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Sunday Pewsip

Ditchburgh, Pulham Market, Pulham
St Mary, Rushall, Starston & Thelveton

15th November 2 before Advent

*For you yourselves know very well
that the day of the Lord will come
like a thief in the night.
Thes 5 v2*

A Message from our Rector, Sarah

There has been some good news this week with the announcement that Pfizer and Biontech have achieved success in producing a 90% effective vaccine for Covid-19. It will take some time for everyone to be vaccinated but it does though give some hope that people's lives will be able to return to a little more normality. There are too other companies who are still working on potential vaccines who may well be announcing success very soon.

2020 will be a year that is remembered for many years to come. One hopes that it will not only be remembered for the traumas of this pandemic but also the achievements within medical science, and the hard work of many who have worked around the clock in order to produce a safe and effective vaccine. It is important to remember the talent and commitment of medical scientists and researchers who have dedicated their lives this year in developing a vaccine for Covid-19.

Hopefully then from spring of next year the ordinary events within our Benefice will be able to be resumed. Until then though we will have to continue with what we are allowed to do and support each other through phone calls, emails, zoom meetings and chatting to each other from a distance. I personally have been very grateful for modern technology especially as through zoom I can chat to my friends and my family.

There is no doubt that the run up to Christmas will feel very different this year and it may also feel rather isolating and lonely. There is an opportunity though of us learning new things. During Advent there will be morning prayer and a meditation each day on a particular theme of Advent. It will be zoomed at 8am each day and you will be most welcome to come as often as you like. If you are not able to zoom for whatever reason then the prayer and meditation can be printed out for you by Julie or myself.

We have also been invited to join with the Pennoyers Book Group to share in reading a book. At the moment it will be through zoom and the next meeting is on Thursday 10th December at 16:00 where the book 'Where the Crawdads Sing' by Delia Owens will be discussed. The book can be bought through Amazon and the zoom details will be available shortly. It will a wonderful opportunity to meet others and so I hope that you may be able to join us.

I hope that you are all having a good week. Many thanks too to everyone who helped in organising the Remembrance Sunday service and who have laid wreaths at the different war memorials in the villages. May God bless us as we continue to live through this lock down, keep you safe and well, and hopeful as Captain Tom Moore says 'Tomorrow will be a better day'.

God bless and please do give me a ring for chat if you would like to.

Sarah

Services This week (through Zoom)

Sunday 15th November

0930 Holy Communion - Pulham
Market
1900 Celebration - Contact Verona

Monday 16th November

2000 Compline - Contact Sarah for
details

Tuesday 17th November

1930 Pulham Market - Prayers
Contact Jaap Biersteker (01379
608539) for details

Friday 20th November

2000 Compline - Contact Sarah for
details
2020 - Prayer 2020 - Contact Ann
Leitch For details

Sunday 15th November

0930 Holy Communion - Pulham
Market - **VIA ZOOM**
1900 Celebration - Contact Verona -
VIA ZOOM

Access to the Sunday service through the telephone

If you would like to listen to the Sunday
service through the telephone please
ring either of the following numbers
just before 09:30 on Sunday.

0203 481 5240

0131 460 1196

0203 051 2874

0203 481 5237

Then enter the details below when
asked

Meeting ID: 882 6527 1180

Passcode: 651257

Zoom Book Group

We have been invited to join the
Pennoyers Book Group which will
meet through zoom. The first
meeting is scheduled for Thursday
10th December at 4pm and pro-
pose 'Where the Crawdads Sing' by
Delia Owens which is readily availa-
ble on Amazon (hard copy, Kindle
or audible) from the library (e-
book). For more details please con-
tact Sarah.

15th November 2 before Advent

For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. Thes 5.2

Collect

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

(or)

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

Blessing

Christ our King make you faithful and strong to do his will, that you may reign with him in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Zephaniah 1.7, 12-end

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, 'The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm.' Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

1 Thessalonians 5.1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Psalms 90

1 Lord, you have been our dwelling-place in all generations 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. 3 You turn us back to dust, and say, 'Turn back, you mortals.' 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night. 5 You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning; 6 in the morning it flourishes and is

renewed; in the evening it fades and withers. 7 For we are consumed by your anger; by your wrath we are overwhelmed. 8 You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord

Matthew 25.14-30

'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Prayers for the Week

Sunday

Our Benefice: Sarah, the Rector, Ministry Team and wardens and for each church and village community. For the Diocese of Norwich, Bishop Graham (of Norwich), Bishop Alan (of Thetford) and Bishop Jonathan (of Lynn).

Monday

All PCC Secretaries and Parish/Benefice Administrators. Give thanks for all the medical researchers and scientists who have worked so hard in providing a safe and effective vaccine for Covid-19, giving thanks for the recent news from Pfizer and Biontech and praying that the vaccine will be administered to people carefully and safely.

Tuesday

Pray for our Benefice and each village community especially those who live on their own that they may still find companionship during this time of lock down. Eve Poole leading the Bishop's Teaching Morning and all participating

Wednesday

Pray for all who are suffering through illness, those recovering from operations, those managing chronic diseases and all those suffering from Covid-19. Give them the support and care that they need and give them encouragement, peace and hope for the future.

Thursday

For the continued development of potential vaccines and treatments for Covid-19. Give thanks who all work within the NHS and ask to protect, guide, support and strengthen them. Pray for God's guidance upon the meeting this evening of Bishop's Council.

Friday

All who are grieving or facing difficult times due to life-changing circumstances. Pray that they will find the support and help that they need in order to face the future positively. Prison Chaplains across our region and the prisons they serve.

Saturday

For those who we love, our families and friends, especially those we would love to see in person but haven't been able to due to the pandemic.