

# HOLY TRINITY BRADPOLE

*'Gathered for worship, called to service, challenged to grow'*

Holy Trinity is part of the Bridport Team Ministry

[www.bridport-team-ministry.org/churches](http://www.bridport-team-ministry.org/churches)

**SUNDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

Today's Service of the Word will be led by Martin Whiting (LWL)



## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Across Bridport the Christmas lights are going up – and it feels as if we all need the cheer they bring more than ever this year. The Christmas trees which stand outside each of the team churches with their twinkling lights and messages of hope and love are a small part of that impulse to reach out to neighbours and strangers alike as we journey together through Advent. All of the churches have responded differently and imaginatively in erecting trees, decorating them and inviting all in the community to join in, decking the trees with baubles, homemade decorations and messages of hope, love, joy and peace. Some are hanging prayers for the community on the branches – and in this simple act we come together. There is a little message going round on email, WhatsApp and Messenger. It is a simple image of the nativity with these words – the first Christmas was pretty simple. It's OK if yours is too. This year things are simpler – but perhaps for all that they are more heartfelt too. Our preparations, even in the small act of putting up lights, pinning up a prayer, inviting others to speak of hope for the future, these are the real preparations for Christmas. Preparations of the heart. Our invitations to youngsters – and to older people too – to get involved in the online Christingle service, is already drawing in many. People, young and old, want to gather to mark this time. To believe that the light is coming into the world, and the light can never be extinguished.

**Revd Deb Smith**

## MESSAGE FROM JANIS

2020 has been a difficult year.

Following government guidelines and restrictions, our church buildings had to close and sadly for many weeks we were unable to meet and share worship.

However, dear friends some things have remained constant, prayer, friendship and fellowship and in the words of Hebrews 13:8 ***'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.'***

Thank you to you all for your support, help and loving kindness. Our theme for Advent and Christmas is "Comfort and Joy". As you journey through Advent and Christmas, I pray that you will experience times of Comfort and Joy.

May you have a blessed and peaceful Christmas.

## THANK YOU

I want to say a big thank you for all your prayers, cards, emails, messages, and gifts over the last couple of months while I have been off work. These have been very heart-warming and much appreciated. Like British Rail, "I'm getting there!" and hope to return to parish duties when fully fit. While it is the time of Christmas cards and greetings, we hope you understand, but Anne & I won't be sending any Christmas Cards this year, so may I take this opportunity to wish you all a hopeful Advent, a peaceful Christmas, and a blessed New Year.

God Bless. Pete

## TODAY'S READINGS

### 1 Thessalonians 5 : 16 - 24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

### John 1 : 6 – 8, 19 - 28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but

confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord"', as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

### PRAYER FOR TODAY

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



### PRAYERS FOR OTHER PEOPLE

*Please pray for .....*

- ..... **those who are ill or in need and those who care for them** including Chloe, Tony and Amelia, Pete Stone, Isabella Robinson, Andrew Staley, Douglas Baldwin, Geoff Morse, John Ward, and those who have contracted coronavirus
- ..... **those who mourn the loss of loved ones** especially the family and friends of Alan Squirrell
- ..... **our clergy** Ann, Dan, Deb, Helen, Janis, Kay, Lorna, Philip, Pete, and Richard
- ..... **our LLMs and LWL** Coral, Graham, Martin, Peter, Phil, and Valerie
- ..... **our Churchwarden** John and our **DCC**
- ..... **our friends abroad** including Kate and Mary Tolhurst in Uganda

### HOLY TRINITY NEWS AND NOTICES

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1954217607938560>



#### Church Christmas Card



The card will be available for your signature in church, paper copy, and by email. It is suggested that you do not send cards to friends in Holy Trinity – just sign the card and instead of incurring postage, make a donation to the church. If you want to add a greeting but are not in church send it to [juliapwhiting2@gmail.com](mailto:juliapwhiting2@gmail.com) and it will be included.

#### Stamps for Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance

Please remember to save your used stamps for this life-saving charity this Christmas (and all year!). There is a box to put them in at the back of the church. Stamps should be cut (not torn) with a quarter inch (5mm) border.



