

## 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 Bridgwater Road, East Brent and Whitehouse Lane, Lympsham.
- The restaurants, cafes and pubs in our parish: Ollie’s, Brent House, The Knoll Inn, The Fox and Goose, The Red Cow, The Pavilion and Hobbs Boat.

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

## Diary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>8th March</b> 08.00 St Christopher’s Holy Communion 10.00 St Christopher’s Parish Communion	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b> 10.30 Toddlers Brent Knoll Methodist Church	<b>11th</b> 08.45 10.00 Coffee Time St Mary’s	<b>12th</b> 19.30 All Sorts Choir BK Methodist Church	<b>13th</b>	<b>14th</b> No Lent Course
<b>15th March</b> 08.00 St Mary’s Service of the Word 10.00 St Mary’s Holy Communion (by extension) 18.30 St Michael’s Evening Prayer	<b>16th</b> 16.00-17.30 Alzheimer’s and Dementia Carers Group Brentcombe House, East Brent <u>Carole not in office</u>	<b>17th</b> 10.30 Toddlers Brent Knoll Methodist Church <u>Carole not in office</u>	<b>18th</b> 08.45 10.00 Coffee Time St Mary’s <u>Carole not in office</u>	<b>19th</b> 14.00 Comfort Group 19.30 All Sorts Choir BK Methodist Church <u>Carole not in office</u>	<b>20th</b> 10.30 Prayer Group 2 The Worthings <u>Carole not in office</u>	<b>21st</b> 08.45 The Rectory, East Brent. “Christ and the Chocolaterie” Lent Course 3. “Getting Wise”
<b>22nd March</b> 08.00 St Michael’s Holy Communion 10.00 St Michael’s <b>Mothers’ Sunday All Age Communion</b> , with the Licensing of Revd Kevin Wright as Rector by the Archdeacon of Wells.	<b>23rd</b> <u>Carole not in office</u>	<b>24th</b> 10.30 Toddlers Brent Knoll Methodist Church <u>Carole not in office</u>	<b>25th</b> 08.45 10.00 Coffee Time St Mary’s <u>Carole not in office</u>	<b>26th</b> 14.00 Bereaved Friends Group 19.30 All Sorts Choir BK Methodist Church <u>Carole not in office</u>	<b>27th</b> <u>Carole not in office</u>	<b>28th</b> 08.45 The Rectory, East Brent. “Christ and the Chocolaterie” Lent Course 4. “Getting Real”

