

## St. Paul's Barton Newsletter 25.02.21

The second of our six week Lent sermon series will be on Sunday when our speaker is Mary Prangnell. Many are using the book by Dave Smith "**40 days with Jesus**" together with additional Bible study materials. The Bible Study notes for **Week 2 "An Eye-opening Encounter"** based on Luke Ch 24 verses 13-35 are below.



### What's Happening

**Thursday 25th February at 7:30pm**

**Bible teaching from Rivi Litvin.**- Purim Study.

To take part please send your email address to [stpaulsbarton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stpaulsbarton@hotmail.co.uk) and you will then receive a Zoom invitation for the session along with an email with a handout for the study from Rivi.

**Sunday 28th February at 10:00am**

**Word & Worship Service** - Speaker: Mary Prangnell.  
Lent series 2 (see above).

**Zoom Coffee at 12 noon** - Contact us for a link.

### 40 Days with Jesus Bible Study Groups

The **Monday Fellowship Group** and the **Tuesday Group** will be meeting for six consecutive weeks. If you would like a Zoom link to either group please contact us.

**Monday Group at 7:30pm** - March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th.

**Tuesday Group at 7:15pm** - March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th.

**Wednesday 3rd March**

**Evening Prayer (at home) 7:30pm.**

If you can, join with us at home as we come before God.

**Readings:** Psalms 3 & 51, Genesis Ch44 v18-34 & Hebrews Ch2 v10-18.

**Collect:**

**Almighty God,  
by the prayer and discipline of Lent  
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,  
and by following in his Way  
come to share in his glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Evening prayer words are on our website.

**Thursday 4th March**

**World Day of Prayer** - See [www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk)

**Saturday 6th March 10:00am -11:00am**

**Prayer for Israel & the Middle East (Zoom)**

Contact us for a link.

**Sunday 7th March at 10:00am**

**Worship & Communion Service** - Rev. Dr Dennis Lloyd.

Lent series 3 "When Jesus Comes In The Midst"

John Ch20 v19-23

**Wednesday 10th March at 7:30pm**

**PCC Standing Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday 24th March at 7:30pm**

**PCC Meeting (Zoom).**

### Sunday Services

Our Sunday services are all streamed live on the church Facebook page and are available to watch later on the church's Facebook page, Website and YouTube channel.

To attend in person you need to book for Sunday services as due to Covid restrictions seating capacity is limited.

**Remember that you must maintain strict social distancing in the church and enter and leave without standing around talking!**

To book contact Ian (see the Church Directory for the number) or text **07947 153 344**.

### After Church Coffee

Join us on Zoom for Coffee at 12:00 noon after the Sunday Service (make your own of course!). Phone or text **07947 153 344** or Email [stpaulsbarton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stpaulsbarton@hotmail.co.uk) for a link.



### Fellowship News

Please continue to remember in your prayers Brenda and Pat A who are both in hospital undergoing tests as well as John and family and Michele and Paul following their bereavements.

### Offering / Giving

If you are part of St. Paul's and have not yet committed to regular giving, we ask you to prayerfully seek God's will regarding this.



Ways to Give:

- **Set up a Standing Order** from your bank, you can request a form from Penny (our treasurer), or download one from our website. Just fill it in and send it to her (details in church directory) or phone her for more details or to arrange for your form to be collected.
- **You can send a cheque**, payable to: **PCC of St. Paul's (Barton Parish)** to Penny.
- If you use online banking, you can give to St. Paul's by **Bank Transfer or by setting up a Standing Order**. Details of the church bank account are:  
Bank: **NatWest Newport Isle of Wight**  
Account Name: **Parochial Church Council of St. Pauls, Barton Parish**  
Sort Code: **54-10-34**  
Account Number: **92513263**

If you are a tax payer and have not filled in a **Gift Aid Form** these are available from Penny or on the church website.

## Bits & Pieces >>>

**Cleaners this week** - This week the church is being cleaned by Penny & Kevin - thank you!

**Technology Update** - This week saw the installation of two high quality screens in the church which will give an improved view of our song words and videos. These will replace our current projector (still going since 2008!) and screen which can now be used elsewhere if required.

