

## 12th May 2019—Easter 4

This week I have been deeply saddened to learn of the death of one of my heroes - Jean Vanier aged 90, was a Canadian Catholic philosopher, theologian, and humanitarian. In 1964 he founded L'Arche, an international federation of communities spread over 37 countries, for people with developmental disabilities and those who assist them.

Jean could have done anything with his life and yet he chose to spend it living in community in a radical and inclusive way. It was through others that he began to understand himself more fully. It was through this life-long experience that he connected more deeply with his faith, which was the foundation for everything he did.

He wrote some books, one 'Becoming Human' is well worth a read and one I dip into a lot.

In this week's Gospel reading Jesus is surrounded by Jews in the temple demanding to know who he is. Included in his reply is this line: "The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me.."

The works that Jean did, I think, truly testified to his unwavering faith in a God with an amazing love for all of creation.

Here are just two quotes from Jean, amongst many that are so inspiring:

We are not called by God to do extraordinary things, but to do ordinary things with extraordinary love.

Community is a sign that love is possible in a materialistic world where people so often either ignore or fight each other. It is a sign that we don't need a lot of money to be happy – in fact the opposite.

*RIP Jean Vanier, humanitarian, born 10 September 1928; died 7 May 2019.*

*Rev Nicky Davies*

*Growing in Faith,  
Reaching Out  
to All*

St Mary's  
Fordingbridge  
SP6 1BB

St Mary's  
Breamore  
SP6 2DF

Holy Ascension  
Hyde  
SP6 2QJ

St Giles  
Godshill  
SP6 2JJ

St Boniface  
Woodgreen  
SP6 2AJ

St Mary's  
Hale  
SP6 2RF

Sandleheath  
Uniting Church  
SP6 IPT

We welcome all, especially visitors and those attending for the first time. If you need gluten free wafers at Communion, please speak to someone at the door before the service.

**Please take this newsletter home with you for the week ahead.**

Please stay after the morning service for tea and coffee, to meet folk and ask any questions. God Bless

# READINGS - for you to use today and during the week

12th May 2019 — Easter 4

## COLLECT:

Risen Christ,  
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:  
teach us to hear your voice  
and to follow your command,  
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**AMEN.**

## **PSALM 23** *(For Morning Prayer)*

1. The Lord is my shepherd;  
Therefore can I lack nothing.
2. He makes me lie down in green pastures  
And leads me beside still waters.
3. He shall refresh my soul  
And guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
4. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;  
For you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
5. You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;  
You have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.
6. Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

## **A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

*Acts 9:36-43*

*One of the miracles attributed to Peter after the resurrection of Jesus*

<sup>36</sup> In Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup> At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. <sup>38</sup> Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' <sup>39</sup> So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. <sup>40</sup> Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. <sup>41</sup> He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. <sup>42</sup> This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup> Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

*At the end, the Reader says:*

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **THE GOSPEL READING**

*Please stand and turn to face the Gospel Reader*

*When the Gospel is announced, the Reader says:*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *John*.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**(Glory be to thee, O Lord.)**

*Jesus describes his relationship to God's people as that of a shepherd giving life to his flock.*

<sup>22</sup> At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup> and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup> So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' <sup>25</sup> Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; <sup>26</sup> but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup> My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup> The Father and I are one.'

*At the end, the Reader says:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(At the end, the Reader says:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to thee, O Christ.)**

*(c) New Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible.*

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

Merciful Father,  
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,  
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:  
keep us always under his protection,  
and give us grace to follow in his steps;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**AMEN.**

**EMERGENCY PRAYER CHAIN** : Please send all requests for prayer to [prayer@avp-benefice.org.uk](mailto:prayer@avp-benefice.org.uk). If you feel able to commit to regular prayer for those on the list and wish to become a prayer partner, please make contact via the above e-mail address.



**GARY OUT & ABOUT :** **Monday**, Messy Church at Hyde, and a meeting in the evening. **Tuesday**, Deanery Chapter at Mudeford at lunchtime. **Wednesday**, Benefice of the future Meeting in Winchester all day, followed by Evensong in the Cathedral at the Nabka Service at Fordingbridge in the evening. **Thursday**, leading Evensong in the Cathedral, and Deanery synod at Highcliffe in the evening. **Friday**, Deanery Standing Committee in the morning. **Saturday**, Kinkiizi evening in Fordingbridge.

