

## 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 West Road and Church Road, Lympsham.
- Brent Knoll Cattery, White House Kennels, Delhorn Boarding Kennels and Cattery.
- Those starting new Alpha Courses.

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

## Diary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3rd November</b> 08.00 St Michael's Holy Communion 10.00 St Michael's All Saints All-Age Communion	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b> 10.30 Toddlers Brent Knoll Methodist Church	<b>6th</b> 08.45-10.00 Coffee Time St Mary's  14.00 Emmaus Church Office	<b>7th</b> 09.15 St Christopher's Parish Prayer  19.30 All Sorts Choir St Mary's	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b>
<b>10th November</b> 10.45 East Brent War Memorial Remembrance Day Service 10.45 St Christopher's Church Remembrance Day Service 10.45 St Michael's Church Remembrance Day Service 19.00 St Mary's Quiz - The Knoll Inn	<b>11th</b>   16.30 and 18.30 St Mary's Working Party Meeting	<b>12th</b> 10.30 Toddlers "Children in Need" Brent Knoll Methodist Church	<b>13th</b> 08.45-10.00 Coffee Time St Mary's  14.00 Emmaus Church Office	<b>14th</b> 09.15 St Christopher's Parish Prayer 19.00 PCC Meeting BK Methodist Church 19.30 All Sorts Choir St Mary's	<b>15th</b> 10.00 Prayer Meeting 2 The Worthings, Lympsham	<b>16th</b>   19.00 Medieval Feast and Music St Michael's
<b>17th November</b> 08.00 St Christopher's Holy Communion 10.00 St Michael's Holy Communion	<b>18th</b>   19.30 Churches Together Prayer Meeting St Christopher's	<b>19th</b> 10.30 Toddlers Brent Knoll Methodist Church	<b>20th</b> 08.45-10.00 Coffee Time St Mary's  14.00 Emmaus Church Office	<b>21st</b> 09.15 St Christopher's Parish Prayer 14.00 Comfort Group 19.30 All Sorts Choir St Mary's	<b>22nd</b>	<b>23rd</b>

## 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 Quinell (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

# A (not so) tall story

Caroline Hodgson *reflects on* Luke 19:1-10 and Luke 6:20-31

If we're observing All Saints' Day, in our Gospel reading we hear four of the Beatitudes (Luke lists four, whereas Matthew has nine). It's the last one that can trip us up, stop us in our tracks: "What's that you say? I'm blessed when people hate... exclude... revile... defame me on account of the Son of Man?" I should rejoice and leap for joy? How am I supposed to spread the Good News if nobody likes me? Surely I have an obligation to be likeable for the sake of my faith?

Just to be clear – this is not about being bullied. Nobody should ever put up with that. Nor is it about being a doormat. Nor is Jesus telling his listeners to go out of their way to be unlikeable. To go a bit deeper, let's turn to the story of Zacchaeus the tax collector, as told in today's reading for those who are observing the Fourth Sunday before Advent. Zacchaeus is an inspirational example because he had the courage to do the right thing, to seek out the truth, despite his unpopularity, and despite his short stature. He recognised Jesus and he wasn't going to let anything get in the way of an encounter with him.

Never mind what people think of us – meeting the Son of Man is worth risking everything for – even being unpopular in plain sight, even shinning up the nearest tree. ☺



Lord God, thank you for the Beatitudes and for the example of Zacchaeus. Teach me courage, confidence and commitment, not in myself, but in you, to do whatever it takes. Amen.

## The creeds

*In a four-part series  
Kathryn Fleming, Canon  
Pastor at Coventry  
Cathedral, examines the  
Christian creeds.*

In the earliest days the Church Fathers spoke of a "rule of faith" – beliefs held "always, everywhere, by all" – which are both a series of intellectual propositions and a framework for daily living. Prime among them is the simple life-changing "Jesus is Lord!" To declare this is the start of everything – but may not be enough to ensure

unanimity of purpose. So, with institutional efficiency, the early Church formed a committee – and the process of establishing the creeds began.

