



BENEFICE OF
OSNEY

ST. MARGARET, BINSEY ♦
ST. FRIDESWIDE, OSNEY

ST. PETER & ST. PAUL, BOTLEY ♦
ST. LAWRENCE, NORTH HINKSEY

www.osneybenefice.org.uk

NOTICES

21st February 2021

First Sunday of Lent

Readings for this Sunday:

Genesis 9.8-17

Psalm 25.1-9

[1 Peter 3.18-end]

Mark 1.9-15

Dear Friends,

*“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near;
repent and believe in the good news.”*

Mark 1. 9-15

With these words, Jesus begins his ministry in Galilee, immediately after John the Baptist has been arrested and Jesus himself has spent forty days in the wilderness being tempted by the devil, after his own baptism by John. These events follow each other swiftly in Mark's gospel, setting the pace for the evangelist's narrative moving towards Jerusalem and the events of Easter.

Our season of Lent, which began last Wednesday, has its origins in those forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness. We can imagine it as a kind of spiritual retreat, of preparation after his baptism to take his very special place in the story of God's relationship with his chosen people and with the world.

Today it may well feel that we are all on retreat, restricted in our movements but not in a desert, surrounded as we are with so much life. As I look out of my window at the birds clustering on the feeders, I can't feel as cut off from the world as Jesus was during those forty days. Nevertheless, it is a time when our readings and prayers can be directed towards reflecting on the past year, on what we have done individually and collectively that we feel good – or not so good - about, and trying to get closer to the God who is with us through all the ups and downs of our daily lives.

One of my Lent books this year is based on the writing of Julian of Norwich, the medieval mystic who spent thirty years doing just that, and her conclusion should give us hope:

'I often asked to know what was our Lord's meaning.....Learn it well. Love was his meaning....before ever God made us, he loved us. And this love was never quenched, nor ever shall be.'

God is with us always. May this Lent be a time when we welcome Him into our hearts and our homes to be our companion and comforter.

John



Lent across the Benefice

Lent is a time for reflection and study in preparation for the celebrations of Easter. This year there will be two opportunities to join study courses:

- Starting **on Wednesday 24th February at 7.30pm**, North Hinksey parish will be following a five-week course entitled '**Glimpses of God – Hope for Today's World**' via Zoom.

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/89245905585?pwd=cEVRTINRZSt4NIQvb1RDWTIzMGFGZz09>

Meeting ID: 892 4590 5585. Passcode: H6PVNw

The booklet, written by Canon David Winter, includes questions aimed at provoking wide-ranging discussion. The participants on the course audio are the Rt Hon. Shirley Williams, Archbishop Stephen Cottrell, and Revd Professor David Wilkinson. The Revd Lucy Winkett provides the Closing Reflection at the end of each session.

More details about the session titles and format of the course can be found at: <https://www.yorkcourses.co.uk/product/glimpses-of-god-hope-for-todays-world>. Please sign up with Clare or John if you would like to participate.

- St Frideswide parish will be reflecting on the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book for this year, **Living His Story - Revealing the Extraordinary Love of God in Ordinary Ways** by Hannah Steele. Please contact Kate for a Zoom link.

General Notices

Pastoral support: If you (or someone you know) would particularly appreciate a (socially-distanced outdoors) **pastoral visit** or a phone call from one of the clergy, please do let Clare know.

Weekly Notices: If you have any items for next weeks' notice sheet please email Gwen by lunchtime next Wednesday osneybenefice@outlook.com

North Hinksey with Botley

Botley School has launched a fund-raising campaign to help with online learning as a number of children have to go into school because they have no means to access online learning at home. In some cases there are several children in one family who are unable to learn. The link is below if you would like to support Botley School.

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/covid-fund-raising-money-for-online-learning>

Paying in cheques: our local Barclays branch has closed and it is now more time-consuming to pay money into the PCC's account. If you are thinking of making a donation to the church or need to make a payment to us for any other reason, please use on-line banking if possible. (contact John Clements for our account details) or use the link to our giving page [North Hinksey with Botley Giving Page](#) Either will save us time and stress. Thank you, John Clements.

