



If we have learned anything over the past few weeks it must be that life is precarious, life is precious and that particularly when we think everything is stable and secure and will go on being the same, we can suddenly come face to face with the unexpected. All our plans, all our securities can be thrown into disarray, we no longer feel secure because we realise that anything can happen at any moment.

The world feels a precarious place to be - the threat of attack, people suffering violence and death people living in poverty, wandering the earth with nowhere to call home.

There are people in our own country, in our own and many other communities who are struggling to make ends meet, having to rely on food banks and charitable donations, having benefits cut, living on the streets.

How can we keep going in the midst of all the fear and uncertainty, in the worry for our families and ourselves, for all those we love?

Everything seems dark.

And yet - if we look, really look, it is possible to see glimmers of light, we can have hope.

As I write, the bright winter sun is showing very clearly the beauty of nature, there is blossom on trees, there are snowdrops beginning to show. There are signs of hope.

At times of disaster and crisis communities stand together, help one another, risk personal danger to save another human being.

When people are in real difficulty, through illness or bereavement for instance, there are offers of help, kindness sometimes from the most unlikely places, meals being cooked, shoulders to cry on, hands to hold - glimmers of light, signs of hope. From darkness to light, from despair to hope.

Are we people of hope? Henri Nouwen says this :

"The person of hope lives in the moment with the knowledge and trust that all life is in good hands"

Good hands, God's hands.

Our hope is from God, not the hope that everything will go back to normal and be ok, but the firm hope that whatever happens God is holding us.

Even when we are in the darkest times there are signs of that hope, glimmers of light, but we need to look for them, to recognise them for what they are. Out of the darkest times good will come, light will shine, God will show himself afresh to us, show that we are in his good hands.

So let us entrust our world, our community, all those we love and ourselves into those loving hands.

Linda



PARISH DIRECTORY

Vicar	Rev. David Maher until further notice please phone	07764 613862
Assistant Curate	Rev. Judith Gretton-Dann	750013
Assistant Curate	Rev. Rachel Blanchflower	523066
Assistant Curate	Rev. John Polkinghorne	360743
Assistant Curate	Rev. Harry Rose	01954 211553
Licensed Lay Minister	Linda Dean	328658
Licensed Lay Minister	Terry Barringer	424584
Authorised Lay Minister (Admin & Music)	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Authorised Lay Minister (Pastoral Care)	Lilas Davison	354300
Authorised Lay Minister (Social Awareness)	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Churchwarden	Fiona Blows	329822
Churchwarden	Philip Morris	352698
PCC Chairman	Rev. David Maher	see above
PCC Vice Chairman	Fiona Blows	329822
PCC Secretary	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
PCC Treasurer	Jinty Keir	572303
PCC Electoral Roll Officer	Lilas Davison	354300
Administrator	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Convenor PCC Buildings and Grounds Team	David Wilson	720097
Convenor PCC Children and Families Team	Hazel Maher	351844
Convenor PCC Discipleship and Teaching Team	David Maher	see top of page
Convenor PCC Pastoral Team	Linda Dean	328658
Convenor PCC Social Awareness Team	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Convenor PCC Worship and Music Team	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Altar Linen	Margaret Handley	357970
Assistant Treasurer	Bill Elsey	357622
Chalice Bearers	Bill Elsey	357622
Children's Society	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Church Hall Bookings	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Coffee Makers	Guido Barzini	300497
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Evelyn Walker	364067
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Paula Carter	07952 919701
Intercessors	John Lamont	565559
Jimmy's Night Shelter	Paula Carter	07952919701
Food Bank	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Lesson Readers	Rhodri James	357607
Good Shepherd News Editor	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
North Cambridge Council of Churches	David Maher	see top of page
Registrar of Planned Giving Envelopes	Lilas Davison	354300
Rural Development Movement	Henry Disney	359396
Sacristan	Stuart Keir	572303
Safeguarding Officer	Paula Carter	07952 919701
Servers	Bill Elsey	357622
Sidesmen & Sideswomen	Fiona Blows	329822
Sound System	David Wilson	07899 917831
Sunday Lunch Club	Jinty Keir	572303

