



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 Easter 28th April

10.30am Holy Communion (led by the Rev Canon Chris Bull)

Readings: Acts 8:26-40 (p.1040); John 15:1-8 (p.1022);

Service officer: Carol Wood & Ping; Reader: Peter; Prayers: Carol; Music: Beryl; Tea: Ghislaine;

Sixth Sunday of Easter 5th May

10.30am Morning Worship (led by Maggie Prisk)

Readings: Acts 10:44-48 (p1043.); John 15:9-17 (p.1023);

Service officer: Alan Potter & Sally; Reader: Ros; Prayers: Lesley; Music: Diana; Tea: Nani;

This Sunday our guest, the **Rev Canon Chris Bull**, Associate Archdeacon of Buckingham will lead us in worship, please give our usual warm welcome.

We also welcome visitors from the **Christian Mission Society** to give a talk about their mission and mingle afterwards for a bring-and share lunch.

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

Reflection by Chris

John 15v1-8: the True Vine: I am probably over-cautious with my pruning – a careful snip here and a little trim there. My mum was always more vigorous than me. My rose bushes had a delicate light trimming, hers were massacred, but always produced better roses. Our Gospel reading is Jesus' final words to his disciples before his arrest. Describing himself as 'the True Vine', he tells them: 'Remain in me and I will remain in you' (v4) and 'bearing fruit will show yourselves to be disciples (v8). There is a simple rule of gardening here: a branch cut off from the rest of the plant withers and dies. Spiritually detached we become useless and unproductive, yet each of us has the capacity to be fruitful, but that fruitfulness only comes from closely walking with Jesus, remaining in him. And as we trust God and cooperate with him in eliminating the weeds and pruning unproductive parts in our lives so he will make us more fruitful than we ever thought possible. The promise is: Cooperate with his growth plan for you, and you will be fruitful.



PRAYER POINTERS by Lesley

- For peace in all troubled areas, not escalation of war, especially remembering the Middle East.
- For all those working in our national and local government, as local elections take place this week.
- For a positive outcome to the process of appointing SEP ministers.
- For our new CMS Mission Partners as they visit the UK this month, especially for our time getting to know them today.

We **pray** for all those recently bereaved and those remembering past bereavements at this time of year. May they know the peace and comfort of God's love.



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

- To add prayers contact Beryl on 01908 321322.

Our **Mission Focus** in March is **Christian Solidarity Worldwide** (CSW), which supports those around the world facing injustice because of their religion or belief. See csw.org.uk

HYMNS

- 204 Hail to the Lord's anointed
- 1 A new commandment
- 30 Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks
- 402 Led like a lamb to the slaughter
- 506 O Lord my God!

CHURCH THIS WEEK

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

NEWS & NOTICES

Food Donations Thank you to everyone who has contributed to

the Westcroft Food Larder. If anyone has carrier bags they no longer need, these are also useful please for bagging up the food

Bring & Share Our new CMS mission partners (C and V with children) serve in Spain and North Africa to share the gospel with Spanish and Arab people, and to support Christians in the Middle East and North Africa. Their latest link letter is on the Tower noticeboard. They are



visiting the UK this month which gives us a good opportunity to meet them - we're looking forward to them being with us this **Sunday** - don't forget our bring-and-share-lunch after the service.

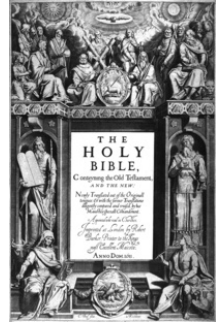
Membership our membership

secretary Janet has been faithfully fulfilling this role for many years and would now like to step down. If anyone is interested to take this role, please let Paul Smith or Alan Potter know or email the church on bradwellchurch@gmail.com

This week in times past

1611 After 7 years the Authorised Version of the bible (known in America as the King James bible) is published. A wonderful use of the English language showing the powerful poetry of those fired by belief. Noted for its "majesty of style", it has been described as one of the most important books in English culture and a driving force in the shaping of the English-speaking world. It is further considered one of the most important literary accomplishments of early modern

England. Enormous care was taken with the translation and the literary style of the English New Testament actually turned out to be superior to that of its Greek original. Within a year every Church in the country had its version chained to the pulpit.



PRAYERS & READINGS

Suggested readings for the week

Mon Genesis 15:1-18; Rom 4:13-25

Tue Deut 8:1-10; Matthew 6:19-34

Wed Hosea 13:4-14; 1 Cor 15:50-58

Thur Exod 3:1-15; Mark 12:18-27

Fri Ezek 36:33-38; Romans 8:1-11

Sat Isaiah 38:9-20; Luke 24:33-53

Prayer Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Prayer Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

HOUSEGROUPS

Sun - Diana 01908319405

Mon - First Monday of the Month
Beryl 01908321322

Thur zoom Grayham01908318418

Thur (eve) - Rod 01908319295

Thur (day) Denise 01908314378

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Bring-and-share lunch 28th Apr
- Whit Sunday 19th May
- Trinity Sunday 26th May
- Chuks last service 26th May

PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

 from Mike

There is nothing better than a good person. They can change your whole day; they can change your whole life
Anon

QUIZ

 set by Mike

Q. True or false. The modern Bikini was created partly because of a shortage of material following the 2nd World War

Answer: True



COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

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Paul is off duty Mondays

BRADWELL CHURCH

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CHRISTIAN SOLIDARITY WORLDWIDE

 from Beryl

This week marked one year since war broke out in the Sudan. Few places in the country have been spared the large-scale hostilities, and its impact on civilians has been catastrophic, the war having claimed the lives of at least 13,000 people. The number facing hunger is now estimated to be as high as **20 million**. **The time for urgent action is now**. Please pray for a concerted global effort to bring an end to the conflict and that the Lord would provide for those who remain in Sudan, and those who have been forced to flee – including Christians and others who may be vulnerable because of their religion or belief. **And finally, that Sudan would finally be free from cycles of war, destruction and unjust leaders.**