

3 February 2019

## Presentation of Christ in the Temple

### THE AVP BREXIT DEBATE

**From Richard Farr :**

The ninth commandment says we should not bear false witness. It is now clear that the consequences of leaving the EU bears no resemblance to what was promised by the leave campaign. Whatever each side has branded future predictions (remain-reality, leave-fear) our own Chancellor's official line is "There will be very significant disruption in the short term and a very significant hit to our economy in the medium to long term". No-one voted for that or its consequences - even less for NHS, Social Care, homeless and poverty. Time to reassess the outcome of the close, divisive vote so that we can all come together for the collective good of our great Nation.

**And from Jeremy Houghton-Brown**

Good manners are based on respect; sadly in Parliament there is increasing rudeness. On television rudeness is broadcast as 'robust debate'. This rudeness is contagious and descends through public 'name-calling', to violence in action and death threats on social media; it also permeates classrooms and homes. True debate is based on evaluation of the facts; but Brexit has become about slander, tribalism and 'fake-news'. Vitriol leads to entrenchment, and then the centre-ground becomes 'no-man's land'. Only by constructive engagement can progress be made. There is now real danger that we will, by default, end-up with the worst outcome.

*With many thanks for all your contributions over the past month*

Blessings,  
Gary.

*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

### Presentation of Christ in the Temple 3rd February, 2019

#### COLLECT:

Lord Jesus Christ,  
light of the nations and glory of Israel:  
make your home among us,  
and present us pure and holy  
to your heavenly Father,  
your God, and our God.

**AMEN.**

#### **PSALM 24:7-10** *(For Morning Prayer)*

7. Lift up your heads, O gates;  
be lifted up, you everlasting doors;  
and the King of glory shall come in.
8. 'Who is the King of glory?'  
'The Lord, strong and mighty,  
the Lord who is mighty in battle.'
9. Lift up your heads, O gates;  
be lifted up, you everlasting doors;  
and the King of glory shall come in.
10. 'Who is this King of glory?'  
'The Lord of hosts,  
he is the King of glory.'

#### **A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews**

*Hebrews 2:14-18*

*Jesus identifies with all that humans beings have to suffer, in order to bring about their salvation.*

<sup>14</sup> Since the children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup> and free those whose lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup> For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. <sup>17</sup> Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup> Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

*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 *Luke*.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

*Luke 2:22-40*

*One of the rites of passage that Jesus undergoes aged six weeks, resonates with the prophecy of Malachi.*

<sup>22</sup> When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), <sup>24</sup> and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' <sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. <sup>26</sup> It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. <sup>27</sup> Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law,

*During the Gospel:*

Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ...

**Lord now you let your servant go in peace:  
your word has been fulfilled  
My own eyes have seen the salvation:  
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;  
a light to reveal you to the nations:  
and the glory of your people Israel...**

*(The Nunc Dimittis)*

<sup>33</sup> And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. <sup>34</sup> Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed <sup>35</sup> so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed - and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' <sup>36</sup> There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup> then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup> At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. <sup>39</sup> When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

*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:**

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna,  
who lived to welcome the Messiah:  
may we, who have received these gifts beyond words,  
prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes  
to bring us to eternal life;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

**AMEN.**



**GARY OUT & ABOUT** : Gary is away on a working retreat this week, returning briefly on Thursday for Governors' Meeting at Breamore

**ELECTORAL ROLLS** : The Electoral Roll for each Parish (we have four in the AVP) has to be renewed every sixth year - including 2019. The Roll is the list of all of those people who are entitled to Vote at the Annual Parish Celebrations, and to be elected to PCCs, etc. - you don't have to be on the roll to be a 'Member' of the Church, but it is the list of all of those who have chosen to sign up, and it is something we encourage everyone who belongs to the Church to do. If you are currently on the Roll (you can be on more than one), you will be contacted soon to complete a form to continue - or pick one up in Church. If you would like to be on one of the Rolls, please pick up a form in Church and complete it. This all has to be done quite quickly in time for the Annual Parish Celebrations in March and April. Thank you, Gary.