**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>

## Contacts

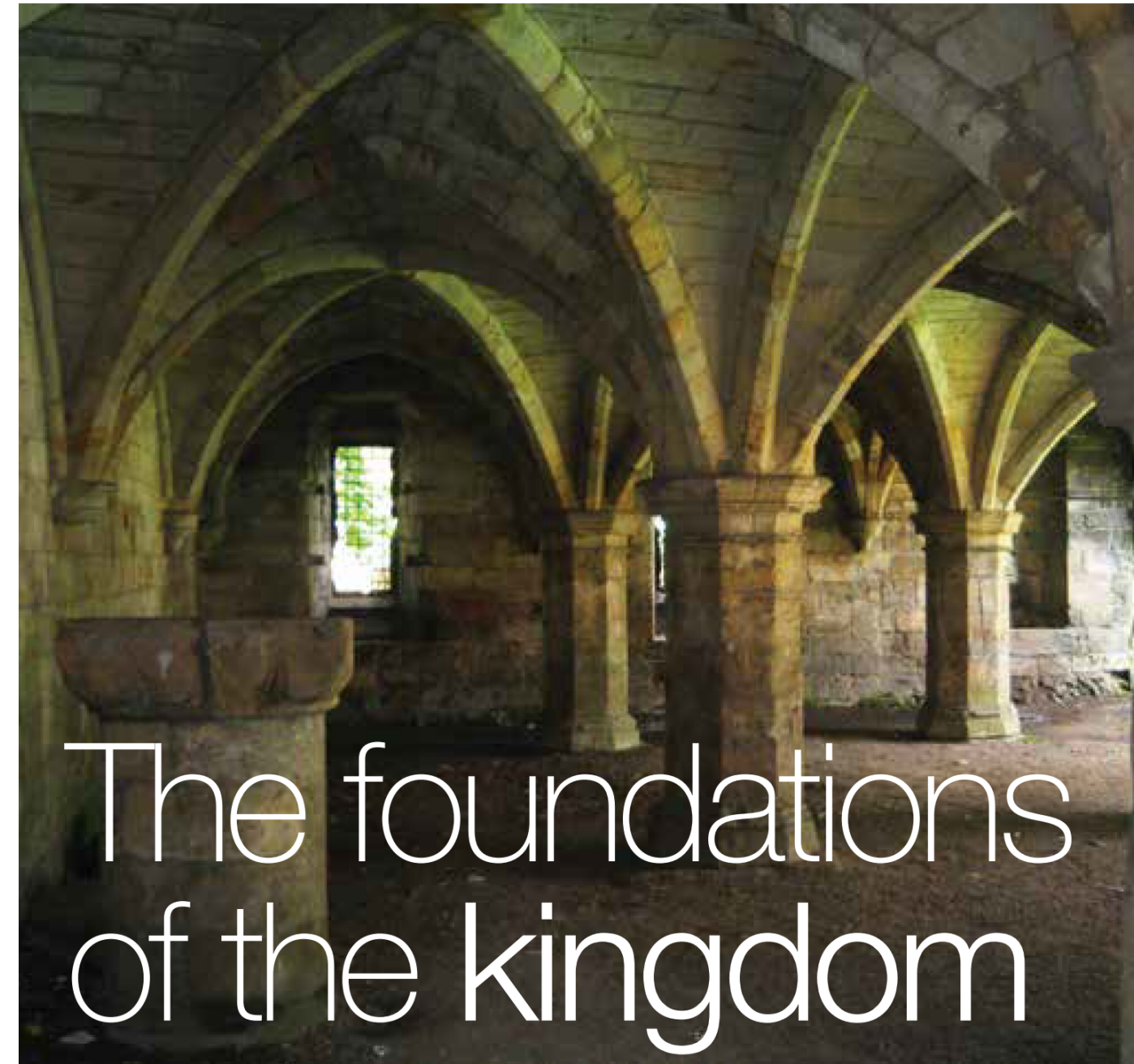
Priest in Charge	Revd. Kevin Wright	priest.tpots@gmail.com	The Rectory, 3 Ash Trees, East Brent, Highbridge, TA9 4DQ	Tel: 01278 760844
Please Note that Friday is the “Vicar’s Day of Rest”. Thank you for your understanding.				
Reader	Nikki Burns	reader.tpots@gmail.com		Tel: 01278 760860
Church Administrator	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



God, the source of all our righteousness, help us to recognise what you are saying to us, to believe, and to act upon it, so that you, and others, may recognise our righteousness and know that we follow you. Amen.

## Leap into Lent

Ricarda Witcombe continues her Lenten series.

Let us take a sideways look at the word “Lent” and think about things that are “lent” to us. It is often hard to lend something precious, for someone else may not take such good care of the thing that is ours. It is an amazing gift to be trusted with something of value. What if

we thought of this season of Lent as an incredibly precious gift of time that is lent to us by God our creator? How might we live differently if we heightened our awareness of who our time belongs to? An ancient Easter prayer to Christ affirms that “All time belongs to you, and all ages.”

As we continue through this Lent, perhaps we might take some moments each day to remind ourselves who we belong to, and of the gift of life that is ours to tend, to share and, ultimately, to return. 🌱

“ Sometimes you have to let go of the picture of what you thought it would be like and learn to find joy in the story you are actually living.

Rachel Marie Martin, author

Heather Smith *reflects on* Genesis 12:1-4a and Romans 4:1-5. 13-17

How would you define a good person? By how they behave, of course. But since outside fairy tales nobody is ever completely good or completely bad, what percentage of a person’s actions must be good for them to be classified as a good person? And, what makes an action good or bad? Is it motivation or outcome?

Ever since Abram left his father’s house in response to God’s call, people have struggled with the idea that it is not our actions that make us righteous, but our belief and trust in God. Abraham, as Abram later became, “believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness”. Belief in God has two consequences – it brings us personal righteousness, and it also enables God to further the kingdom through us.

It is as well that Abraham did not have to rely on his own righteousness. His actions were, at times, far from what we might describe as good. He passed off his wife as his sister in Egypt because he thought his own life would be in danger if Pharaoh realised he was married to this attractive woman. In fact she was also his half-sister – all the best lies have some element of truth in them. Despite it all, though, he believed God and could summon up courage to follow God’s lead and create the foundations of the great story of salvation. 🌱

## International Women’s Day

by Lisa Tulfer

Today is International Women’s Day. First marked in 1911, it was initially about campaigning for women’s right to work without discrimination. It was soon also concerned with the campaign for women’s suffrage. The 1917 protests in Russia, expected to be only minor demonstrations, triggered significant events in the Russian Revolution. Thereafter, Women’s Day was predominantly celebrated by Communist countries for several

decades, until it was adopted by the feminist movement in 1967, and in 1970 was declared an international day by the United Nations.

