

Wye Brooks Group
UPDATE for 18 September
TRINITY 14
GREEN

TRINITY 14 READINGS

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

Psalms 79:1-9

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

FROM THE VICAR
DEFENDER OF THE FAITH, OR
DEFENDER OF FAITH?



At the moment of his official accession, King Charles III stated his constitutional responsibility as 'Defender of the Faith' - the Church of England.

Two decades ago, there was speculation that on his accession to the throne Charles would use the title 'Defender of Faith' after he described himself as 'faith's defender'.

But last Saturday, making an oath relating to the Church of Scotland, he said:

"I, Charles III, by the grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of my other realms and territories, King, Defender of the Faith, do faithfully promise and swear that I should inviolably maintain and preserve the settlement of the true Protestant religion..."

The King is certainly inclusivist in his attitudes to both race and faith, but in 2015 he clarified his position:

"No, I didn't describe myself as a defender: I said I would rather be seen as 'Defender of Faith', all those years ago, because, as I tried to describe, I mind about the inclusion of other people's faiths and their freedom to worship in this country. And it's always seemed to me that, while at the same time being Defender of The Faith, you can also be protector of faiths.

"It was very interesting that 20 years or more after I mentioned this - which has been frequently misinterpreted - the Queen, in her Jubilee address to the faith leaders, said that as far as the role of the Church of England is concerned, it is not to defend Anglicanism to the exclusion of other religions. Instead, the Church has a duty to protect the free practice of all faiths in this country. I think in that sense she was confirming what I was really trying to say - perhaps not very well - all those years ago. And so I think you have to see it as both. You have to come from your own

(ALTERNATIVE) COLLECT
FOR TRINITY 14

Merciful God,
your Son came to save us
and bore our sins on the cross:
may we trust in your mercy
and know your love,
rejoicing in the righteousness
that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Christian standpoint - in the case I have as Defender of the Faith - and ensuring that other people's faiths can also be practised."

The temptation is to see this as trying to rubbish any claim that Christianity is the one true faith, and in my view if that were the case, that is apostasy (standing outside the Christian faith) or rebellion against it, defying Christ. "I am the way, the truth and the life," said Christ. "No one comes to the Father except through me." It is the job of all Christians to proclaim Christ, in word and deed and it is King Charles' job to defend that Christian faith.

But it is also his job to protect our personal freedoms, he is telling us, and that includes the freedom to hold and speak for other faiths, other loyalties, because without freedom of conscience and freedom of speech, we surely simply don't have freedom at all.

THE BISHOP'S MESSAGE

The Queen and the gospel.

Go to

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=82c3vV7ihQk>

OUR LIGHT BITE

Still on difficult bible words, today we are dealing with two of them:

Justification

Propitiation

Go to <https://youtu.be/WlSGxNTeac>

CHRISTIANITY IN THE NEWS

ARCHBISHOPS IN THE CROWDS



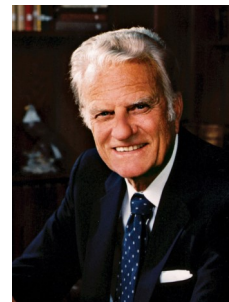
The ArchbishopS of Canterbury and York joined people in the queue outside Lambeth Palace to pray ahead of the start of the lying-in-state at Wesminster Hall.

The two archbishops, who were en route to Westminster Hall, stopped to speak to mourners who had been queuing since last night to pay their respects to the Queen.

The Archbishop responded to a request for prayer by saying:
"Lord Jesus Christ, who rose from the dead, bless the people in the crowd. Help them to keep warm, help them to enjoy each other's company and enable them as they go to the Lying in State, to be able to find both your comfort, also in their presence to comfort others. Amen."

THE QUEEN AND BILLY GRAHAM

This is from Premier Christian News



US evangelist Franklin Graham has talked about his father Billy Graham's 'warm friendship' with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. He shared that the Queen would often seek spiritual advice from his father.

