

# St Leonard's Church, Ryton-on-Dunsmore:

## Newsletter February 2021

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### CHURCH SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE: February 2021

**N.B.** These are the services that we hope to hold in our churches, but owing to the Covid crisis, some may have to be changed, cancelled or take place via Zoom. Please see our weekly email updates, or phone/email the Rector ([dandfwintle@gmail.com](mailto:dandfwintle@gmail.com)) to find out the current situation.

**AT THE MOMENT, ALL OUR CHURCHES ARE OPEN FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP AT THE STATED TIMES.**

### SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE: FEBRUARY 2021

DATE	Bubbenhall	Baginton	Ryton
February 7: <b>The Second Sunday Before Lent.</b>	11.00 a.m: Holy Communion.	10.00 a.m: Village Service	9.30 a.m: Parish Communion. 6.30 p.m: Evensong.
February 14: <b>The Sunday next before Lent.</b>	6.30 p.m: Evensong.	10.00 a.m: Holy Communion.	8.00 a.m: Holy Communion. 11.00 a.m: Village Worship (on Zoom).
Wednesday, February 17: <b>Ash Wednesday.</b>			11.00 a.m: Holy Communion 7.30 p.m: Holy Communion.
February 21 <b>The First Sunday in Lent.</b>	11.00 a.m: Mattins.	10.00 a.m: Holy Communion.	9.30 a.m: Parish Communion. 6.30 p.m: Evensong.

<b>DATE</b>	<b>BUBBENHALL</b>	<b>BAGINTON</b>	<b>RYTON</b>	
<b>February 28</b> <b>The Second Sunday in Lent</b>	<b>8.00 a.m:</b> <b>Holy Communion.</b>	<b>10.00 a.m:</b> <b>Holy Communion.</b>	<b>11.00 a.m:</b> <b>Family Service</b> <b>(on Zoom)</b> <b>6.30 p.m:</b> <b>Holy Communion.</b>	
<b>March 7:</b> <b>The Third Sunday in Lent.</b>	<b>11.00 a.m:</b> <b>Holy Communion.</b>	<b>10.00 a.m:</b> <b>Village Service</b>	<b>9.30 a.m: Parish Communion.</b> <b>6.30 p.m:</b> <b>Evensong.</b>	
<b>March 14:</b> <b>The Fourth Sunday in Lent.</b> <b>(Mothering Sunday)</b>	<b>11.00 a.m:</b> <b>Mothering Sunday Service.</b>	<b>10.00 a.m:</b> <b>Mothering Sunday Service.</b>	<b>9.30 a.m:</b> <b>Mothering Sunday Service.</b> <b>6.30 p.m:</b> <b>Evensong.</b>	
<b>At Ryton: EVERY WEDNESDAY except February 17 (Ash Wednesday) :</b> <b>9.30 a.m: Holy Communion.</b> <b>February 17 (Ash Wednesday) 11.00 a.m and 7.30 p.m: Holy Communion.</b>				
<b>At Ryton: Every Thursday in Lent. 6.30 p.m: Stations of the Cross.</b>				

### **A Message from the Rector, the Revd. David Wintle.**

I'm writing this on 12 January, and I am aware that it's very difficult to know in these uncertain times what to say to people when one has to say it two or three weeks before it appears in print: I sent a cautiously optimistic letter to some parishioners just before Christmas, and between posting it and it arriving on people's doorsteps the new variant of Covid was announced and what I had written was out of date. I don't even know whether the churches will be open or closed by the time you read this.

But then, uncertainty is probably the biggest thing most of us have to cope with right now – except of course for those of us who have been directly affected by the virus. When you end up in the supermarket with people pushing past you and leaning across you and handling all the goods, then fear and resentment and anger well up, partly because you know you're taking a risk, but you just don't know how much of a risk. More people are adopting a look-after-yourself-first attitude. You don't feel you can trust people who aren't in your bubble.

Yet at the beginning of all this there was a strong community response to the pandemic; we remember clapping the carers, and the people in Italy coming out on to their balconies to sing and play music, and how we felt a sense of shared joy. Yet we soon got weary of that; it began to feel less like something we wanted to do than something we had to do, and anyway, clapping seemed to be not enough somehow. So we ended up not even clapping. Someone tried to rebrand it as “clap for heroes” a week or two ago and it just didn’t take off this time around.

It’s really difficult to keep it up because we are physically dislocated from each other, but paradoxically that isolation is something which connects us; it’s something we all share. Our experience should make us more, not less, aware of how interwoven we are; even though we are not physically close, we are all connected.

