

Prayer

Prayer and Healing Ministry

As a Church Family, God calls us to “pray without ceasing” for one another and for our neighbourhood. With this in mind, a Calendar of Prayer covering the whole of The Parish Of Three Saints has been drawn up. Each Sunday we will be highlighting a particular road or street, plus an organisation or group of people in our Parish or Diocese and encouraging you to pray for them during the week. The Calendar of Prayer will also be available in the prayer corners of each of our church buildings.

This week please pray for....

- Those living in Manor Ride, Brent Knoll.
- All Rainbows, Brownies and Guides in Schools in our Parish and neighbourhood.
- Kevin, as he prepares to start his ministry here on 14th April, Palm Sunday.

Don't be afraid to ask for Prayer!

If you or a loved one are going through a difficult time and would like prayer, please contact our Prayer Group Co-ordinator **Gwen Hatton 01934 750416**. The Friday Prayer Group will support you in prayer for as long as you need it and everything is absolutely confidential.

Alternatively, if you or a loved one would like to be included in this public prayer list in the Sunday Link and prayed for by the whole Church Family, please contact Carole in the Church Office 01278-769082 or Ginnie Soffe 01278-769117. Please ask for the person's permission beforehand.

Please continue to pray for Caroline, Mervyn, Luke, Iona, Ben, David, Carole, Kathryn, Peter and Marcus.

Diary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7th April 08.00 St Mary's Worship of the Word 10.00 St Mary's Parish Eucharist	8th 09.00-10.30 Emmaus Brentcombe House, East Brent 19.30 Pastoral Care Team meeting	9th	10th 08.45 Coffee Time St Mary's	11th 19.30 All Sorts Choir St Mary's	12th	13th
14th April Palm Sunday 08.00 St Michael's Holy Communion 10.00 St Michael's Holy Communion 15.00 Brent Knoll Crosses 16.00 Palm Sunday service Brent Knoll Methodist Church	15th 16.00-17.30 Alzheimer's and Dementia Carers Group. Brentcombe House, East Brent. 19.00 St Michael's Compline	16th 19.00 St Mary's Compline	17th 08.45 Coffee Time St Mary's 19.00 St Christopher's Compline	18th 14.30 Comfort Group 19.00 St Mary's Holy Communion	19th 10.00 Prayer Group 2. The Worthings, Lympsham 14.00 St Mary's The Final Hour	20th
21st April Easter Day 08.00 St Mary's Holy Communion 10.00 St Mary's Holy Communion 14.00-16.30 St Michael's Easter Teas	22nd 14.00-16.30 St Michael's Easter Teas	23rd	24th 08.45 Coffee Time St Mary's	25th 14.30 Bereaved Friends group 19.30 All Sorts Choir St Mary's	26th	27th

Contacts

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For further contact information please see our parish website - www.theparishofthreesaints.org.uk

If you would like to submit anything for the Sunday Link please email it to Carole at office.tpots@gmail.com by **Thursday**. Please also send anything for **The Parish of Three Saints** website to the same address.



Connecting faith and daily life

Throwing out the rubbish

Heather Smith *reflects on* Philippians 3:4-14

Losing something, depending on what it is, can range from a vague irritant to a deeply devastating experience. A ballpoint pen can easily be replaced, but a laptop or phone may contain vital information and its loss can seriously disrupt life. Losing a significant item like a wedding ring may cause a different kind of distress and the loss of a loved one is life-changing. What kind of experience of Christ must Paul have had, that made him able to say in his letter to the Philippians: "I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ"? It would be an unusual person who could

say that some major loss they had suffered was "rubbish" compared to the experience of God in their lives. Perhaps it helps to think of the deep grounding Paul had as a result of his relationship with Christ. Without it he could not have fulfilled his vocation to spread the Gospel.

We too need to be grounded in God, and that firm foundation is there for us, whether we recognise it or not. If we let the knowledge of it grow within us we may find that loss, although destabilising, does not destroy us. If we put Christ first we will begin to see our lives, whatever they may bring, with God's perspective. ☺

Gracious God, may the knowledge of your presence grow within us, grounding us until we stand firm in your love. Amen.

National Pet Month

Uncomplicated love

by Gillian Cooper

People sometimes speak of their pets offering them "unconditional love". That is not quite accurate, since their relationship with us is based on getting the care and protection they need. Their love is better described as

"uncomplicated". We love our pets, and they love us, in a way that is easy and straightforward. I arrive home, and Poppy does a little dance of joy as she attempts to lick my face. It makes no difference what mood I am in, or what time of day it is, or how long I have been away. There is no condemnation for having gone, no criticism for being late. She is simply glad I am back.

There is joy in heaven, Jesus says, over the lost sheep who came home, the lost coin that was found. God's love and welcome is both uncomplicated and unconditional, and like that of our pets, it warms our hearts. ☺



Finding God on the smallholding

by Jeni Parsons

When I read that the Spirit of God brooded over the face of the waters at creation I've thought in the past that it was a still, serene image. Now that I've hatched two goslings in the incubator who think I'm their mother and want "brooding", I've begun to realise how different it really

is. The goslings climb up my jumper, cuddle into my neck, wriggle to get comfortable, make tiny noises to me and want soft replies, poo on my jumper and then get restless when they want to explore the world.

