

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 Ham Road and Brent Road, Brent Knoll.
- Our vicar, Kevin, and his wife, Chris, and their family.
- Our Reader, Nikki, and her family.

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 01934 750416**. The Friday Prayer Group will support you in prayer for as long as you need 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 continue to pray for Mervyn, Iona, Ben, Luke, David, Carole, Kathryn, Peter and Marcus.

Diary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
16th February 08.00 St Mary's Holy Communion 10.00 St Mary's All Age Communion 18.30 St Michael's "For those we have loved and see no more"	17th 16.00-17.30 Alzheimer's and Dementia Carers Group Brentcombe House, East Brent	18th Half Term No Toddlers	19th 08.45 10.00 Coffee Time St Mary's	20th 14.00 Comfort Group 19.30 All Sorts Choir BK Methodist Church	21st	22nd 09.00 The Rectory, East Brent Preliminary showing of the film "Chocolat"
23rd February 08.00 St Michael's Holy Communion 10.00 St Michael's Parish Communion	24th	25th 10.30 Toddlers Brent Knoll Methodist Church	26th 08.45 10.00 Coffee Time St Mary's 19.30 St Christopher's Ash Wednesday Holy Communion	27th 14.30 Bereaved Friends Group 19.30 All Sorts Choir BK Methodist Church	28th 10.30 Prayer Group 2 The Worthinges Lymphsham	29th 08.45 The Rectory, East Brent. "Christ and the Chocolaterie" Lent Course 1.
1st March 10.00 St Michael's Parish Communion (Said) 16.00 St Michael Café Church	2nd	3rd 10.30 Toddlers Brent Knoll Methodist Church	4th 08.45 10.00 Coffee Time St Mary's	5th 19.30 All Sorts Choir BK Methodist Church	6th	7th 08.45 The Rectory, East Brent. "Christ and the Chocolaterie" Lent Course 2.

SAFEGUARDING: We take safeguarding very seriously. If you have any concerns for a child or a vulnerable adult please contact our parish Safeguarding Officer (a voluntary position) Kathy Quinnell (01278-760031) or contact the central diocesan team <https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/diocese/safeguarding/rep>

Contacts

Priest in Charge	Rev. Kevin Wright	priest.tpots@gmail.com	The Rectory, 3 Ash Trees, East Brent, Highbridge, TA9 4DQ	Tel: 01278 760844
Please Note that Friday is the "Vicar's Day of Rest". Thank you for your understanding.				
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

Don't worry

Caroline Hodgson

reflects on Psalm 136 and Matthew 6:25-end

How easy it is to end up in a spiral of worry. We worry about money – or the lack of it – we worry about our health, social situations, relationships, work, exams – the list is endless. Those of us who are predisposed to worry will find ways to worry that the worrying we do will damage our mental and physical health! We end up trapped and exhausted in a spiral of anxiety.

Our worries are fuelled by things that really do go wrong, sometimes very badly. Something might trigger the memory of a bad incident from our past, or we hear of a terrible accident that has happened to a friend of a friend, or we turn on the TV and see suffering and misery – and we take these things on for ourselves, somehow managing to make them our worries. Then Jesus' words reach out to us from the page, two thousand years after he uttered them, "do not worry about your life".

Turning to Psalm 136, the psalmist repeats the same phrase



no fewer than twenty-six times, telling us that God's "steadfast love endures for ever". That's not to say we will never experience suffering, sadness or pain. But while our minds flit from worry to worry, *this* is the reality, the bedrock upon which we can depend, absolutely and unconditionally. As we approach Lent, *this* is the truth of Christ's death and resurrection – that even in the darkest corners of Gethsemane and Golgotha, "God's steadfast love endures for ever". 🌿

Lord, thank you for the message of the psalmist. In times of anxiety may we truly know that your steadfast love does indeed endure for ever. Amen.

Janani Luwum

Living the Lord's Prayer

by Julian Smith

Among the ten statues of modern martyrs on the west front of Westminster Abbey is one of Janani Luwum, Archbishop of Uganda from 1974 to 1977, whom we remember tomorrow.

