

Beacon



www.beaconbenefice.org.uk

Light

Online

...linking the Beacon Parishes

Sunday 22nd August - 12th Sunday after Trinity

11.00am	Painswick	Beacon Praise
11.00am	Pitchcombe	Holy Communion (BCP)
	<i>Followed by burial of ashes of the late Marjorie Bettley</i>	
	<i>Please note later starting time</i>	
11.00am	Sheepscombe	Holy Communion
6.30pm	Cranham	Evening Worship

A message from Bishop Robert

One of the delights of these last few weeks has been to begin, slowly and cautiously to meet again with others in person, sharing worship, discussion, but perhaps most importantly simply building and renewing relationship, having conversations about how it has been, how we are, how those closest to us are. We have comforted one another in loss and encouraged each other as we seek to shape how we will live now. It has been refreshing and renewing and surprisingly beautiful. Perhaps that should not be surprising, after all one of the things we are called to do as Christians is to rejoice in the beauty of the Church, and the Church is the body of Christ, with all of its different members, connected to and serving the communities in which we are placed, witnessing to the love of God in Jesus Christ.

The beauty of the Church is seen in the relationships we share with God, in Jesus Christ, with each other and all among whom we live, something made visible each time we celebrate the Eucharist together. This is why these weeks have been beautiful. I have met with some of our Bishops Visitors who build up the family of our Church Schools, with Readers connecting church and community, preaching, teaching, caring, with licenced clergy working in parishes and chaplaincies and fresh expressions, with teachers educating our children for life in its fullness, with our retired clergy who give so much, with Pastoral Assistants, Youth Ministers, with lay leaders and all who serve in communities across the diocese, and the list could go on. A glorious diversity of people, lay and ordained, who make up the body of Christ who have caused my heart to sing. But this is not all, I have met with those engaged in a reading project supporting and encouraging children in some of our more deprived communities, and with children delighting in reading, with leaders in our statutory and voluntary sectors, in education, childcare, local government and more and this too has made my heart sing as I have seen the commitment that underlies their work to build up community and I have been deeply encouraged here also.

These are challenging times, the pandemic is by no means over, many are tired and there is much to do to shape our future as a Church and as a society, but I have been reminded that we are not alone, it does not depend just on me, or on you, but we build our Church and community together.

As we look to what Bishop Rachel and I hope will be for all of us a different and renewing rhythm of life in these coming weeks, I have been reminded to be thankful and to place my trust and confidence in God.

For thus says the Lord God... In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and trust shall be your strength. Isaiah 30: 15

Readings

Collect

God of constant mercy,
who sent your Son to save us:
remind us of your goodness,
increase your grace within us,
that our thankfulness may grow,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm 84

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!
My soul longs, indeed it faints
for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,
at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.

Happy are those whose strength is in you,
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

As they go through the valley of Baca they make it a place of springs;
the early rain also covers it with pools.

They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob!
Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed.

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than live in the tents of wickedness.

For the LORD God is a sun and shield; he bestows favour and honour.

No good thing does the LORD withhold from those who walk uprightly.

O LORD of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

The Gospel according to John 6.56-69

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.' He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, 'This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?' But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, 'Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, 'For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.'

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, 'Do you also wish to go away?' Simon Peter answered him, 'Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Jesus asks the twelve if they wish to leave. Peter answers that there is nowhere to go; Jesus gives the word of eternal life. As we know, it is easy to turn to sources other than Jesus for sustenance. As Jesus says, those things – that is, the flesh – are useless.

Are we sustaining ourselves in spirit?

Are we taking Jesus' words, the words of eternal life, and feasting on them?

Beacon People

Our prayers are asked for all who are sick, especially **Richard Garrett, Andrea Linsell, and Jenipher Pritchard**. Pray for all those people, whether they are relatives or friends, who care for the sick and disabled in their own homes and for those undergoing cancer treatment at this time.

We remember also all the charities which this benefice supports, including Christian Aid, Marah, OneLife/PSALMS, Stroud Foodbank and The Vine Project and all from our churches and villages who work in the NHS and in care homes.

We also remember before God all who have died recently, especially **Reigh Sutton**, as well as all whose anniversaries of death fall at this time.

Notices

This Sunday's **BCP Communion Service at Pitchcombe will be at 11am.** Please note the change of time on this occasion. Following the service, the ashes of Marjorie Bettley, Pitchcombe's much-loved late organist, will be laid to rest in the churchyard.

~~~~~

**Next Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup>** will be the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month and we shall be returning to our practice of holding a **Benefice Eucharist at 10am.** The service will take place in St. Mary's, which is large enough to allow for social distancing with a benefice congregation. Please do come along – all are welcome. This will be our first benefice service since the start of the pandemic and it will be good to see everyone together once more.

~~~~~

A **Thanksgiving Service for the life of Frances (known as Frankie) Marsh** who died in March 2021 will take place at St Mary's Church at **12 noon on Tuesday 14th September.** All are welcome for this celebration- no black, please, at Frankie's request!

~~~~~

Edge is having a **Poetry and Music evening on September 18th at 7.30pm.** Due to the fire in Edge Church Pitchcombe have kindly agreed to let us have it there. The programme is celebrating Gloucestershire Poets. David Ashbee and Harvey Sagar will read some of their own Poetry and Paul Smith will play the organ. Tickets are £10 which includes a programme and Ploughman's Supper with wine or soft drinks. Tickets are available from Ann Kennett 01452812669 or [a.kennett279@gmail.com](mailto:a.kennett279@gmail.com) Hope to see you there.

~~~~~

Sources of help :

Cranham Covid-19 Community Response Team: The initial contact for Cranham residents is: nigelrobincooper@gmail.com Tel: 07973 340227

St. Mary's Pastoral Link system: Anyone who is self-isolating or unable to get out, we can help you by getting shopping, prescriptions etc. Please contact Delyth Allen (St. Mary's Pastoral Link Coordinator) on 813182 or 07854262517 or email delyth_allen@hotmail.co.uk

Painswick Community Support: The Painswick Covid-19 Community Support initiative set up in March will be providing ongoing community support for Painswick with the same telephone number but an updated e-mail address. If you need support, please contact 07956 203087 or painswickcommunity@gmail.com

~~~~~

## Weekday Worship

**Thursday weekly :** 9.30am Morning Prayer via Zoom from Sheepscombe  
*If you would like to join in or would like a copy of the service sheet please email Karen Riding [kriding07@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kriding07@yahoo.co.uk).*

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month:** 11am. Holy Communion at Richmond Village  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month:** 10.30am Morning Prayer at Richmond Village  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month:** 11.00am Holy Communion at Resthaven

~~~~~

Services next Sunday 29th August - 13th Sunday after Trinity

10.00am Painswick
Holy Communion for the Beacon Family of Churches

Contacts

Rector: Revd. Janet Turville Tel:01452 245526 Email: janetbeacon6@gmail.com

Associate Priest: Revd. Andrew Leach Tel: 07564 448692 Email: ajpleach@gmail.com

Website: www.beaconbenefice.org.uk

Information for the next Beacon Light Online to ajpleach@gmail.com by **Tuesday 5pm at the latest**, please.

and Finally...

Seen in a pewsheet: “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget all His benefits.”