"She wanted to talk about the Bible, she wanted to talk about things of faith. She herself would read, and she would have some questions about things that she was reading.

"She wanted my father's opinion, 'what did he think about that particular passage?'. And sometimes they had a Bible study together," Graham shared.

The pair first met in the 1950s. He was 33-years-old and had just finished a crusade around Scotland. The Queen invited him to Clarence House, a friendship developed and they met many times.

Although the Queen's position prevented her from publicly endorsing Billy Graham's crusades, she invited him to preach for the royal family on several occasions at Windsor and Sandringham.

In 2001, Billy Graham became the first clergyman outside the Commonwealth to receive an honorary British knighthood.

"She arranged for the British Embassy in Washington to hold a kind of a state dinner for my father at the embassy and the ambassador at that time presented this knighthood to him, and it was for his carrying out of the Great Commission."

When asked about King Charles and the role he will play in protecting the Christian faith, Graham said he hopes and prays that King Charles "has put his faith and trust in Jesus Christ" like his mother did.

"I've heard that he's been very outspoken on many moral issues. And I appreciate that very much about him. I don't know a whole lot about his faith, but I can promise you, he had a lot of influence from his mother."

ONE BRIEF MOMENT



Most Rev Michael Curry, who preached at the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex has added to the tributes to

Her Majesty the Queen.

Bishop Michael praised her life and 70 years of service.

"She has been and is a reminder that human dignity and nobility are possible," he said.

"The tributes that are pouring in at this moment, are not pouring in because people have to write them or have to say them, they're pouring in because, for one brief shining moment, we actually saw humanity lived at its best, through thick and thin through good days and hard days," he said.

"And it wasn't always easy but this remarkable woman showed us that God's vision of a human life well lived and lived in his honour and service is a life that makes a difference and is worth living. And for that - to God be the glory and thank God Almighty. May she rest in peace and rise in God's eternal love and graciousness."

N?

WHITCHURCH WEEKLY



HOLY COMMUNION

10.30 every Thursday at St Dubricius Church, Whitchurch

A simple informal half hour communion without a sermon or a collection.

Followed by a cuppa and biscuits.

It has always been open to anyone from both the Wye Reaches and Wye Brooks benefices.

Please do come. Relax and enjoy God's presence with us.

RESPONDING TO THE UKRAINE CRISIS



The Diocese has a web page encouraging us to respond in prayer and action to the ongoing crisis in Ukraine. Go to <https://www.hereford.anglican.org/our-faith/prayers-for-ukraine/>

UKRAINE FOOD COLLECTION

Tinned food is being collected at KTS Craft Warehouse, Trenchard Street, at the bottom of Edde Cross Street in Ross. They have already made deliveries of clothing and medical equipment, and now it is tinned food which is needed, (no glass). Tins - soup, spaghetti, pies, meat, fruit, plus cereal bars.

JUST TO DELIGHT YOU

FLASH MOB - BOLERO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7qHCILZVc6k>

MINI BIBLE STUDY MORE REASONS TO SPREAD YOUR FAITH

7) The example of the Church (Acts 1:8, 10, 15, Rom 15:20)

The early church has given us a model to follow. They spread the gospel.

8) The heavenly future the Bible describes (Rev 7:9 7:9, Rev 21:24-26)

If heaven is full of saved souls, the preaching of the gospel is necessary for it to be brought to reality.

9) We will be held accountable (Ezek 33)

The people of God, meant to be a blessing to the world, were held accountable for not warning others of the danger coming.

10) To whom much is given much is required (Luke 12:47-48)

Self explanatory.

11) The Church (the people) is the means (Rom 1:5, al 3:14-15, 2 Cor 5:17-20)

You are God's ordained means for Christ reaching all the nations.

14) The commands of Jesus (Matt 28:18-20; Acts 1:8, 13:47; John 20:21)

Jesus commanded it. Just as Jesus says in John 14:21, "He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me," or 1 John 3:24, "The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him."