During its history, it has variously emphasised protest against discrimination and celebrated womanhood, but continues to highlight development issues: equality, discrimination and participation, the impact of war, displacement, sexual violence, and access to education.

Writing for the diocesan website last International Women’s Day, the Rt Revd Rachel Treweek, Bishop of Gloucester, referred to “dignity” and “fulfilling potential” – these are surely what we should be ensuring for all God’s people. 🌱



## Bible Readings

### First Reading

#### Genesis 12. 1 - 4a

Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

### Gospel Reading

#### John 3. 1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?'

'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.'

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.'

'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

### Second Reading

#### Romans 4. 1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.



**#everydayfaith**

**#everydayactions**

**In a traffic jam send peaceful thoughts to your fellow commuters**

*More resources can be found at:*  
<https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/ministry-for-mission/discipleship/everyday-faith/>

### Collect for Today

Almighty God,  
you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness:  
grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion,  
that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession,  
and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;  
through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who is alive 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)

### Annual Meeting of Parishioners and

### Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April after the 10am service in St Mary's.

We will be looking for

- At least one new Warden (all the Wardens are elected year-by-year)
- Some Assistant Wardens;
- Up to eight PCC members;
- A Deanery Synod Representative;
- A Treasurer, assisted by a Stewardship Champion.

**Please pray about these posts.**

**Can you serve the parish in any of these ways, helping to discern God's will and direction?**

**Or do you have a suggestion of someone who has the skills and commitment to serve?**

Revd Kevin Wright



### St. Mary's Church East Brent

Our 12<sup>th</sup> Century Grade 1 Listed Church has a badly leaking roof which is causing considerable damage.

Unless we can make significant repairs the future of our Church is in serious danger.

The estimated cost of repair is in the region of **£130,000** excluding the cost of any unseen damage.

We have already received significant donations and have the possibility of matched funding grants but we need to **show support** from our community by raising in the region of **£40,000**.

Maintenance of St. Mary's is the responsibility of the Parish. The wider Church of England cannot contribute and, unless we can show **local support**, grant funders will **not** consider our application.

**Does St. Mary's presence in the Parish matter to you?  
If so, will you help us?**

Please contact: The Church Office, Church Road, East Brent, TA9 4HZ

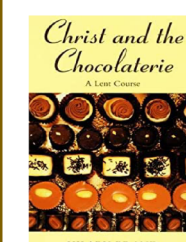
Email: [office.tpots@gmail.com](mailto:office.tpots@gmail.com)

Phone: 01278-769082

St. Mary's East Brent in The Parish of Three Saints. Church of England Registered Charity Number: 1140097

## Christ and the Chocolaterie

A Lent Course based on the film "Chocolat"



5 discussions (maximum 1½ hours), using extracts from the film, relevant Bible passages and the study guide by Hilary Brand to help us to prepare for Easter.



### Saturdays at 9am

at The Rectory, 3 Ash Trees, East Brent  
29<sup>th</sup> Feb; 7<sup>th</sup> Mar; 21<sup>st</sup> Mar; 28<sup>th</sup> Mar; 4<sup>th</sup> April  
Tea/Coffee served from 8.45am

Preliminary viewing of the whole film "Chocolat" (117 minutes):  
Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 9am at The Rectory

All Welcome – see flyers for more details

Details and information: Revd. Kevin Wright [revdkwright@btinternet.com](mailto:revdkwright@btinternet.com) or 01278 760844

**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.

### Volunteers Needed Please!

To reach out to our communities this Easter, we are planning to deliver an Easter Card and a Pastoral Care leaflet, explaining the function of our LPAs, to every house in The Parish of Three Saints.

This might seem like a huge undertaking but, as the saying goes, many hands make light work!

So we are looking for a large number of volunteers to help with this, please. If you feel you could deliver a small pile of cards and leaflets during the week of 22<sup>nd</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> March, please contact Ginnie Soffe at [ginniesoffe@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ginniesoffe@hotmail.co.uk) tel: 07919 441239 or Carole, in the Church Office tel: 01278 769082 by 15<sup>th</sup> March.



Thank you very much to those who have already volunteered. We still need quite a few more!