



The Bridge Group of Churches

Nackington - Lower Hardres - Bridge - Patrixbourne - Bekesbourne

Weekly Sheet for the Bridge Group of churches:

Sunday 29th November 2020, Advent Sunday

Today's Readings:

Isaiah 64:1-9; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-36

Upcoming Services:

Due to the relatively high number of coronavirus cases in the area at the present time we have taken the difficult decision to suspend gathered worship for the time being. We will be monitoring the situation closely and will restart services as soon as we think it is safe enough to do so.

Collect

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Collect

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Readings

Isaiah 64:1-9;

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

1 Corinthians 1:3-9;

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Mark 13:24-36

‘But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. ‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch

becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly.

Parish News



Advent – watching and waiting, a time to reflect

As Advent begins join Estella once a week on Zoom to spend some time reflecting on the Advent Gospel reading for the week and thinking about what this means for us in this current time. These sessions will take place weekly with a choice of two opportunities to attend each week. **Sundays 11.30am and Wednesdays 4.15pm starting on Sunday 29th November.** An additional evening slot could be added if there was sufficient demand. Please contact Estella to book your place and to receive the Zoom link.

Advent Trails

There are two Advent Trails taking places in our villages in the run up to Christmas.

Bridge: a trail involving the unveiling of a themed Advent window in houses round the village each day through Advent

Lower Hardres: a trail involving a different decorated number from 1-24 in gardens / front drives around the village. Please contact Carol Day on 07961 955525 if you live in Lower Hardres and would like to take part.

Carols on the Doorstep – Sunday 20th December

Premier Christian Radio are encouraging the whole nation to join together singing Carols on their doorsteps on Sunday 20th November- see flyer attached. Tune in to Premier Radio (Freeview 725) at 5.30pm on Sunday 20th December!

Churches open for private Prayer

Unless circumstances change, the churches of the Bridge Group Parish remain open for Personal prayer / Quiet time as follows:

St Peter's Bridge	Wednesday 10-4pm (except 16 th December)
St Peter's Bekesbourne	Sunday 10am -12pm
St Mary's Patrixbourne	Tuesday 2-4pm & Saturday 10am-1pm
St Mary's Nackington	Sunday & Wednesday 10-4pm (except 2 nd December)
St Mary's Lower Hardres	Monday & Thursday 10-4pm

The Bridge Group PCC next meets on Wednesday 2nd December at 7.30pm via Zoom please let your Churchwarden or PCC reps know if you have any matters you would like discussed

Contact Details: Vicar: Rev'd Estella Last Tel: 01227 206272 estellalast@gmail.com
(Estella is generally not available on Mondays). Reader: Mrs Margaret Clarke Tel: 01227 765 598 Administrator: Mrs Megan Shirley, bridgeoffice23@gmail.com

CAROLS ON THE DOORSTEP

* SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER
5:30 PM

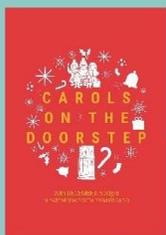
**Join us for a National carol sing on your
doorstep with your neighbours.**

It's so easy to join in....

*Download and print the Carol Sheet and invitation from
www.premierchristianradio.com. or
www.newcastlemethodistdistrict.org

*Pop them through your neighbours' doors inviting them
to join you

*5:30pm on 20th December tune your radio to Premier
Radio or Freeview 725 or download the Premier Radio app
on your phone, then sing along to the Carols played. Why
not wear your festive jumpers too and even bring out
something to shake or rattle?



<https://www.facebook.com/CarolsOnTheDoorstep>

The Bridge Village

'Advent Window Trail'



1st-24th

December 2020

Supported by The Bridge Group Parish

How does it work? - On each day of Advent a different address in the village will light up a window display based on a Christmas Song or Carol.

Windows will be lit between **4pm and 6pm** for villagers to spot .

1st	The Ship, 40 High Street
2 nd	Red Lion Inn, 75 High Street
3 rd	1 Saxon Road
4 th	The Forge, 49 High Street
5 th	10 High Street
6 th	54 Western Avenue
7 th	Brookside Lodge, Patricxbourne Rd
8 th	83 High Street
9 th	Mahoney's , Western Avenue
10 th	22 High Street
11 th	9 High Street
12 th	4 Ford Close
13 th	19 Union Road
14 th	25 High Street
15 th	30 High Street
16 th	Paydens Pharmacy, 16 High Street
17 th	1 Riverside Mews
18 th	11 Windmill Close
19 th	9 Conyngham Lane
20 th	tbc
21 st	tbc
22 nd	16 Riverside Close
23 rd	20 The Close, (off Union Road)
24 th	St Peter's Church, High Street