CHRISTIAN WISDOM ON NATIONAL LIFE

"Where men are forbidden to honour a king they honour millionaires, athletes, or film-stars instead: even famous prostitutes or gangsters. For spiritual nature, like bodily nature, will be served; deny it food and it will gobble poison."

CS Lewis

"Europe's rise is written in the terms of Christianity and Monarchy, Europe's decay in the terms of Republicanism, Progressivism & Godlessness."

SERVICES CALENDAR FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

Date	Time	Place	Service	Leader
18th September	8.30	Welsh Newton	Meditation and Bible Study	Lay led
18th September	10.00	Llangrove	Benefice Holy Communion	Ben
18th September	6.00	Llangarron	Evening Prayer	Penny
18th September	6.00	Goodrich	Harvest Festival/ Supper	Ben
25th September	10.00	Llangrove	Community Service	Lay led
25th September	10.00	Marstow	Morning Service	Lay led
25th September	11.00	Goodrich	Benefice Holy Communion	Ben
25th September	6.00	Welsh Newton	Harvest Festival	Ben
Fri 30 September	7.00	Llangarron	Harvest Festival and supper	Ben
2 October	8.30	Welsh Newton	Meditation and Bible Study	Sue
2 October	11.00	Llangarron	Benefice Holy Communion	Ben
2 October	4.30pm	Llangrove	Harvest Festival and supper	Ben
9 October	8.30	Welsh Newton	Benefice Holy Communion	Ben
9 October	10.00	Llangrove	Sunday Praise	Wendy
9 October	11.00	Marstow	Harvest Festival	Ben
9 October	11.00	Goodrich	Morning service	Lay led
16 October	8.30	Welsh Newton	Meditation and Bible Study	Lay led
16 October	10.00	Llangrove	Benefice Holy Communion	Ben
16 October	6.00	Llangarron	Evening Prayer	Penny

LIGHT BITES

For anyone who hasn't tumbled to it yet, a *Light Bite* is a home produced 'event' of about 20 minutes on YouTube. It will consist usually of an introduction, a bible reading, a talk a hymn and a blessing. They are supposed to TEACH something about our faith or CHALLENGE us.

LIGHT BITE THEMES

18th September Big Bible words (6)

Today we are on the sixth in a series on Bible words—the words that are difficult to understand.

THIS WEEK'S LIGHT BITE

Justification and Propitiation. I bet neither of these is on your list of favourite words, but both of them are really important for Christians. The former is a courtroom term to do with being declared innocent, or declared righteous, and the latter means to deflect anger.

Dear Lord,

So far today, am I doing all right.



I have not gossiped, lost my temper, been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or self-indulgent. I have not whined, complained, cursed, or eaten any chocolate. I have charged nothing on my credit card.

But I will be getting out of bed in a minute, and I think that I will really need your help then.

JARGON BUSTER

COVENANT

You'll hear the word 'Covenant' a lot in church. A covenant is a bond, a contract, between two parties, normally in which each pledges to do something for the other.

In the Old Testament you find several covenants between God and the Israelite Nation.

The New Covenant is the new contract between God and Man. Instead of offering his own sinful life to get into heaven, man relies, in faith, on the life and death of Christ as the full and perfect sacrifice.

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

The UK

- HM the King
- Our new Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Rising prices and the hardship they bring
- The increasingly important work of food banks.

World

- Please continue to pray for the Ukraine, and for Russia
- Pray for China and Taiwan.
- Pray for the US. The political chaos is severe. There is anger at the Roe vs Wade decision, but gun rights and the continued fallout from the last presidential elections continue to split the country.
- Pray too about the famine in East Africa, the migrant problem, threats from nations like North Korea and of course Iran, which has just declared itself to have nuclear weapons, and so on.

Covid.