Trials of the new set up start on Sunday so please bear with us!



**Radio Star!** - It was great to hear Tina Snow being interviewed by Alan Newman on Radio Solent (9:15am on Wednesday 24th February). The subject was 'Born Blind' and she gave some wonderful answers to anything she was asked. Well done Tina! If you missed it, you can hear the interview or download it (8mins) on the church website Audio Page. Wonder when she'll get her own show?!

<https://www.stpaulsbarton.co.uk/media/>

## Book Review:

The title: ***Anti-Christ Arising Global Chaos and its prophesied Solution*** - written by **Michele Neal**

With a Foreword by The Reverend Charlyne M. Boddie

As a reader, I was hooked immediately beginning with the foreword by Charlyne M. Boddie and the introduction where Michele gives the reason for writing the book.

It can be said, that from beginning to end the contents absorbed my attention. In the light of what the Bible teaches, the author demonstrates profound insight with regard to the signs of the times, we are now living in.

She writes with sincerity, accuracy and boldness while exploring and expounding the biblical solemn warnings of Christ, and the blessed hope which is found in Him alone.

This book is refreshingly realistic, I recommend it to those who are keen to develop a grasp and greater understanding of the serious events, in these strange times we are living in.

The book is an urgent must read!

**Ivan**

Available on Amazon.

## Working towards a new Bishop

### News from the Diocese...

Our vacancy-in-see committee is the group of people from our diocese given specific responsibility to think and pray

about the kind of person who might be appointed as the new Bishop of Portsmouth. We thought you might like to know who these people are, and to pray for their work. Details are below.

Every Wednesday at 8am, one of our clergy or lay people will share a video prayer for our new bishop and the appointment process. You can find it on the Diocese YouTube, Twitter, Facebook or Instagram channels.

### Appointment of a new bishop

*The formal process:* The appointment of a new Church of England diocesan bishop is made by the Queen, on the advice of the Prime Minister.

It starts with a group known as the vacancy-in-see committee, which includes senior clergy and lay people from our diocese. In our case, the Dean of Portsmouth will chair this group and the Diocesan Secretary will be its secretary. It produces a 'statement of need' (similar to a parish profile), which assesses the needs of a diocese.

This is sent to a group called the Crown Nominations Commission, which is chaired by the Archbishop of Canterbury (he chairs these meetings for all diocese in the southern province of the Church of England) and includes six members of the diocese's vacancy-in-see committee and six (three clergy, three lay people) from General Synod. They meet at least twice during each vacancy.

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**OOH, DO THAT BISHOP THING WHERE YOU MOVE DIAGONALLY**

The Commission is likely to consult people in our diocese and across the Church of England, as well as holding interviews for the post. It identifies two candidates suitable for appointment, whose names are submitted - in order of preference - to the Prime Minister. By convention, the Prime Minister submits the first-named person to HM the Queen for approval.

**Vacancy-in-see committee.** These are the people who will be meeting to decide what kind of person our diocese would like as its new bishop. Some of them will also serve on the Crown Nominations Commission, which will interview candidates and choose which names will be submitted to Downing Street for consideration. To contact them, please email: [vacancyinsee@portsmouth.anglican.org](mailto:vacancyinsee@portsmouth.anglican.org)



The members of this group are

The Very Rev Anthony Cane (chair) - Dean of Portsmouth Cathedral.

Victoria James (secretary) - Diocesan Secretary

Rev Paul Armstead - Vicar, St James, Milton Associate Area Dean, Portsmouth.

Canon Lucy Doherty - Holy Trinity and St Columba, Fareham General Synod representative & Cathedral Lay Canon.

Rev Amanda Collinson - Vicar, Northwood and Gurnard, Area Dean Isle of Wight.

Mark Emerton - Vice-chairman, Farlington PCC General Synod representative.

Ven Peter Leonard - Interim Vicar, Newport and Carisbrooke Archdeacon of the Isle of Wight General Synod representative.

