# What's happening in the Team this week

For more details of local events, please see Team News

Wed 18 March
Thurs 19 March

Walk in Wednesday 10am—3pm

10am Eucharist to celebrate Joseph of

Nazareth. St Mary's, Beaminster

Lunchtime Concert, St Mary's, Beaminster.

12:00 - 12:45pm. Admission Free.

# **Prayer Topics for the Coming Week**

# Please pray for:

- Stoke Abbott in our team cycle of prayer. For churchwarden Annie,
   PCC members and the congregation.
- those involved in making decisions about the Corona virus: those involved in frontline healthcare, those who are poorly and those who are concerned.
- generosity and compassion in our lives looking out for those who are vulnerable or isolated.
- those preparing for weddings in our team this summer.

#### The Hub

As promised this week's update on how we should respond to the present state of the Covid- 19 Virus. Below I have reproduced the letter from the Archbishops to all clergy.

'It is our view, in the light of the continued increase in Covid-19 cases in the United Kingdom, that it is now necessary to suspend the administration of the chalice as well as physical contact during sharing the peace, blessing or "laying on of hands".

We therefore advise that all priests should:-

- Offer Communion in one kind only to all communicants i.e. the consecrated bread/wafer/host, with the priest alone taking the wine;
- Suspend handshaking or other direct physical contact during the sharing of the peace;
- Suspend direct physical contact as part of blessing or "laying on of hands" '.

The diocese is adopting the national church's guidance and we all must ensure that we follow it fully. If you wish to read the guidance in full it is available on the Church of England website to which there is a link from our own team website. I will continue to keep us all fully aware of any updates or revisions in what is a fast developing situation and which is current as I write this on Thursday past.

David

# PEW NEWS

Beaminster Area Team Ministry



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Rev. Jo Neary
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# **Third Sunday of Lent**

Exodus 17. 1-7 Psalm 95 Romans 5. 1-11 John 4. 5-42

Purple Year A

#### Collect

Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up to joy
but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory
before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we,
walking in the way of the cross,
may find it none other than
the way of life and peace;
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.

#### Post Communion

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Please take this copy of Pew News away with you for reference during the week.

If you would like material about Church events included in the Pew News, please bring it to the Church Office, or e-mail beaminsterteam@gmail.com by 9am on the Wednesday before publication

\*Please note that I will be on holiday the week beginning 23 March . However, the office will be staffed each day from 10.30—12.30\*

## Eco Pause for Thought: Care For Wildlife

Take a look around your garden and see how many flowers are out or beginning to come.

\*Sadly the ECO walk on 22March will be postponed due to the wet & mud!\*

## First Reading — Romans 5. 1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

## Gospel Reading — John 4. 5-42

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink," you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

Many Samaritans from that city believed in Jesus because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.

## **Nursing in the Arctic**

An interesting **talk and delicious tea,** Thursday 19th March 2pm at Netherhay Chapel. £4 raising funds for Christian Aid and the chapel.