



The Bridge Group of Churches

Nackington - Lower Hardres - Bridge - Patrixbourne - Bekesbourne

Sunday 7th November 2021, Remembrance Sunday / 2nd before Advent

Today's Readings:

Wisdom 3:1-9; Revelation 21:1-7; John 6:51-58

Upcoming Services

Sunday 21st November

10am Traditional Sung Holy Communion at St Mary's Patrixbourne

4pm Family Service at St Peter's Bridge for all ages, all welcome!

Collect

Lord of the nations, Saviour and judge of all: remove from human hearts all bitterness and hate, grant to those who have died in war your mercy and forgiveness and bring us all to the peace of your eternal Kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who suffered and died, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Post Communion

Lord God, in this Eucharist which we have shared, you have spoken your word of life and nourished us with the mysteries of Christ's body and blood; bring us with all who have died in combat or through the injuries of war, to know the joys of heaven. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lived and died and was raised to newness of life, to whom be glory in every age and for eternity. **Amen.**

This week's Diary Dates

Mon 15th 1-3pm BREW at Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Thurs 18th 9-11am Little Lambs Toddler Group Pavilion, Bridge Recreation ground.

Fri 19th 8.45 am Parent's Prayer Meeting at St Peter's Bridge

Sat 20th 9-12.30 Dicoesan Synod Open Meeting The John Wallis Church of England Academy, Millbank Road, Kingsnorth, Ashford TN23 3HG

Wisdom 3:1-9

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,
and no torment will ever touch them.

In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died,
and their departure was thought to be a disaster,
and their going from us to be their destruction;
but they are at peace.

For though in the sight of others they were punished,
their hope is full of immortality.

Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good,
because God tested them and found them worthy of himself;
like gold in the furnace he tried them,
and like a sacrificial burnt-offering he accepted them.

In the time of their visitation they will shine forth,
and will run like sparks through the stubble.

They will govern nations and rule over peoples,
and the Lord will reign over them for ever.

Those who trust in him will understand truth,
and the faithful will abide with him in love,
because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones,
and he watches over his elect.

Revelation 21:1-7

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

‘See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.’

And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.'

John 6:51-58

I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.'

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' So Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.'

Parish News

The Friends of St Peter's Bridge (FOSP)

FOSP is pleased to announce the welcome return of its popular **Coffee & Cake Concerts on 4th December 10:15 to 11:30am** to celebrate its 5th Anniversary with Carols and Readings. We will be using Covid safe distancing etc. in the concert. All proceeds are for Canterbury Food Bank. Friends wishing to nominate their favourite carol(s) to be sung in the concert are invited to contact Jean Barber by 18th November.

Advent Book and Discussion Groups

Advent Sunday is 28th November and in preparation for Advent we have purchased 100 copies of our chosen Advent book "Finding Hope under Bethlehem Skies" which offers 25 short and accessible daily reflections for Advent based around the Book of Ruth. We are asking for a contribution of £1 per book to cover costs (if you can give more than £1 then that means we can give some away for free!) and throughout Advent we will offer

weekly 'Book Group' sessions both in person and via Zoom to discuss and share what we have learned – details of these will be published nearer the time.

'Flora's Letterboxes along the Royal Anglo-Saxon Way' by Ingrid Bax

Many of you will know Stacey Bax and her family, who live in Bekesbourne.

Ingrid (Stacey's Mother-in-law) has written and illustrated a children's book in which you will see some familiar faces and places represented.

Stacey kindly gave us some books to sell (£10 each with £3 going to our

Parish). We only have a couple of copies left but if you would like to purchase one please add your name to the list and we will order some more copies.

Covid safe church

As a church we take seriously our commitment to caring for one another and as cases have begun to rise the PCC and churchwardens have chosen to keep a number of Covid-safety measures in place. Socially distant seating is still available in our churches. Mask wearing in church is strongly advised. Communion will be distributed as an intincted wafer handed to you by the presiding minister either in your pew or following a 'one-way' system. Thank you for caring for one another in this way.

Parish Diary

We now operate a central Parish Diary – if you have any plans for events, fundraising activities or social events to add please let Estella or Megan (bridgeoffice23@gmail.com) know. If you want the Vicar to attend please make sure she is aware and available. Many thanks.

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
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