



...linking the Beacon Parishes

Sunday - 17th April – Easter Day

Alleluia - Christ is risen!

On **Easter Eve in Cranham at 8.pm** our Paschal Candles will be blessed and lit.

Sat 16 th , 8.00pm	Cranham	Easter Eve Service
Sun 17 th , 6.00am	Painswick Beacon	Informal Dawn Service
9.30am	Painswick	Holy Communion
10.00am	Pitchcombe	Holy Communion
10.30am	Edge Village Hall	Family Service
11.00am	Cranham	Holy Communion
11.00am	Harescombe	Holy Communion
11.00am	Sheepscombe	Holy Communion

*We ask you to please **wear a face mask in church**, unless you have a medical reason not to and **make use of the hand sanitiser** provided as you enter. Whilst face coverings are no longer legally required, this measure will help us keep our community safe. Good ventilation is part of covid precautions and our churches may be less warm as a result. Please dress accordingly.*

Not the Rector

Perhaps we approach this Easter with mixed feelings. It is hard to reconcile the horrific news and suffering we see everyday on our TV screens or in our newsfeeds with the Easter message of rejoicing. But we do have cause to rejoice at the Good News of Easter, which reminds us of the triumph of good over evil. We need to hold to that thought at times like this. At least this year we have been able to observe Lent and Easter in full after the last two years of lockdowns.

Our Easter celebrations begin on Saturday evening at 8pm in Cranham, when our Paschal candles will be blessed and lit from the new fire, ready to be received into our benefice churches on Sunday morning. We shall hear scripture readings of God's goodness and purposes for his people before renewing our baptismal vows together. Do come along and be part of this very moving start to the greatest feast of the Christian year.

After Easter as we move further into Spring, we are making some changes to our worship routines. These reflect the wishes of our parishes as we move forward. Our monthly benefice service will begin to move around the parishes. We shall begin on May 1st with a service in Cranham at 10am. Do be aware of those who may wish to share transport if you are going by car.

Also from May, services on Sundays in Painswick will all start at 10am, instead of the current varying start times. This will be less confusing for everyone and hopefully 10am will be easier for many of our congregation.

May I wish you all a very happy Easter.

Revd. Andrew

Readings

Collect

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Psalm 118.14-24

The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

'The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;
the right hand of the LORD is exalted;
the right hand of the LORD does valiantly.'

I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the LORD.
The LORD has punished me severely,
but he did not give me over to death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.
I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.
The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the LORD's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.
This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The Gospel according to John 20.1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away. Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." ' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

What do you notice first about this famous passage from John's gospel? Perhaps it is the fear that you imagine is instilled in Mary Magdalene when she realizes that her Lord's body has been taken. Or maybe you are struck by the seemingly random detail that one disciple outruns the other. Mary stays at the tomb when the disciples return to their homes. The text does not explicitly tell us why she does so. We might infer from her weeping that she needs space to grieve the loss of Jesus a second time. Unlike Peter and John, she does not yet understand that he is risen, but she's about to! In the midst of her despair, Jesus comes. He comes to her right at her most vulnerable, when she least expects it, and most needs it.

- Jesus has a funny way of showing up just when we need him, especially when we do not expect him. Does the Risen One ever come to you in that way?
- Does Jesus ever surprise you by showing up just when you need him most? How do you know he is there?

Beacon People

Our prayers are asked for all who are sick, especially **Rebecca Applebee-Crabb, Richard Garrett, Frauke Hankamer, Andrea Linsell, Jenipher Pritchard and John Turkington**. Pray for all those people, whether they are relatives or friends, who care for the sick and disabled in their own homes and for those undergoing cancer treatment at this time.

We pray also for all the charities which this benefice supports, including Christian Aid, GARAS, Marah, Sportily, Stroud Citizens Advice, Stroud Foodbank and The Vine Project and all from our churches and villages who work in the NHS and in care homes.

We also remember before God all who have died recently, especially **Pauline Berry, Tim Heal, Pam Lyster, Terri Rohrbeck and Peter Walklett** as well as all whose anniversaries of death fall at this time. May they and all the departed rest in peace and rise in glory.

Notices

At Painswick on Easter Day the congregation are encouraged to wear **Easter bonnets!** (and I'm sure they would be appreciated in our other churches as well!)

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**Easter Dawn Service.** For those who would like to 'greet the dawn' as we celebrate the wonder of the resurrection, we will be holding an short, informal time of praise and worship on the side of Painswick Beacon, followed by an invitation to breakfast.

- When : Start at 6am - for sunrise at 6.08am! Easter Sunday morning.
- Where : Use the Car Park opposite Painswick Golf Club/The Waypoint GL6 6TL. It is right next to the Cemetery. Then take the short walk up the path to the first golf hole marker (black and white) where we will assemble. Someone will be by the car park to point the way.
- What to bring : Good voices for singing our Easter hymns and songs; If you have and wish - a percussion instrument of any kind to make 'joyful noise'; A verse of Scripture, or words of praise to share together. Warm clothes!
- And after : an invitation to a simple breakfast at Ian Marsh's home, Mynd House, The Highlands.
- Who? For everyone - young, older, families, dogs..... Co-ordinated by Rev Helen Sammon and others.

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The Lent Lunches in St. Mary's Church Rooms on the 5th and 13th April raised £485 for the Christian Aid/DEC Ukraine appeal. Thank you to all who supported the lunches either by attending, donating or preparing the delicious soup.

