



WELCOME TO BRADWELL CHURCH

WELCOME TO ST LAWRENCE

Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership (Baptist, Church of England, Methodist, URC)

Following Jesus Sharing his Love since 1223AD

Fifth Sunday of Lent 17th March

10.30am Morning Worship (led by the Rev Esther Squire)

Readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34 (p.751); John 12:20-33 (p.1019);

Service officer: Carol Wood & Sally;
Reader: Peter; **Prayers:** Karen; **Music:** Michael; **Tea:** Beth;

Easter Services

- 29th March Good Friday 10.30
- 31st March Easter Sunday 10.30

Palm Sunday 24th March

10.30am Holy Communion (led by the Rev Mary Cotes)

Readings: Mark 11.1-11 (p.960); Psalm 118.1-2,19-24 (p.588);

Service officer: Chris Spikings & Janet; **Reader:** Ros; **Prayers:** Lesley; **Music:** Diana; **Tea:** Sally;

11.45am AGM The Church's annual meeting follows the service after tea and coffee.

St Lawrence is a family friendly church; Children are very welcome

Reflection

Happy St Patrick's Day! Saint Patrick was a fifth-century Romano-British Christian missionary and bishop in Ireland. Known as the "Apostle of Ireland", he is the primary patron saint of Ireland. Although he wasn't brought up in a Christian family, during a time held captive by raiders and working as a shepherd, he turned to God and became a devout Christian. It is believed he had dreams of God telling him to convert Ireland to Christianity. Many legends have been associated with his life, including that he drove away all the snakes from Ireland and that he introduced the Holy Trinity through the three-leaved shamrock. But one thing stands out-he heard the call of God and followed it through difficulties and hardship, saying among other things "It is honourable to reveal and confess the works of God". Something for us to aspire to. **God bless, Esther**



PRAYER POINTERS by Lesley

- Give thanks for a volunteer considering the Bradwell Church treasurer role, and pray for people to fill other vacant roles, especially new SEP ministers.
- For those who feel unwelcome or disrespected in their communities because of race, colour or faith.
- For those finding it difficult to secure work, and for those who feel under-valued in the work they do.
- For those struggling to make ends meet, or who don't know when they will next have a nourishing meal.

We pray for the family and friends of Bishop Alan Wilson and for all those recently bereaved. May they know the peace and comfort of God's love.



We pray for those in particular need, including Clare Vincent; Paul Lund; John Hearn; Esther Squire; Paul Rushton; Lewis Kite, Gill Carey, Brenda Johnson and others known personally to us.

- To add prayers contact Beryl on 01908 321322.

Our Mission Focus in March is **World Vision**, which works to help the most vulnerable children, in the most difficult places, to overcome poverty and experience fullness of life. See www.worldvision.org.uk

HYMNS

957 We want to see Jesus lifted high

242 Hosanna, hosanna

1259 Bless the Lord

1 A new commandment

51 Be thou my vision

NEWS & NOTICES

Paul Smith let me know that his surgery had been completed last Sunday and that he was home. I have not heard any more this week as he has been resting.

CHURCH THIS WEEK

Tue CLT meeting 4:30pm;

Wed Gardening Club 10am; Bell ringing practice 7.45pm;

Gardening Club has returned Wednesdays 10am, everyone is welcome. To find out more speak to Andrew or Angela



Flowers for Easter

We will be decorating the Church with flowers for Easter on Saturday 30th March from 10.00. If anyone would like to come and help please do so. If anyone has any spare greenery please bring it or drop off at Church, donations towards the cost will also be gratefully received. Jenny Brookman

AGM this year's AGM will be held on Sunday 24th March after the service. Please attend this important meeting if you can.

SEP Not to be confused with the Bradwell AGM, the SEP AGM is 7.30pm on Thursday, 25 April at Christ Church, Stantonbury. All members are welcome to attend.

This week in times past

1012AD Ælfheah the Archbishop of Canterbury is murdered by Vikings. The Danes again raided England, laid siege to Canterbury and eventually sacked the town, the Cathedral was plundered and burned by the Danes following

Ælfheah's capture. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle records that "...the raiding-army became much stirred up against the archbishop, because he did not want to offer them any money, and forbade that anything might be granted in return for him. They were very drunk, and pelted him there with bones and the heads of cattle; and one of them struck him on the head, he sank down and his holy blood fell on the earth". Pope Gregory VII canonised Ælfheah in 1078, with a feast day of 19 April. Thomas Becket, a later Archbishop of Canterbury, prayed to Ælfheah just before his murder in Canterbury Cathedral in 1170.

PRAYERS & READINGS

Suggested readings for the week

Mon: 2 Kings 2:13-22; 3 John

Tue: Judges 14:5-17; Rev 10:4-11

Wed: Dan 9:3-6, 17; 1 Tim 6:6-19

Thur: Genesis 2:7-25; Heb 2:5-18

Fri: Genesis 4:1-12; Heb 4:12-16

Sat: 2 Kings 22:11-end; Heb 5:1-10

Prayer Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord.

HOUSEGROUPS

Sun - Diana 01908319405

Mon - First Monday of the Month
Beryl 01908321322

Thur zoom Grayham 01908318418

Thur (eve) - Rod 01908319295

Thur (day) Denise 01908314378

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- AGM 24th Mar
- Good Friday 29th Mar
- Clocks go Forward 31st Mar
- Easter Day 31st Mar
- Whit Sunday 19th May
- Trinity Sunday 26th May

PAUSE FOR THOUGHT from Mike
Waste no more time arguing what a
good person should be. Be one.
Marcus Aurelius

QUIZ set by Mike

Who wrote "The Ecclesiastical
History of the English People"?

Answer: The Venerable Bede. c. AD 731



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Most merciful God, who
by the death and
resurrection of your Son Jesus
Christ delivered and saved the
world: grant that by faith in him
who suffered on the cross we may
triumph in the power of his
victory; through Jesus Christ your
Son our Lord, who is alive and
reigns with you, in the unity of
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
for ever.

Amen

The Rev Dr Paul Smith
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Paul is off duty Monday

BRADWELL CHURCH

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CHRISTIAN SOLIDARITY WORLDWIDE from Beryl

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ... No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. (Romans 8:35;37) This week, can we pray for the hope and encouragement in this verse for a Christian family in **India**? Ayatu Podiyami, 35 years old, and his family have been violently attacked after repeated pressure to renounce their faith and convert back to Hinduism. The police have not been inclined to get involved, saying similar incidents are reported all over the region and their hands are tied. Let us pray for the family's complete healing, for protection of others across the region, and for the perpetrators to have a change of heart.