



The Bridge Group of Churches

Nackington - Lower Hardres - Bridge - Patrixbourne - Bekesbourne

Weekly Sheet for the Bridge Group of churches:

Sunday 28th February 2021, 2nd Sunday of Lent

Today's Readings:

Genesis 17.1-7,15-16; Romans 4.13-25; Mark 8.31-38

Upcoming Services:

At present all services are being offered online.

Collect

Eternal God, give us insight
to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Readings

Genesis 17.1-7,15-16;

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, 'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai,

but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

Romans 4.13-25;

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Mark 8.31-38

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

Parish News

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 (payable to 'PCC Patrixbourne with Bridge') through the Vicarage door.

Lent

Lent began on **Wednesday 17th February**

Lent groups: These will run from Sunday 21st February.

There will be two options to join a group:

Sunday morning 10.30-11.30am (followed by half an hour of our usual Sunday morning 'coffee and chat')

Wednesday afternoon 4pm (starting on Wednesday 24th February)

As with Advent if you aren't able to attend every week this doesn't matter. If you would like to join a group please email

estellalast@gmail.com to receive the link.

If anyone would prefer an evening group please let Estella know.

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

Fair Trade Fortnight News – 22nd Feb- 7th March

Usually in the Canterbury district we organise events in Fairtrade Fortnight, but this year everything will of course have to be on-line. Throughout the two weeks we will be putting daily posts on our Facebook page. Please do follow these at <https://www.facebook.com/canterburyfairtradenetwork> where there will be both local news from the Canterbury District Fairtrade Steering Group and national items from the Fairtrade Foundation.

A special on-line event locally in Fairtrade Fortnight will be a discussion with Luke Underdown, founder of Garage Coffee, an independent coffee roaster based in Hoath with outlets in Canterbury, Margate and Whitstable. Luke will be talking about the role of independent roasters who set their own fair trade standards and aim to match the best of Fairtrade. The event is on Thursday 4 March, 6.30-7.30 pm. Places are limited so please register in advance. You can do so using this eventbrite link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/garage-coffees-luke-underdown-talks-about-fairtrade-in-canterbury-district-tickets-141354514157>

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