Attention all Gardeners During Christian Aid week, 15-21 May, there will be a bring and buy garden shop on Friday 20th and Saturday 21st. If any keen or budding (pun intended) gardener would like to grow plants for the shop or is dividing some clumps it would be greatly appreciated. Information on the salmon supper, lunches and cream teas will be available closer to the time. - *The Painswick Valley Christian Aid Committee*

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Thank you all for your very generous donations throughout the Covid outbreak. We are now facing another crisis, increase in fuel costs and food. This has put many more people on the poverty line seeking help. The **Foodbank** are inundated with requests and are having to send out more deliveries than ever. Please give generously. **Our next collection is on Wednesday 11 May 10am -12 noon in Stamages Lane car park and at the stocks by St Mary's Church Painswick** The following items are recommended but anything would be gratefully received. Tinned Ham, Fray Bentos Pies, Instant Noodles, Fruit Juice, Squash, Jam, Marmite, Peanut Butter, Chocolate Spread. We have plenty of Pasta, Tea and Cereal! Thank you. If you wish to donate on line Foodbank banking details are CIO sortcode 09-01-29 Acc 21994911 Once again many thanks for your support.

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PAINSWICK MUSIC SOCIETY'S 76 th Season of wonderful concerts all take place in St Mary's Church on Saturday afternoons.

30 th April at 4pm – Voces8. Programme: Choral Music Celebrating Regeneration

14 th May at 3pm - Iyad Sughayer (piano). Programme includes works by Haydn, Schubert, Schumann, Sibelius and Helen Ottaway

Memberships and tickets can be bought online at: www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk All ticket and membership enquiries to Edward Bowron: tickets@painswickmusicsoc.co.uk or 07789 006006

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Are you able to give some of your time and skills to **help Marah support people in poverty and hunger?** Marah Trust is a Christian charity based in Stroud. Our purpose is to offer friendship, good food, advice, respect and hope to the people who come to us for help. Our Drop-in operates four times a week and we are currently in need of volunteers for Fridays and Saturdays who can be there from 12:00 pm to 3:30 pm. Volunteers are required to attend twice a month minimum. Please contact the Marah Office for further details: please call 01453 367006 (Mon to Wed) or contact [office@marah.org.uk](mailto:office@marah.org.uk) (Please include a contact phone number in your email).

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The Severn Forum Lecture on 5th May is entitled "Jesus and the Incarnation". It will be given by Dr. Crispin Fletcher-Lewis, Dept of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Gloucestershire. 7.45pm Elwes Lecture Theatre, Park Campus, Cheltenham. To join by Zoon, please contact Revd. Philip Averay Tel 01291 620980 email revphilipaveray@gmail.com

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**Cranham Community Response Team:** *The initial contact for Cranham residents is:* [nigelrobincooper@gmail.com](mailto:nigelrobincooper@gmail.com) Tel: 07973 340227

**The Painswick Community Support initiative** provides community support for Painswick. If you need support, please contact 07956 203087

[painswickcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:painswickcommunity@gmail.com)

**Community Hub Friday Coffee Morning every Friday 10am -11.30** in the Town Hall. Tea, coffee and home-made cakes. All are welcome.

**Future Dates for your Diary**

Friday April 22nd - drop-in visit from Debbie Collicott, Community Police Officer.

If you need help or support or have any questions, call us on 07956203087 (our phone is manned 7 days a week from 9am-5pm) or email us at [painswickcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:painswickcommunity@gmail.com)

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Lions Clubs Message in a Bottle is a simple but effective way for people to keep their basic personal and medical details where they can be found in an emergency on a standard form and in a common location - the fridge. Message in a Bottle helps emergency services personnel to save valuable time in identifying an individual very quickly and

knowing if they have any allergies or take special medication. Anyone who would like one can collect one from the Friday Community Hub cafe at the Town Hall 10am -11.30 or if you would like one delivered, please contact us(see contact details below).

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## Weekday Worship

**Wednesday weekly:** 9.00am Benefice Prayer time via Zoom

*The weekly Zoom invitation will be sent out with Beacon Light each week. Lindsay Gardiner ( [lindsay.gardiner@icloud.com](mailto:lindsay.gardiner@icloud.com) ) Karen Riding ( [kriding07@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kriding07@yahoo.co.uk) )*

**Thursday weekly :** 9.30am Morning Prayer via Zoom from Sheepscombe

*If you would like to join in or would like a copy of the service sheet please email Karen Riding [kriding07@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kriding07@yahoo.co.uk).*

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month:** 10.30am Holy Communion at Richmond Village

**3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month:** 11.00am Holy Communion at Resthaven

## Services next Sunday - 24<sup>th</sup> April – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

|         |             |                              |
|---------|-------------|------------------------------|
| 9.30am  | Pitchcombe  | Holy Communion (BCP)         |
| 11.00am | Cranham     | Morning Prayer               |
| 11.00am | Painswick   | Beacon Praise & Holy Baptism |
| 11.00am | Sheepscombe | Holy Communion               |
| 12.30pm | Sheepscombe | Holy Baptism                 |

***There will be no Beacon Light Online next week.***

## Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

|         |         |                    |
|---------|---------|--------------------|
| 10.00am | Cranham | Benefice Eucharist |
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*Please share cars for the Benefice Service and offer lifts to those without transport*

## Contacts

Rector: Revd. Janet Turville

Benefice Office: The Lychgate, Stroud Road, Painswick, GL6 6UT

Tel: 01452 814795 Email: [lychgateoffice@btinternet.com](mailto:lychgateoffice@btinternet.com)

Associate Priest: Revd. Andrew Leach Tel: 07564 448692 Email: [ajpleach@gmail.com](mailto:ajpleach@gmail.com)

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

Information for the next Beacon Light Online to [ajpleach@gmail.com](mailto:ajpleach@gmail.com) by **Tuesday 5pm at the latest**, please.

## And Finally...

Seen in a pewsheet: "Don't let worry kill you off- let the Church help. "