- Covid is still with us, and of course is still killing people, though not as many.
- Those who have lost loved ones or watched them suffer.
- Those who continue to be isolated
- Our NHS

Our churches and clergy

- For right actions leading to sustainability and growth.
- For the prayer life of our churches
- For the hard decisions which will need to be made about clergy numbers.
- For mission mindedness

Our villages

Our pubs, parish councils, local businesses and schools. Pray for all our communities in these difficult times.

Pray for people

Please pray for all those you know who are sick or in particular need, and those facing big changes in life.

- Annie—medical issues following the birth of a child, with treatment ongoing.
- Chris as he continues to recover slowly.
- Ruth (not Ruth Davis) undergoing stem cell treatment.
- Another Ruth, in a hospice
- The family of Nicholas Cole, who died recently
- The family of Emily Hester Thompson-Davies, whose funeral is on Saturday
- The family of Joyce Rollinson, who died on Thursday
- Jack Weyman and Sami Burford, who will be getting married at Goodrich on Tuesday

REGULARS

MAKING A DIFFERENCE—WILLS



Want to make a difference to your local church? Why not leave it something in your will? It's easy to do, and helps what you care about.

COMPANION WORK NEEDED

One of our parishioners would like to find paid work as a companion to someone—cooking, housekeeping, shopping etc. If you or someone you know might be able to offer this kind of work, please leave me a message (01989 770454) and I'll put you in touch when I am back from holiday.

PARISH GIVING SCHEME

We are pushing the Parish Giving Scheme because it is the best way of giving to your Church, not just because of *how little hassle* it is to you, but also because of how *safe and tax efficient* it is, how *easy it is for treasurers to administer* and how it usually does actually *drive the income of churches up*. And GOOD NEWS—you don't even have to fill in a form. You can set it up by phone. By all means ring your church treasurer for details and fill in a form, or call the number below.



The Llangrove Milk Shed at the Village Hall, For farm fresh milk and a few other things like butter, cheese and cake.

Support local businesses!

PARISH GIVING SCHEME

Tel 0333 002 1271

Church	<u>Parish Ref</u>	Church	<u>Parish Ref</u>
Goodrich	180618231	Marstow	180618241
Llangarron	180618239	Llangrove	180618240
Welsh Newton	180618256		



Our local eateries are important, and without our patronage they risk not being able to survive, especially in this climate.

Llangrove - The Royal Arms
Phone **01989 770267**

Goodrich - The Hostelrie
Phone **01600 890241**

Goodrich - The Cross Keys
Phone **01600 890692**

CONTACT

Revd Philip 'Ben' Bentham

Tel 01989 770454

Email benbentham@yahoo.co.uk

If you have suggestions for improving this Update, please do let me know.

CLERGY HOLIDAYS

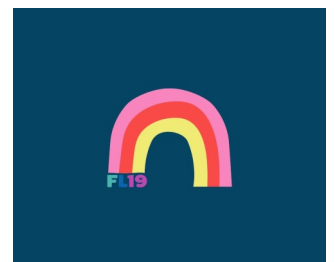
25 October to 6 November

CLERGY DAY OFF

My usual day off is MONDAY

BLESS THE NHS

Thanks to Helen Shipton, who belongs to our Tuesday prayer group, for giving us details of this initiative to provide a bit of support for NHS workers. Do have a look.



<https://www.frontline19.com/hopeline19/>

Coffee Morning

Everyone Welcome



COFFEE MORNING

Garron Centre

24th September 10.30 to 12.30

This month the village coffee morning will be in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

Come along and enjoy homemade cakes, freshly brewed coffee and bacon butties.



Food Bank

St Mary's Welsh Newton want you to know that they have started an informal, voucher-free food bank at the church.

The church is open 24/7

Anyone in need can just slip in and take what they need without having to register anywhere.

Please feel free to gossip this information to anyone whom you think might find it helpful.

Please also feel free to donate food to it yourself.

Thanks.