Worship at Home and in Church

Worship this week – Sunday 21st February

Sunday:	St. Frideswide:	8.30am BCP HC in person
	St Peter & St Paul:	9.30 am Eucharist <i>on zoom</i>
	St. Frideswide:	10.30am Eucharist in person
	St Frideswide:	5.00pm Evening worship <i>on zoom</i>
Monday:	St Peter & St Paul:	9.30am Morning Prayer <i>on zoom</i>
Friday:	St Peter & St Paul:	9.30am Morning Prayer <i>on zoom</i>

See below for the zoom links

Online Worship

Sundays:

9.30am The Eucharist via Zoom hosted by St. Peter and St. Paul. Contact Clare. Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/82160489790?pwd=aHBZanIDUHdrcmtpeXRBZXNiRGtwQT09>

Meeting ID: 821 6048 9790

Passcode: 41Q3i2

5.00pm Evening Prayer via Zoom, hosted by St Frideswide, Contact Kate

Mondays:

9.30am Morning Prayer via Zoom contact John Clements

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77244551882?pwd=RFZNYW9zaIZQbiswSE5TR0VTOXBPUT09>

Meeting ID: 772 4455 1882

Passcode: 8rgsT2

Wednesdays:

9.30am The Eucharist via Zoom hosted by St. Peter and St. Paul. Contact Clare. Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/87361180196?pwd=aW1SNS8zbHJ5c3V4ZIRGK25McXBDQT09>

Meeting ID: 873 6118 0196

Passcode: TG19dV

Fridays:

9.30am Morning Prayer via Zoom contact Clare

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/84176800013?pwd=OTFYQmwzRTEwOVNxUTRCcnpLMmtSQT09>

Meeting ID: 841 7680 0013

Passcode: CL3YtN

For the Zoom Eucharist, the text is attached and is also available in hard copy from porch at St. Peter and St. Paul. If you would like a hard copy, but do not want to come out to collect it, please let Clare know and we can deliver one to you.

If you can get on-line and would like help to get Zoom set up, *please* ask one of us.

For members of St Frideswide's congregation our WhatsApp daily prayer will continue, please ask Kate to be added to the group.

Church at Home service every Sunday at 10am <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19-2/livestream/>

The '**Daily Hope Line**'. Is a free phone line: **0800 804 8044**. This has been set up particularly for those who are unable to join any on-line church services.

YouTube channel for the Osney Benefice can be found at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXJ99_EwpRaLL_dtCH4HoPg?view_as=subscriber.

If you are participating in on-line worship, here is a prayer that you can use when the elements of bread and wine are shared:

Come into my heart, Lord Jesus.

May all that is you flow into me.

May your body and blood be my food and drink.

May your passion and death be my strength and life.

Jesus, with you by my side enough has been given.

May the shelter I seek be the shadow of your cross.

Let me not run from the love which you offer but hold me safe from the forces of evil.

On each of my dyings shed your light and your love.

Keep calling to me until that day comes when with your saints, I may praise you for ever.

Amen.

Daily Prayer and Readings for Week Commencing Monday 22nd February

Mon:	Psalm 11; Jeremiah 4.19-end; John 5.1-18
Tues:	Psalm 44; Jeremiah 5.1-19; John 5.19-29
Wed:	Psalm 6; Jeremiah 5.20-end; John 5.30-end
Thurs:	Psalm 42; Jeremiah 6.9-21; John 6.1-15
Fri:	Psalm 22; Jeremiah 6.22-end; John 6.16-27
Sat:	Psalm 63; Jeremiah 7.1-20; John 6.27-40

Contacts:

Churchwardens

North Hinksey with Botley:

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Ministry Team

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Parish Safeguarding Officers

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Benefice Office and hall bookings: The office is open on Mon, Wed & Fri 9.30am – 2pm. Gwen can be reached by email osneybenefice@outlook.com or by the **office phone 01865 242057. Email is more reliable during lockdown**