

## 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 Harp Road, Vole Road and Pill Road, Brent Knoll.
- Our local MP, James Heapey.

### 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 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 Barbara, Iona, Caroline, Mervyn, Luke, Ben, David, Carole, Kathryn, Peter and Marcus.

## Diary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>15th September</b> 08.00 St Christopher's Holy Communion 10.00 St Michael's Holy Communion 16.00 St Mary's Café Style Church	<b>16th</b> 09.00-10.30 Emmaus Brentcombe House, East Brent 16.00-17.30 Alzheimer's and Dementia Carers Group, Brentcombe House, East Brent	<b>17th</b> 10.30 Toddlers Brent Knoll Methodist Church	<b>18th</b> 08.45-10.00 Coffee Time St Mary's 19.00 PCC Meeting BK Methodist Church	<b>19th</b> 09.15 St Mary's Parish Prayer 14.00 Comfort Group 19.30 All Sorts Choir St Mary's	<b>20th</b> 10.00 Prayer Group 2 The Worthings, Lymphsham	<b>21st</b>
<b>22nd September</b> 08.00 St Mary's Holy Communion 10.00 St Christopher's Holy Communion 18.30 St Michael's Evening Prayer	<b>23rd</b>	<b>24th</b> 10.30 Toddlers Brent Knoll Methodist Church	<b>25th</b> 08.45-10.00 Coffee Time St Mary's	<b>26th</b> 09.15 St Mary's Parish Prayer 14.30 Bereaved Friends Group 19.30 All Sorts Choir St Mary's	<b>27th</b>	<b>28th</b>
<b>29th September</b> 10.00 St Mary's Holy Communion	<b>30th</b>	<b>1st October</b> 10.30 Toddlers Brent Knoll Methodist Church	<b>2nd</b> 08.45-10.00 Coffee Time St Mary's	<b>3rd</b> 09.15 St Michael's Parish Prayer 19.30 All Sorts Choir St Mary's	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b> 19.00 St Michael's Raise the Roof Concert

## Contacts

**SAFEGUARDING:** We take safeguarding very seriously. If you have any concerns for a child or a vulnerable adult please contact our parish Safeguarding Officer (a voluntary position) Kathy Quinnell (01278-760031) or contact the central diocesan team <https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/diocese/safeguarding/rep>

Priest in Charge	Rev. Kevin Wright	priest.tpots@gmail.com	The Rectory, 3 Ash Trees, East Brent, Highbridge, TA9 4DQ	Tel: 01278 760844
Please Note that Friday is the "Vicar's Day of Rest". Thank you for your understanding.				
Reader	Nikki Burns	reader.tpots@gmail.com		Tel: 01278 760860
Church Administrator	Mrs Carole Carter	office.tpots@gmail.com	Church Office, Church Road, East Brent, Somerset. TA9 4HZ	Tel: 01278 769082

For further contact information please see our parish website - [www.theparishofthreesaints.org.uk](http://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](mailto: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

Second in our series of special issues written by men about men and masculinity

# Worth the cost

Andrew Lyon *reflects on* Exodus 32:7-14; Jeremiah 4:11-12. 22-28 and 1 Timothy 1:12-17

If making a commitment to follow the Lord is costly, that becomes most apparent when times get tough: in short, we become less certain about it. Following Jesus is more costly the closer he gets to the cross. And the temptations that have always beset us do not suddenly cease to plague us simply because we have made a commitment.

Today's Old Testament readings are, typically, a little bit frightening. In Exodus, Moses seemingly has to remonstrate in order to avoid God's wrath being poured down upon the people who have gone astray. To be fair, Moses had been up the mountain a long time. The

people must have thought that was the last they would ever see of him and, being left alone, they invented a god of their own imagining, to whom they could offer their sacrifices.

Luckily, we live under the new covenant, and St Paul can be our example: "I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy". God does not wait to punish us when we go astray, but to pour grace upon us. Like Jesus' parables of the lost sheep or the lost coin, God waits to rejoice with all of heaven when we repent. 🙏

## John Coleridge Patteson

*Bishop John Coleridge Patteson (1827-1871) is commemorated on Friday. Julian Smith looks at his life and legacy.*

Ordained in 1853, Patteson volunteered for the New Zealand-based Melanesian Mission, arriving in Auckland in 1855. He taught in the mission school and visited the islands regularly, learning many of the island languages.

Consecrated bishop in 1861, he spent some months each year living among the islanders, with whom he developed a strong rapport and to whom he was devoted. Patteson's involvement in the anti-slavery movement led to his murder whilst on a pastoral visit to one of the islands.

Although Patteson came from a comfortable, well-connected family and was an old Etonian, he was no caricature of a Victorian missionary. He was ahead of his time. He insisted that classes be taught in a native language, that Christianity must adapt to Melanesian culture and that missionaries should avoid "making English Christians of our converts". 🙏



Have mercy upon me and give me your strength, O Lord, for I am weak, liable to fall away and deny you. Guide me back to you when I have wandered off on my own path. Call me back and welcome me into your fold. Amen.

