

# Beacon

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August



[www.beaconbenefice.org.uk](http://www.beaconbenefice.org.uk)

# Light

## Welcome

Welcome to our churches today and a special welcome to all attending Cranham Feast this afternoon, whether you are local or just visiting. The Feast Hymn reminds us to “Praise, O praise your Maker, bountiful and good, who made us to cherish common land and wood.” In all of our villages we are privileged to live in beautiful surroundings – may we always give thanks for that as we cherish our countryside and each other.  
*Readings: 1 Kings 19. 9-18 or Romans 10. 5-15, Matthew 14. 22-33*

## News of autumn courses for our parishes.

### Helping with Worship

5 sessions

Tuesday afternoons

and (mostly) Wednesday evenings

starting on 12<sup>th</sup> September

in Pitchcombe (afternoons) and Sheepscombe (evenings).

To include:

leading intercessions

setting up or distributing Communion

organising worship

leading worship

**More info from** [revmike.holloway@gmail.com](mailto:revmike.holloway@gmail.com)

We're running this for a second week so that no one misses it. Each session will run twice in the week – afternoon & evening- so you can come at the most convenient time for you. No need to come to everything ; just choose the sessions which cover areas of church life and worship where you may feel that, with some guidance, you might become involved. Taste and see – no obligation!

## Beacon People

Our prayers are asked for all who are sick, especially **Betty Barney, Rita Bishop, Helen Briggs**, (former Churchwarden at Painswick), **Annabel Grellier, Glynnis Mayes, Laurie Smith** and **Will Tarbuck**. We also pray for all whose prayer requests are on our prayer boards.

Pray also for all the recently departed, especially **Basil Taylor**, whose funeral takes place at the end of August at St Mary's. Remember also their families and friends and those whose anniversaries of death fall at this time.

## MABEL (Mike's Adventures in BibleLand) – Beginnings

Now I'm breaking my own advice today and starting at the beginning, not where I usually tell people to start reading the Bible, which is with Mark's gospel – but today we're starting with Genesis.

'In the beginning God created ...' We all know the opening line of Genesis but what often surprises people is that it's not the oldest book in the bible. The stories in it are old but the book was probably put together after the Exile – and it does have lots of stories in it. Here are Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph to name just the main characters, let alone all the extras. But the star of the show is God, all the way through because these are the stories the Jewish people told of their own origins and their earliest relations with God.

It's important to recognise that they're not really history as we would understand it, after all there was no-one there to take notes as God created the world. They are stories which try to explain why the world was the way it was and what was the people's place within it. And because it's a collection of stories from different sources, they don't always fit together seamlessly. There are clearly two separate stories of creation for example. But as we read we begin to sense the way the people recognised themselves as God's people right from the earliest days. But how they became Jewish – that's next week.

## Notices

**Cranham Feast – Today!** The Feast Service takes place at 3pm this afternoon in St. James' churchyard. This year the Feast has a Carnival/Circus theme sitting alongside the values and traditions of the Feast which is very much about coming together to have fun and celebrating all that is good about Cranham, its people and their associations. Do come along and enjoy this traditional local event.

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**Rudford Retreat Thursday 17th August**, 10am to 3pm, Rudford Church, GL2 8DT. On the third Thursday of each month. Rudford Retreats provide an opportunity to give space for God in our lives; to still ourselves, listen for God, and share in quiet fellowship with others. More information from [www.highnamchurch.org/rudford](http://www.highnamchurch.org/rudford) £12, booking required.



**St Mary's Flower-burst: Aspects of Painswick** (24-28 August) - part of the Painswick Arts Festival, staged by St Mary's Flower Guild, and portraying village activities through floral art. Donations will be for Longfield and St Mary's Church. We need stewards for 1 ½ hour sessions from 12-4 Thurs, and 10-4 Friday-Monday, preferably to be on duty two at a time. Sign up on the sheet in Church.



**Don't forget** GHCT's sponsored Ride + Stride event on **September 9-cycle or walk round local churches to raise money for Historic Churches**. Contact Glenn if you'd like to know more about taking part, to order a banner advertising the event or to update the information for your church: [rideandstride@ghct.org.uk](mailto:rideandstride@ghct.org.uk) or call 01452 538271. Full details can be found at [www.ghct.org.uk/ride-and-stride](http://www.ghct.org.uk/ride-and-stride)

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## What's on in the coming week

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August – 9<sup>th</sup> after Trinity – Cranham Feast**

3.00pm Cranham Feast Service

### **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August** *Maximilian Kolbe*

11.30am Resthaven Holy Communion (*xt*)

### **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August**

11.00am Richmond Morning Prayer

5.00pm Painswick Evening Prayer

### **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August**

9.30am Sheepscombe Holy Communion

2.00pm Brookthorpe Hall Holy Communion

### **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August**

11.00am Cranham Beacon Prayer

### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August – 10<sup>th</sup> after Trinity**

*Please note there is no 8.00am communion service.*

9.30am Painswick Parish Communion

9.30am Harescombe 3 Parish Communion

11.00am Cranham Parish Communion

11.00am Sheepscombe Morning Worship

*Preacher: Revd. Michael Saunders*

## Further Ahead

**Painswick Feast – Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> September.** The Clypping Service, Novelty dog show, stalls, music, apple pressing! Details to follow!

## Contacts

The website [www.beaconbenefice.org.uk](http://www.beaconbenefice.org.uk)

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*Information for next week's Beacon Light to the Office by Wednesday 10am at the latest, please. To receive Beacon Light by email, please let the Benefice Office have your name and email.*