



The Benefice of Ross  
with Walford  
and  
Brampton  
Abbotts

# Newsletter

12th May 2019

4th Sunday of Easter

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

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During this last Lent the Bible Study Groups have been studying (with varying degrees of enthusiasm) a Diocesan course about the environment called Future Calling. For some there was not enough “scripture”, for some it was “preaching to the converted”, for some “an eye opener at the contradictions within the accepted mantras of the eco warriors” and for others “a challenge to accepted practices”.

There were three main subjects:- Spiritual, Practical & Social.

Having spent a meeting setting the syllabus we then plunged into the first subject; the Spiritual– is there any spirituality in environmentalism? We asked ourselves if our spiritual view of our planet shapes our bible study, our prayer, our poetry, our pilgrimage. Then the question in reverse, do these things shape our spirituality. For me personally I realised the Romantic Poets talked with the same wonder at God’s creation as any of the Psalmists.

Then on to the Practical, which was for me the most difficult; too many contradictions, too much ‘pie in the sky’ and a feeling of

inadequacy that my little bit won’t make any difference. However we ploughed through Climate Science and International Agreements; The Technology of Renewable Energy; and Our Food considering food miles, packaging, grow-your-own and , vegetarian and vegan diets.

At this meeting we decided to visit the Hereford and Worcester EnviroSort Centre. This has been arranged for Monday 29th July and we would love the whole congregation to join us to see the chasm between the actuality and what the politicians tell us. Ask me about travel arrangements!

Finally, the Social; here the set subjects were a) Beauty: wonder at threatened natural beauty; art and gardening; b) Justice and Compassion: the effects of climate change on the poorest peoples and c) The Economy: what is the economy for; what are our priorities?

And I need to tell you that one group managed to find all three in the Epistle from St. James – a beautiful thing to have done. **Colin.**

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## **TODAY'S COLLECT**

Risen Christ,  
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:  
teach us to hear your voice  
and to follow your command,  
that all your people may be gathered into one  
flock,  
to the glory of God the Father.

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Merciful Father,  
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good  
shepherd,  
and in his love for us to lay down his life and  
rise again:  
keep us always under his protection,  
and give us grace to follow in his steps;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:**

**Terry Carter, John Cripwell**

## **WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND WE PRAY FOR THEIR FAMILIES:**

**Anne Scott, Jennifer Smith, Margaret  
Brimson, Elizabeth Withall**

## **TODAY'S READINGS**

### **First Reading Acts 9.36-43**

36 In Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. 37 At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. 38 Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' 39 So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. 40 Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get

up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. 41 He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. 42 This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. 43 Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

### **Second Reading Revelation 7.9-17**

9 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. 10 They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'

11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, 12 singing, 'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'

13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?' 14 I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

15 For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

16 They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;

17 for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,

and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

### **Gospel Reading John 10.22-30**

22 At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, 23 and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. 24 So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' 25 Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; 26 but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. 27 My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. 29 What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. 30 The Father and I are one.'

### **NOTICES**

**Contemplative Prayer Group** will be meeting on Wednesday 15th May at 11 am in Freda's home. Do join us if you feel you would like to try this form of quiet prayer. Further details from Freda on 562366

**Christian Aid Week May 12 -18** Please remember the house to house collectors in your prayers. There will be a table in church with literature and envelopes for people who did not have someone call on them. Jean Harrison

**Open Gardens Volunteers.** 22/23 June A list for volunteering is at the back of the church. We would be grateful for any help you can offer. There are 2 slots daily of 2hr 45 Mins. Questions? – talk to Peter Reynolds.

**Benefice Activities** – many thanks to everyone who has sent me a note. If you have not done so yet then please send me a list of the groups that you convene; name, purpose, membership, activity. With thanks and hope.

Colin colin.leggate@tiscali.co.uk

**Ross Community Larder** will be holding their **AGM** on Tuesday 14th May at the Friends Meeting House, Brampton Road at 7pm. Business is kept to a minimum and this year our talk will be on 'Modern Day Slavery'. Please join us for what should be a very interesting discussion and also the chance to learn more about the Community Larder in Ross. Light refreshments will be served. Many thanks Lindsay Cole

**Thank you** to everyone who has helped me during my time as administrator. I have enjoyed helping you and look forward to seeing you in the future. I leave you in the knowledge that Louise Jarvis is returning and so it will be 'service as normal'. Nick

**St Mary's Church Cleaning.** We urgently need two or three people to join the cleaning rota, to clean the tables, chairs and floor in the nave about once a month, and to help out occasionally in other parts of the church when people are on holiday. Please contact Janet Cooper (769266) if you think you could help.

**St Michael and All Angels & The Daily Bread** Brampton Abbots Community Open Day Thursday 30th May from 12.30pm - 8.45pm - pop in for afternoon tea 4.00pm-5.00pm and take a look at the recently repaired Church and find out the latest on the Daily Bread project. All welcome BACRG

**Next Sunday, 19th May,** at our 9.30 Sung Eucharist in St Mary's, we celebrate **St. Dunstan's day.** St. Dunstan is the patron saint of, among others, bellringers and so we will be taking this opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for our wonderful teams of ringers. Following the service a quarter peel will be rung. Join us as we acknowledge the great contribution our ringers make to our church and town. Rev'd Simon Tarlton

## For your prayers.

For Alby Button to be baptised in St, Mary's today.

For our new Ross Town Council, recently elected, as they meet on Monday for their first full session.

And please continue to hold Sean, Jenny and their family in your prayers as they continue with their preparations for the big move and also for the people of Weobley and the surrounding villages as they begin their own search for a new Rector.



## SERVICES TODAY

### 8.00am Holy Communion - Ross

The Rev'd Colin Leggate

### 9.30am Sung Eucharist - Ross

The Rev'd Simon Tarlton and The Rev'd Colin Leggate

**Setting:** A People's Mass - *Greening*

**Introit:** 664 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds

**Psalms:** 23

**Grad:** 653 Happy are they, they that love God

**Offertory:** 802 There is a higher throne

**Communion:** Psalm 23 - *Goodall*

**Post Com:** 650 Great is thy faithfulness  
Please *join us for coffee after this service.*

### 9.30am Family Service - Walford

Christine Cattanach

**Hymn:** 649 The King of Love my shepherd is

**Hymn:** 654 The Lord's my shepherd

**Hymn:** 525 One more step along the world I go

### 11.30am Baptism - Ross

The Rev'd Simon Tarlton

### 6.00pm Choral Evensong

The Rev'd Simon Tarlton

**Hymn:** 671 I will sing the wondrous story

**Responses:** *Sanders*

**Psalms:** 147

**Hymn:** 807 Thine forever, God of love

**Canticles:** *Stanford* in C

**Anthem:** The strife is o'er - *Ley*

**Hymn:** 683 Jerusalem the golden

## SERVICES NEXT WEEK

### Thursday 16th May

10.00am Holy Communion - Ross

### Sunday 19th May

8.00am Holy Communion - Ross

9.30am Sung Eucharist - Ross

9.30am Parish Communion - Walford

11.15am Village Service - Brampton Abbots School

11.30am Baptism - Walford