READINGS FOR FEBRUARY

Sundays and holy days

- 5 FOURTH SUNDAY BEFORE LENT
Isaiah 58: 1-9
1 Corinthians 2: 1-12
Matthew 5: 13-20
- 12 THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT
Deuteronomy 30: 15 - end
1 Corinthians 3: 1-9
Matthew 5: 21-37
- 19 SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT
Genesis 1: 1 – 2: 3
Romans 8: 18-25
Matthew 6: 25 - end
- 26 SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT
Exodus 24: 12 - end
1 Peter 1: 16 - end
Matthew 17: 1-9

Weekdays at 9.30am

- 1 Hebrews 12: 4-7, 11-15
Mark 6: 1-6
- 8 Genesis 2; 4-9, 15-17
Mark 7: 14-23
- 15 NO SERVICE
- 22 James 1: 19 - end
Mark 9: 38-40

FIRST CALL

Sunday February 5 at 7pm in the Chapel



REGULAR SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

- Sundays 8.30am Holy Communion
10am Parish Communion
- Wednesdays 9.30am Holy Communion
- Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
Morning Prayer, when said in church, will be at 9.15.
Second Monday of each month will be set aside for Staff Prayer.

SPECIAL SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

Sunday February 26 All Age Service at 10am



EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

- Sunday February 5 at 12 noon Sunday Lunch Club meets in the Church Hall
- Wednesday February 15 10.30-1.30 Family Activities and Lunch
- Saturday February 25 Welsh Evening at 7.30pm. Bring and Share Supper.
- Tuesday February 28 Shrove Tuesday Fish and Chip Supper at 6.30pm



God Moves in Mysterious Ways

At the beginning of December last year I caught sight of a notice at the back of church with the title: 'Have you ever thought of becoming a school chaplain?' Intrigued, I read on. The course was free and there was no commitment to be a chaplain at the end of it. It was being run by The Church Schools of Cambridge and sounded interesting. I found myself re-reading it on several occasions – at Food Bank, at choir practice and on Sundays. 'Could someone be trying to tell me something?' I wondered. Eventually, I decided that it wouldn't do any harm to try to find out a bit more.

I emailed and was invited to go along to an introductory meeting the next day which was being held in the hall at St Andrew's Chesterton. Off I went and I was very surprised to find my next door neighbour there! I had no idea that he was already a school chaplain! I began to think that this was all very encouraging. I was even more pleased to discover that the venue we were in was to be where we would meet for the course. (I was dreading having to drive across the Fens!)

Everyone was very friendly and most of us signed up there and then. As I have only ever taught in 'ordinary' schools I did check that it wasn't only for church schools and was pleased to hear that it was suitable for any schools.

Our course started on January 25th. There were 12 sessions: Chaplaincy in context, Pastoral care, Theological reflection on schools as Christian communities, What is school? Relationship and witness (x2), Spirituality, RE, Collective worship and finally, on July 18th, Relationship with the Church, networking and resources.

I learnt a lot - both from the speakers and from the discussions we all had together. The homework wasn't too arduous and slowly I began to think how I could perhaps have a useful input somewhere.

On November 21st we will all be gathering in Michael House to receive our certificates. It will be good for us all to be together again. Some will already have found a school to be in. Others, like me, will be approaching schools soon. Please pray for us all as we try to find schools where we can serve as chaplains in a meaningful way.

