



All Saints, Mudeford



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

The Parish of Mudeford

Weekly News Sheet



High Cross Somerford

Sunday 7th February 2021

Second Sunday before Lent

www.allsaintsmudeford.org

“He is the image of the invisible God”

It is great to have our hearts and minds lifted up in worship of our God, Jesus Christ. Paul in his wonderful letter to the Colossians writes to give them vision. They are a very young and fragile church in Colossae facing various threats. He lifts up their hearts to behold a vision of Jesus.

“He is the image of the invisible God”. He says “in Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,”

The Christians in Colossae were struggling against three main problems:

- there was a sect which thought of Jesus as a spiritual or a divine emanation. In the gospels we see a Jesus who is truly human and dies in agony on the cross.
- The 2nd a bigger immediate threat is that Colossae was part of the Roman empire. Everyone there had to proclaim that Caesar was king; Caesar was God. To say that Jesus was king, Jesus was God, was subversive.
- Thirdly – every town had its Gods that had to be appeased. If you didn’t serve those Gods or attend the procession, the Gods could be angry and cause an earthquake or plague. Christians not joining in would be viewed as a threat to the peace and security of a town.

The image of Caesar was everywhere. There were images of Caesar in the market, in the temples, at the gym, on jewellery,. If you were a good citizen, worthy of the best jobs, you would have a house full of pictures of Caesar. Hailing Christ as Lord, or just not wearing the image of Caesar made Christians stand out.

Paul wants to encourage the church but was not in the best of places himself. He was in prison, probably in Ephesus, and he might have felt that he was in a dark place. Yet he encourages the Colossians to ignore that image of Caesar pressing down on them and lift their eyes to see the image of Christ. It leaves little doubt as to who is sovereign in all creation and it isn’t Caesar. We are to re-imagine the world as one in which Christ is king and have our imaginations empowered.

I love that verse “ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things”, I don’t know what expression you imagine on God’s face when you come before him. Is it a face that says “ Oh it’s you well you’re a bit of a disappointment” No it says here that our God, our Jesus, will be pleased to see you. May our vision be caught up in looking forward to seeing that smile on the face of our Jesus, our God and creator.

Rev Andrew Jablonski



Collect.

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, **Amen**

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. **Amen**

Online Service from 7am Sundays

Our internet services, prayers, and talks are posted on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/parishofmudeford/> and on You Tube Channel. Both of these can be accessed from our web site at www.allsaintsmudeford.org

Online Service for 7th February from 7am Holy Communion

Sermon: Rev Andrew Jablonski

Reading: Colossians 1: 11-20 by Wendy Ashley

Gospel reading: John 1: 1-14

Prayers with Ann Smith

In our Parish

We continue to ask for God's healing presence in the lives of those who are unwell, those in hospital and those waiting for treatment.

We remember especially Marion, Amanda, Canon Patrick, Sarah, Liz, David, Sheila, Tony, Doreen, Angela, Robert, Stephen, Betty, John, Joan, Michelle, Diana, Richard, Brenda, Jessie & Ian



We pray for the Faithful Departed and all those who mourn. We remember all those still suffering from Covid 19 especially those known to us and those who care for them. We pray for all those who are lonely and anxious because of the current restrictions and missing their families and friends. We pray that with the progress of the vaccine programme there is hope that things will slowly improve. We give thanks for those who care for the sick and those working hard to deliver the vaccine to all areas of the country.

We continue to pray for our missionary links around the world. We hold in our prayers especially: The girls in The House of Joy, the people of Kinkiizi, the Julius and Dora Children's Centre in Kenya, Chris & Veronica Padayachee our CMS link partners. We pray the work of St Francis Hospital, Zambia. We also remember Jeremy Nash and the people of Burkina Faso in West Africa.

A special request. We have been asked to join in prayer for the Anglican Church in Myanmar, for Archbishop Stephen and his family, and the citizens of the country during the political upheaval.

MISSION POT:

During February we shall be supporting **Christchurch Food Bank +** See more details in February's edition of The Anchor.

Leprosy Mission

The Christian Leprosy Mission's project this year is for Community Hubs in Mozambique where villagers can get treatment and education about leprosy. The UK Gov match funding scheme is from now until 24th April, so the mission pot at church will be for this cause during March.

'Thy Kingdom Come'

This is a nation wide call to prayer which you can access via the Church of England web site. There is a booklet you can download so that you can join in prayer daily with the rest of the nation.

The Anchor

The Editors would like your contributions for the March edition regarding TV, radio or internet programmes that you have enjoyed during the last year. The deadline is 16th Feb.

Pastoral Care:

Please contact: Rev Anne Jablonski
01425 240018
or Tony Eden 01202 473003

If you are in need of shopping please get in contact with us to help arrange for someone to contact you. If you are able to shop for someone please let us know.

Priest-in-Charge of Mudeford

Revd Andrew Jablonski 01425 240018
Email: andrewjab@googlemail.com

Associate Priest

Revd Anne Jablonski 01425 240018

This Week online

Monday 8th Feb MU prayers

Thursday 11th Feb. Messy Church

Date for your diary

Lent Course. Our Lent course this year will be "Trees in the Bible". Revd Stephen Startup has prepared 6 sessions which will probably start around Tuesday 23rd February (Ash Wednesday is on 17th February). The study considers six trees which illustrate God's plan of salvation. So if you have any photos, drawings, paintings or poems on trees, each week there will be space to have a look at some of these.

The course will be available both on line and in paper version. If anyone wants a paper version please call Judy or Tony on 473003. 01202

Appeal to all Church members towards Improved Lighting and Audio/ Visual installation in All Saints Church

Last week we mentioned in the newsletter that work is scheduled to start in March to improve the church lighting and install a new Audio/ Visual system in the church. The total cost of this project is likely to be up to £64,400. The members of the PCC have agreed to allocate £32,200 from reserves, to help with the finance of this project. (This money comes from legacies left by our past church members). The legacy from our dear friend Vera Gale will add a further £10,000 and this leaves us needing to find the remainder of the money. We have applied to three Grant Making organisations for £12,200.

We are now making an Appeal to all our church members to raise the remaining **£10,000**.

If you are prepared to make a donation towards this appeal, however large or small, please would you help in one of three ways:

Cash – with a note to say that it is for the Appeal

Cheque: made payable to The PCC of Mudeford

Direct to our Bank - BACS sort code 52-21-34, account number: 03060012, making it clear that it is for "The Appeal."

Thank you very much for your support. If we raise more money than is needed to pay all the bills for this project, we will hold these funds over for further maintenance and improvement work in the church.

Tony – Church Treasurer



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

**If you would like any
Traidcraft food items
please contact Pauline
and you might be able to
collect the items from
her front porch**

Pauline's contact number is: 01202 241395

Cards by Rachel Nash

Rachel is still selling her beautiful greetings cards with profits going to Burkino Faso. Her email address is

rachel.nash.cards@gmail.com

She delivers to your door or you can pick them up at Pauline's

Our Vision for Mission

This Parish seeks to be inclusive in extending God's kingdom, by encouraging the whole community to grow in the Christian faith through prayer and worship and to care for others through pastoral and practical support.