

ST PETER'S PARKSTONE



FOCUSED ON GOD - SPEAKING OF JESUS - CARING ABOUT PEOPLE

The First Sunday of Lent

Sunday 21st February - Lent 1

10.00am Parish Eucharist on YouTube

11.15am Coffee over Zoom

Monday 22nd February

10.00am Pray 4 the Week at home

Tuesday 23rd February - Polycarp

7.00pm "Lent Experience" on Zoom

Wednesday 24th February

10.00am St Peter's open for private prayer until 12 noon

Sunday 28th February - Lent 2

10.00am Parish Eucharist on YouTube

11.15am Coffee over Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/7646181697?pwd=Lzq2aVZFVFUrRGZqWIAzaG01czlDdz09>

Meeting ID: 764 618 1697 / Passcode: Dibley

St Peter's Church is now open for private prayer each Wednesday morning between 10 am - 12 noon.

Collect for the First Sunday of Lent

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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.

Please remember in your prayers this week:

Mission Prayer: Our Mission prayer for this month is for Fairtrade, we pray for the continuing supply of Fairtrade goods that we can all choose to buy. Help support those who need the fair income generated by this policy and encourage those who work so hard to help support themselves and their families.

All those in need at this time, including Alice, Dexter, Nancy, Erik, Carol, Betty, Beverley, Bidy, Iris, Carlo, Natalia, Josie, Erica, Pat, Deborah, Pat, Ione, Muriel, Valerie and family, Margaret, Julie, Margaret, Claudine, Sarah, Helen, Rosemary.

Those who have died: Eileen Smith, Derek Bye.

Anniversaries of death: Cyril Heath, Coro Stone, Gwynneth Walkley Harris, baby Woody Watkins, Peter Wright.

The Residents and Staff of Ashley Court, Alexandra House, Hillsdon Nursing Home and Regency Manor and also those at Homelake House.

Rector's ramblings...

W/C 22nd Feb - this week's highlights (in addition to my daily rhythm of prayer and service preparation) as you may want to pray for the work of our parish:

Monday: email correspondence, service planning and administration catchup. Tuesday: 7pm 'The Lent Experience' on Zoom. Wednesday: filming, followed by planning and preparations for Easter. Thursday: filming and editing various online content. Friday: the funeral of Derek Bye at Harbour View.

Lent 2021

Our Lent opportunities continue with

- “The Lent Experience” on Zoom on Tuesdays at 7pm (e-mail revdmike@stpetertsparkstone.org.uk for the link if you'd like to join) and
- the weekly all-age devotional activity (this week's is attached in the accompanying e-mail)

Hot Cross Bun Trail

To brighten up people's daily walk and to provide a fun activity for families, a number of local churches in East Poole are organising a “Hot Cross Bun Trail” around their parishes during Holy Week. The idea is that people will print out and colour in / decorate the attached image of a hot crossed bun and display it at their home somewhere where it will be visible to people walking pass in the street.

The churches will send out details of the roads in which the hot cross buns are being displayed to all their members and anyone who wants to can then go round and identify which houses in the relevant roads hot cross buns are displayed.

If you would like to display a hot cross bun at your home, please do the following:

- e-mail holyangelschurch@btinternet.com by **Monday 15th March at the latest** so a list of roads in which hot cross buns will be displayed can be compiled in time for churches to send out to their members. Please give your house/flat number and road name so we know where hot cross buns will be displayed.
- Print out and decorate your hot cross bun and then display it so it can be seen from the street from **Palm Sunday, 28th March** until Sunday 11th April.

“Praying and Fasting for Climate Justice on the First Day of Each Month”

With our churches still closed, please, set aside midday on Monday, 1st March, to be in spirit with The Climate Justice Prayer Group to pray for those around God's world whose lives are being wrecked by bereavement, loss of homes and livelihood, all caused by the destructive effects of climate change: flooding, drought, uncontrollable fires, cyclones, tsunami, and rising sea levels.

We'll be praying for people of Dhauliganga in the Himalayas in North India whose lives were overwhelmed on 8th February when it's thought climate change caused a glacier to break. The water of the lake it had been holding back tore through the valley, destroying everything in its way. 14 people were killed and 150 were missing under the mud flow. Let's continue to pray also for those threatened by rising sea levels in many Pacific islands, like The Maldives, where homes and businesses may soon be swamped, making these islands uninhabitable.

Here, in the UK, we'll continue to pray for families in Bedfordshire, Glamorgan and Herefordshire who had to be evacuated from the homes on Christmas Day when they were flooded by Storm Bella's torrential rains. Also, the 2000 people who were evacuated on 19th/20th January from their homes in areas of Manchester and Bangor-on-Dee in North Wales when they were flooded by Storm Christoph.

Let's remember also the people of Australia once again facing excessive temperatures of 40+ and uncontrollable fires threatening homes and businesses; and by contrast the people of Texas and the Southern States of the USA where a state of emergency has been declared after being hit by deadly snow storms on 15th February killing, 15 people and destroying electricity supplies for 250,000 people.

Bring to mind and pray for any people you may have heard about in the news whose lives have been badly affected by severe weather conditions.

Understandably, the Coronavirus pandemic continues to dominate the news, so we may not hear about many around the world who are suffering from the effects of climate change.

Let's pray also for our national and international leaders who have the power to make decisions which can reduce the human causes of climate change, especially those planning at this critical time for the Glasgow Climate Change Summit in November 2021. Pray, too, for yourself that you will be guided by God to do all you can to care for the wonderful gift of creation; and help to reduce the human causes of global warming.