Liz Collinson

SELECTIVE JOURNALISM
(first published in 2012 in 'TEACH US OF LOVE')

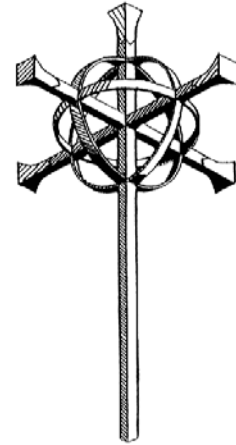
The best and worst of media hacks
Believe themselves by duty bound
To guard our rights for freedom won
To speak our thoughts or else expound
Beliefs we hold, however daft
Or when profound. But most refuse
To give the time or space to those
Purveying Christian views they choose
As lens with which to scan our lives.
They'll pounce on dastard deeds performed
In name of sect obsessed with sin,
Or else by strident fringe deformed
By ignorance and hate that leads
To use of bomb to further aims.
But when a paper's asked to write
Review of book that just proclaims
The Gospel's clear, persistent call
For peace and justice, real respect,
Compassion felt for all, it bins
Request without reply. Defect
Of manners didn't cross his mind,
As bigot quite forgot to send
Rejection slip. The freedom long
Proclaimed he'd failed to now defend.
Perhaps he felt he mustn't give
A voice to views he knows will not
Appeal to some of readers. But
He's quick to take apart the grot
Our politician's serve with spin.
Perhaps he's just a cynic clot
Who censors with a blinkered mind,
Or else to own defects he's blind.

Henry Disney

IN THE CHURCH HALL (to book call 352151 (evenings))

THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB 1 st Sunday of the month noon – 1.30pm	Jinty Keir	572303
RED HEN Monday 8.15 – 11am	Christine O'Reilly	0781 6444439
SANG Monday 10– 11.30 (meets in Haven in Church)	Rachel Blanchflower	523066
THE MONDAY CLUB Monday 2.00 – 3.30pm	Ruby Leyshon	352151
THE GOOD SHEPHERD CUBS Monday 6.30 - 8pm	Charles Brown	07720 441123
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Monday 8.15 - 9.15pm	Susannah O'Hanlon	235281
LINE DANCING Tuesday 10.15 - 11.45am	Deborah Walker	01954 231382
KEEP FIT 50+ GROUP Tuesday 2.30 - 4pm	Margaret Briggs	01954 250870
THE GOOD SHEPHERD RAINBOWS Tuesday 6.15 – 7.15pm	Miss Rachel Marsh	574520
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Tuesday 7.30 - 9.30pm	Susannah O'Hanlon	235281
THE 18th & 25th GOOD SHEPHERD BROWNIES Wednesday 6 - 7.15pm	Mrs Pat Marsh	574520
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Tuesday 7.30 - 9.30pm	Susannah O'Hanlon	235281
YOGA STRETCHING AND MOBILITY Wednesday 9.25-10.15am	Lexi	367639
TAI CHI Wednesday 12.50-1.40	Lexi	367639
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION 3 rd Wednesday of the month 2.30 - 4.30pm January to November	Mr. Gawthrop	351855
UNITE RETIRED MEMBERS' ASSOCIATION 4 th Wednesday of the month 2 – 4pm	Evelyn Hunnyball	364293
THE GOOD SHEPHERD BEAVERS Thursday 6.15 - 7.30pm	Emma Roberts	426043
THE GOOD SHEPHERD SCOUTS Thursday 7.30 – 9.00pm	Chris White	0700 891511
CHURCH TODDLERS' CLUB Friday 9.15 – 11.30am	Claire Duell	0787 4850867
PILATES Friday 12.50 – 1.40pm	Lexi	367639
TAI CHI Friday 2 – 3pm	Mike Tabrett	503390
SIN CRU Friday 5-7.30pm (Term time only)	Lucy Crowe	07989 927706
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Friday 3.13-4.15pm	Arbury Road Vet. Surgery	361911

**Submission date for
March Newsletter:
February 12
(Publication date February 26)**



Church Hall bookings
(evenings) 01223 352151

Newsletter Ruth Banger 07764 613862
OR ruthbanger51@gmail.com

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Here at the Good Shepherd we like to help you to celebrate and commemorate many of the milestones on the journey through life; these include weddings, anniversaries, funerals, and baptism services.

If you wish to find out more about these, the first step is to contact us. We will be able to tell you what is involved and arrange for a meeting with you if you then wish to take things further.

Please email vicar@churchofthegoodshepherd.co.uk

Church website: www.churchofthegoodshepherd.co.uk

