluia He Is Risen!

The Parable of the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep has another character: another parable contained therein, if you like. The Parable of the Hired Hand. To compare the two parables is to reflect upon motives, responsibility, and authority. You cannot blame the hired hand for deserting the sheep: he is in it for the money and nothing else, and the responsibility for the sheep remains with the shepherd who had the authority to do the hiring. What are your motives for following Jesus? Are you following him for what you can get or is it because of the love you have within you from knowing you are loved by God: just as the shepherd loves the sheep and is willing to take up the responsibility and authority to freely lay down his life for them?

He risen indeed, Alleluia!



Yours in Christ, Rev Andy +