

Prayer

Prayer and Healing Ministry

As a Church Family, God calls us to “pray without ceasing” for one another and for our neighbourhood. With this in mind, a Calendar of Prayer covering the whole of The Parish Of Three Saints has been drawn up. Each Sunday we will be highlighting a particular road or street, plus an organisation or group of people in our Parish or Diocese and encouraging you to pray for them during the week. The Calendar of Prayer will also be available in the prayer corners of each of our church buildings.

This week please pray for....

- Those living in Stevens Lane, Boat Lane, Ferry Lane and The Crescent, Lympsham.
- Local Charities.
- Kevin and Chris, as they make preparations to move into our parish.

Don't be afraid to ask for Prayer!

If you or a loved one are going through a difficult time and would like prayer, please contact our Prayer Group Co-ordinator [Gwen Hatton](mailto:Gwen.Hatton@tpots.org) 01934 750416. The Friday Prayer Group will support you in prayer for as long as you need it and everything is absolutely confidential.

Alternatively, if you or a loved one would like to be included in this public prayer list in the Sunday Link and prayed for by the whole Church Family, please contact Carole in the Church Office 01278-769082 or Ginnie Soffe 01278-769117. Please ask for the person's permission beforehand.

Please also contact us if you would like to remain on this list as we are currently looking to update it. Many thanks.

At present please continue to pray for Caroline, Mervyn, Luke, Iona, Ben, David, Carole, Kathryn, Peter and Marcus.

Diary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
24th February 08.00 St Mary's Worship of the Word 10.00 St Christopher's Parish Eucharist 18.30 St Michael's Evening Prayer	25th 09.00-10.30 No Emmaus 19.30 PCT Meeting	26th 10.30 Toddlers Brent Knoll Methodist Church	27th 08.45 Coffee Time St Mary's	28th 14.30 Bereaved Friends Group 19.30 All Sorts Choir St Mary's	1st March	2nd
3rd March 08.00 St Christopher's Worship of the Word 10.00 St Christopher's Parish Eucharist 19.00 Quiz at Brent Knoll Inn	4th	5th 10.30 Toddlers Brent Knoll Methodist Church	6th 08.45 Coffee Time St Mary's 14.00 Emmaus Church Office	7th 19.30 All Sorts Choir St Mary's	8th	9th
10th March 08.00 St Michael's Worship of the Word 10.00 St Mary's Parish Eucharist	11th 09.00-10.30 Emmaus Brentcombe House, East Brent	12th 10.30 Toddlers Brent Knoll Methodist Church	13th 08.45 Coffee Time St Mary's	14th 19.30 All Sorts Choir St Mary's	15th 10.00 Prayer Group 2 The Worthings, Lympsham	16th

Contacts

Reader	Nikki Burns	reader.tpots@gmail.com	Tel: 01278 760860
Church Administrator	Mrs Carole Carter	office.tpots@gmail.com	Church Office, Church Road, East Brent, Somerset. TA9 4HZ Tel: 01278 769082

For further contact information please see our parish website - www.theparishofthreesaints.org.uk

If you would like to submit anything for the Sunday Link please email it to Carole at office.tpots@gmail.com by **Thursday**. Please also send anything for **The Parish of Three Saints** website to the same address.



Connecting faith and daily life

Lord of the waves

Caroline Hodgson *reflects on* Genesis 2:4b-9. 15-end; Psalm 65 and Luke 8:22-25

Today's Old Testament, Psalm and Gospel readings all contain references to that great element upon which all life is dependent, which covers over seventy per cent of the earth – water. In the great story of creation in Genesis, it is not until God causes a stream to “rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground”, that plant life can flourish, and only then that God forms humanity.

It's been suggested that Psalm 65 was written as a hymn of thanksgiving after a time of drought. The psalmist creates a beautiful image of God irrigating the earth: “You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water... You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.”

In sharp contrast to this image of gentle, life-giving water, the Gospel today shows its terrifying, destructive potential – and yet, even here, God has power over it. When Jesus wakes in the middle of a storm to find the disciples panicking, their lives (as we imagine) flashing before them, he rebukes the “raging waves” and restores calm, to the astonishment of the petrified disciples.

Like so many things in this life, water can be benevolent and life-giving, or terrifying and dangerous. Like everything in this life, God is in control if we but realise and allow it. Even when the storm rages around us, even when we think that God is sleeping, we can relax in this sure knowledge, and allow the grace of God, which flows through everything and irrigates the whole earth and sustains all life, to flow through our very being. ☺

Oh Lord, you cradle us in your arms even amid the raging waves. Help us to know your presence in everything, and to trust in your awesome power. Amen.

Finding God on the smallholding beekeeping

by Jeni Parsons

I'm getting ready to keep bees and I'm quite scared. I've never been stung and I don't want to start now. I've joined the Pembrokeshire Beekeepers' Association and read books, done a course and helped

my neighbour handle his bees. All this learning but so little practical experience! I could say that, having studied it, I know what beekeeping is, but actually until I'm working with my own bees, trying to help them flourish as a hive community, be productive and survive the winter, I've not put my learning to the test. It's a bit like being a person of faith: until I've tried to live out my faith in daily life it, and I haven't been tested. So I expect to find God in the daily business of tending the bees, noticing their ways, protecting them from predators and from starvation, rather than in all the books and classes. ☺



Apprenticeship Week

by Lucy Russell

Apprenticeships are jobs which allow trainees to earn while they learn. The mentor shares their wisdom with their apprentice, but ultimately the apprentice is responsible for their own growth. As in faith, learning from the master facilitates our growth as we make our own journey, but the responsibility ultimately rests with us.

