

Issue No 6 Sunday 12th February 2017

Events This week

12th February Encounters Service looking at "The Samaritan Woman" Charlton 6.30pm
All Welcome

14th February Messy Church Smannell School
3 - 5pm

15th February Holy Communion Tanglely 10am

17th February Holy Communion Weyhill 2.30pm

Notices from around the Benefice...

Saturday 11th February PCC Away day at Hatherden School 9am – 4pm for all PCC Members

Friday 7th April Retreat Day at Penton Park to book your place please contact Judith on 07999 352585 by 28th Feb, spaces are limited.

Monday 20th February F.O.S.T. Tea & Natter 2.30pm St Thomas's Charlton

Tuesday 28th February Revd Trevor Lewis licensing service St Peters Hurstbourne Tarrant

Tuesday 14th March Commissioning Service Holy Trinity Penton 7.30 pm

For all services and events across the Benefice please see our website.

In your Prayers please pray for.....

Our year of Prayer 2017 - May we be blessed by the Lord and be expectant of God's provision.

Revd Trevor Lewis and his wife Margaret that they feel settled and welcomed in their new home.

Those who have had a recent diagnosis of Cancer. May God blanket them in his love through this difficult time.

Community Diary Dates

Saturday 11th Feb - Valentines Lunch – Jubilee House Enham please contact Christine on 01264 324011

Andover Women's World Day of Prayer. Friday 3rd March at 10.30am at All Saints Church, Upper Clatford.

Passion Play – The High St, Good Friday

Readings This Week

Deut. 30. 15 – end or Eccus. 15. 15 – end
Psalm 119. 1 – 8 1 Cor. 3. 1 - 9
Matt. 5. 21 - 37

Next Week

Gen. 1. 1 – 2.3 Psalm 136 (or 136. 1-9, 23-end)
Rom. 8. 18 – 25 Matt. 6. 25 - end

Words of Encouragement

"But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear ..."
(Deuteronomy 30: 17)

Valentine's day is this week; a celebration of loving and being loved in return. What pain to be excluded, when love is rebuffed as hearts turn away. Some lover calls out but isn't heard. Others blanked out, passed over, taken for granted. Love is tried and tested. Many remain ignorant of available affectionate care. Yet our experience of rejection only hint at how we reject God.

God is love. He beckons to us to walk with Him, but we'd often rather go our way. Perhaps we just fail to hear His call. He longs to hear us speak - that we tarry in the place of prayer, but there's much else crowding out our time. How frustrating that we can't then hear and bring His views to our world. He can't confide in us when we are distant.

If our hearts were better attuned, our actions could better reflect His love. Alas! When distance remains, love does grow cold. But it needn't be so. Love need not become hopeless. We just must return to tend it.

As we share sweet nothings - chocolate, flowers, loving gestures, let's review our commitment to God. How well do we fare on the barometer of His love?

"You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore." (Psalms 16:11)

Notes from Pastrow Admin

I believe the website is not yet top of the google list! Please try <http://www.pastrowbenefice.org.uk> or the link in the email to have a look around.