

Yes, it's Lent and we should certainly be doing some thinking and careful self-appraisal. But its March and we should also be doing some careful looking.

We still have snowdrops but the daffodils are beginning to burst out and we have crocuses, primroses, witch hazel and catkins. A small pink knob of my rhubarb is also showing itself. Our household has always had rhubarb and egg custard on Easter Day. So look around. See what cheerful signs you can spot. Spring is definitely on its way! (Ed)

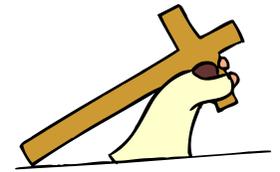


All Saints with St. Anne's

Parish Pump

MARCH 2021

Holy Week

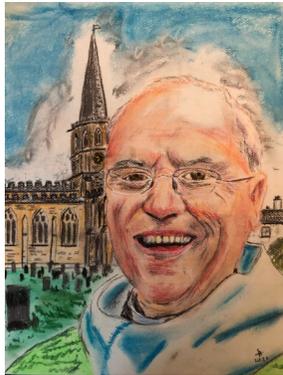


The period that takes us into and includes Holy Week is called *Passiontide*, which comes from the Latin word, *patior* meaning "to suffer." It is a solemn period in the Church calendar as we journey with Jesus through some of the most familiar and profound territory of human experience: the times in life when we feel that things are really tough and almost unbearable, when we are fearful of what we have to face and can feel alone, exposed and vulnerable.

Christ's suffering brought to him abandonment, denial and betrayal as he prepares to suffer ridicule, beatings, pain, taunting, death and burial as an innocent man, on our behalf. As a sign of this the church building is now made stark and bare, with pictures and statues veiled, to symbolise the harshness and desolation of it all and help us to focus on the cross.

It is a journey that not every Christian feels comfortable following because very few of us want to think about suffering, pain and encountering death. Yet, as we approach *Passiontide* this year we do so against a backdrop of walking with vulnerability, illness, bereavement, loss and the mental and psychological anguish and effect of being isolated and denied the opportunities to live as we would choose.

In previous *Passiontides* we may have struggled with the sounds, experiences, encounter and contemplation of suffering and death and preferred to embrace the joy of Palm Sunday and greater joy of Easter and skirt the bits in between. But they are more than bits- they tell the story in all of the horror, drama, emotion and reality of our redemption and salvation and through entering and embracing



March daffodils

(art group)

Portrait of a young man

Steve (art group)



Pat

Copy for April by 22nd March please

Editor: Pat Bryant. 01629 815225 or pmbryant83@gmail.com

the complete journey, we can perhaps this year address the consequence and impact upon our lives and find healing and hope as we embrace the Cross of Christ.

As I write this it is difficult to predict what Passiontide and Holy Week Programme of Services we will have and where they may be held due to churches being closed for public worship and the necessary social distancing requirements. We will have to see what each church community feels like in relation to resuming public worship and when (even where- outside the building?) There will definitely be a continuation of the 9.45 Sunday Live Reflection and Prayer on Facebook and I envisage that we will probably continue the livestreamed gathered Benefice Eucharist at 10.30am at Bake-well for this month, which will encompass Mothering Sunday and Passion Sunday (14th and 21st March). Palm Sunday will lead us into a programme of Services in Holy Week including a Maundy Thursday Eucharist and Watch; Good Friday Liturgy; Dawn Easter Vigil and Easter Day joy. We possibly could hold part of the Holy Week programme in or outside different benefice churches. Please keep looking at the website for updates. We will also be looking to enable members of the benefice and extended benefice family at home to be able to share in the liturgies of Passiontide and Holy Week.

I am looking to create an outside Easter Garden near the church-yard path and welcome offers to help with the design and creation of this.

A Town Passion would be a powerful witness, albeit following the guidelines.

Every blessing

Tony



Dates for your Diary:

Tuesday 2nd March Zoom Branch Meeting at 2.30

Speaker **Sally-Anne Beecham** will talk about 'Hope House', a Christian charity supporting the homeless.

Friday 5th March 2.30pm Zoom World Day of Prayer

Carol Wicksteed

* * *

EATING IN THE UK IN THE FIFTIES (cont)

- * If we had eaten bacon, lettuce and tomato in the same sandwich we would have been certified
- *A tart was a fruit-filled pastry, not a lady of horizontal pleasure
- * Eating outside was called a picnic
- *Cooking outside was called camping
- *Eggs only came fried or boiled
- *"Kebab" was not even a word, never mind a food
- *Hot dogs were a type of sausage that only Americans ate
- *Cornflakes had arrived from America but it was obvious they would never catch on
- *We bought milk and cream at the same time in the same bottle
- *Prunes were medicinal
- *Surprisingly, muesli was readily available in those days. It was called cattle-feed
- *Garlic was used to ward off vampires, but never used to flavour bread

Ruth and Tony Short

Branch News- February

Our Zoom Branch Meeting - Tuesday 2nd February, was well supported with 20 members, and Kath started with the opening prayer:

God of compassion,
God-with-us, be with us in these times of uncertainty.
Break into our lives, rekindle our hope and breathe love into our communities, that we might find new ways of supporting and +upholding one another, bearing witness to your inclusive love of family, friend, neighbour, and stranger alike.
May our love for those most vulnerable in our community become a beacon of hope for all.
In faith, hope, and love, in the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.
Rev Denise Liersch Uniting Church of Australia

