

Parishes of Greatham, Empshott and Hawkley with Priors Dean

Church News

Sunday 28th February 2021 – Lent 2

Services this Sunday 28th February ...

We have set up one Zoom meeting which runs from 9.00 – 12.00 so you should be able to join when it is convenient to you. It is the same Zoom link for both services.

9.30am Zoom Holy Communion (BCP – Traditional Language)

led by Elizabeth Hawkins & Peter Sutton

If you would like to share communion please, as you would when coming to church, have a small glass or cup of wine and a small piece of bread ready for the service. You may prefer just to observe.

10.30am Zoom Sunday Worship (CW - Contemporary Language)

led by Marjorie Arnold & Peter Sutton

You might like to have a candle ready to light as a focus for our worship.

Zoom link for all of these services

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81032199878?pwd=aTVISXI3YnpXTct5VkNNTjZ5dTUyUT09>

Meeting ID: 810 3219 9878

Passcode: 566878

Resuming Sunday Services – Mothering Sunday

We are planning to resume communal worship in our churches from Mothering Sunday (14th March). We need to review the risk assessments for each church but expect that those attending will still need to book their place in advance and follow the law about face coverings, social distancing etc. Peter Sutton will say more about this in the Zoom services this Sunday. The church services will be no longer than 30 minutes in duration and, for the time being, Zoom services will continue for those unable to attend.

Giving Thanks for your Vaccine

Lots of charities are helping people in new ways during the pandemic. As a way of giving thanks for receiving your vaccine why not make a donation to help others at this time. Not sure who to support? Some suggestions of websites to look at to see what each organisation is doing:

Christian Aid www.christianaid.org.uk

UNICEF www.unicef.co.uk

MENCAP www.secure.mencap.co.uk

Selecting a New Bishop

There will be an open Deanery meeting on Wednesday 3rd March from 7pm – 8.30pm as part of the process towards appointing a new Bishop. The meeting aims are:

- To inform people as to the process of appointment
- To engage people in prayer for the Diocese and the appointment
- To extend the consultation that will inform the Diocese's "Statement of Needs" which will be one of the foundation documents for the appointment.

There will be discussion on:

"What impact do you want the next Bishop of Portsmouth to make across the Diocese?"

"What particular qualities do you think the next Bishop of Portsmouth will need?"

Here's a zoom link for the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83237538704>

Open Churches

Our churches are all still open to visitors (Priors Dean by appointment). Ask Peter Sutton for details.

Zoom Coffee Morning – Tuesday 10am to 11am – join at the time that suits you.

Try dropping in – its open to anyone. You obviously have to drink your own coffee and, if you want, eat your own biscuits/cake (or not at all!) but, technology permitting, it is a chance to see and talk to others. Depending upon numbers present, we divide into breakout rooms for smaller groups.

Tuesday Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81032199878?pwd=aTVISXl3YnpXTct5VknNTjZ5dTUyUT09>

Meeting ID: 810 3219 9878

Passcode: 566878

Take up something for Lent – Beginners with the Psalms – This Wednesday

A Lent Course with Peter Sutton by Zoom 2.00 – 4.00pm Wednesdays 3rd and 10th March (Zoom link as above).

We sometimes hear people say of a song, an album or even a whole musical genre: 'it was the soundtrack to my life'. The rock musician Bono, writing about the Psalms, said that 'King David was the Elvis of the Old Testament' and in many ways he was, though David didn't write all of the psalms. Like the songs, the poetry and the prayers of generations that have followed them, psalms describe feelings and stories in ways that other forms of expression cannot. This Lent come and explore the Psalms and learn a little more of these great treasures.

Most people will have a phrase from the Psalms which resonates in a deeply personal way. It might just be 'The Lord is my Shepherd' or 'I lift up mine eyes unto the hills' - but there are countless others which hit the nail on the head to articulate our relationship with God. Thomas Merton said that the Psalms 'were written by men who knew who God was' – often created out of deep anguish or great joy.

Come and explore whether you like them as prayers, songs, poems or just great literature. All are welcome.

Shedfield Lent Lectures

Worshippers from St John the Baptist Church, Shedfield, usually organise a series of lectures on topical issues during Lent. This year they are going ahead with a series of sessions entitled 'Perspectives on the Pandemic', which feature some high-profile speakers. They are taking place via Zoom, which allows anyone from across our diocese to attend. The details are as follows:

- **Mon 1 March, 7:30pm:** Canon Will Hughes, acting Archdeacon of the Meon: '*Pandemic and parish*'. Details and booking [here](#).
- **Mon 8 March, 7:30pm:** Professor Maggie Rae, UK Faculty of Public Health: '*Covid 19: - an unfair virus*'. Details and booking [here](#).
- **Mon 15 March, 7.30pm:** The Very Rev Nick Papadopoulos, Dean of Salisbury: '*Crisis in the city: a cathedral's response*'. Details and booking [here](#).
- **Mon 22 March, 7:30pm:** Dawn Champion, British Pilgrimage Trust: '*Moving on: pilgrimage through the pandemic*'. Details and booking [here](#).

For further details, click [here](#) or email the Rev Ruth Howlett-Shipleigh [here](#).

Weekdays in Lent at 8.30pm

Every weekday from Ash Wednesday, St Mary's Liss Ministry Team are offering a short reflective service of Night Prayer (Compline) at 8.30pm or something similar via Zoom. The service will be led by Liss Readers and Clergy.

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9346575571?pwd=czR2K3RvREp4cEJpRDlqa0czZzEzUT09>

Roberts Centre

The Roberts Centre are currently asking for donations such as:

- skipping ropes, frisbees, bats, balls, yo-yos, spinners etc., anything to get the families playing outside together
- As an alternative to Easter eggs they would like packets of seeds, plant pots, compost
- Age appropriate Meal Kits - i.e. recipe cards with ingredients.

Please leave donations in the porch of Hawkley Church.

How to Donate....

Churches took a serious financial hit in 2020 and the situation obviously continues into this year as well. We are very grateful to everyone who supports us regularly or occasionally – thank you! Your generosity is enabling the churches to function albeit in very different ways.



Hawley, Priors Dean and Greatham Churches are members of the national Parish Giving Scheme which means that you can easily set up a way to give that suits you. Either visit the website <https://parishgivingscheme.org.uk> or telephone 0333 002 1260

To contribute to the life and ministry of Greatham, Hawley and Priors Dean Churches by the Parish Giving Scheme you just need to decide:

- *how much and how often you wish to give.*
- *if you wish to increase your donation by Gift Aid.*
- *if you want your donations to be increased each year in line with inflation.*

Via the Parish Giving Scheme website or by telephone **(0333 002 1260)** simply state the name of the Church you wish to support and their parish code:

- **St Peter and St Paul Church, Hawley** Code Number: 290629087
- **Priors Dean Church** Code Number: 290629088
- **St John the Baptist, Greatham** Code Number: 290629086

PGS will ask for your contact details and bank details: sort code, account number and account name. For details of other ways to support any of our churches, for example by standing order or occasional donation please contact the treasurer:

Hawley	Robin Crittenden	randmccrittenden@waitrose.com	01730 827969
Priors Dean	D Green	green@priorsdean.com	01730 827636
Greatham	Steve Hedicker	shedicker58@gmail.com	01420538310
Empshott	Becky Smith	treasurerempshottpcc@gmail.com	01730 827397

Thank you!

If you have any concerns and would like to talk, please contact:

Peter Sutton 01730 827459
peter.sutton@portsmouth.anglican.org