**THY KINGDOM COME:** The Archbishops have asked us once again to make the 10 days between Ascension Day (May 30th) and Pentecost (June 9th) a special time of prayer. As well as praying during our Sunday Worship, there will be prayers each day as follows :

Thursday 30th May	7.00pm Patronal Festival Communion, Holy Ascension, Hyde
Friday 31st May	10.00am at St Boniface, Woodgreen, before Coffee Morning
Monday 3rd June	9.00am at St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Tuesday 4th June	9.45am at Sandleheath Uniting Church, before Coffee Morning
Wednesday 5th June	10.30am, Communion at St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Thursday 6th June	9.00am Informal Communion at The Church Office, 39 Salisbury Street, Fordingbridge 7.00pm at Breamore School, followed by Joint PCC Meeting
Friday 7th June	9.00am at St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Sunday 9th June	4.00pm at the Christchurch Deanery Celebration Service at St Peter and St Paul, Market Square, Ringwood BH24 1AW

**FILM NIGHT "THE SHACK" :** Sandleheath Uniting Church are showing "The Shack" on Friday 24 May at 7pm—FREE ENTRY (donations welcomed). After suffering a family tragedy Mack Phillips spirals into a deep depression that causes him to question his innermost beliefs. Facing a crises of faith he receives a mysterious letter urging him to a shack—he journeys there and encounters an enigmatic trio of strangers. Mack finds important truths that will transform his understanding of his tragedy and change his life forever.

**JOINT PCC MEETING, Breamore School, Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 7.00p.m.** – The four PCCs of the Partnership will be meeting, but this is an **OPEN MEETING**, and all are welcome. We will begin with 'Thy Kingdom Come' Prayers (see details above), followed by discussions about PCCs, simplification of our structures, our plans for the coming years, and our proposed new logo and branding will be revealed! do come if you can, Gary.

**GODSHILL COFFEE MORNING:** All are welcome at the coffee morning on Wednesday 15 May—prayers at 10am for 15 minutes or come along at 10.15am for coffee and cake. Traidcraft stall and computer/phone advice.

**KINKIIZI EVENING** : Saturday 18 May at 7pm at St Mary's Church Hall, Fordingbridge—an evening with an illustrated talk, a short film and African style food! Retiring collection in aid of Kinkiizi funds. Tickets are free but please let Nicky Davies (07931 413629) or the Church Office know if you would like to attend (for catering).

**OPEN THE BOOK** : We have started Open the Book storytelling in schools and if anyone is interested in getting involved, there is a training course (organised by the Diocese) on Thursday 23rd May, 10am to 3pm at St Anne's Church, Cooks Lane, Calmore. Contact Jo Heath if you are interested, via email at [families@avp-benefice.org.uk](mailto:families@avp-benefice.org.uk) or 07515533685

**FORDINGBRIDGE CULTURE WEEK** : May 29th-June 7th. Fordingbridge Events Group have organised a Culture Week; bringing together many local artists, choirs, schools and community groups to showcase artistic talent. Throughout the week, there series of events and workshops for all ages - and by all ages. There are a mixture of free and paid-for events— '*Double Delights*' Concertos is taking place at Fordingbridge on Saturday 1st June at 7.30pm. FREE entry - Retiring Donation (£15 suggested) in aid of church funds/defray expenses. All the details are available by visiting [www.fordingbridgeevents.com](http://www.fordingbridgeevents.com)

**'BOBBY BUDDIES'** : Hampshire Police have an initiative which allows them to give children a knitted 'Bobby Buddy' to help them through times which may be distressing. If you would like to knit and donate a Bobby Buddy, there are copies of the pattern in each church (or if you would like a copy emailed to you, please contact the Church Office).

**LAMENTATION FOR THE NAKBA CATASTROPHE** : The 71st anniversary of the Palesitnian Nakba which drove 3/4 of the population from their homes will be commemorated on 15 May at 7.30pm at St Mary's Fordingbridge. Rev Jonathan Herbert will lead the service, with Palestinian refreshments served after the service. Details from Nicky Davies 07931 413629.

**SPEAKERS FROM CHRISTIAN AID** : have been invited to Godshill, (at 10am) and Hyde's Big Brekkie (10.30am) on **Sunday 19 May** (the end of Christian Aid week). Both churches will offer a warm welcome if you would like to come. Pat Bloomfield, Mission Matters Group

**MICHAELMAS and MOTHERS' UNION** : our annual joint meeting will take place on Tuesday 21st May at 7.30pm in Fordingbridge Methodist Church Hall. Pam Edmund will direct an evening of play-reading - a chance for aspiring thespians to shine!