**PUZZLES BACK BY SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY!!** We already have 700+ puzzles made, numbered and ready for you to buy! We know there are dozens still out there nearly done, so please, please get them finished off and back to St Mary's. All unmade puzzles will be sold so nothing is wasted. There will be lots to do in the week before the Festival so it will help us enormously to have everything back asap! Thank you.

**JIGSAW PUZZLE FESTIVAL : Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> to Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February.** Thank you to everyone who has signed up for the weekend. there are gaps, so please think about whether you can spare a couple of hours. ROTAS are up at the back of the church for you to sign up. Help is needed in the Church and Hall. Thank you for your support, if you would like to know more, ring Viv on 01725 512267 or Judith on 650335. PS. Has anyone got any spare twist and ties to seal up the bags as puzzles are packed please?

**JIGSAW FESTIVAL ADVERTISING:** A4 posters are now available for display. Please take one to put in your window, club notice board etc. If you are able to email your friends and family and invite them to come along over the Festival weekend that would be brilliant. We have a Festival Flyer/Poster that you can email which will give them all the information they need. Please advertise it near and far! Just email Judith ([j.dowsett7@btinternet.com](mailto:j.dowsett7@btinternet.com)) and/or Viv ([viv@theshallows.co.uk](mailto:viv@theshallows.co.uk)) and we will email it to you. Thank you very much indeed. We are very grateful to Fox & Sons, estate agents, for generously agreeing to print the posters and flyers.

**FORDINGBRIDGE TWINNING ASSOCIATION** : Murder Mystery Evening, Saturday 9th February, St. Mary's Church Hall 7.00pm. for 7.30pm. Hot main course and delicious puds. Tickets £15 from Caxton Decor or Jessica's. The theme this year is The Diamonds, The Dagger and One Classy Dame, and our Inspector Hercule McClue is our very own Ian Newman!

## **HALE PLAYGROUP :**

*Volunteers*—We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help run Hale Playgroup on a Thursday morning during term time, from 9.30am to 11.30am.

*Toy Donation*—do you have any good quality toys that would be suitable for pre-school age children that you would be happy to donate to Hale Playgroup? If you would like to be involved during term time or have any suitable toys, please get in touch with Jo, the families worker by email [families@avp-benefice.org.uk](mailto:families@avp-benefice.org.uk) or by phone 07515533685. Thank you.

**DID YOU KNOW THAT 4 MILLION CHILDREN** live in poverty in the UK? On Sunday 10 February, John Houghton from The Childrens Society will be our Guest Speaker at the 9.30am service at Fordingbridge St Mary, and the 11am service at Breamore St Mary. An opportunity to hear about the amazing work being done.

**VISIT TO LEE ABBEY :** Hyde Church have booked a visit to Lee Abbey for the weekend of 25 to 27 October. They have booked 25 places and they will be allocated on a first come basis - please get in touch with Heather Clark (01425 656820) ASAP if you would like to join them in this lovely place for a great weekend break.

**ST BONIFACE, WOODGREEN :** Room at the Inn, our pop-up pub is back again during February—Fridays 6pm to 11pm and Saturdays 12pm to 2.30pm. Licenced and selling wine, ciders and local beers—come and raise a glass! We raised over £800 during December for church funds.

**CHURCHES TOGETHER EVENTS GROUP :** Paul Williams, the Lead Pastor / Elder at New Life Community Church, Fordingbridge is the new Chairman of the 'Churches Together in Fordingbridge & District'. He is looking to bring together a small team of people who would work with him to help create & co-ordinate an events programme throughout the year 2019, ideally looking for representatives from different Churches and anyone who shares a passion for their community & the Church. If you are interested in being part of the team please email [paul@newlifefordingbridge.com](mailto:paul@newlifefordingbridge.com)

**HAVE YOU SEEN THE POP-UP “BOOKS TO BORROW” TABLE** at your Church or Coffee Morning yet? Great news: Some lovely children's books have been promised, to increase the selection!

**SOUP AND PUD LUNCH :** The popular Friends of Fordingbridge Museum **Soup and Pud Lunch** is on Saturday 9th February in St Mary's Church Hall from noon till 2 pm. All are welcome to this friendly, social occasion: home-made soups, delicious puddings and tea/coffee all for £6.50. Tickets from Fordingbridge Bookshop or on the door.