This year sees the twelfth annual National Apprenticeship Week – a five-day celebration of apprenticeship success. Opportunities continue to grow for apprenticeships in all kinds of businesses, as well as in education, engineering and even trainee legal roles, making apprenticeships a viable alternative to university. If you want to find out more about apprenticeships here's a good place to begin: www.gov.uk/apprenticeships-guide ☺

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.” Martin Luther King Jr

Bible Readings

Hebrew Scripture

Genesis 2. 4b-9, 15-end

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.'

Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said,

'This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken.'


Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

Blessed Thought

"Moments of silence given to God in gratitude.
Waiting on Him in stillness and love.
Soaking up something of his serenity and peace.
Waters of stillness; waters so deep."

(from a Prayer book by Jean Roth)

Count your blessings.

 Put your faith into action this Lent through daily reflections and challenges.

If you wish, please take a **Christian Aid Lent booklet** from the back of church. They will also be available in St Mary's and St Michael's.

Gospel Reading

Luke 8. 22-25

Jesus Calms a Storm

One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

Christian Scripture

Revelation 4

The Heavenly Worship

After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.' At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! And the one seated there looks like jasper and cornelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal.

Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing,

'Holy, holy, holy,
the Lord God the Almighty,
who was and is and is to come.'

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing,

'You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created.'

Psalm

Psalm 65

Thanksgiving for Earth's Bounty
To the leader. A Psalm of David. A Song.
Praise is due to you,
O God, in Zion;
and to you shall vows be performed,
O you who answer prayer!
To you all flesh shall come.
When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us,
you forgive our transgressions.
Happy are those whom you choose and bring near
to live in your courts.
We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,
your holy temple.
By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,
O God of our salvation;
you are the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas.
By your strength you established the mountains;
you are girded with might.
You silence the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
the tumult of the peoples.
Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs;
you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.
You visit the earth and water it,
you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;
you provide the people with grain,
for so you have prepared it.
You water its furrows abundantly,
settling its ridges,
softening it with showers,
and blessing its growth.
You crown the year with your bounty;
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.
The pastures of the wilderness overflow,
the hills gird themselves with joy,
the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,
the valleys deck themselves with grain,
they shout and sing together for joy.

What's On

Our Vision for the Parish of Three Saints

Our desire is to deepen our spiritual awareness and relationship with God so that we can serve our communities more effectively as His hands and feet, and also to develop our sacred spaces to make them welcoming, flexible and suited to the broad ranging needs of our communities.

(Taken from The Parish Profile 2018)



office.tpots@gmail.com

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A Welcome and Licensing Service for our new priest, Rev Kevin Wright, will be held

at 7pm on Thursday 21st March at St Christopher's, Lympsham.

This will be a very special occasion for Kevin and his wife, Chris, as we welcome them into our church family. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Manor Hall.

If you can help by providing sandwiches, cakes or nibbles,
please contact Gwen Hatton on 01934 750416

Please Note the change of venue.

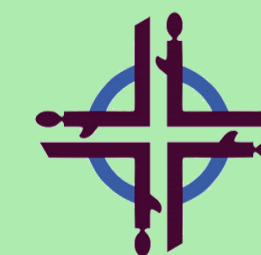
Kevin's first service will be on Palm Sunday, 14th April, at 10.00 am at **St Michael's, Brent Knoll.**

Church Electoral Roll (CER) Officer

With effect from our APCM on 28th April we will have a vacancy for this post. If anyone is interested, please speak to Carole in the Church Office, where full details of the role are available.

Women's World Day of Prayer Friday 1st March 10.00am

Please join us for a service at
Burnham On Sea
Methodist Church,
entitled "Come! Everything is ready"
A service put together by the
women of Slovenia.



**Blessed are you, Lord God of all Creation; through your goodness we have this money to offer.....
to do your work in the world.**

During our worship an offering will be collected. If you wish to join with our offering there is a yellow envelope nearby for your contribution or you can, of course, simply add your donation to the bag that will be passed along the pew during our first hymn. Many of our Church Family make a regular contribution to the running and work of the Parish by Standing Order. If this is something you would like to find out more about, please see one of the Stewards or a Churchwarden.



Urgently needed! 1 Churchwarden 1 Deanery Synod rep PCC members

We are seeking people of faith to take on the ministry of Churchwarden in St Mary's. You can be a Churchwarden of any of our three church buildings, no matter where you live. Our current Churchwardens, Mike, Gwen, Frances and Kathy, will gladly chat with you and explain what is involved. To find out more about being a Deanery Synod rep or a member of the PCC, please speak to Carole Carter, our Parish Administrator, or Maxine Bashford. Please prayerfully consider whether God might be calling you to any of these Godly responsibilities. Thank you.