

The Church in Warden Hill



The Church in Warden Hill
(Anglican & URC)



LIVE STREAMING

The following services will be live-streamed from one of our church buildings over the coming weeks:

7th Feb – 10am	Holy Communion	St. Peter's	Bishop Robert
14th Feb – 10am	Holy Communion	St. Christopher's	Revd Nick *
17th Feb – 10.30am	Ash Wed Communion	St. Peter's	Revd Gary
21st Feb – 10am	Holy Communion	St. Peter's	Revd John
28th Feb – 8am	BCP Holy Communion	St. Peter's	Revd Gary
28th Feb – 10am	Morning Worship	Emmanuel	Revd Nick

* *Revd Iain McLaren will be preaching*

ALL SERVICES/SERVICE SHEETS are available via www.stpetersleck.org or www.pipandjims.org.uk/online.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

The readings for Morning Prayer, and other resources, are available as a hard copy, download or as an app from: www.chpublishing.co.uk.

LENT COURSE

The South Cheltenham Team will be running a 5 week Lent course on the 'Message of the Parables' based on Paula Gooder's book 'The Parables' (no need to buy the book) beginning on Wed 24th Feb via Zoom at 7.30pm. Please email info@pipandjims.org.uk if you intend to attend, although not essential.

SHROVE TUESDAY is fast approaching (16th) - so do make sure you have the ingredients for making your pancakes (especially those of us who depend on food deliveries, or once-a-week shopping trips).

LANTERN The joint February / March issue has been sent out by email to subscribers who have sent an e address to Alison.

If you have not had a copy please contact lantern@tcivh.org.uk

Arrangements for Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child, Baptism, Confirmation, Banns of Marriage, etc., should be made with Revd Gary Grady.

If you are aware of anyone who is ill, in hospital, or in need of a pastoral visit please contact Clergy, Elders or Readers.

If you have anything for the Grapevine please send it to: grapevine@tcivh.org.uk by midday on Wednesday or call Brian Miles on 01242 862142.

Website: www.tciwh.org.uk

Safeguarding Officer: Debbie Cypher

Welcome

THE GRAPEVINE 7th FEBRUARY 2021 THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

The Collect

Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

This Sunday

10am Holy Communion Live Stream from St Peter's, Leckhampton.
The president and preacher will be Bishop Robert.

You can join the live stream here:

www.facebook.com/pipandjims or www.stpetersleck.org

Readings: Colossians 1.15–20 and John 1.1–14

Daily Devotional Readings

Morning Prayer will continue to be live-streamed at 9am during the week from:

www.facebook.com/pipandjims or www.stpetersleck.org

Monday

Psalm 27

Ecclesiastes 7.1–14

John 19.1–16

Wednesday

Psalm 34

Ecclesiastes 8

John 19.31–end

Friday

Psalm 31

Ecclesiastes 11.1–8

John 20.11–18

Tuesday

Psalm 32

Ecclesiastes 7.15–end

John 19.17–30

Thursday

Psalm 37

Ecclesiastes 9

John 20.1–10

Saturday

Psalm 41

Ecclesiastes 11.9–end of 12

John 20.19–end

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Letter from the Revd. Iain McLaren

Recently the UK passed the grim milestone of 100,000 deaths from covid-19. There was much coverage of this in the media. Many people have been asking whether the government should take the blame for such a high death toll. As people of faith, we are bound to find ourselves asking whether God is to blame. We find ourselves in sympathy with the psalmist who wrote, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest' (Psalm 22: 1-2).

The so-called 'Problem of Evil' – why does a good God allow bad things to happen to good people? – is as old as the Bible itself, if not older. However, the Bible does not supply an answer to this question. That bad things happen is taken as a given and there is no suggestion in the Bible that people of faith will be spared suffering. On the contrary, the Bible includes many stories about people of faith suffering hardship: Joseph sold into captivity by his brothers; the Israelites enduring slavery in Egypt; the Temple destroyed and the leading citizens of Judah sent into exile in Babylonia; John the Baptist imprisoned and then beheaded on the orders of King Herod Antipas; Stephen, the first Christian martyr, stoned to death. Central to all four of the New Testament Gospels is the story of how Jesus, the Son of God, was arrested, unjustly condemned and executed by crucifixion.

However, the Good News of the Gospels is that God can transform suffering. By his resurrection, Jesus gained victory over death and the power of sin. We can therefore have faith that good will triumph over evil, love will triumph over hate, hope will triumph over despair. With this faith, the first generations of Christians were able to endure centuries of persecution until finally Christianity conquered the Roman Empire. With this same faith, we can endure the current pandemic, trusting that, by means of the vaccines, God will eventually grant us victory over the virus. Then might we say with the psalmist, 'Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning' (Psalm 30: 5).

Yours in Christ,
Iain

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PLEASE PRAY FOR patience for all who are finding this lockdown particularly difficult.

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR those who are mourning the loss of loved ones; those sick in body mind or spirit; those who are now in God's nearer presence.

GIVE THANKS FOR all who are selflessly helping others in this time of pandemic, especially those who are keeping an eye out for their neighbours.

ARCHBISHOPS' CALL FOR PRAYER The Archbishops of Canterbury & York have invited all to join in Prayer for the Nation during February. The suggestion is that as many of us as possible unite to do this at 6pm each day (or whenever we can). There are prayers and themes on the C of E website, including printable sheets.

The prayer for this second week is below:

Loving God, at this time of crisis when so many are suffering, we pray for our nation and our world. Give our leaders wisdom, our Health Service strength, our people hope. Lead us through these parched and difficult days to the fresh springs of joy and comfort that we find in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS

7th	Lincoln Avenue & Durham Close	11th	Farmfield Road & Davis French Court
8th	Litchfield Drive & Rochester Close	12th	Warden Hill Close & Friars Close
9th	Hawkswood Road & Abbots Close	13th	Warden Hill Road & Warren Close
10th	Hampton Close & St. Alban's Close	14th	Gwernant Road & Bala Road

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES and CELEBRATIONS let's celebrate together:

If you have a birthday this week—have a happy day.

Richard Smith has a birthday on 11th and Diana Miles has hers on 12th

Please let me know of any future birthdays that we can celebrate together.

Brian Miles.

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

Sofia Godwin-Edwards 1st year

PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM JEREMY HITCHINGS I just wanted to say a massive thank you to everyone who's sent texts or called or cards over the last couple of days. I really do appreciate the support and love.

For those of you who don't know, unfortunately last week I was diagnosed with a type of cancer called Hodgkin lymphoma. Luckily the prognosis is good and although the next few months are going to be hard with treatment, there's nothing to suggest that the outcome will be anything but good... here's to 2022.