Father James Martin, a Jesuit priest and writer from New York, said this almost a year ago: “This virus is no one’s fault. We still have the fundamental Christian responsibility to love people and not treat them like dirt. Lots of things have been cancelled by the coronavirus, but love is not one of them.”

Let us pray for all who are sick, and for those who are dying, and for their families and friends, for all the people who have died and for their bereaved friends and relatives, as well as doctors, nurses, caregivers and scientists and all those working hard to combat the disease, for essential workers taking risks every day, for governments and local authorities and their advisors making difficult decisions, and for those whose excessive caution or recklessness frustrate us or frighten us.

**Next PCC meeting: Tuesday, March 9 at 7.30 p.m. via Zoom.**

### **Christmas Flowers**

Many thanks to those who gave donations and flowers for Christmas. The Church looked lovely: Thank you all very much.

May I add sincere thanks to Janet Smith from all the St Leonard’s community for carrying on the tradition of Auntie Jean and creating beautiful arrangements in church all the year round, throughout the various lockdowns. Ed.

**On December 16th**, the Carols by Candlelight service was held on Zoom and in Church. Thank you to all who joined us.



### **From the Church Registers:**

#### **At St John the Baptist Church, Baginton:**

January 19: The Funeral of **Roy Palin**.

#### **At St Giles' Church, Bubbenhall:**

December 22: The Funeral of **Stanley Warren**.

**January 26: The Funeral of Keith Hillyard.**

#### **At St Leonard's Church, Ryton:**

**January 15: Burial of Ashes of Susan O'Hara.**

**January 28: The Funeral of Thelma Wells.**



***May they rest in peace.***

### **Church Floodlighting**

January 26

February 6

February 15

In memory of Conor Dixon

In memory of Rita.

Loving Memories of Connie West and Meg Jephcote

**On November 10<sup>th</sup>** , the Remembrance Service raised £50 for the British Legion.



**On December 13<sup>th</sup>** , at the Tree of Light service, the magnificent sum £1,459.00 in aid of the Organ Fund was donated in memory of loved ones.

**Together with a very generous anonymous donation of £5000, this raises the Organ Fund to over £17, 000, which enables us to go ahead with the first stage of the scheduled work.**

June Backholler writes: "As the December/ January Newsletters were combined, I am late in saying "Thank you" to the very many people who remembered their loved ones with a light on the "Tree of Light".. The tree looked really special. The outside service was most meaningful and special, too. My thanks to Barbara and Geoffrey Marsh and Mark Jones, who help me such a lot.



## **On Christmas Eve, the Crib Service was held outdoors, on the Rec.**



About 50 people, adults and children, gathered on the Rec. in socially distanced groups for a short service with carols and Bible readings. It was almost the only opportunity in the village for people to sing carols together this year and it was much appreciated by those who came. A collection was taken in aid of church funds. At the end of the service, members of the congregation placed lights in front of the crib, and almost all of them remained alight until the crib was taken down on Twelfth Night: it was a striking and moving sight throughout the Christmas period. We are grateful to Geoff and Ba Marsh for creating the amazing crib silhouette, and to the Parish Council for allowing us to use the Rec. for our service.

**Carol Singing** round the village in aid of Action Medical Research could very sadly not take place owing to Covid restrictions.

**On December 13**, the Village Worship Service took the form of a Christingle Service on Zoom. £90.00 was donated to the Children's Society. Thank you to the family service and village worship teams for organising this event, and thank you to all the people who joined in and made donations.

**Ladies' Guild.** We will be in touch again when we are allowed to meet.

### **Flower Rota**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Altar</u>	<u>Pulpit</u>
February 7	In memory of Wyn Sadler	In memory of Jack Hathaway
<b>NO FLOWERS DURING LENT</b>		

### **Church Giving**

*We give because God gave first.*

*A message from Hazel Smith*

You will be aware that during recent weeks those of us who give by the envelope scheme haven't been able to make our contributions. In addition fundraising events haven't been able to take place. As at our homes, church bills still have to be paid. If you are not able to get to church it would be helpful if you could put your gifts **TO THE END OF FEBRUARY** in **ONE ENVELOPE** and put it through the door of the Treasurer, Dave Wells, (60 Leamington Road). He will then notify me of any monies received and I can record it against your name. The envelope may contain cash or a cheque (made payable to St Leonard's Church, Ryton).

Of course other donations from people not in the envelope scheme will be most welcome. If you have any queries please ring Dave Wells (76303995) or me Hazel Smith (76456711).

Many thanks.