The Spirit must have experienced such intimacy in the brooding over creation which is both a past and a present thing. God still "broods" over us in that very positive way and now I've more reason to let God into my humanity, my continual need for brooding by the divine, because goslings have shown me deeper things. ☺

“ I lift up my eyes to the hills – from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Psalm 121:1-2

Bible Readings

Hebrew Scripture

Isaiah 43. 16-21

Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
The wild animals will honour me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

Service to Celebrate Weston Hospicecare's 30th Anniversary

Weston Hospicecare was founded in 1989 and there is to be a **Service of Celebration** on Tuesday 30th April in Christ Church, 16 Montpelier, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 2RH at 7.00pm.

Anyone is welcome to join us at this Service and to apply for tickets please email (including your postal address) 30thservice@westonhospicecare.org.uk or telephone 01934 423900.

Seating in the church is limited so tickets will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis.

Do come and join us as we recognize and celebrate the work that the Hospice has done over the past 30 years, and continues to do, within our local community.

Gospel Reading

John 12. 1-8

Mary Anoints Jesus

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

Christian Scripture

Philippians 3. 4b -14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Pressing towards the Goal

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Blessed Thought

When I stumble and I sin, condemnation pressing in,
I will stand on every promise of your Word.
You are faithful to forgive that in freedom I might live,
So I stand on every promise of Your Word.
Guilt to innocence restored, You remember sins no more.
So I'll stand on every promise of Your Word.

(Keith Getty + Stuart Townend 2005 Thank you music)

Psalm

Psalm 126

A Harvest of Joy
A Song of Ascents.
When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.
Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then it was said among the nations,
'The Lord has done great things for them.'
The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.
Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.
May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.
Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.

What's On



office.tspots@gmail.com
www.theparishofthreesaints.org.uk



Our Vision for the Parish of Three Saints

Our desire is to deepen our spiritual awareness and relationship with God so that we can serve our communities more effectively as His hands and feet, and also to develop our sacred spaces to make them welcoming, flexible and suited to the broad ranging needs of our communities.

(Taken from The Parish Profile 2018)

Greetings,

A very heartfelt thank you for the warm welcome you gave us on Thursday 21st at the Licensing. It was wonderful to see so many people there worshipping together. We are looking forward to getting to know you and journeying alongside you.

The gifts presented during the service, though essentially symbolic, were also well-chosen, thoughtful and practical. Thank you too for the personal messages of good wishes and blessings we have received already. As most of you know we are doing things in a strange order and, as I write this, we're in the throes of moving into the Parish. It will be a couple of weeks before I am up and running, but please do say hello if you see us out and about. It would be helpful if you could keep reminding us of your names please!



With all good wishes and every blessing,
Kevin & Chris Wright

Easter Teas

Sunday 21st and Monday 22nd April
2.00 - 4.30pm

St Michael's Church, Brent Knoll

Everyone Welcome



All proceeds go to St Michael's Church

The Parish of Three Saints
Saints May Fayre
Saturday 18th May 11 - 4pm

- ☀ Festival of flowers competition.
- ☀ Vegetable racing competition.
- ☀ Local artisan crafts.
- ☀ Cake and food stalls.
- ☀ Cream teas yummy.
- ☀ BBQ and Westcote cider.
- ☀ Maypole dancing.

Fun games and activities for the whole family.
Flower competition can be fresh, sugar, paper, textile, clay etc.
Make your own racing vegetable and race it at the fayre.
Venue: Woodlands House, Hill Lane Brent Knoll TA9 4DF.
Free entrance and friendly dogs welcome.
Competition forms are available from the village shop and the deadline for entry is 15th May. All proceeds to the Parish of Three Saints.

The 2018 APCM
(Annual Parochial Church Meeting)
will take place on **Sunday 28th April 2019**,
immediately after the 10am service
at **St Christopher's, Lympsham.**

Who can attend?

Annual Meeting of the Parishioners (Vestry Meeting)

All persons whose names are entered on the Church Electoral Roll of this parish and persons resident in the parish whose names are entered on a register of local government electors are welcome to attend.

APCM

All persons whose names are entered on the Church Electoral Roll of this parish are welcome to attend.

First meeting of the 2019/20 PCC

PCC members only.

Please see the church noticeboards for the agenda and further details.

**Blessed are you, Lord God of all Creation; through your goodness we have this money to offer.....
to do your work in the world.**

During our worship an offering will be collected. If you wish to join with our offering there is a yellow envelope nearby for your contribution or you can, of course, simply add your donation to the bag that will be passed along the pew during our first hymn. Many of our Church Family make a regular contribution to the running and work of the Parish by Standing Order. If this is something you would like to find out more about, please see one of the Stewards or a Churchwarden.