**LAUDAMUS QUIZ NIGHT** : Friday 15 February at 7pm at Rockbourne Village Hall. Tickets £10, including light supper, available by contacting 07810 683698. Proceeds go towards the choir's annual donation to St Mary's for use of church/hall to rehearse.

**HELP REQUIRED AT HYDE SCHOOL** : Could anyone help on Wednesday mornings from 10 until 12 when school some of their children to the village hall. I am hoping to set up a rota so that we only need to commit to once a month. If you would like to help once a month during term time, please contact Jo, the families worker at [families@avp-benefice.org.uk](mailto:families@avp-benefice.org.uk) or 07515 533685. Thank you.

**WHAT IS THE MISSION MATTERS GROUP?** Meeting 3/4 times a year to raise the profile of Mission and Social Justice in our churches, representatives from the Partnership churches, supported by the Rev'ds Gary, Nicky, and Mike, provide opportunities to explore our faith and what it involves. Watch out for the 'Books To Borrow' Pop Up table and our Traidcraft stalls; upcoming speaker 10th February to talk about The Children's Society. Want to know more—contact John & Pat Bloomfield (837735) or Alan & Gwenda Moore (650104)

**OPEN SPACE** : Saturday February 9<sup>th</sup>, 11am- 1pm at Slate Cottage, 27 Bridge Street, Fordingbridge. We will be thinking of topics for discussion and putting together a programme, together with dates, for the year. If you are unable to come and have ideas for discussion please let me know. Daphne Himmel on 655505

**REFLECTION** : How often do we look back at our past, often with heartfelt regret at our mistakes? The Philosopher George Santayana wrote "Those who cannot remember the past are destined to repeat it". Paul sought to convince the Corinthians to learn from the past mistakes of the Israelites especially to avoid idolatry. This would seem to relate to some of our politicians who are seeking to get their own way without much thought for the people they are supposed to be governing. A friend once said that in regretting past mistakes we should remember that back then we would do the same again – which is a comforting thought! However we would only do things differently today if we have learned from those mistakes, if we have changed. In the parables Jesus shows us all the pitfalls of not having an open mind, not seeing both sides of situations and much more. In our quiet moments we might reflect on how we have changed and in what way. In the gentleness of the silence a loving God is always with us to show us the way.

*Daphne Himmel*

# Presentation of Christ in the Temple

## 3rd February, 2019

---

<b>Sunday 3</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>8.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Breamore</b>
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Hyde</b>
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion - Snowdrop</b>	<b>Hale</b>
		<b>Sunday</b>	
	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Allsorts</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>C of E Holy Communion</b>	<b>Sandleheath</b>
	<b>4.30pm</b>	<b>Youth Space</b>	<b>Hyde</b>
<b>Monday 4</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Morning Prayer	Fordingbridge
	<b>2.00pm</b>	<i>Funeral of the late Sybil Marlow</i>	<i>Fordingbridge</i>
<b>Tuesday 5</b>	<b>9.15am</b>	Alpha Course, The Vicarage	Hyde
	<b>10.00am</b>	Sandleheath Coffee Morning	Sandleheath
	<b>7.00pm</b>	Alpha Course, The Vicarage	Hyde
<b>Wednesday 6</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Morning Prayer	Fordingbridge
	<b>10.00am</b>	Bible Study, Heather Cottage	Rockford Common
	<b>10.30am</b>	Holy Communion and coffee	Fordingbridge
<b>Thursday 7</b>	<b>12.30pm</b>	Puddleducklings	Fordingbridge
	<b>2.00pm</b>	<i>Funeral of the late Amanda Snell</i>	<i>Fordingbridge</i>
	<b>3.30pm</b>	Boost	Fordingbridge
	<b>7.30pm</b>	Bell Ringing	Fordingbridge
<b>Friday 8</b>	<b>6.20pm</b>	Choir practice	Fordingbridge
<b>Sunday 10</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Hyde</b>
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Iona Morning Service</b>	<b>Woodgreen</b>
	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service</b>	<b>Sandleheath</b>
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>Breamore</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**