

THE PARISH OF ABBOTS LANGLEY

St Lawrence the Martyr, Abbots Langley
with the Church of the Ascension, Bedmond

23rd JANUARY 2022
THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY



TODAY

8.00am Eucharist at St Lawrence

President & Preacher: Revd. Maxine Howarth

Reader: David Staines

9.30am Parish Eucharist
at St Lawrence

President & Preacher: Revd. Maxine Howarth

Reader: Brenda Southorn

Intercessions: Brian Hibberd

Readings:

(Neh. 8. 1-3, 5-6, 8-10) page 449

1 Cor. 12. 12-31a page 170

Luke 4. 14-21 page 58

Hymns: 546: O Worship the King
490: Jesus shall reign
557: Praise to the Holiest
581: Take my life
530: Now thank we all

Revd. Peter Waddell is presiding at St. John's, Watford 10.30am service

11.15am: Eucharist at the Church of
Ascension, Bedmond

President & Preacher: Revd. Maxine Howarth

Hymns: 546: O worship the King
490: Jesus shall reign
557: Praise to the Holiest
530: Now thank we all

5.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP)

WELCOME

Welcome to our worship today, especially to visitors and newcomers - please introduce yourself if you are new or a visitor.

If you usually receive communion in your own church, please do so here, if not, you are very welcome to receive a blessing.

Please tell a welcomer before the service if you would like a gluten-free wafer.



A T-loop is provided for hearing-aid users.



If medical reasons prevent you from attending church, and you would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact the parish office.

As always you can still contact us via FB, or the Church Office on 01923 261795 or email: adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk.

Coffee

Sadly we have had to suspend coffee after the 9.30am service on grounds of Public Health.

www.abbotslangley.org.uk

THE PRAYERS AND BIBLE READINGS

COLLECT:

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

READINGS:

(Neh. 8. 1-3, 5-6, 8-10)

1 Cor. 12. 12-31a

Luke 4. 14-21

BIBLE NOTES:

This passage from Luke is often dubbed 'The Nazareth Manifesto', and is seen as setting the tone for all of Jesus' teaching ministry. He identifies himself as standing in the tradition of the prophet Isaiah, and indeed as being the one in whom Isaiah's hopes become true. Isaiah seems to have been a favourite prophet for Jesus, in particular with his idea of 'the servant' messiah figure who would redeem Israel through suffering. Yet in this passage, Jesus significantly departs from the text of Isaiah 61 on which he's preaching – omitting Isaiah's reference to 'the day of vengeance of our God.' It's not that vengeance, or judgement, is wholly absent from Jesus' teaching – but grace certainly comes first.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

The Conversion of Paul

25 January -- Festival -- Apostle -- White

The conversion of the anti-Christian zealot, Saul, to the apostle of Christ, Paul, is clearly related in the reading from the Acts of the Apostles, but it has to be remembered that this was a beginning: Saul took some time to become Paul and some time to begin to understand that his call to preach -- to Jew and to Gentile -- the saving power of Jesus, the Son of God, was something that was a whole life's journey for him. Paul says in his Letter to the Church in Galatia, "God set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace ... Three years after (the Damascus Road conversion), I went up to Jerusalem." The preparation for this moment of his conversion was his whole life. This feast has been celebrated in the Church since the sixth century but became universal in the twelfth century.

**BREATHING
SPACE**
At
St Lawrence
Church



REFLECTION

**Sunday 6th
February
5pm**



**Food,
reflection and a
chance to
contemplate the big
issues of life**

CONTEMPLATION

FOR OUR PRAYERS

- For peace in the Ukraine
- For the PCC as it meets
- For the people of Tonga
- For the Knit and Natter group
- For all those attending the LLF course

FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR IN NEED

Henry Bremer; Emma; James Mote;
Patricia Lakey; Hilary Martin; Martin
Greeves; Val Pearce; Ann Carter; Matilda
Cudjoe; Philip Bolitho-Jones;

FOR THE DEPARTED

Margery Jean Campbell



NEXT SUNDAY

30th January 2022

THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION

- 8am Eucharist at St. Lawrence
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist
at St Lawrence
- 11.15am Eucharist at The Tin Church
- 5.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP)
- 6.30pm Taizé Service

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

Ezek. 43.27-44.4;
1 Cor. 13.1-13; Luke 2.22-40

AVAILABILITY

Peter's day off is Thursday
Maxine's day off is Friday

THE COMING WEEK

Monday—Saturday, 9.15am

Morning Prayer

In the Corpus Christi Chapel
All Welcome - also livestreamed

Monday 24th January

10.00am Coffee and Prayer

In the Breakspear Room

1.45pm Tiny Tots

In the Breakspear Room

7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice

8.00pm PCC meeting (*Bedmond*)

Tuesday 25th January

1pm Living in Love and Faith Course

In Breakspear Room

Wednesday 26th January

11.15am 'Time for God'

Contemplative Prayer

In the Corpus Christi Chapel

12 noon Eucharist

In the Corpus Christi Chapel

8.00pm Choir Rehearsal

in Church

Thursday 27th January

8pm Living in Love and Faith Course

In Breakspear Room

Friday 28th January

4pm Funeral of Margery Jean Campbell

At West Herts Crem

6pm Youth Choir

in Breakspear Room

Notices...

Charity Stamps— Some of you will know that over the years St Lawrence and Bedmond have supported The Hospice of St Francis by collecting stamps. John Noonan is the person who makes sure that your stamps are donated to the Hospice of St Francis. If you would like to donate any stamps please leave them at the back of church at Bedmond or at St Lawrence or pop them through the office letter box. If you just mark the envelope for John or just put

the word stamps on it we will make sure that they reach John who kindly sorts them before forwarding them on.

The **Living and Love and Faith** courses (LLF) have started and are going well. It's not too late to join in this exploration of the thorny questions around sexuality, gender, relationships and marriage. Come either at 1pm—2.30pm on Tuesdays or 8-9.30pm on Thursdays.

We are going to have a **Parish Zoom book group!** For starters, we are going to look at Rowan Williams' brilliant little introduction to the Christian faith *On Being Christian*. The office has several copies: do come and get one (donations to cover expense very welcome!). Our first meeting will be at 8pm on Wednesday 23rd February.

Please keep **Roland Maxted** in your prayers as he continues to explore possible ordination. You won't see him around for a few weeks as the latest stage of the process is that he undertakes a month's placement in a different Parish. In Roland's case this is at Grove Hill and Woodhall Farm in Hemel Hempstead. Maybe this has stirred your interest in what God may want you to do next? If so, do have a word with Peter or Maxine.

Next Sunday at 12.15pm there will be a **Bedmond Congregational Meeting**—the first in a very long time! Everyone welcome.

CONTACT NUMBERS

Vicar:

The Revd Dr Peter Waddell 07552 359046
Email: vicar@abbotslangley.org.uk

Curate:

The Revd Maxine Howarth 07930 522 868
Email: curate@abbotslangley.org.uk

Assistant Priest:

The Revd Brian Hibberd
via the Church Office

Reader:

Mrs Sally Sanderson - 01923 265963

Safeguarding:

Dr Kathryn Goodman on 01923 681760

Church Office Opening Times:

10.00am until 12.30pm Mon-Fri - 01923 261795
Email: adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk

If anyone needs the ministry of a priest at any time, day or night, please contact Peter directly.

Like us on



StLawrenceChurchAbbotsLangley and TheTinChurchBedmond