



The Bridge Group of Churches

Nackington - Lower Hardres - Bridge - Patrisbourne - Bekesbourne

Weekly Sheet for the Bridge Group of churches:

Sunday 10th January 2021, Baptism of Christ

Today's Readings:

Genesis 1.1-5; Acts 19.1-7; Mark 1.4-11

Upcoming Services:

At present all services are being offered online.

Collect

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan
you revealed Jesus as your Son:
may we recognize him as our
Lord and know ourselves to be
your beloved children; through
Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen

Readings

Genesis 1.1-5;

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Acts 19.1-7;

Paul in Ephesus

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' They replied, 'No,

we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.’ Then he said, ‘Into what then were you baptized?’ They answered, ‘Into John’s baptism.’ Paul said, ‘John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.’ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— altogether there were about twelve of them.

Mark 1.4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’

Parish News

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
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
St Mary's Lower Hardres	Monday & Thursday 10-4pm

Virtual Suggestion Box

Over the course of the last year, we have tried various different ways to keep connected and maintain our worshipping life across the Parish – this has included our weekly online service on YouTube, some more interactive services via Zoom (Evensong and Christmas morning), Zoom 'coffee and chat', small group reflections during advent, sharing printed and online devotional materials and other things as well. As we find ourselves 'locked down' again I would love to hear from you – what have you found helpful or what you might find helpful in the weeks to come, particularly as we approach Lent.

We are limited by our resources (human, technological and material!) but would love to hear your thoughts. Do drop me a line with your suggestions estellalast@gmail.com.

Supporting our church financially

Just a reminder that even though we are unable to hold services we do still have bills to pay – if you are in a position to be able to give please remember you can use our online giving

at: <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/50a9529f-4dc5-4e6e-a429-ce51883d637b>

or you can pop a cheque through the Vicarage door.

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