Jane introduced our speaker, **Rosie Mellor**, who gave an illustrated presentation about her time in Hong Kong, the growth of the International Methodist Church and the Filipino Community of Women:

They say that New York is the city that never sleeps but during my time living and working in Hong Kong, I discovered it is the city that never blinks! At first sight Hong Kong is a city of wealth and success, huge luxury hotels and enormous banking institutions, designer shops and expensive cars. However just a glance below the surface shows that all is not as it seems. Recent events have highlighted the political tensions in the city but there are also hidden layers of poverty and disadvantage. The story I wish to share is that of the largely unnoticed and unappreciated Filipino migrant community. Over 166,000 Filipinos, mostly women, work as domestic helpers in Hong Kong having left their own families and in many cases their own children. They work long hours for minimal pay and must live with their employers.

The Methodist International Church, right in the centre of Hong Kong, where I was privileged to work, has a long history of involvement with these amazing women. Every Sunday, they run choirs and bible studies, lead cooking and music classes, teach in Sunday school and celebrate their life together. It is their story of resilience and faith that it is a joy to share.

Rosie Mellor

A Word from St Anne's

March is the month when Winter finally gives way to Spring - and very welcome that is too! Even in Over Haddon there are already (in late February) unmistakable signs of Spring in the gardens and hedgerows, in the crocuses and daffodil shoots, the hazel catkins and the brighter colours of the songbirds' plumage, and above all, in the longer daylight hours. It is always a time of hope for a better future, and never more so than now, after our long dark journey through the pandemic. With the rapid rollout of vaccination there really is hope that we can look forward to better times soon and the difference it will make to our lives.

We certainly look forward to reopening St Anne's church in Over Haddon. It still stands, forlornly shut, looking out over the green churchyard and the trees of Lathkil Dale. But we have replenished the heating oil, changed the vestments to the dark purple of Lent, carried out checks on electrical appliances (thanks Tony) and are making plans for a Spring Clean in readiness for reopening....

We look forward to offering cakes, coffee and tea, and friendly socialising, after a service, and Friends of St Anne's look forward to holding another Cream Tea, perhaps to coincide with the Over Haddon Wells Dressing?.....

Collections for the High Peak Food Bank continue via a box in the church porch, as they have done throughout the lockdown, because the rise in poverty has grown relentlessly, as has the need to show generosity. Even though the church building remains closed it still stands, as a symbol within our village, of caring and of hope.

Roger Truscott

Roger Truscott

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - FRIDAY 5 MARCH



This will be a very different event this year, as it is the first time we will hold the service on-line, as perhaps many over the world will do. But perhaps some will be able to be

outdoors. As you know, this is an annual event, when people from across the world are given the opportunity to meet together and celebrate a short act of ecumenical worship and prayers, knowing that others are doing the same right across our globe on the same day. This is traditionally on the first Friday of March - and this year will be celebrated on **5 March**.

The Zoom service gives an opportunity for some who may not be familiar with it to join in. Although some of you are very familiar with this worship and have joined with others over many years, others, including men of course, may like to give it a whirl.

The theme for this year's service is "Build on a Strong Foundation" and has been prepared by Christian women in Vanuatu - which comprises a small number of scattered islands just over 1,100 miles to the east of Australia in the south-western region of the Pacific Ocean. This cluster of islands - stretching about 400 miles - began European contact with the Portuguese explorer Pedro Fernandez de Quiros (1606), followed by the French navigator Louis-Antoine de Bougainville (1768) and then Captain James Cook (1774) who mapped the island group and named it the New Hebrides.

Vanuata is one of the first countries to start to pray on the Day of Prayer - helping to set off the wave of prayer - and in this year we will share in prayers that are confident and purposeful as well as praying for the needs of Vanuatu.

In Bakewell, our World Day of Prayer service will be on Zoom **at 2.30pm**. The idea is to give every participant a copy of the published booklet so that the service and the music can be followed. But there is also an opportunity for those who do not have the internet to receive a copy of the booklet and perhaps read through it as the rest of us join together online. If you know of anyone who might like to join in this way, please do let me know.

I and a small group will undertake to post or deliver a copy of the booklet to any of you who are interested in this event and within each booklet is an envelope which can be returned with any monetary gift you may wish to make. The envelopes will be collected and monies sent off by Peter Bird, Iona, Prospect Terrace, Stanedge Road, Bakewell DE45 1DG. If it is easier, Heather Thomas's address is Apartment 1 - Holme Court, Matlock Street, Bakewell DE45 1GQ and the building can be entered on the "Trade" button up to noon each day - and she will ensure any envelopes are then delivered to Peter.

Might I ask that if you wish to join in the Day of Prayer, and receive a booklet - or know someone else who might - you let me know - either by e-mail (ang15bird@gmail.com) or 01629 813087 and I will then get a copy to you prior to the date. We will need your e-mail address (to join on-line) and your land address (so that we can drop a booklet in).

All who participate are invited to have a candle to light during the service.

I think this is a rare opportunity for us to meet and share with others across the whole world - which seems particularly poignant in these rather difficult days through which we are all living - so I hope you will think about joining with us in this way.

Blessings to you all

Angela Bird