



The Benefice of Ross
with Walford
and
Brampton
Abbotts

Newsletter

24th February 2019

2nd Sunday before Lent

We offer a warm welcome to everyone at our services today.

rawchurch.org.uk



There are many odd pairings of words in the Lectionary - our annual programme of readings. I was struck by the fact that this Sunday is Proper 2 in Ordinary time.

How can it be that any Sunday should be just ordinary? Whilst the title Proper suggests that all is well the word ordinary seems to debase the idea. The word ordinary comes from the Latin suggesting that things or events are set out in a proper fashion.

This week our reading from Luke shows that Jesus was far from ordinary. He brought a sense of order and taught the proper way of human behaviour. This set me thinking that the coming week will be far from ordinary for the Benefice. Indeed, this will be a unique week in our history as a new Incumbent will be chosen.

We recognise that we are also unique in God's Kingdom. There is no other Benefice like ours, no other congregations like ours and no other

history like ours. Our new Rector will be facing personal changes in joining us and we will face adaptation to the leadership we seek in the Statement of Needs.

We pray at this time that God will inspire the Selection Panel to complete the process of discernment and we also pray for the candidates that they may understand whether this a calling for them. The process will be demanding for all involved. On the one hand we will be hoping for someone who is far from ordinary but with a sense of what is proper but we need to appreciate that God's plan will not be our plan.

The disciples understood the way in which Jesus had the power to still the waves. We pray that our ways may be stilled as the Benefice boat sails into fresh waters.

Derek

The Rev'd Simon Tarlton | 01600 890185 | 07462 893457 | simon@rawchurch.org.uk (not Wed)
The Rev'd Canon Chris Blanchard | 01989 762368 | frchris2@icloud.com (Sun - Wed)
Intergenerational Missioner: Christine Cattanach | christine.cattanach@hereford.anglican.org
Team Administrator: Nick Richmond | 01989 562175 | administrator@rawchurch.org.uk

TODAY'S 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.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our creator, by your gift
the tree of life was set at the heart of the
earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of your
Church:
may we who have been nourished at your
table on earth
be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's
cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

Brad Knapper, Vera Foster, Terry Carter

WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND

**WE PRAY FOR THEIR FAMILIES: Barbara
Morley-Jones, Francis Read, Jennifer Hyde,
Jean Bullock, Elizabeth Gwatkin, Margaret
Dines**

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading Genesis 2.4b-9, 15-25

4 In the day that the LORD God made the
earth and the heavens, 5 when no plant of the
field was yet in the earth and no herb of the
field had yet sprung up for the LORD God had
not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there
was no one to till the ground; 6 but a stream
would rise from the earth, and water the
whole face of the ground 7 then the LORD
God formed man from the dust of the ground,
and breathed into his nostrils the breath of
life; and the man became a living being. 8 And
the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the
east; and there he put the man whom he had
formed. 9 Out of the ground the LORD God
made to grow every tree that is pleasant to
the sight and good for food, the tree of life

also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of
the knowledge of good and evil.

15 The LORD God took the man and put him in
the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. 16 And
the LORD God commanded the man, 'You may
freely eat of every tree of the garden; 17 but of
the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you
shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you
shall die.'

18 The LORD God said, 'It is not good that the
man should be alone; I will make him a helper as
his partner.' 19 So out of the ground the LORD
God formed every animal of the field and every
bird of the air, and brought them to the man to
see what he would call them; and whatever the
man called every living creature, that was its
name. 20 The man gave names to all cattle, and
to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the
field; but for the man there was not found a
helper as his partner. 21 So the LORD God
caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he
slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up
its place with flesh. 22 And the rib that the LORD
God had taken from the man he made into a
woman and brought her to the man. 23 Then the
man said,
'This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my
flesh; this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken.'

24 Therefore a man leaves his father and his
mother and clings to his wife, and they become
one flesh. 25 And the man and his wife were
both naked, and were not ashamed.

Second Reading Revelation 4

I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open!
And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to
me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will
show you what must take place after this.' 2 At
once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven
stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! 3
And the one seated there looks like jasper and
cornelian, and around the throne is a rainbow
that looks like an emerald. 4 Around the throne
are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the

thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. 5 Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; 6 and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal. Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: 7 the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. 8 And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing, 'Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come.'