## Men and masculinity in the Bible

*Trevor Dennis continues his series with the stories of Esau, Joseph and Jonathan.*

The Bible never speaks with one voice. The book that speaks of Cain and Lamech also tells of Esau running to embrace the brother who once stole his birthright. Esau cares nothing about the past and the wrongs he has suffered. He has his

brother Jacob back and that's enough. His forgiveness and magnanimity are stunning. So is Joseph's, when his brothers, who once sold him into slavery, are confronted by him and offer to become his slaves. "Do not be afraid!" he cries. "Am I in the place of God?" Then in 1 Samuel we find Jonathan, the son of the mentally unstable king, Saul, who loved David "as his own soul". His devotion to David means he puts his own life at risk to save him from his father, and even surrenders his claim to the throne. In these stories we see expressions of masculinity that are truly inspiring. 🙏

“It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.”

Frederick Douglass (1818-1895), former slave, American social reformer, abolitionist and statesman

## Bible Readings

### First Reading

Jeremiah 4. 11-12, 22-28

At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert towards my poor people, not to winnow or cleanse—a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgement against them.  
 'For my people are foolish, they do not know me; they are stupid children, they have no understanding. They are skilled in doing evil, but do not know how to do good.'  
 I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light. I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro. I looked, and lo, there was no one at all, and all the birds of the air had fled. I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before the Lord, before his fierce anger. For thus says the Lord: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end. Because of this the earth shall mourn, and the heavens above grow black; for I have spoken, I have purposed; I have not relented nor will I turn back.

### Gospel Reading

Luke 15. 1-10

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.'

So he told them this parable: 'Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.'

'Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost." Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.'

### Second Reading

1 Timothy 1. 12-17

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

### St Michael's Roof Appeal

Thank you very much for your generous support of this project. We are extremely grateful for all donations received so far to help save the special ceiling in St Michael's Church.

If you would like more information or would like to donate further, please contact the Church Office or look on the parish website for photos and an application form.

### Blessed Thought

*Let all that you do be done in love.*  
 1 Corinthians 16. 14



Can you help please? We are currently short of the following -

Tins of Meat Nappies (size 4)

Toilet Rolls Toiletries

Dog Food

Please drop donations off in the foodbank collection boxes in any of our three churches in TPOTS.

Thank you very much for your continued support.

### Collect for Today

Almighty God,  
 who called your Church to bear witness  
 that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself:  
 help us to proclaim the good news of your love,  
 that all who hear it may be drawn to you;  
 through him who was lifted up on the cross,  
 and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
 one God, now and forever.

## What's On



office.tpots@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)

**Café Church**  
 "Everyone Matters"  
 Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Sept at 4pm  
 in St Mary's Church, East Brent  
 (refreshments 3.30 – 3.55pm)  
 Informal Praise Activities  
 Friendly atmosphere Lively music  
 All welcome – all-ages

**COM-FOR-TEA**  
 Comfort Group  
 At times we all need a bit of  
 Compassion,  
 and a place to be as Open with others as we feel able.  
 To Meet to share worries, fears, joys  
 and triumphs. To build Friendships and beat loneliness.  
 An Opportunity to be ourselves  
 With Refreshments  
 and a cup of Tea in a safe, homely space,  
 where confidentiality and privacy will be respected.  
 Open to Everyone:  
 male or female, old or young, whether you go to church or  
 not, whether you have a faith or have none.  
 We meet at 2pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month,  
 starting from 19<sup>th</sup> September.  
 For further information, or to request a lift, contact:  
 Dot tel. 01278 760600 or  
 Anthony tel. 07701 081077 or  
 Email lpacare.tpots@gmail.co.uk  
 Supported by The Parish of Three Saints (TPOTS).  
 St Mary's, East Brent; St Christopher's, Lympsham;  
 St Michael's, Brent Knoll.



### The Real Advent Calendar

- a great way to share the real meaning of the Christmas Story. £3.99.

Ideal to give/send to your grandchildren/ neighbours/friends and any young people you know.

Fair Trade Chocolates and a verse towards the Christmas Story every day.

Includes a free Christmas Activity Book. See details at www.realadvent.co.uk.

**We're placing a bulk order soon – please speak to either of us if you would like to buy some.**

**Kevin & Chris Wright (01278 760844)**

### Building work at St Christopher's

Scaffolding will be going up around the church from 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019 to carry out essential repairs to the nave roof.

The work will then take 4-6 weeks, depending on what they find underneath.

While all safety considerations have been made, please exercise due care around the churchyard.

Inside there will be dust sheets over the pews on the south side of the nave and organ. Please keep away from this area.

Services will continue as normal and access to the church will be unaffected.

**Gluten-free wafers are available for communion. Please speak to a Steward or Churchwarden before the service.**

**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 offertory 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.