The Benefice of Great Hanwood

Longden & Annscroft with Pulverbatch

Sunday 17 March 2024

Lent 5

**Collect**

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son  
out of love for the world:  
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,  
that we may know eternal peace  
through the shedding of our Saviour’s blood,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Jeremiah 31: 31-34**

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord.

33But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, ‘Know the Lord’, for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

**John 12: 20-33**

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. 21They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, ‘Sir, we wish to see Jesus.’ 22Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. 23Jesus answered them, ‘The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. 25Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

26Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.27 Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—“Father, save me from this hour”? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. 28Father, glorify your name.’ Then a voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ 29The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, ‘An angel has spoken to him.’ 30Jesus answered, ‘This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. 31Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. 32And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.’ 33He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

**Post Communion Prayer**

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters  
we do also for you:  
give us the will to be the servant of others  
as you were the servant of all,  
and gave up your life and died for us,  
but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**The Week Ahead**

Tues 19th 9am Longden School Easter Worship in Longden Church

1-2.30pm Bible Course in Wrentnall

Thurs 21st 9.30am Hanwood School Easter Worship in Hanwood Church

2pm World Day of Prayer – Annscroft

6.30pm Full Governing Body Hanwood

Sat 23rd 10am-10pm 12 hour prayer at home

**Sunday 24 March – Palm Sunday**

9.30am Palm Sunday Procession - Pulverbatch, start at church finish at The Knapp by 11am

11am Holy Communion – Longden

11am Holy Communion - Hanwood

1pm Lent lunch with Sue Jones

**We pray for:**

Hefyn Edwards, Margaret Hill, Liba Taconis, Rhoda Pearce, Sheila Dawson-Campbell, Louise, Andrew, Maisie, Liam, Mark, Robyn, Carol, Yvette, Peter Oakley, John Morris.

**We pray for our Benefice**

For those living in Hook-a-Gate, Welbatch, Whitley, Exfords Green, Lower Common.

Sun. Our MP & Shropshire Council

Mon. Local Councillors

Tues. Shrewsbury Foodbank Plus

Wed. Our neighbours

Thur. Local farmers

Fri. Hillside Nursery, Hook-a-gate

Sat. The New Inn, Hook-a-gate

**Bible Study Group**

Want to learn more about the bible? Be in a safe place where you can ask those awkward questions? Come to the Bible Course (there will be cake!) **at Willowburn, Wrentnall from 1-2.30pm** starting on **Tuesday 19th March**. More details from Rev Graham Phillips, 861003.

**World Day of Prayer**

Mothers' Union are hosting a Day of Prayer service on **Thursday March 21st at 2pm in Annscroft Church, followed by tea and cake.**

This is a very special service, having been written by Christian women from Palestine. The theme is 'bear with one another in Love' What could be more appropriate in the present situation in the Middle East?

**Coffee Morning**

Graham and Sandra Earney are hosting a Coffee Morning for Christian Aid during Holy Week on Tuesday 26th March at The Coppice, Pulverbatch from 10.30 -12noon. Everyone is welcome.

For details ring 01743 718930.

**We pray for:**

* The Church in Wales.
* The Kington & Weobley Deanery.
* England: Sheffield; Greenland (a diocese of the Church of Denmark).
* Three million or more people in Tanzania live with a disability; as in many developing countries, they are vulnerable, may lack education and find it hard to make a living. Pray for projects and initiatives, often church-based, that help train and prepare people with disabilities.
* At Passiontide give thanks for Jesus as both perfect priest and worthy sacrifice; pray for our preparations for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter, especially for events that witness to the world around.
* The feast day of Joseph of Nazareth (Tuesday) is by tradition a day to pray for the world of work. Pray for those whose work is tedious or poorly rewarded, and give thanks for the skill of artisan workers.
* In English Tourism Week, pray for all involved in the local tourism and hospitality industry.
* This week also celebrates Neurodiversity - pray for all who have felt rejected or excluded because of e.g. autism or ADHD.
* The Vernal Equinox on Wednesday begins the calendar Spring. It is also the International Day of Happiness, supporting a movement towards a happier, more inclusive, and resilient world.
* Thursday is the International Day of Forests. Pray for all working to conserve these vulnerable but vital habitats, at risk in many places.