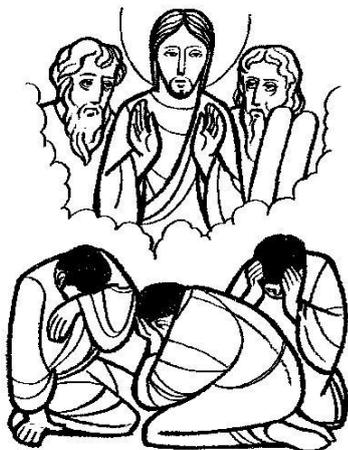


St James', Wulfstan Way, Cambridge

The Weekly Sheet

14 February 2021

SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT



Today:

9.30 am Children's Activity
10.00 am Sunday Service via Zoom

We remain in Lockdown and are likely to stay in this high level of restriction for a while longer. It is permissible to hold public worship but having consulted with the PCC Standing Committee we feel that it is not advisable to gather in the church building at the current time. The recent spike in Covid cases means that we need to take a decision that is both caring and responsible to ourselves and the wider community. We hope to return to holding services soon but in the meantime, as we enjoy the season of Epiphany and a hopeful beginning to a new year, we will continue with online services on Sunday mornings and throughout the week.

This Week:

Individual private prayer and reflection. The church will be open between 10.00 am and 12 noon on Monday and Wednesdays for quiet prayer.

You are very welcome to come in to church but please respect social distancing rules of 2 metres, wear a mask, and use hand sanitiser upon entering and leaving the church. Please do not touch Bibles and other literature.

Morning Prayer will be held via Zoom at 8.45 am on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. We will be using a recurring link as given out in the Weekly Update email. There is no mid-week Eucharist.

Bible reading and Prayer support group, including Compline (Night Prayer) will take place on Wednesday at 8 pm via Zoom.

Collect for today

Holy God,
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your goodness
and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Today's readings are:

2 Kings 2.1-12; Psalm 50.1-6; 2 Corinthians 4.3-6; Mark 9.2-9

2 Kings 2.1-12

Elijah Ascends to Heaven

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Psalm 50.1-6

The Lord, the most mighty / God, has / spoken
and called the world from the rising of the / sun / to its / setting.
Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, / God shines / forth;
our God comes / and will / not keep / silence.
Consuming fire goes / out be/fore him
and a mighty / tempest / stirs a/bout him.
He calls the / heaven a/bove,
and the earth, that / he may / judge his / people:
'Gather to / me my / faithful,
who have / sealed my / covenant with / sacrifice.'
Let the heavens de/clare his / righteousness,
for / God him/self is /judge.

2 Corinthians 4.3-6

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Mark 9.2-9

The Transfiguration

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

The Coming of Elijah

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Readings for next Sunday, 21 February (1st Sunday of Lent)

Genesis 9.8-17; Psalm 25.1-9; 1 Peter 3.18-end; Mark 1.9-15

Ash Wednesday. Lent begins on Wednesday 17th this coming week. We will be having special prayers as part of our morning prayer at 8.45 am and also in the evening as part of our Bible, Prayer and Compline service at 8 pm.

If you have some ash or charcoal to hand for these services you can join in with the symbolic act of ashing.

Lent packs for children. We are putting together some very simple activity packs for children to use during Lent. You can collect a pack on Monday 15th anytime between 10 am and 12 pm.

CMS Boxes. Thank you to those who collect for CMS. Please hold on to your boxes until further notice. Thank you.

Advent Calendar of Giving. Thank you to everyone who has taken part. Now that we are in lockdown again, please do not return your bag at the present time. Please hold on to it and return when restrictions are lifted. Thank you.

1000000 steps challenge for Arthur Rank Hospice - a message from Eleanor Pippard
I have decided to attempt the Arthur Rank's fundraising challenge to walk a million steps in a hundred days. This works out at an average of 10000 a day. To make it more interesting I have calculated that this is about the equivalent of walking from my house to Inverness, using roads rather than going 'as the crow flies' which would involve a lot of swimming. This means that each week I shall be able to see where I have got to in the country. The walk started on 11 January and finishes on 20 April.
Any sponsorship would be gratefully received to help this excellent charity. The link to my giving page is <https://arhc.enthuse.com/pf/eleanor-pippard-d0c4e>

Food Hub. The Food Hub will continue operating on a Saturday morning between 10.30 am and 12.30 pm here at St James'.
The food remains a basic food package ideally for those who are either struggling to pay for provisions or who cannot get to the shops or book an online delivery.
During lockdown the Food Hub is unable to receive or collect personal donations from people, but if you would still like to help, look on the Queen Edith Community Forum website to find more details about how to donate financially. Thank you.

Caroline is working from home and has access to the office answering machine and email - so please do contact her as you would normally.

Phone line. The Church of England central team have supported the release of the Daily Hope phone line. Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.
The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind. Find out more here - <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-parishes/daily-hope-phone-line>

Prayer for Friends and Congregation of St James'

Sunday	Peter Canning
Monday	Denis Chandler
Tuesday	Vera Chapman and family
Wednesday	Eric and Rhena Clouston and family
Thursday	Ellen and Andrew Collings, Sharn and Troy
Friday	James and Jennifer Day and family
Saturday	Caroline and Tony Dickson and Helen

Contacts

Priest-in-charge	Rev'd Steve Rothwell 246419 s.rothwell3@btinternet.com
Curate	Rev'd Anne Strauss stjamescurate@gmail.com
Churchwardens	Pam Butler, 07745 591235 pambutler27@hotmail.com Hatty Harris, 01223 504720 harrishatty458@gmail.com
Pastoral Assistants	Mary Calladine, (01223) 246742 Rosemary Monk, (01223) 246421 rem66@btinternet.com
Director of Music	position vacant
The Music Group	Grae Worster, 846295 mgw1@cam.ac.uk
Safeguarding Officer	Jill Bradley, 07971 013645 happybeadsuk@gmail.com
Church Office:	246419 (Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 9.15 am - 1.15 pm)
e-mail:	stjameschurchcambridge@yahoo.co.uk
Website:	stjamescambridge.org.uk

Weekly Church Activities – *currently suspended*

Junior Choir Practice	Sundays, 11.15 am – 12 noon
Choir Practice	Mondays 6.30 pm—7.30 pm
Meditation Group	Fridays 1.30 pm—2.00 pm

Community Activities – *currently suspended*

Beavers (6-8 yrs)	16thcambridgebeavers@gmail.com
Cubs (8-11 yrs, QE Schl)	Stephen Harrison, 07548 765421
Scouts (10½ - 14 yrs, QE Schl)	16thcambridgescouts@gmail.com

Our parish magazine **Crosspiece** is available on the website.

If you are ordering goods from **Amazon**, please remember to use the Amazon link on the St James' website fundraising page. It doesn't cost you any more but gives St James a percentage of the price you pay.