#### NATURE RAMBLES WITH ALAN BOWLEY



##### Episode 5

Alan continues his lockdown notes  
<https://youtu.be/wS4-9TfE8ZM>

#### Prayer Requests

Marian Scott is our contact for prayer requests and The Revd. Janis Moore continues her prayers for our community. If there is something you would like prayed about please email:  
[bradpoleprayers@gmail.com](mailto:bradpoleprayers@gmail.com)

#### CHURCH OPENING

Please refer to the table 'Team services during Advent and Christmas' above.

Please enter the church via the north door and you will be asked to register your name and contact details to enable Track and Trace. Exit is via the south door.

**There is no need to register attendance in advance.**

**By law you must wear a mask.** Please be guided by the signs and the stewards on duty. The church seat layout allows for social distancing, using the wooden chairs which are easier to clean. Please use the hand sanitizing gel provided when you enter the church and also when you leave. The church is cleaned before and after each session.

#### DIY CHURCH WORKING GROUP

The Holy Trinity Church working group will be meeting at 10.00am on Tuesday 15 December. If you can spare a couple of hours to help with various jobs around the church/graveyard you will be very welcome. We finish by 12 noon and, of course, we are at the mercy of the weather. So if you intend to be there, please let me know so that I can contact you should we have to cancel.

Steve Dove  
897695

There is a tree outside each of the Team churches, and you are invited to make decorations for it as follows:

- Sunday 13th Dec - decorations about Joy
- Sunday 20th Dec - decorations about Peace