The creeds provide a snapshot of our corporate identity as the Church, a Church growing from deep roots in a historic tradition that helps us to frame our experience of God's activity in our own lives and our world. Each of us meets God in different ways, which can contribute to our collective understanding. But since the Church is greater than the sum of its parts, a body of systematic and agreed statements of faith confirms our corporate identity and ensures we're heading in the same direction. ☺

“We need never shout across the spaces to an absent God. He is nearer than our own soul, closer than our most secret thoughts.”

A.W. Tozer (1897-1963), pastor, author and editor

## International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict

by Caroline Fletcher

An oft-neglected aspect of war is the environmental damage it causes. Plants, animals and land are destroyed, and this affects people, too, not only while conflicts rage but long after peace has been declared.

Damage to the environment may be deliberate: crops wiped

out, oil wells set on fire and forests decimated, for instance. However, harming the earth is often an unintentional consequence of warfare. Ammunition, for example, can contain poisonous metals such as mercury and lead which have been linked to birth defects and cancers and contaminate the environment long after use.

In 2001 the United Nations declared November 6th a day to reflect upon the impact that war has on our environment. The UN believes that protecting the natural world goes hand in hand with a peaceful future. To quote their website: "there can be no durable peace if the natural resources that sustain livelihoods and ecosystems are destroyed." ☺

## Bible Readings

### First Reading

#### **Daniel 7. 1-3,15-18**

In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in bed. Then he wrote down the dream: I, Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the great sea, and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another.

As for me, Daniel, my spirit was troubled within me, and the visions of my head terrified me. I approached one of the attendants to ask him the truth concerning all this. So he said that he would disclose to me the interpretation of the matter: 'As for these four great beasts, four kings shall arise out of the earth. But the holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom for ever—for ever and ever.'

### Gospel Reading

#### **Luke 6. 20-31**

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

'Blessed are you who are poor,  
for yours is the kingdom of God.

'Blessed are you who are hungry now,  
for you will be filled.

'Blessed are you who weep now,  
for you will laugh.

'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

'But woe to you who are rich,  
for you have received your consolation.

'Woe to you who are full now,  
for you will be hungry.

'Woe to you who are laughing now,  
for you will mourn and weep.

'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

'But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

### Second Reading

#### **Ephesians 1. 11-end**

In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

### Blessed Thought

*'Lord, you have given to me so generously of this world's goods. Help me to live so lightly in them, and so completely in you, that were they all removed tomorrow I should scarcely notice the difference.'*

### Collect for Today

God of holiness,  
your glory is proclaimed in every age:  
as we rejoice in the faith of your saints,  
inspire us to follow their example  
with boldness and joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## 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)



## Medieval Feast and Music in St. Michael's Church, Brent Knoll on Saturday November 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

music by *Caliban's Dream*.

There is no ticket charge in the hope that, if you enjoy your evening, you will give generously to the **Save Our Special Ceiling Appeal** which is now urgent following the theft of lead from the roof.

We will be selling our special St Michael's Angel Ale and there will be a cash bar. Families are welcome.

Please email [rosemary.keele@btinternet](mailto:rosemary.keele@btinternet) or phone 01278 769010 for further information.

### Parish Prayer

9.15 -9.45 am  
Thursday 7th November  
**St Christopher's**

30 minutes of quietly being in God's presence, listening to him and bringing before him the needs of our parish, nation and world.

**Everyone is very welcome**

"Be joyful in hope,  
patient in affliction, faithful in prayer"

(Romans 12.12)

### Churches Together Burnham and Highbridge District

**We are hosting this month's**  
**Churches Together Prayer**  
**Meeting**

On Monday 18th November 7.30pm

At St Christopher's Church

So it would be lovely to have as many people there as possible.

**Everyone is Welcome.**



**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 godness 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.