

Services & events this week

Sunday 25th Encounters - "The disciples and the storm on the lake" 6.30 pm Charlton

Wednesday 28th Holy Communion 10 am Tangley

Saturday 1st Breakfast at 9 – Other Religions
Charlton 9 am

Advent Retreat 10 am The Old Dairy Barn

In your Prayers please pray for.....

All those known to us who are coping with illness or the loss of a loved one.

All the teachers and school children as they reach the halfway point in the term, may they have Gods strength to carry them forward.

The families in California who have had to move or have lost their homes due to the wild fires.

Services & events next week

Sunday 2nd Darkness to Light 10.30 am Weyhill

Wednesday 5th Holy Communion 10 am Tangley

Friday 7th Holy Communion 1.30 pm Weyhill &
2.30 pm Charlton

Pastrow & Community Diary Dates

Saturday 1st Dec Advent Retreat Day 10 – 4 pm £10 inc lunch, call Jude to book.



Have you been busy knitting for the Messy Church nativity scenes, If yes please can you get your figures to Karen ASAP any problems please contact Jude

Readings This Week

Dan 7 9 – 10, 13 – 14 Ps 93
Rev 1 4b – 8 John 18 33 - 37

Next Week

Jer 33 14 – 16 Ps 25 1 – 9
1 Thess 3. 9 – end Luke 21 25 - 36

Notes from Pastrow Admin

Plan your December with our service patterns with this week's issue.

I'm here to help with Baptisms, weddings and any other events please just contact me, Jude 07999 352585 or admin@pastrowbenefice.org.uk

Words of Encouragement

By Alan Evans

Physical training instructors and coaches often say "No gain without pain" to their trainees to motivate them to go through the pain of training in order to achieve higher levels of fitness. This is also true of many other areas of life; it is through struggles, disappointments, sometimes failures, that we learn and grow as people and as communities. Another saying is "If you do what you've always done, you'll get the results you've always had." If we want to move on and improve in any area of life it requires perseverance, a willingness to change how we do things and an acceptance that it may be a painful process but the end result is worth it.

However, as Christians we don't have to bear the pain and go through the struggles alone. Isaiah 66:13 says "As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you"; a picture of a mother holding her child who has hurt themselves and comforting them through the pain. Paul also says this in 2 Cor 1:3-4: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles." God has promised to give his children (Christians) his peace and to be with them in every situation, being gentle and sympathetic with us when we are in trouble. Paul of course went through an immense amount of suffering to do what God had called him to do, but in Philippians 4:11 he could say "I learned to be content whatever the circumstances".

As we go forward as a Benefice into another year of Discipleship and then into Mission it may not always be comfortable or easy, we will probably face struggles and difficulties and maybe even opposition, but we can have the assurance that whatever we go through God is there with us through his Holy Spirit and we can know His comfort and His peace.