**PARTNERS** : Due to staff holiday, the deadline for the 26 May, 2 and 9 June editions of Partners will be 9am on Wednesday 22 May. Please ensure that any notices are sent to the Church Office are sent by this deadline to ensure entry.

**SP6 FRIENDSHIP GROUP** : We are holding our monthly get together for people who have been bereaved, at Bridges Cafe, 26 High Street on Tuesday 14th May from 10am - 12mid. Please contact Kate on 01425 540669 if you need a lift or would like more information. If you have not joined us before you can be assured of a warm welcome.

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT TRAINING** : There is a training day arranged for people who would like to develop their skills and knowledge to help them support people who have been bereaved. This is being organised in partnership with the New Life Church. The training day is being held at 'The Branch', 1 High Street, Fordingbridge on Thursday 6th June; 9.00am - 3.00pm. We will be exploring how people grieve: how we can support bereaved people and what can help and hinder the grieving process. This will be particularly helpful for people involved in Pastoral Care. If anyone would be interested in attending, please contact Kate on 01425 540669. There is no charge for this course and refreshments and lunch will be provided.

**T.O.F.S.S. (Too Old For Sunday School)** will be meeting at 15 Provost Street, at 10.45am, to watch a DVD, discuss it, and to pray. Thursdays 23 May, 13 & 27 June. Newcomers welcome. Light refreshments. Further details from John or Pat Bloomfield 837735.

**REFLECTION** : A change in routine can sometimes lead to new thoughts or insights and at times even a change of heart. The Morning Service at Sandleheath last Sunday, was a 'do it yourself' Service - there being no Minister. People were asked to choose a favourite hymn and explain why it was special to them. The Gospel was about Jesus cooking breakfast on the beach and Peter - realistically acted by nine year old Molly, recognising Jesus on the beach jumped from His fishing boat into the water! Jesus' requested 'Peter' to put his net in again and he came up with not only fish but a net full of slips paper on each a prayer was written. 'Peter' handed a prayer to everyone! The hymns, having been chosen, were sung with more interest and understanding. It was a quiet and peaceful Service and one felt the presence of God and the continuity of his love, ever present and ongoing endlessly from the past and on to the future.

The footprint of the Divine  
stands in your own shoes  
Wind is invisible  
yet leaves bow before it.  
Whatever is seen  
flows from the Unseen;  
Light shines forth  
from Darkness.

*Daphne Himmel*

# 12th May 2019

## Easter 4

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<b>Sunday 12 May</b>	8.00am	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
	9.30am	<b>Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Hyde</b>
	10.00am	<b>Café Christian Aid Service</b>	<b>Woodgreen</b>
	10.45am	<b>Morning Service</b>	<b>Sandleheath</b>
	11.00am	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>Breamore</b>
	12.30pm	<b>Big Church Lunch, Burgate School</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
Monday 13	9am	Morning Prayer	Fordingbridge
Tuesday 14	10.00am	SP6 Friendship Group, The Bridges Café	Fordingbridge
Wednesday 15	9.00am	Morning Prayer	Fordingbridge
	10.00am	Holy Communion	Fordingbridge
	10.00am	Godshill coffee morning, Village Hall	Godshill
	7.30pm	Nbaka Lamentation	Fordingbridge
	7.45pm	Meditation Drop In	Fordingbridge
Thursday 16	7.30pm	Bellringing	Fordingbridge
Friday 17	6.20pm	Choir Practice	Fordingbridge
Saturday 18	7.00pm	Kinkiizi evening	Fordingbridge
<b>Sunday 19 May</b>	8.00am	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
	9.30am	<b>Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
	10.00am	<b>Christian Aid Service</b> <i>(no Hale, Woodgreen or Breamore)</i>	<b>Godshill</b>
	10.30am	<b>Community Service-Village Hall</b>	<b>Hyde</b>
	10.45am	<b>Morning Service</b>	<b>Sandleheath</b>
	6.30pm	<b>Evensong</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>

Contact : Jackie Garratt or Gail Newell, Church Office, The Rainbow Centre, 39 Salisbury Street, Fordingbridge SP6 1AB

Tel. 01425 653163

e-mail:church.office@fordingbridge.com

www.avp-benefice.org.uk

**CHURCH OFFICE OPEN - MONDAY TO FRIDAY 10.30am to 12 noon**