9 And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing, 11 'You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.'

Gospel Reading Luke 8.22-25

22 One day Jesus got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out, 23 and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. 24 They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. 25 He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed,

and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

NOTICES

Toast & Toddle continues in the Church Hall from 8.45 to 10.15am on Wednesdays. Christine

"St Marys phase 2 reordering work commenced on 4th February on an 8 week schedule . Work is proceeding to plan and access to the church will be restricted at times. Seating for Sunday services will continue to be somewhat fluid until the flooring is completed and your patience and support is greatly appreciated." John Setchfield

Grab a pew from St Mary's – it's your last chance. Anything that doesn't have a white label on it is still up for grabs, there is one complete pew left and a pair with matching ends, tell your friends, feel free to make an offer – please email mark@rawchurch.org.uk **if you have bought one please collect as soon as possible.** We are keen to get the remaining pews out of the church as soon as possible. Mark Sanderson

St Mary's Electoral Roll There is still time for members on the previous Electoral Roll or for new applicants to be included on the new Roll that will be published in mid-March. Forms are available in Church but these may be difficult to locate whilst the current works are progressing. In case of difficulty, please ring me on 01989 218295. Peter Raddenbury

Walford Church Electoral Roll. All applications will have to be completed by the 17th March and the list will close from 23rd March until the APCM on Monday 8th April 7.30pm Walford Church. Sanna Drummond

'The World Day of Prayer' service this year will be on Friday 1st March at 11.00 am in Christchurch, followed by light refreshments.

All are welcome. Val Allen

Flower Rota I am compiling the Flower Rota for St Mary's and would be delighted to hear from anyone who would either like to provide and arrange their own flowers or who would prefer to make a donation towards the flowers in church. Thank you Freda Davies (Tel 562366)

COFFEE & CAKE (C.O.A.T) Tuesday 26th February, 10.30 am – 12noon hosted by Gay Chinn at Castlebrook, Coughton, HR9 5SG. All welcome for coffee, cake and chat. Many thanks Gay

It was 25 years ago this May that the first women priests were ordained in Hereford. To mark this anniversary, and to celebrate the fact that for 25 years men and women have ministered alongside each other as priests in our diocese, there will be a **celebration Eucharist** in the cathedral at 3.00 pm on Saturday 11th May. The preacher will be John Saxbee, former bishop of Ludlow. This will be followed by tea and cake in the hall at the Bishop's Palace. The cathedral choir isn't available that day and so there are plans to form a choir for the service under the direction of Kay Garlick. There will be more publicity coming out from the diocesan office soon but, in the meantime –

- If you'd like to sing in the choir, please contact Kay at kaygarlick@hotmail.com
- Put the date in your diary
- If you have any photographs of men and women ministering together please let me know. Simon

Coffee Morning Sat. 2nd March 10.30am - 12noon hosted by the Choir - will there be singing? An opportunity to order your Fairtrade Easter Eggs ! Margaret Mason

SERVICES TODAY

8.00am Holy Communion - Ross

The Rev'd Simon Tarlton

9.30am All Age Worship - Ross

The Rev'd Simon Tarlton and Christine Cattanach

See separate service sheet

Please join us for coffee after this service.

11.15am Family Communion - Walford

The Rev'd Canon Chris Blanchard

Hymn: 503 O Jesus, I have promised

Hymn: 960 Taize Gloria

Hymn: 900 Think of a world without any flowers

Hymn: 525 One more step along the world I go

4.00pm Choral Evensong - Ross

The Rev'd Simon Tarlton

Hymn: 631 Fight the good fight

Responses: *Clucas*

Psalm: 147

Hymn: 129 Lord teach us how to pray aright

Canticles: *Dyson* in F

Anthem: O for a closer walk with God - *Stanford*

Hymn: 583 Rejoice, O land, in God thy might

SERVICES NEXT WEEK

Thursday 28th February

10.00am Holy Communion - Ross

Sunday 3rd March

8.00am Holy Communion - Ross

9.30am Sung Eucharist - Ross

9.30am Parish Communion - Walford

11.15am Café Church - Brampton Abbots School

As we approach the interviews for our **next Rector** on 27th & 28th February, please hold the whole process, interview panel, and candidates in your prayers.