NOTICES / DIARY DATES

Event	Date and time	Venue
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 16 th February (8:45 am)	Holy Trinity, Bledlow
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 23 rd February (8:45 am)	St. Mary's, Princes Risborough
Team Morning Prayer	Wednesday 2 nd March (8:45 am)	St. Dunstan's, Monks Risborough
Ash Wednesday Service** (Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes)	Wed. 2 nd March (7:00 pm)	St. John's Lacey, Green
Meeting of the PCC Standing Committee	Tuesday 8 th March (7:30 pm)	TBC

** Please return last year's Palm Crosses for burning to form the ash to be used at this Service.

FINANCIAL POSITION AT ST JOHN'S

Our draft accounts for the year ended 31^{st} December 2021 indicate a deficit for the year of around £2,000 (equivalent to an average of around £40 per week). The initial draft budget for the year ended 31^{st} December 2022 suggests that the deficit for the current year would be likely to be over £3,000 (equivalent to an average of around £60 per week) unless we take firm action to address the situation. More details to follow next week.

LENT STUDY COURSE

Churches Together Lent Study course this year is based on the book "Sharing the Easter Story" by Sally James. This is available to order online at £8.95. If you are not able to order online, please ask Tony to obtain a copy for you. The St. John's study sessions will be on Tuesday afternoons at 2.30pm commencing 8^{th} March.

Key Contacts:

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Team Rector:	Rev. David Williams	01844 346984
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PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, LACEY GREEN



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing SUNDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2022 **3RD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

WELCOME TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

You are warmly welcomed to St. John's Church, particularly if you are new to our congregation or are a visitor. This Sunday the 10:00 am service will be led by Canon Tony.

WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S

- Wearing masks in church is requested apart from for the choir when singing, for those leading worship and during actual receipt of Holy Communion. The congregation are requested to wear masks when moving around in Church, maintain social distancing and sanitise their hands.
- We are proposing to have both the Old Testament and Epistle Lessons during 10:00 am Sunday services from the beginning of March.
- Singing of hymns in Church during the sung services will continue. The congregation can continue to join in the singing of hymns, but to do so wearing their masks.
- Holy Communion will continue in one kind only for the time being and will be administered from the area in front of the chancel step. We are proposing to offer, for those who wish it, hosts intincted by the Celebrant at the 10:00 am Sunday services from early March.
- The Peace will continue for the time being to be observed discreetly and following social distancing protocols.
- The congregation are asked to observe social distancing as far as possible and the Lady Chapel area will be set aside as a <u>mandatory</u> social distancing area for those who feel they need to socially distance themselves from others. Please respect this.
- We are proposing to serve coffee after the 10:00 am Service on Sundays from the beginning of March.

Weekly Services:

SUNDAY

8:00 am	In-church Said BCP Communion Service (1 st & 3 rd Sun)
10:00 am	In-church Parish Communion Service with Hymns

TUESDAY

9:30 am In-church Said Parish Communion Service

FOCUS ON..... THE BEATITUDES

The Beatitudes are a series of blessings to be found in a long passage of teaching by Jesus in Saint Matthew's Gospel known as the Sermon on the Mount; together with a similar passage of teaching in Saint Luke's Gospel known as the Sermon on the Plain in which four blessing are followed by four woes. Just as Moses taught the people of Israel from the mountain after he had received the Commandments, so it is that Saint Matthew's version of events tells us that Jesus begins his ministry by going up a mountain and teaching his disciples. So then, these are the eight Beatitudes as the Church has received them:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are those who suffer persecution for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

The Beatitudes are complex. It has been said that they are hard to live out. But they are also very beautiful. They describe what it means to live by a set of standards, callings, and attitudes, that go way beyond simply the observation of rules or the keeping of the law. This indeed is what life looks like for us when we seek to be truly Christ-like by following the three "C's" of being courageous, contemplative, and compassionate. In order to follow Jesus and live the Christian life we need to enter into, and immerse ourselves in, the challenging world of the Beatitudes.

Canon Tony Bundock

COLLECT FOR 3RD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; 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 3RD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Jeremiah Ch. 17 VV. 5 – 10 1 Corinthians Ch. 15 VV. 12 – 20

Luke Ch. 6 VV. 17 – 26

PRAYER CHAIN PRAYERS

(This Sunday Service's Intercessions Led by JUNE BRAZIER)



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.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER FOR 3RD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Merciful Father, who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life, that those who come to Him should never hunger: draw us to the Lord in faith and love, that we may eat and drink with Him at His table in the kingdom, where He is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

This Week you are Asked to Fray for:

- Those in the parish and further afield who are sick or in need that they receive peace and healing, including: Mary Mines, Helena Oecken, Ian Wilson, Ron Goodearl, Ian Goodearl, Phillipa King, Sally Zeybek, Doug Tilbury, Don White, Pat Syrett, Sally Smith and Marina Eldridge. Also, Margaret Karstens of Kuruman.
- The recently departed. May their souls rest in peace. We pray for their families and friends at this difficult time.
- Kelly Safaris Silva and her family who are currently in need at this time.
- We pray for the people of the Tongan archipelago following the recent major volcanic eruption and tsunami and for the various aid organisations bringing relive to its people.
- All parts of the world affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19), those who are ill with the virus and those caring for them. Particularly praying for countries where infection rates are very high and the hospitals are struggling to cope.
- 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.

