

Connected

Sunday 23rd January 2022
3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Verse For The Week

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

(John 8: 12)

Sermon Snippets

"I am the light of the world"

(John 8: 12-20)

Jesus is speaking to the crowds in the Temple court and the Pharisees are listening as well. John tells us he is in the area where the money is collected, the Treasury. It's possible this was to illustrate his point.

The Treasury was located in the Court of the Women and during the Feast of Tabernacles, which this was, four large candelabras were lit here at night illuminating the whole area and surrounding areas of the city. So it was a good place for Jesus to say "I am the light of the world".

Of course what he was talking about was that he was the one to follow. What he taught and did was the right way to go. In other words he would illuminate our way if we let him.

The Pharisees challenged him, questioning what authority he had to be telling people what to do. He told them his authority came from his Father in heaven and that they didn't know him or his Father. This was quite an attack on the religious teachers of the day. They didn't like it but couldn't seize him with so many people around.

The Pharisees couldn't recognise Jesus maybe because they thought they knew better and their pride wouldn't let them. Many people don't recognise Jesus today; maybe for the same reason?

Afghanistan Appeal to continue



Thank you to everyone who has donated to this urgent appeal, which will continue in our two churches for another couple of weeks.

If you would like to give towards this appeal, information is available on a special page under "Church Life" on the Christ Church website.

Simply click on this link -

<https://ccwsm.org.uk/afghanistan/>

To pay by debit / credit card, please scan the QR code below on your smart phone, enter the amount and then choose to Pay Online Securely.

Alternatively, please put any cash or cheques in envelopes marked "Afghanistan appeal". All donations received will be sent to Tearfund.



Watch this Sunday's Service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk

Go to the 'Church Life' menu and click on the 'Sunday Services' page.

Prayer Pointers

Monday

Thank the Lord that many of the groups have been able to start again this month. Ask the Lord to bless their time together and to protect them from infection as they meet.

Tuesday

Commit to the Lord our clergy, Tom and Larissa, as they have Tuesdays off. Pray for refreshment for them and that they will enjoy a day with their families.

Wednesday

Please pray for Phil as he works to prepare to hand over the Administrator reins to his successor while continuing the day-to-day running of the Church Office.

Thursday

If you read the article in Connected about Afghanistan do pray for the grave situation with one million children at the risk of dying from malnutrition and 95% of people with not enough to eat.

Friday

Pray for those preparing for the Sunday services that they will know the Lord's guidance and help - leaders, preachers, prayers, readers, musicians.

Saturday

Thank the Lord for the Tech Team in Christ Church as they work hard to bring the Sunday services on line for those who watch at home who are unable to be at church.

Sunday

Pray for those attending morning services in the two churches or who watch on line. This afternoon is the Deanery Service of Light at Christ Church, may it be a blessing to those able to attend.

"Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the one who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference." — Max Lucado

What's On This Week

Mon 24 Jan

Tom's day off today instead of Tuesday
Ladies Together at 2.30pm in the Spire Centre

Tue 25 Jan

Parish Prayers at 09.30 at Emmanuel Church
The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel Church

Wed 26 Jan

Seedlings Toddler Group* at 10.15 at Christ Church
Holy Communion at 10.30 at Emmanuel Church
Alpha Course at 7pm in the Spire Centre

Thu 27 Jan

Welcome Group at 2.30pm at Emmanuel Church
Craft & Chat at 2.30pm in the Spire Centre
JaM Club* at 3.30pm at Christ Church

Fri 28 Jan

Larissa's day off today instead of Tuesday

Sun 30 Jan

Deanery Service of Light - see below

(*note - pre-registration is required for these events)



Deanery Service of Light 2022

4pm Sun 30th January at Christchurch, W-s-M

Speaker: Jacqui Keir-Bucknall



www.lockingdeanery.org

See website for further info and live stream link

Verse For The Year

Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

(John 20: 30, 31)

Coffee time after the Service...

God calls... everyone, everywhere

Archdeaconry Days Sunday 6 to Saturday 12 February 2022

Sometimes, even in church, it can feel as if God only calls 'special people'.

But God calls us all. We are all called to live lives that are true to our Christian faith.

God may call us to a particular role, often for a season only, or sometimes for the rest of our lives.

The 2022 Archdeaconry Days are running from Sunday 6 to Saturday 12 February. We are going to hear from a range of people from across Bath and Wells about their experience of God's calling:

- What has helped people hear their call?
- Have any Bible stories inspired them?
- What about when the call has been far from straightforward?
- Who am I called to be?

When:

Sunday 6 February at 3pm – Online Launch
Worship led by Bishop Ruth from Taunton Academy

Monday 7 to Friday 11 February – Watch Daily Videos

Saturday 12 February at 10am – Online
Archdeaconry Gathering – hosted by Archdeacon of Bath

To register for the course, please click on this link:

<https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/faith/everyday-faith/god-calls-everyone-everywhere/>

or search for Bath & Wells Archdeaconry Days. Scroll down and click the 'Sign up here' link.

Update

If you are interested in participating in this course but are not able to online, please phone or email the Church Office by 10am Wednesday 26 January and paper copies of the resources will be ordered for you.

Free to a good home - A2-sized 2022 Wall Planner



If anyone would like this, please contact Phil in the Church Office.

Job Vacancies

Abbeycare is a home providing residential and day care run by a Christian committee. They are looking for staff who are caring, compassionate and who display a good work ethic and honesty, to join our team. They have the following jobs available:

- Care assistant with an interest in arranging activities for the residents and those receiving day care. 24 hours per week.
- A cleaner. 20 hours per week.
- Bank staff. Flexible hours of work.

If you are interested please ring 01934 419244 for an informal chat or email your CV to finance.abbeycare@btconnect.com

Contact Details

Rev. Tom Webber (Day off - Tuesday)
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