Canon Stuart Forster - Crofton parish Chair, Deanery Finance Committee, Bishop's Council member and Cathedral Lay Canon.

**Rev Dozie Moneme - Priest-in-Charge, St Paul's Church, Barton, Isle of Wight.**

Canon Sarah McCarthy-Fry - Treasurer, St Saviour, Shanklin, Chair, Deanery Finance Committee.

Ven Jenny Rowley - Archdeacon of Portsdown

Canon Hilary Spurgeon - Reader, Binstead and Havenstreet with Wootton, Bishop's Council member, Cathedral Lay Canon Emeritus.

Rev Kim Weeks - Associate minister, North End Team Ministry, Portsmouth.

Canon Debbie Sutton - St Jude's Church, Southsea, Chair, House of Laity, Diocesan Synod, Cathedral Lay Canon.

Canon Bob White - Vicar, St Mary's, Fratton, Chair, House of Clergy, Diocesan Synod, General Synod representative.

## Your help in selecting a new Bishop

### Diocesan update...

The announcement of Bishop Christopher's retirement began the Vacancy in See process which will ultimately see a new Bishop of Portsmouth appointed. This is an important and significant time for our diocese.

We would therefore like to you to pray in your church communities, and as individuals for Bishop Christopher and his wife Sally as they prepare for retirement, and also for the Vacancy in See committee as they undertake the work to produce the Statement of Needs for the Diocese.

**The Vacancy in See committee wants to hear from as wide a range of people from across our diocese with regard to our needs, and the skills we wish to see in the next Bishop of Portsmouth.**

**To aid this process, the Vacancy in See Committee is asking people to respond to a set of questions. Please fill in the short survey here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScbVBRKdH1HBWJXf7fBzvLcyvdhqWB4zTCuykv5iRtYlgacMA/viewform>**

**by noon on 10th March 2021. These will be collated to support the work of the Vacancy in See Committee.**

The main meeting of the Vacancy in See Committee will take place on 11th March 2021 at 4pm. At this meeting the Committee will elect, from its membership, six individuals to represent the diocese on the Crown Nominations Committee (CNC). Those six individuals will join national representatives on the CNC and that group will take forward the process for discerning who should be the next Bishop of Portsmouth.

## Worth A Look - Tree of Life Ministries Israel

**Heal Our Land**  
A SPECIAL TIME OF PRAYER FOR THE ENDING OF ABORTION AND FOR REVIVAL IN ISRAEL

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE GLOBAL LIVESTREAM FROM ISRAEL  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3RD**

EVERY DAY IN ISRAEL, OVER 100 CHILDREN ARE KILLED BY ABORTION - OVER 2 MILLION SINCE THE BIRTH OF MODERN ISRAEL IN 1948. WE HAVE TO STOP THIS INJUSTICE!

By God's grace, we'll soon begin a massive advertising campaign in order to spread the truth about abortions and help women and men choose life and find forgiveness and healing in Jesus, Yeshua.

Please join us and other believers in Israel and from around the world as we pray that God will break through and bring life to Israel! You're invited to also join us in fasting on that day, if the Lord lays it on your heart.

The event will include worship, a review of the situation in Israel and God's heart on the topic, testimonies, the first viewing of a new video, and of course - lots of prayer!

EVENT LINK:  
The link will remain available for those who would like to watch the event and pray afterwards.

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=UwLkMm8t8r8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UwLkMm8t8r8)

**WEEK 02 SMALL GROUP**  
AN EYE OPENING JOURNEY

40 DAYS WITH JESUS

### INTRO

In this session we are going to look at the appearance of Jesus on the road to Emmaus and consider these two principles:

- Our vision of Jesus **can be blurred**
- Our vision of Jesus **can be corrected**

### BRING YOUR BIBLES

Read aloud **Luke 24:13-35**, encouraging everyone to follow along in their own Bibles. The more translations the better as each may highlight something different.

Now allow the whole group the opportunity to share what stood out anew to them and why.