**TEAM NOTICES**

<p><b>CHRISTINGLE</b>          Bridport team Christingle at Home 2020 on Sunday 20th December at 4pm          As the nights draw in, it is always nice to see a bright light on the horizon. With that in mind you are invited to our online Service of Light this Christmas where we will be holding our Christingle Service on Zoom and you can take part at home! We will provide everything you need in our special 'Christingle at Home' goodie bags. We really hope you can join us for this fun, interactive family service. Singalong carols, make your own Christingles and an interactive story led by Revd Helen Croud. Let's shine a little light across Bridport this Christmas. Please send an email to: <a href="mailto:helen@bridport-team-ministry.org">helen@bridport-team-ministry.org</a> or ring on 07712481835 leaving your email address &amp; names of children who wish to be included. For full COVID safety, the goodie bags will be put together in advance and left for 72 hours before distribution/collection.</p>	<p><b><u>WORSHIP IN THE TEAM</u></b>          We have weekday services as well as 3 x Sunday Services. [Key: MP=Morning Prayer; SOW=Service of the Word; EUC=Eucharist]  <b>Mon 14th</b> 10am MP St John's West Bay  <b>Tue 15th</b> 2.30pm SOW St Mary's, South St Bridport  <b>Wed 16th</b> 10am MP Holy Trinity, Bradpole  <b>Thu 17th</b> 10am EUC St Swithun's, Allington                            10am MP St Mary's, Walditch  <b>Fri 18th</b> 10am EUC Holy Trinity, Bothenhampton  <b>Sun 20th</b> 9.30am EUC St Swithun's, Allington                            11am SOW St Mary's, South St Bridport                            <b>11am EUC Holy Trinity, Bradpole</b>          One 11am service will be Livestreamed, watch on Facebook &amp; YouTube or on demand via our website. See December Services CLERGY ROTA on website</p>
<p><b>ADVENT SPARKLE</b>          Holy Trinity Bothenhampton's Advent Sparkle event features 24 very different advent boxes to view along with decorated windows and chancel. The church is open for viewing on Sat 19th Dec (10am-1pm).</p>	<p><b>Bridport Coronavirus Community Support Network</b>          07401 243585 or 01308 808900  <a href="mailto:enquiries@bridport-tc.gov.uk">enquiries@bridport-tc.gov.uk</a>  <a href="https://sites.google.com/view/bridportcommunity/home">https://sites.google.com/view/bridportcommunity/home</a></p>
<p><b>SERVICE OF COMPLINE</b> 9pm          LIVE ZOOM Compline (night prayer) Sun, Tues &amp; Thurs          Email for link: <a href="mailto:maggiecrosbie@hotmail.com">maggiecrosbie@hotmail.com</a></p>	<p><b><u>PATHWAYS TO CARE</u></b>          If you need transport to and from hospital, dentist etc., please ring Pathways To Care via the Good Books shop on 01308 420483 (there is an answering machine when the shop is closed).</p>
<p><b>NEED HELP? FOOD BANK</b>          Cupboard Love is remaining open. Any issues contact 07443 596096 or <a href="mailto:cupboardlove.bridport@gmail.com">cupboardlove.bridport@gmail.com</a> If you need help with shopping call this number 07552 312594. A new team of volunteers (Cupboard Love, the church &amp; town council) can help if you are self-isolating. Look at this link of local businesses: <a href="https://www.bridport-tc.gov.uk/coronavirus/">https://www.bridport-tc.gov.uk/coronavirus/</a></p>	<p><b><u>TRACK and TRACE .....</u></b>          To comply with Track and Trace, we will manually record your name and contact number at the door on arrival OR - <i>to lighten our workload</i> - you may wish to download the NHS Covid-19 App onto your mobile phone and use it to scan the unique QR code displayed on posters at the church you are visiting.</p>
<p><b><u>CAUTION – HYPERLINKS</u></b>          The web and email addresses shown in blue in this 'Word' document may not be hyperlinks. When using your mouse or touch pad, you cannot hover your cursor over them so that a hand will show and then take you straight to the address. <u>You need to copy and paste them into your browser or email address. You do not have to be a Facebook subscriber to do this.</u> (This does not apply to those in The Bridge.)</p>	<p><b>The Hampers and Stockings Team</b> would like to give a HUGE thank you to all those who have contributed to the fund raising via cheques and the 'Just Giving' page. We were concerned that we would be unable to meet the 50% rise in demand for hampers and stockings this year. However, along with donations from Bridport Round Table and Waitrose, your amazing donations now mean that 72 families will receive a hamper and 80 children will receive a Christmas Stocking.          Thank you all so much!</p>
<p><b><u>CLERGY AVAILABILITY .....</u></b>          Please note that The Revd. Pete Stone is incapacitated at the moment and should preferably <b>not</b> be disturbed whilst he takes time to recuperate. We wish him a speedy recovery.          So, for all enquiries, contact either The Revd. Deb Smith <a href="mailto:deb@bridport-team-ministry.org">deb@bridport-team-ministry.org</a> or new Asst. Curate Helen Croud: <a href="mailto:helen@bridport-team-ministry.org">helen@bridport-team-ministry.org</a>          Thank you!</p>	<p><b><u>The small print.</u></b>          © The prayers and readings have been taken from the following websites and the copyrights therein are hereby acknowledged:  <a href="http://www.churchofengland.org">www.churchofengland.org</a>  <a href="http://www.biblegateway.com">www.biblegateway.com</a>          The readings are from the <b>NRSV Bible.</b></p>

### VIRTUAL 'BLUE LIGHT' CAROL SERVICE

To celebrate the work of the Emergency Services and voluntary sector, on Thursday 17 December at 7.30pm will be held a "Virtual" **Blue Light** Carol Service **Not in St Mary's Church** Bridport this year (due to Covid), **but instead online**, enables us to share this wonderful celebration of their work with a far wider audience. All who support the work of the emergency services & voluntary services are welcome to join us and show their appreciation for the many who will be on call this Christmas Day and throughout the festive period.

Gary Hepburn (Wyke Regis Church) has compiled the service, link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/WykeRegisChurch/live>

A poem sent to me by a member of the Holy Trinity church family. It is written by a lady called Marian Cleworth:

*"Let Christmas work it's magic beneath the frosty sky,  
As snowflakes gently drift to earth - let your spirit fly.  
Rest here in the moment, beside the glittering trees;  
Listen out for reindeer bells with childlike fun and glee.  
Don't worry about days to come, life has its special way  
Of working out our problems as we travel through each day.  
Trust in the Christmas story you've often heard before  
And tiptoe very quietly to the open stable door,  
In your heart, you'll see him, that little baby boy,  
Then deep within you'll know a peace beyond all earthly joy.  
Your heart will sing for Christmas with the angels, pure and true,  
As heaven and earth are joined by God's son, born for you.*

