

Rector and Clergy Team (All codes 01379)

Revd. Sarah Walsh - 676921 Or 07809 430967

Revd. John Adlam - 741999; Revd. Paul Schwier - 676240

Revd. Norman Steer - 854245;

Mrs Mags Adlam (Reader) - 741999

Mrs Gale Hodgkinson (Reader) - 740042

Website: thebenefice.org.uk

Benefice Administrator: Julie Woolterton

01379 741994 or E-mail:

thebeneficetogether@hotmail.co.uk



Sunday Pewsliip

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

21st March Lent 5 (Lenten Array);

*for I will forgive their iniquity,
and remember their sin no more.*

Jeremiah 31 v34

A Message from our Rector

According to the calendar the official start of spring is this Saturday with the equinox i.e., when both day and the night are roughly the same length. The beginning of spring with longer days is a welcome sight after the long dark days of winter and it is lovely to see all the spring flowers in the gardens and hear the bird song once again.

Many faiths do celebrate the start of spring with differing festivals, and it was wonderful to be part of those when I worked within the prison service. The Hindu faith marks it with the festival of 'Holi'. In India, the festival is celebrated by throwing handfuls of coloured powder at each other and getting drenched in water which results in a kaleidoscope of vibrant colours. Sounds great fun but on a more serious note the festival also considers the worldwide celebration of love, friendship and youth. For the numerically smaller faiths within the prison service these festivals were taken very seriously although there were limits as to what was allowed. The Hindu prisoners were certainly not allowed to throw coloured powder at each other although the kitchen did provide an extra meal for them which always went down well!

What I discovered whilst working in the prison was that many of the faiths shared many of the same values that we as Christians hold although there are also some differences in the way in which they are interpreted. As a Chaplaincy team we did not try to change each other for the beliefs that we had but respected one another for who we were. Our goal was to ensure the needs of the pastoral care of both prisoners and staff were catered for which involved nurturing faith as well as mental and spiritual health. That was our common goal, and it was comradeship and friendship that enabled us as a chaplaincy team to do it to the best of our ability.

Our Benefice too has a common goal to serve and love one another and each community. During this pandemic this has been seen in many differing ways not only within our Benefice but also through all those who have worked so hard to care and look after people through the NHS, the scientist and researchers who have amazingly developed a vaccine and all the essential workers. It has been a difficult year for so many people in differing ways and next Tuesday is a national day of mourning and remembrance for the pandemic. There will be a Benefice service to mark this occasion in the evening to which you are warmly invited to attend. It will start at 19:15 and be through zoom. We will aim to finish just before 20:00 when people all through the country are being encouraged to light a candle and placing it for people to see as a sign of respect for all those who have died during the pandemic and you may also want to tie a yellow ribbon around a tree or railings which will be a sign of support for all those who have been bereaved. If you know of anyone who has died due to Covid-19 or who is still suffering from the effects of it, and you would like to be especially remembered during this service then please do let me know.

May you find strength and hope in enjoying the new life that is seen all around us through the beauty of God's creation and pray for God's safe keeping of all those who have sadly died due to this pandemic.

God bless. Sarah

Services This week (through Zoom)

Sunday 21st March 2021

0930 Holy Communion - Pulham Market

Meeting ID: 848 4695 7246

Passcode: 197505

1900 Celebration

Meeting ID: 825 0620 8481

Passcode: 714060

Monday 22nd March

2000 Compline

Meeting ID: 880 7372 0566

Passcode: 121363

Tuesday 23rd March

1400 Guided Meditation

Meeting ID: 901 745 1483

Passcode: 7HWk4r

1915 National Day of Remembrance Service

Meeting ID: 861 0061 6883

Passcode: 300082

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

Wednesday 24th March

1930 Lent Course

Meeting ID: 833 8835 1153

Passcode: 603088

Thursday 25th March

1930 Alpha Course - see John Adlam

for details

Friday 26th March

2000 Compline

Meeting ID: 859 6065 9748

Passcode: 462368

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:** 848 4695 7246

Passcode: 197505

That the zoom details for each service differs. Any problems accessing the service please let Sarah know.

21st March Lent 5 (Lenten Array);

Collect

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

(or)

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen**

Blessing

Christ crucified draw you to himself, to find in him a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope and the assurance of sins forgiven; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen

Jeremiah 31.31-34

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the Lord', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Hebrews 5.5-10

So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, 'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'; as he says also in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.' In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Psalms 51

1 Have mercy on me, O God, in your great goodness; according to the abundance of your compassion blot out my offences
2 Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin.
3 For I acknowledge my faults and my sin is ever before me.
4 Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight
5 So that you are justified in your sentence and righteous in your judgement
6 I have been wicked even from my birth, a sinner when my mother conceived me
7 Behold, you desire truth deep within me and shall make me understand wisdom in the depths of my heart
8 Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean; wash me and I shall be whiter than snow
9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, that the bones you have broken may rejoice
10 Turn your face from my sins and blot out all my misdeeds
11 Make me a clean heart, O God and renew a right spirit within me
12 Cast me not away from your presence and take not your holy spirit from me

13 Give me again the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your gracious spirit;

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, O Lord

John 12.20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. 'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say, "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out and I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Prayers for the Week

Sunday

The Church of England. Almighty God, who has called us to be members of the Anglican Communion; grant we pray, that we may understand the mission which you have entrusted to us and our responsibility to those separated from us; that, confessing our failings in the past, we may go forward in unity, truth and love to the fulfilment of our common calling as your disciples, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Monday

Pray for protection and good health of all NHS workers and carers at this critical time and give thanks for all the care, support they give to the public. Pray that they will keep positive and find strength in the work that they do. Pray for all those who are working and administering and organising the safe delivery of Covid-19 vaccines.

Tuesday

As we mark the anniversary of the start of the first lockdown we pray; Lord Jesus, when you walked with us on earth you spread your healing power. We place in your loving care all who are affected by Coronavirus. Keep us strong in faith, hope and love. Bring relief to our sick, console our bereaved, protect those who care for us. We lift our prayer to you Lord, and trust in your infinite mercy, as we wait for the daybreak. **Amen**

Wednesday

Pray for all those who are living on their own and who may be feeling isolated and lonely. Hold before you the very vulnerable and frail, for all residents of care homes and all those who care and look after them.

Thursday

Pray for all the staff, children and young people of all schools and colleges. Despite all the restrictions may everyone feel safe, happy and free to learn creatively and without fear.

Friday

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.

Saturday

Pray for family life for our families and friends and all whom we love. Hold before. God all those who are finding family life difficult that they will find positive ways forward.