

Pews News & Notices for Harbury, Ladbroke & Ufton

10th January 2021 : Baptism of Christ

Websites: All Saints', Harbury - allsaintsharbury.org

All Saints', Ladbroke - ladbrokechurch.org.uk

WORSHIPPING GOD - GROWING IN FAITH - WORKING IN COMMUNITY

HARBURY, LADBROKE & UFTON SERVICES

JANUARY 2021

10th	Holy Communion Baptism of Christ	Service via Zoom/YouTube
17th	Family Service Second Sunday of Epiphany	"
24th	Holy Communion Third Sunday of Epiphany	"
31st	Holy Communion Presentation of Christ in the Temple	"

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK - Ann Mulley

"God rejoices in small acts of love." Justin Welby

Justin Welby's New Year message really connected – perhaps because he'd put aside some of his Archbishop duties to work hands on with suffering people as a chaplain in St Thomas Hospital and spoke out of that. One part particularly struck me. Having talked about the pain of grief and loss he went on to say he had hope.

"Here at the hospital, hope is there in every hand that's held, and every comforting word that's spoken. Up and down the country, it's there in every phone call. Every food parcel or thoughtful card. Every time we wear our masks."

Justin said the bible shows that "God rejoices in these small acts of love — because they reveal who we truly are: human beings made in God's image, deeply connected to one another. Such gestures speak to me of Jesus — the one who shows us what God's love looks like. And for this reason, we can have hope for each and every month ahead."

These are strange times. The rapidly rising rate of Covid infection casts a dark shadow. Government imposed restrictions and lockdowns dictate what we can do and we seem to have little control over our lives. We can't organise our vaccinations – we just have to wait patiently.

We can feel scared, angry, depressed or helpless. But God is with us in it all as our refuge and strength holding out his hand in love.

What's more, Justin Welby reminded us that we're far from helpless, that however restricted we are, each of us can make a positive difference for good. We can bring hope and comfort to others, perhaps just in small acts of love. Someone who'd just lost her son said "It helps to know that people care".

Perhaps we don't think of God rejoicing in us as we pick up the phone to speak to someone who is lonely or send flowers to someone who is hurting, or drop off tins in the library car park or the library itself for the Foodbank, or take steps to reduce our own carbon footprint for the sake of others, or send money to a charity working to relieve suffering in countries where things are far worse than here or pray for people or all the other small acts of love. Yet Justin reminds us that God does just that. This Sunday we celebrate the baptism of Jesus and remember him coming up out of the water to hear God saying to him "This is my beloved son with whom I am well pleased" But through Jesus, as John's gospel reminds us, we are each a son or daughter of God. God looks at us with love when we go out in love to others. Just think of him saying to you "This my beloved son, this is my beloved daughter, with whom I am well pleased."

Perhaps we don't think our acts of love speak of Jesus yet each kindness shows a little of what his love is like and in each act of kindness we meet with him..

So perhaps a belated New Year's resolution is to spend less time fretting about the things out of our control and more time asking God to show us who to reach out to and what little acts of love we can do to bring hope to others.

PRAYER

Loving God,

In the shadow of this pandemic be our light and hope.

In our fear and worry be our hope and support.

In our pain and loss be our comfort and strength.

In our frustration and confusion bring us love and peace.

Bless us, your beloved sons and daughters, Lord and help us

by big or small acts of love to be a blessing to others and

a joy to your heart through the love of Jesus Christ.

Amen

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Please remember in your prayers this week:-

*Jeff, Mike, Chris, Caroline, John, Kaven, Olivia, Kate, Sue,
Nora Ellis, Emma Paine, Janice, Eveline Tennant,
Melissa Smith, Carol, Lucy, Jean Reed & Aaron Smith.*

***We remember before God and
pray for the families of:-***

Jane Rutherford, David Bowell & Lillian Coast.

Please remember in your prayers:-

the continued efforts of all our NHS & front line staff.