### QUESTIONS

- [If your church are running the 40 Days with Jesus sermons]* What particularly impacted you from Sunday's message?
- [If you are using the small group videos instead]* What particularly impacted you from this week's message?
- What is the mood of the disciples at the beginning of

this passage? How has their vision of Jesus become blurred? *Note to leader: By despair (vv17–18), by disappointment (v21), by doubt (vv22–24).*

4. God is not distant in our despair, but comes to meet us right in the midst of it. Have you experienced particular times in your life when, looking back, you realise Jesus' presence was with you but you didn't recognise Him?
5. In verses 25–27 how does Jesus begin to 'correct the disciples' vision'? How often do we look to God's Word in our daily lives to help us correct our own vision?
6. Read verse 32. How is our experience of reading the Scriptures so often different? Why might this be?
7. In verse 29 we read that the disciples responded to the presence of Jesus by pleading with Him to stay. In contrast, read the extract from an interview with Duncan Bannatyne (below) and discuss how his encounter with God impacts you.

In his book *Anyone Can Do It*, Bannatyne shares about a close encounter he had with God while in Romania – just after seeing the plight of the local people. He writes:

For me the tears came at about ten o'clock that night. I went outside and found a quiet place at the side of the house. I couldn't stop the tears, my face was wet, my nose began to run and I was a mess. I had no choice but to let the tears flow; and they just kept pouring out of me and wouldn't stop. After many minutes I began to get the feeling that I wasn't alone. It was there and then that God said hello. I felt that I had been consumed by this presence, that something had completely shrouded and taken hold of me. It was unmistakable: I knew who had come and I also knew why. It wasn't a spiritual thing, it was a Christian thing, and I felt I was being told, 'you've arrived, join the faith, be a Christian, this is it'. It was profound, and I stood there, stunned, considering the offer and thinking about what it would mean. I knew I wanted to keep on building up my businesses and I wanted to keep making money, and I also knew I wanted to carry on doing all the things I wasn't proud of – I knew I was never going to be this totally Christian guy going to church on Sundays. So I said, 'No, I'm not ready.' And God said, 'OK,' and disappeared.

Although he admits he's not ready for the full-on 'Christian thing', Bannatyne says he believes there is a God. He is quoted by *The Mayfair Times* as stating, 'I know that, because I met Him and we'll all answer to Him one day – there's no doubt about it.'

8. Jesus continued to reveal Himself to the disciples by eating with them. Compare Luke 24:30–31 with Genesis 3:1–7. What are the differences between these two accounts? What had the disciples' eyes now been opened to? What is the significance of this on our relationship with God?

### SHARE YOUR STORY

You can discuss the following questions together as one group or, if individuals prefer, you could split into groups of twos or threes.

9. **How have you come to know Jesus better** over recent weeks through our fresh consideration of the cross, and Jesus' amazing sacrifice. Share together your thoughts as to why Jesus is special to you.
10. **How do you approach the Bible?** Do you use it as a moral guide or for encouragement? How much is it about building the portrait and revealing the personality of our Lord Jesus Christ? Have you had times when reading it made your heart burn within (Luke 24:32)?
11. **How much do you want Jesus' presence to stay with you?** The disciples urged Him strongly to stay with them (Luke 24:29). Are you hungry for more of the Spirit of Jesus in your life? What would it mean for you to invite Him in afresh?

### PRAY TOGETHER

Take the time to invite the Holy Spirit, perhaps begin with prayers of worship and thanksgiving, then you may choose to follow these suggestions for specific prayer:

You could pray:

- for individuals [name them in your hearts if not aloud] in your neighbourhoods or networks who do not know Jesus. Pray that their eyes would be opened to see Him
- against the blinding that Satan causes
- for people to see God through the works of Christians and the Church
- for individuals in the group who need eye-opening guidance
- that every person in your group would see Jesus afresh today
- that when you read and study the Bible in the future, you will know a fresh sense of Jesus' presence opening up the Scriptures to you personally, as He did with those disciples on the road to Emmaus.

