WHEATHILL PRIORY BENEFICE

"Jesus Lives: Follow Him" Sunday 28 February 2021

How is Lent going for you? The weather in the past week has certainly changed the way that things feel, I recognise that we'll almost certainly return to colder days (and we probably need to before too long or our plants will become thoroughly confused...) but a few dry days with sunshine certainly cheer things up!

After our focus on Jesus' temptations and time in the wilderness last week this week's Gospel turns to the first of his predictions regarding his suffering, death and resurrection. Understandably Peter (and probably the other too) is confused by this and tells Jesus that he's made a mistake.

If you think about it for a moment, if a friend of your said that their life was going to take a very different turn form the one that you expected and that appeared to be happening, you'd probably also say 'No that won't happen'. I know that I would, not wanting my friends to face difficulty or hardship and hoping that all would go well in their lives.

Jesus, however, doesn't allow Peter's words to tempt him to take the easy route out, instead he lets him know that becoming a follower or disciple of him is no path to an easy life or guarantee of everything going well, however there is one promise that when we decide to follow the way of the cross, which may involve loosing our lives literally or metaphorically then we actually receive far far more, we receive a life that has added depth, colour and vitality. Sometimes it may not feel like that, but that is the underlying truth. So this Lent let's explore the life that Jesus offers and live it in all its fullness.

Morning Prayer Readings etc (these come from #LiveLent, the theme this week is 'Stories of Transformation'

When Jesus met people, they rarely remained the same. Broken people were made whole, broken relationships restored, the marginalised found out that God cared for them. Our faith stories are stories of how God has changes us for the better. These stories of life change are powerful.)

Sunday Psalm 22:23-end, Romans 4:13-25, Mark 8:31-38

Monday Psalm 26, Mark 5:1-20

Tuesday Psalm 50, Acts 4:1-22

Wednesday Psalm 35, John 4:1-42

7:30pm Lent Course

Thursday Psalm 34, Acts 17:16-34

9am Morning Prayer on Zoom

Friday Psalm 40, 1 Peter 3:13-26

Saturday Psalm 3, 1 Thessalonians 2:4-8

Sunday coffee at 10:00am continues, details on Zoom sheet attached.



Phone Church

Saturday evening.

We have set up a phone line that you can use (for the cost of a local call so probably free for most) to listen to a reading, the reflection and prayers of intercession for the week. The phone number is **01458 552155.** The service will be available from

There is also the Church of England Daily Hope phone line, which has hymns, prayers and reflections.



YouTube

Our weekly worship continues to be available on YouTube, it is best viewed using a playlist facility.

Lent

For our Lent course this year we're using the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent materials. There are several ways that you can join in:

- 1. By reading the book 'Living His Story' by Hannah

 Steele (costs between £8-10 depending on where you buy it!), which has 6 chapters encouraging us to think about how we can better tell our and God's story.
- By using the #LiveLent materials. These are available as both a booklet, costing about £1.99 or as an App available from Aimer Media in your app store



3. By joining in the weekly discussion on Zoom, this will happen on a Wednesday evening at 7:30pm starting on Wednesday 24 February and running until Wednesday 31 March.

The book and #LiveLent will form the basis of the Lent group but it is not essential to have read either to join the group. If you'd like to join then please let Jane know and we'll send out the details of the group.

Food Bank

As is their tradition Keinton Parish is collecting donations for the Glastonbury foodbank. Donations are collected from the porch of Keinton Church, if you'd rather give money then please put it in a labelled envelope and put it through Emma Stevens' door. Thank you to all those who have already donated, it is all gratefully received.