***In our year's mind we remember and
give thanks for the lives of:-***

*Neil Robb, Malcolm Snow, Norah Gray, Mildred Roberts,
Neville Ellis, Thomas Fisher, Doris Gillies,
Jack Gilbey, Maud Playdon & Peter Snow.*

ON-LINE WORSHIP

- * Coventry Cathedral at 9:15 am on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/coventrycathedral>
- * St Michael's Church, Bishop's Itchington www.stmichaelschurch.co.uk
- * St Nicholas Church, Radford Semele www.stnicholasrestored.co.uk
- * St Mark's Coventry at 10:30 am on YouTube - <https://www.stmarkscoventry.org/online>
- * St Paul's, Leamington at 10:00 am <https://stpaulsleamingtonspa.churchsuite.co>.
- * St Mary Magdalene, Lillington <https://lillingtonparishchurch.org> click on streaming and all their services
- * St Andrew's Shottery, Stratford-upon-Avon <https://www.saintandrewshottery.org> (Sunday service via Zoom - click on Services which will take you to 'current month' link where you can access Zoom details)

NOTICES

LADBROKE : Behind the Scaffolding at Ladbroke Church. What has been happening over the last 6 months with the funds raised and grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund? Now is your chance to see for yourself without getting cold, wet or muddy! Join us on Zoom at 2pm on Thursday 28th January. It's free but you need to book ahead on Eventbrite (search for Ladbroke Church) to receive joining instructions. Jackie West

SUPPORT : If you know of any individuals who need additional support please do let myself or the wardens know. Rev Andy

CHILDREN'S CHURCH : Whilst we have been unable to meet in person, Children's Church has been sending out packs each week with a story, craft and prayer idea to do at home. We have 2 groups: the under 8's and the over 8's. If you or someone you know would like one of these packs (usually delivered on a Saturday), please email childrenschurch@allsaintsharbury.org with the children's names, ages and an address to deliver to. We would love to include you! Rev Ann & Amy

COFFEE MORNINGS : Here is the link for coffee mornings through to February 17th 2021. Rev Andy Batchelor is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Coffee. All at 11am on 13th, 20th, 27th January; 3rd, 10th & 17th February. Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92309855367?>

pwd=b1pTMVluVDNqclJ5Y1FFZ2FkOHA4QT09

Meeting ID: 923 0985 5367

Passcode: 275069

MORNING PRAYER : Each week day morning via Zoom and anyone is welcome. (Monday to Thursday - Alison, Friday - Rev Andy). You do not have to live in the parish or be familiar with morning prayer; you are welcome even if you have not been before. If you are interested send me an email (alison@abt1.net) and I will reply with the Zoom invitation which will enable you to join. Alison Abbott

ALL SAINTS' HARBURY WEBSITE <https://allsaintsharbury.org/>
You will find information such as opening the church for prayer, online services & the latest pewsheets, together with our Heat Light & Stone Appeal. A donation button is on the website to receive a "collection".

ALL SAINTS', HARBURY : Church is open for private prayer on Sundays & Wednesdays, 11am - 3pm. Anyone is welcome to come at these times but must read & follow the signs to keep all visitors as safe as possible.

ALL SAINTS', LADBROKE: We will open most Sundays from 2-4pm for private prayer but due to the repairs, which include the porch floor, this may not be possible every week so please check the services and events calendar before coming.

DAILY HOPE is the FREE DAILY DIAL-IN WORSHIP PHONE LINE set up by the Archbishop of Canterbury offering music, prayers, reflections and full worship services 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044. It's been set up particularly for those unable to join online church services.

COVENTRY DIOCESE WEBSITE <https://www.coventry.anglican.org>
We are told that the the Equipping Disciples section has some great resources for prayer and wellbeing.

*May we who are merely inconvenienced
remember those whose lives are at stake.*

*May we who have no risk factors
remember the most vulnerable.*

*May we who have the luxury of working from home
remember those who must choose between preserving their health or
making ends meet.*

*May we who have the flexibility to care for our
children when schools close
remember those who have no options.*

*May we who have to cancel our trips
remember those who have no safe place to go.*

*May we who are losing our margin money in the
tumult of the economic market
remember those who have no margin at all.*

*May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
remember those who have no home.*

*As fear grips our country,
let us choose love.*

*During this time when we cannot physically wrap
our arms around each other*

*let us find ways to be the loving embrace of
God to our neighbours.*

Amen