

## 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

We are pleased to confirm that Caroline has reinstated the One Can donation box outside the Church so that we can resume making our gifts to this worthy cause. Caroline will continue to take what has been collected on our behalf and deliver it to the main collection centre. Thanks very much to everyone who continues to support this cause.

### *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, Sally Zeybek and Genevieve Hurrell.
- The recently departed, 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 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021**  
**SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT**

### FOCUS ON... THE TRANSFIGURATION

The Transfiguration of Jesus on the mountain top, is one of the most important events of the Gospels, yet it is only witnessed by three disciples – Peter, James and John. The contrast of this episode as it appears in St. Mark's narrative with the breathless, earthy narrative of the rest of Mark's Gospel is striking. It seems as if this transcendent Jesus appears to them to be quite different from the person the disciples have so far been following. Yet this event is of vital importance to ensure that they do not miss the divinity at the heart of the humanity. The writer of the Gospel seems to be telling his readers that this is a special insight, one that only those who are especially close to Jesus can perceive. Even then, they need to be taken out of their usual context to see something that, in fact, has been right before their eyes all the time – the truth of who Jesus really is.

There is more than a sense in which we ourselves do have times in our life of faith in which we have mountain top experiences. After which we inevitably have to descend to the plain of our ordinary everyday lives. But we are invited and encouraged to use those mountain top experiences, when they do come to us, as opportunities to get a fresh perspective about Jesus and where he may be found in our world and in our own lives; in the good, the bad, and even the ugly! The Canadian poet and singer Leonard Cohen has a line in his song, "Anthem": "There's a crack, a crack, in everything – it's where the light gets in." It transpires that the cracks in our lives are really important, because so often that is when we can see things clearly, when we can get a truer perspective on what really matters. Look for the cracks, then, as your journey of faith unfolds; and see what they reveal to you about Jesus the Light of the World and where he is at work in the world and in your own life. Then listen and follow. Remain faithful to our Lord and answer the call to trust in his greater purposes.

*Canon Tony Bundock*

#### *Weekly Services:*

SUNDAY

10:00 am GMT On-line Morning Worship with Hymns on Zoom

TUESDAY

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

# WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S

Buckinghamshire remains 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, although the latest Guidance from the Bishop strongly encourages churches to suspend collective worship in church and switch to on-line services. However, the PCC has decided that in-church collective worship will be suspended for the present. This decision has been made to protect our congregation due to high 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.) It is currently expected that this arrangement will continue until further notice.

We will continue to hold an On-line Morning Worship Service with Hymns on Sundays (at 10:00 am GMT for the rest of January and into February). The Tuesday morning service has been 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 (Tuesday Morning from 10:00 to 10:30 am and Thursday Evening from 7:00 to 7:30 pm).

## COLLECT FOR THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever, *Amen*.



## READINGS FOR 1 BEFORE LENT

2 Kings Ch. 2 VV. 1 – 12  
2 Corinthians Ch. 4 VV. 3 – 6  
Mark Ch. 9 VV. 2 – 9

## PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK (THIS SUNDAY THE INTERCESSIONS WILL BE LED BY PAT RUSHMERE)



Lord of life, truth and grace, bring all creation to delight in your peace. Spirit of truth, come to your Church. Fill us with love for the Father and the Son and in line with Christian teachings of faith, hope and love Let us all be guided to help one another.

Spirit of truth come to all who are weary and carrying heavy burdens. We pray for a world damaged by the Coronavirus pandemic. We pray for the safety and protection of all key workers, in the NHS and elsewhere, and for the children, the young people, the elderly and the vulnerable.

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

## MORNING WORSHIP ON THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

This Sunday's Online Morning Worship service on Zoom will be led by Canon Tony with assistance from Graham King. The Address will be given by Canon Nick Molony. The service will start at 10:00 am GMT. Details are being supplied in the email sending out this Pew Sheet, and are as follows:

Topic: Morning Prayer with Hymns  
Time: Feb 14, 2021 10:00 AM London  
Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71729717895?pwd=enpGbUk4ME0wVnMwcnp2bmFOcVV3UT09>  
Meeting ID: 717 2971 7895  
Passcode: Kw08R4



(if copying the above into your internet browser window, you need to type in all of the text in blue as a single entry without a space – it has been split into two for formatting purposes.)

## Ash Wednesday Service

This year's Ash Wednesday Service will be held at 7:30 pm on 17<sup>th</sup> February. It is currently expected that this service will be broadcast from St. John's on Zoom (on-line attendance only), kindly arranged by Gavin Mole. Details to follow shortly.

## LENT COURSE

This year's Lent Study course as adopted by Churches Together in Risborough will be based on the book "Singing in Babylon" by Jeff Lucas. The 5 sessions will be weekly and online; and the St. John's sessions will be Thursday afternoons at 2.30 pm starting on 25<sup>th</sup> February. The book costs £7.99.

If you have ordered a book from St. Mary's via Canon Tony, payment is requested by bank transfer to the St. John's Church Account (or pass on a cheque to St. John's if preferred). St. John's has been requested to make a single payment to St. Mary's for all the books ordered.

Sort Code is: 40-24-17.  
Account number is: 72102986  
Account name: Parochial Church Council of St. John's