### **Children's Society Box collection.**

The amount raised was £243.45

Gill Church would like to thank everyone for their generosity in helping the Children's Society through what has been a very difficult year. Hopefully next year we will be able to hold our customary coffee morning when the boxes can be emptied.





## Churchyard.



Many thanks to Mark Jones and to all the other people who have been helping to keep our churchyard looking beautiful in the difficult and stressful times we have been having.

The next Tidy-up session is on **Saturday, March 6 2021** from 2-4 p.m. Mark is delighted to report that 12 more people have volunteered to help: Thank you to each one of them.

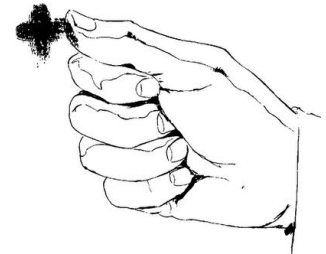
You are reminded please to remove **Christmas wreaths** from

**your family graves before the end of February.**

The grass needs cutting in March and the wreaths hinder progress. Thank you.

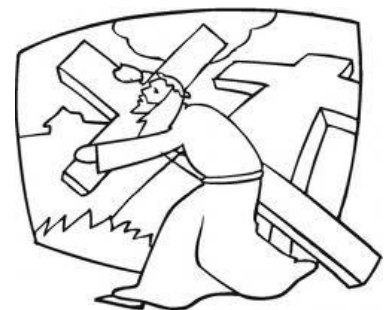
### February 17: Ash Wednesday

There will be services of Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes (for those who wish): at 11.00 a.m. and at 7.30 p.m.



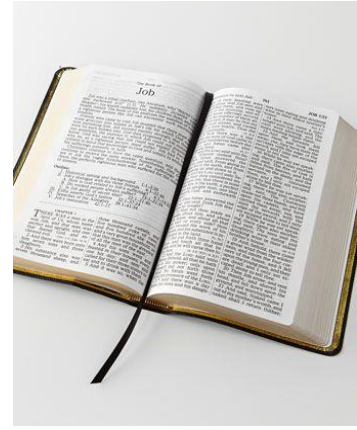
### Lent Service: Stations of the Cross

On Thursdays in Lent (starting February 18<sup>th</sup>) we shall meet at Ryton Church to meditate on the Way of the Cross- Jesus' last journey as he carried his cross through the streets of Jerusalem to the place of his crucifixion. Service begins at 6.30 p.m. and lasts about 40 minutes.



## **Bible Study Group.**

Our Bible Study Group has continued via email exchange throughout the lockdown, and has even gained more members. It is wonderful to think that more people in our parishes are coming together in this way to read and discuss the Bible. We have read the entire Gospel of St. Mark, and have now embarked on the Acts of the Apostles. New members are always welcome- contact Rosemary on [rosiking2963@gmail.com](mailto:rosiking2963@gmail.com) or 01788573067/ 07877666123 to find out more.



**Anyone who prefers listening to reading, or who might enjoy listening to the Bible read aloud while jogging/ cycling/walking/waiting for the dentist, doing the washing up etc. etc.- there are many free audio apps to download onto your phone. I particularly recommend *Audio Bible NIV*, which you can download free from your Apple or Android app store. You can check it out on [https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=net.biblelab.niv&hl=en\\_GB](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=net.biblelab.niv&hl=en_GB)**

The voice reading the Old Testament books is American, but the voices reading the New Testament are English. In Bible study Group, we took a break over the busy Christmas period, and have now started again with chapter 10 and it's easy to catch up, especially on the audio version. If you feel like joining us in Bible Study Group, please let me know, but there is of course no obligation to do so. The Bible is free for everyone to read or listen to, whether in or out of a group, but some of us enjoy sharing others' thoughts and comments via the group emails.

## **Lent Group- on Zoom this year.**

The Lent Group this year will have to meet via Zoom, and meetings will take place at 7.00 on Tuesday evenings. First session on February 23.

We plan to read and discuss the Bible readings for the upcoming Sunday, and the readings will be emailed to participants before each meeting, as well as being displayed on everybody's screen during the Zoom sessions. Bible Study Group will be suspended until after Easter, and members are encouraged to join the Lent Group instead. If you would like to join Lent Group, please contact the Rector or Rosemary and ask to be included on the list, so that you can receive the readings and the invitations to the Zoom meetings. Anyone who prefers not to use Zoom is warmly invited to send in their comments on the readings by email to [rosiking2963@gmail.com](mailto:rosiking2963@gmail.com)



## **Organ Fund reaches £17,698.00 !!**

### **A message from Churchwarden John Church:-**

The total raised for the Organ Fund to date is £17,698.00, this includes £1,459.00 from the Tree of Light, and an anonymous donation of £5,000.00.

