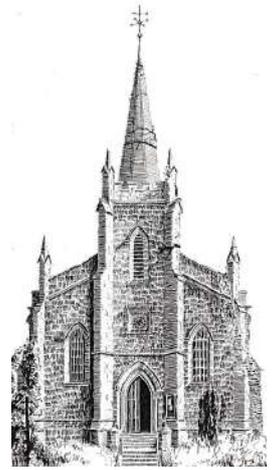


St Mary the Virgin Riverhead with Dunton Green



Sunday 7th February 2021 - 2nd Sunday before Lent

Proverbs 8.1,22-31

Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice? The LORD created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth – when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Colossians 1.15-20

Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers – all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 1.1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Services for February at Riverhead

7th Feb 9:30am Family Service (on zoom) Andy to Lead, Daphne to Preach
9th Feb 7:00pm Revd Anne Bourne's Licensing and Installation Service (on Zoom)
14th Feb 9:30am Holy Communion (on zoom) Mark to lead and preach.
17th Feb Ash Wednesday Team service – live in St Luke's but streamed on Zoom.

More details to follow

21st Feb 9:30am Morning Prayer (on zoom) Daphne to lead, Andy to preach
28th Feb 9:30am Holy Communion (on zoom) Anne to lead and preach

You might also like to join

Compline on Wednesday evenings at 7.45 for 8.00pm

and the **Coffee Morning** on Thursdays at 11.00am

Link has been sent separately

From the pen of the vicar:

Dear all,

Last week we came to the end of the Epiphany season by recalling the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. In Simeon's message to Mary and Joseph we are reminded of the Good News of Jesus to be a light to the world but also of Jesus' path to the cross. Simeon's message speaks not only of the suffering there will be, but also the hope that Jesus will bring. As we journey through difficult times it is good to remind ourselves of this hope – particularly as we enter Lent in a couple of weeks time and begin the journey towards Easter and the cross.

There are many events coming up over the coming weeks, details of which you can find in the newsletter but please can I draw your attention to a couple:

The Licensing and Installation of Rev Anne Bourne takes place this Tuesday 9th February at 7pm. It will be broadcast on zoom and details are below. Please pray for Anne as she moves and is licensed as Team Vicar.

I mentioned that Lent is approaching. Please read details below of our Lent series of reflections at St Mary the Virgin on Wednesday evenings. It will be great to join together to reflect upon our stories.

Finally, the events committee are inviting us to an afternoon of Fun and Games on Zoom at 4pm on Saturday 20th February. It will be a great opportunity to meet together. Please find details below of how you can attend.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me if you would like to chat. My contact details are 01732 669454 or revandyfinn@outlook.com

With best wishes,

Andy

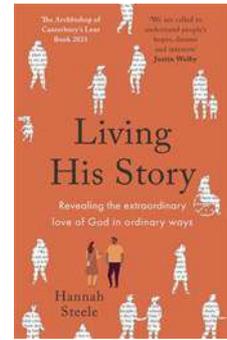
Prayer for our Nation:

Last week the Archbishop of Canterbury invited us to Pray for our Nation at 6pm each day as we respond to the sad news that we have reached over 100,000 covid related deaths. Can I invite us to continue to uphold our nation in prayer this week.

We may wish to use the prayer below in our prayers:

Gracious God,
as we remember before you the thousands who have died,
surround us and all who mourn with your strong compassion.
Be gentle with us in our grief,
protect us from despair,
and give us grace to persevere
and face the future with hope
in Jesus Christ our risen Lord.
Amen.

Lent reflections:



This year for Lent, St Mary the Virgin Riverhead will be looking at the theme from the Church of England – Live Lent -God’s Story Our Story. You can sign up to receive reflections from the Church of England which will be sent by email or download an app with the reflections to your phone. For more information see www.churchofengland.org/live Lent

Lent course:

Alongside this theme there is a Lent Book for 2021 entitled “Living His Story”. **For 6 weeks** starting on **Wednesday 24th February** Andy is going to share reflections from this book to help us think about how Our own stories and God’s story connect. Once we realise this we are better equipped to tell the story to others.

There will video clips, a reflection and questions to take away and reflect upon.

We are going to meet on **Wednesday evening at 7:30** for 30 minutes before Compline which starts at 8:00pm.

Wednesday 24th Feb, March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 29th at 7:30pm

Please let Andy know at revandyfinn@outlook.com if you are interested in joining the reflections and I will send the details of how to join.

Sevenoaks Loaves and Fishes Foodbank

Sevenoaks Loaves and Fishes Foodbank would like to thank members of the congregation for their generous food donations. Merrie Reynolds writes: “We so appreciate people's kindness at this time, when life is not easy for so many people. Every family receives about 15 tins of food, plus cereals, pasta etc so each week we give out approximately 450 tins! Your contributions towards that are much appreciated!”

Prayer List Please remember in your prayers: Sarah Suewing, Cheryl Davies, Denis and Diane Williams and family, Judy Borrowman, and Karen Smith

If you would like a friend or member of your family added to this list please let me know. Margaret N.

Fun and Games for All on Zoom

4.00pm Saturday 20th February

A couple of hours of fun and relaxation including a quiz and a scavenger hunt giving everyone an opportunity to meet Andy and his family in an informal setting.

It might be nice to bring along a drink of tea, coffee or something more alcoholic and perhaps a few nibbles to give it even more of a party atmosphere.

RSVP to me at magnicholas@tiscali.co.uk if you would like to attend and you will be sent the link

Team Rector's Notices

6:30pm Sunday 7th Feb. Team Evensong (Open from 6:15pm for fellowship before worship begins)
Meeting ID: 814 9810 6394
Passcode: 168200
(Please note this is now the same id and passcode)

Due to Anne's Licensing on Tuesday the 9th there will be no Team Prayers this week'.

(All three churches will be offering worship in January through a variety of ways - On line videos and Zoom. Always check out the web sites for St Mary Kippington, St Mary the Virgin, Riverhead with Dunton Green and St Luke's Sevenoaks for information every week

Licensing of Revd Anne Bourne

On behalf of the West Sevenoaks Team Ministry an invitation is extended across the three churches to: The Licensing by the Rt Revd Simon Burton-Jones of the Revd Anne Clare Bourne to be Team Vicar of the benefice of the West Sevenoaks Team Ministry, with special responsibility for St Luke's, Sevenoaks. Tuesday 9th of February 7pm. Due to restrictions in place there can only be a limited number of people in St Luke's for the occasion. The service however will be live streamed from the church for people to watch and the relevant id and passcode are to be found below.

Every blessing, Rev Mark Bridgen. Team Rector of the benefice of the West Sevenoaks Team Ministry

Topic: LICENSING SERVICE
Time: Feb 9, 2021 06:30 PM London
Meeting ID: 817 9732 1687
Passcode: 397632

Sunday Night Prayer and Reflections - 'Living with shadows'

Every Sunday evening in Lent (by Zoom) there will be a service of Night Prayer concluding with a reflection focusing on living with shadows. As Jesus walked with the shadow of the cross around him, so we acknowledge shadows that people walk with today. People can depart following the end of the service and reflection, or can stay for a time of discussion.

6:30pm service time (opens at 6:15pm). Login details available nearer the time.

21st of February - living with dementia; 28th of February - living with body image; 7th of March - living with mental health; 14th of March - living with addictions; 21st of March - living with loneliness.

Team Ash Wednesday service

8pm 17th of February at St Luke's. Our intention is for a public act of worship that will be live streamed.