

ADVERTISEMENTS

Following the resignation of our independent examiner we are looking for someone to take up this voluntary position for the 2020 accounts and onwards. The accounts and record books are usually ready for inspection by mid-February and need to be reviewed before the APCM, usually at the end of March / beginning of April. No qualifications are required other than a sound financial understanding. If you, or anyone you know would be willing to carry out this small but essential role, then either Pat Rushmere or Caroline Gulliver would be delighted to hear from you.

ONE CAN TRUST

The (plastic) One Can Trust donation box outside the church was removed just before Christmas. All donations have now been delivered & were gratefully received. Thank you to all who donated items which will have helped struggling families at this time. We will let you know when the collection service will resume.

This Week you are Asked to Pray For:

- Those in the parish and further afield who are sick or in need that they receive peace and healing, including: Irene Foord, Mary Mines, Helena Oecken, Ian Wilson, Ron Goodearl, Ian Goodearl, Phillipa King, Jenny King, Beryl Palmer and Sally Zeybek.
- The recently departed, including Jill Baker, may their souls rest in peace. And for their families at this difficult time.
- All parts of the world affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19), those who are ill with the virus and those caring for them. For our own country where infection rates have been rapidly increasing in recent weeks and the health services as they work to cope with increasing numbers of hospital cases.
- For the country of South Africa, for the people of Cape Town and Diocese of Kimberly and Kuruman including our linked parish of St. Mary's Kuruman.

Key Contacts:

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PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, LACEY GREEN



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing
SUNDAY 10TH JANUARY 2021
BAPTISM OF CHRIST

FOCUS ON... THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

In St. Mark's account of the Baptism of Jesus. John the Baptist has been out in the wild places around the River Jordan for a while. He offers a ministry of repentance, a new start. The Gospels tell us that John himself knows that he is only the beginning of something. The ancient prophecies speak of a forerunner, one whose presence and preaching will show that the Kingdom of God is coming. With the benefit of many years of reflection on the events which the evangelists describe, that is how the Gospels present John to us, as the one who paves the way for the arrival of Jesus. And so Jesus appears among the crowds and is Baptised by John. John's ministry comes to an end, and the public ministry of Jesus begins. We are told that as he is Baptised Jesus sees the sky open up and the Spirit come down like a dove. And that Jesus hears a voice, saying, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." The next time these words will be spoken will be on the mountain of Transfiguration when Jesus has been teaching his disciples about his mission and destiny. These are key moments, then, as Jesus begins his ministry, and as he prepares himself and his followers for his saving death. And later still, as Jesus dies on the cross, God's words are echoed by the Roman centurion "Truly this man was God's Son." Mark is telling his readers very specifically that it is in his saving death, that the destiny of Jesus as God's chosen one is most completely fulfilled. Through our own Baptism, we become members of God's family, welcomed at God's table, belonging to a community which transcends both Time and Space, which is within and beyond both history and geography. Through Jesus' solidarity with us, expressed through his Baptism by John the Baptist, we see that heaven and earth are intertwined. And so, even now, in the ordinariness and plainness of our everyday lives, we may every so often catch a glimpse of the Kingdom of God.

Canon Tony Bundock

Weekly Services:

SUNDAY

10:00 am GMT *No Service*

11:00 am GMT On-line Morning Worship with Hymns on Zoom

TUESDAY

9:30 am GMT On-line Morning Worship on Zoom

WORSHIP IN CHURCH – UPDATE

Buckinghamshire is now in **Tier 5** which is in effect a third National Lockdown. Current Guidance is where churches decide to do so and it has been judged safe, collective worship is still permitted. However, the PCC has decided that with immediate effect, in-church collective worship will be suspended for the present. This will be reviewed by the PCC later in the month or as and when Guidance changes. This decision has been made to protect our congregation due to increasing infection rates in Buckinghamshire including with the new more transmissible strain of Covid-19. (The other churches in the Risborough Team are also suspending in-church services during January.)

We will continue to hold an On-line Morning Worship Service with Hymns on Sundays (this Sunday it will be at 11:00 am GMT). The Tuesday morning service will be replaced with an On-line Celtic Morning Prayer service at 09:30 am GMT. We will also be opening the church for private prayer on two days during the week. Days of the week and times to follow.

COLLECT FOR THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed Him to be Your Son, anointing Him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever, *Amen*.

READINGS FOR THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST

Genesis Ch. 1 VV. 1 – 5

Acts Ch. 19 VV. 1 – 7

Mark. Ch. 1 VV. 4 – 11



MORNING WORSHIP ON THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST (1ST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY)

This Sunday's Online Morning Worship service on Zoom will be led by Canon Tony from with assistance from Graham King and start at **11:00 am GMT**. Details are being supplied in the email sending out this Pew Sheet, and are as follows:

Topic: Morning Prayer with Hymns
Time: Jan 10, 2021 11:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79406710921?pwd=VnI1QnVOWnJsbUJCby9EenpHVnBwUT09>

Meeting ID: 794 0671 0921

Passcode: DWjn6t

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PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

(THIS SUNDAY THE INTERCESSIONS HAVE BEEN PREPARED BY PAT RUSHMERE)

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
we ask you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies
in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments;
that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever,
we may be preserved in body and soul;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all evermore. Amen