In 1969 Luwum was consecrated Bishop of Northern Uganda and proved to be an imaginative, reforming and energetic leader. In

1971 Idi Amin seized power and ruled by intimidation, violence and corruption. Against this background, Janani Luwum was appointed archbishop. He continued his reforming work, warning that the Church should not conform to "the powers of darkness". He joined fellow Christians and leaders of other faiths in protesting against the excesses of Amin's security services. Luwum was murdered after delivering a protest to Idi Amin on 12 February 1977.

Janani Luwum's life reminds us that we are called to live the Lord's Prayer as well as to pray it – doing God's will on earth can be dangerous and costly. 🌿

Preparing for Lent at Coventry Cathedral

by John Witcombe

Preparing the ash for the services to mark the beginning of Lent is one of our essential tasks in the cathedral. Sitting on my desk is a little plastic bag which contains a small quantity of ash. It's one of

the most precious things I have. It's taken from the remains of the choir stalls of the old Cathedral, burned in the bombing of November 1940. I collected it when those remains were uncovered for the first time a few years ago when we were undertaking some essential maintenance. To bend down and touch them felt like putting my finger into the broken history of destruction here in this place, and to help me connect with it for myself. Traditionally, ash is made from last year's palm crosses, but perhaps there might be some other symbolically significant source for ash in each of our contexts this year? What might you use? 🌿

“Religion isn't about believing things. It's ethical alchemy. It's about behaving in a way that changes you.”

Karen Armstrong (born 1944), author and commentator

Bible Readings

First Reading

Genesis 1.1 - 2.3

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.' So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.' So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

Second Reading

Romans 8. 18-25

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 6. 25 - end

'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.'

'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.'

#everydayfaith

This week's idea #everydayprayer:

If you don't already, try remembering to say a simple Grace aloud or silently in your heart every time you sit down to eat or drink.

Suggestion:

For food in a world where many walk in hunger;

For faith in a world where many walk in fear;

For friends in a world where many walk alone;

We give you thanks, O Lord.

Amen

Collect for Today

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and the earth
and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things,
now and forever.

What's On



office.tpots@gmail.com

www.theparishofthreesaints.org.uk



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.

For those we have loved

(but see no more)

St Michael's Church, Brent Knoll

Sunday 16th February

6.30pm



All are welcome at this simple service
of words and music.

A time to say a prayer and light a candle
to give thanks and remember your loved ones.

Further details from: The Revd Kevin Wright ☎ 01278 760844

If you would like the name of a loved one who has died read out, please let Margaret Smith, Gwen Hatton or the Office know, or give the name at the door on the day.

Ecumenical Lent Study Group

Based on St. Mark's gospel
Every Monday afternoon in Lent
2.30pm-3.45pm
From March 2nd
In Brent Knoll Methodist Church

All welcome.



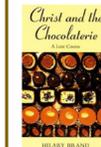
Gluten-free wafers are available for communion. Please speak to a Steward or Churchwarden before the service.

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 offertory 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.

Christ and the Chocolaterie

A Lent Course based on the film "Chocolat"



5 discussions (maximum 1½ hours), using extracts from the film, relevant Bible passages and the study guide by Hilary Brand to help us to prepare for Easter.



Saturdays at 9am

at The Rectory, 3 Ash Trees, East Brent
29th Feb; 7th Mar; 21st Mar; 28th Mar; 4th April
Tea/Coffee served from 8.45am

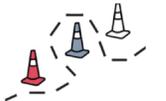
Preliminary viewing of the whole film "Chocolat" (117 minutes):
Saturday 22nd February 9am at The Rectory

All Welcome – see flyers for more details

Details and information: Revd. Kevin Wright revdkjwright@btinternet.com or ☎01278 760844

NEW Café Church

"On Course"



Sunday 1st March at 4pm
in St Michael's Church, Brent Knoll
(refreshments 3.30 - 3.55pm)

Informal Praise Activities
Friendly atmosphere Lively music

All welcome – all-ages – bring your friends

For more information
Kevin Wright (Rector)

☎ 01278 760844 ☐ revdkjwright@btinternet.com

TPOTS group

Holy Land Visit

Lead by Revd Stuart Burns and Revd Richard Neill

1st – 10th February 2021

Six nights in Jerusalem and

three nights on the shore of Lake Galilee

Cost from £2,045

For more details:

Open/Information Evening in
St Andrews, Cheddar at 7.30 pm

Thursday 27th February

Or speak to Kevin Wright



Church of the Holy Sepulchre