I would like to thank everybody for their support and generosity. It has been a fantastic achievement to have raised so much money over the last 3 years, so that St Leonard's can have an excellent organ to help lead our services, whenever we are able to come back to church to sing.

It is hoped that work can start on the organ some time in June or July, as soon as the necessary parts are available.



**Well done everyone, and thank you!**

### **The Bells of St. Leonard's.**



Our ringing chamber is unfortunately too small to permit socially- distanced ringing at the moment. We look forward to hearing the St Leonard's ringers, under the able tutelage of John Hammond, ringing our bells again. Thank you all very much for your enthusiasm and perseverance.

**In normal times, we meet at the church on Monday evenings from**

**7:30pm. Details from John Hammond on 02476 511130.**

**email [john.hammond@1910@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:john.hammond@1910@yahoo.co.uk)**

## Lent Jars.



This Lent, many of us will give up glasses of wine, coffee or chocolate, to mark the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the desert.

This year we will be continuing to support Alzheimer's Society with our Lent Jar Appeal.

The Alzheimer's Society is a leading dementia society in the UK. They fund research, campaign for change and offer support to sufferers and their families. There are local support centres in Coventry and Leamington Spa.

Last year was the 40th Anniversary of the Society, so we hope that the contributions in your Lent Jars will assist in bringing help and support to anyone touched by this cruel disease.

If you still have your jar from last year, please continue to use it; otherwise please take a jar from home and use that to donate to the Alzheimer's Society.

If anyone requires a Gift Aid form for the Alzheimer's Society, could they please contact Gill Church on 07522868524? Gill will also leave a few copies in the Church Centre foyer, which can be returned with the full jars after Easter. Gill writes: "Last year I wasn't able to collect the full jars, but I did have some donations from the Harvest Festival collection totalling £65, which I have sent on to the Alzheimer's Society."

Thank you so much for your support.

**All our normal social activities have had to be suspended owing to the Covid crisis. These include:**

**Lunch Club.** We hope that at some point we shall be able to welcome you again on the second Wednesday of every month.

***Special thanks to our catering team and to all helpers.***

**Ladies' Guild.** In normal times, we meet in the Church Centre at 7.45 on the first Thursday in each month.

**Ryton Evergreens 50 + Club.**

In normal times, our meetings are held in the Village Hall on the first and third Tuesdays of every month from 1.45pm to 3.45pm.

New members are welcome. Please contact John Loudon 02476301269

We use the village mini bus to our meetings in the Village Hall.



### **Used ink cartridges please!**

The PCC has agreed to register with a scheme to recycle printer ink cartridges to raise funds for the church.

We will be putting recycling

envelopes at the back of church, so if anyone has any used cartridges they can use the envelopes to send them free of charge. There is also a plastic box outside the door to the Church Centre, for you to deposit used ink cartridges. The church will receive £1 for each cartridge, thus raising money for the church and helping to save the planet.

**Thank you very much to those who have already contributed used cartridges, but please note that we have now been informed that, unfortunately, used toner cartridges, also Brother, Epson and Kodak cartridges are not acceptable.**



### **Thank you to all members of the Village Worship and Family Service teams**

who have been planning and leading some enjoyable and uplifting Family Services via Zoom, and to everyone who contributes to the services and attends them. The next Village Worship

Service is scheduled for Sunday, February 14,

via Zoom, and there will be Family Service on Sunday, February 28. It doesn't look likely that it will be possible to meet in church by then, so the team will lead Zoom services at 11.00 a.m. on both occasions.

### **When we are allowed to- Come and enjoy breakfast in BUBBENHALL Village Hall!**



First Saturday in the month,  
from 9.00 – 11.00 a.m.  
Full English £5.00, or bacon/ sausage etc.  
batches, tea, coffee- priced per item.  
Proceeds in aid of St. Giles' Church.

## **Children at St. Leonard's Church: Provision in normal times.**

We love having children in our church, and there is **always provision for them at our 9.30 a.m. services**. All families with babies and children are sure of a warm welcome whenever they can join us.

All our Sunday morning services start **at 9.30 a.m.**, and the pattern is:

### **2nd Sunday in every month: Village Worship.**

The most informal of all our services. We start in the Church Centre (warm and welcoming) with workshop activities for children, and coffee, puzzles and chat for grown ups to get to know one another. At about 10.00 we move into church for a short and child-centred service. There is no need to be there on the dot of 9.30- people drift in as soon as they can make it

### **4th Sunday in every month: Family Service.**

An all-age service of readings, songs and activities with everybody young and old in church together. Children always participate in the readings/ drama sketches etc. Tea/coffee and cake after the service in the Church Centre.

### **1st and 3rd Sundays in every month: Parish Communion with Sunday School.**

Tea/coffee and the chance to socialise after every service. Children start the service in church with their parents, and after the first hymn go out for Sunday School activities in the Church Centre, returning to receive a blessing at the time of Communion. Parents are welcome to accompany their little ones to Sunday School and stay with them if they lack confidence at first.

At these services, we also have a robed choir which includes older children (aged about 8 and upwards) and teenagers: anyone whose son/daughter likes singing might consider encouraging them to join the choir. If your son/daughter might like to be part of the choir, please contact Barbara Marsh, our choir mistress on [geoffandba@gmail.com](mailto:geoffandba@gmail.com) (tel. 02476 304295) We also offer the opportunity for children and young people to train to become altar servers at the Parish Communion services at both Bubbenhall and Ryton.

Contact Rosemary on [rbking007@btinternet.com](mailto:rbking007@btinternet.com) (tel 01788 573067) about this.

We value children, and make them and their parents welcome.





## Thought for the Month: “Can’t be bothered” : Accidie.

Last week, I was chatting on the phone to a friend about the things that were going on (or rather NOT going on), in our locked-down lives. I noticed that, when my friend suggested something I might be occupying myself with, I replied: “Oh, I just can’t be bothered.”

“That’s not like you!” she said, but that’s how I felt at the time, and I think it’s a symptom that has overtaken many of us during this difficult time.

Yes, I thought to myself, there’s a technical word for that, and it’s ACCIDIE (Usual English pronunciation is Accidee, like accident with a different ending) It’s akin to depression, but it’s a mood, not an illness.

what are other  
words for  
accidie?

apathy, boredom, sloth, inertia,  
torpor, ennui, weariness,  
lack of enthusiasm,  
lack of interest



Well, it’s quite a surprise to find Accidie listed among the Seven Deadly Sins, which are (let’s remind ourselves) :  
Lust, Gluttony, Greed, Accidie (also translated as Sloth) Anger, Envy und Pride.

This list was put together by a medieval Pope, and I’m sure, if we put our minds to it, we could think of other sins, perhaps more relevant to us un our age, to add to or substitute for, some of the sins on the list. What about cruelty, for example? Or intolerance?

And I was wondering: Is Accidie really a sin, or is it not rather something- a mood- that's not your fault, like an accident, something that befalls you and there's not much you can do about it? It's clearly more than sloth, more than mere laziness.

You can do something about your laziness, but the apathy of Accidie is something else, something that just sneaks up on you and it's not easy to pull yourself out of it by your own bootstraps, as it were.

Lent is fast approaching, and it's time to examine our conscience and repent of our sins. We might choose to do so in the light of the list of the Seven Deadlies. But Accidie?

Well, if you think of a sin as something naughty that you've done, maybe it isn't. But if you define sin as something that cuts you off from God, well, maybe it is after all.

*A prayer: Lord Jesus, you resisted the temptations of the Devil in the wilderness, be with us when we are stuck in the wilderness of apathy. AMEN.*

### **For your Diary: Upcoming events and services:**

Wednesday 17 February

Tuesday 23 February

Sunday 14 March

Sunday 28 March

Ash Wednesday

Lent Group begins

Mothering Sunday

Palm Sunday

#### *Holy Week*

Thursday 1 April

Commemoration of the Last Supper, followed by "the Watch".

Friday 2 April

Good Friday

*Good Friday Workshop and Liturgy*

Saturday 3 April

The Easter Vigil

Sunday 4 April

Easter Day services.

**Tailpiece:**

***“I was sick, and you visited me” Mathew 25:36***



**The Archbishop of Canterbury visits a patient as a volunteer chaplain in St Thomas' Hospital, Lambeth.**

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**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MARCH NEWSLETTER BY**  
**FEBRUARY 20<sup>th</sup> PLEASE!**

**Do you receive your Newsletter by email?**  
**Please encourage others to do so too!**

- Email version normally reaches you before the printed version.
- Less work for our committed band of volunteer deliverers, (to whom we are most grateful)
- Easier to read.
- No charge.

- Email version often contains material which there wasn't room for in the printed version, e.g. extra news, pictures, cartoons, jokes...
- Environmentally friendly if you choose not to print it out, instead saving it to refer to when you want to.
- Rosemary's email is [rosiking2963@gmail.com](mailto:rosiking2963@gmail.com) If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, but aren't yet on the recipients' list, please just get in touch.