



ANGELS & SAINTS

MONTHLY PARISH NEWS

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Sustainability

Sustainability focuses on meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. The concept of sustainability is composed of three pillars: economic, environmental, and social—also known informally as profits, planet, and people.

I would add that by considering future generations in our 'wealthy nation' we will be benefiting those people in less developed countries already suffering from the consequences of our unsustainable lifestyles.

The irony is that many of our life choices are not good for our current wellbeing let alone the future of the planet. If we eat more balanced diets and travel less we will be both financially better off and healthier!

Our various states of lockdown have definitely improved my discipline of car use. In the past I might have travelled to Ringwood at least twice a week without a second thought but now I try and 'collect' a number of jobs together and then go once. Instantly my annual mileage is reduced by 500 miles!

Another simple example: not surprisingly, as a Cornishman, I love my pasties which contain beef! The desire of developed nations to eat beef is helping to destroy rain forests, ruining the habitats of indigenous people and wildlife and it's been estimated that the production of beef can generate more than twice as much CO2 as other meats, which in turn have a significantly higher impact than most vegetables. It's an expensive option but buying organically farmed meat reduces its carbon footprint and often tastes better. We can try eating less meat but of better quality. Reducing meat by 1kg per month has at least the same impact in a year as those 500 fewer miles! We may not save money, but we will be supporting better farming practices, eating more healthily and reducing the likelihood of our rainforests going up in flames.

I'd encourage you to do a little more research on this topic. I think it may well astound you. However, please don't just read the headlines and do ensure that you are using more than one base source for your data.

As Christians we hope that Christ can say to us; 'Well done good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little. I will set you over much.' (Matthew 25:21) Burying our heads in the sand is not an option. If we do nothing more this year, we should study Christ's teaching and the scientific and social evidence which supports the urgency of the need for changes to the way we live.

Hopefully , we can then, with a more objective viewpoint and one not centred on ourselves, seek to 'to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.' (Micah 6:8)

May God bless you on your journey in 2021.

Hank

Important Update

Deborah and Neville are suffering from Covid. They had positive test results this week after becoming ill last week. We are not aware of a link to church and there has been no contact with anyone at church

Deborah is obviously not well enough to do a streamed service at the moment so Andrew Rowland suggested we can join the Minster's service this Sunday - links are available below.

The decision has been taken to close the church in order to protect everyone's safety in view of the current lockdown circumstances. This was following discussions with Anthony, the Archdeacon, and Andrew Rowland as Rural Dean. Bishop Karen has also been notified.

We will review the situation week by week and make decisions about whether we can record or livestream a service, or join the Minster's.

Please continue to pray for all who are suffering at this time and we especially pray for Deborah and Neville.

Deborah sends her love to you all and her message to you all is 'God Bless'.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th—25th January 2021 'Abiding in Christ'



The way in which we celebrate this year will be different as, due to Covid-19, we are unable to have an ecumenical service in church this year.

However, CTiV will be holding a Zoom service on **Sunday 24th January at 6pm** which will be hosted by Tim Leavers. Further information about this will follow.

You are invited to participate in your personal prayers during the week and if you would like to find further information then you can visit www.cbti.org.uk.

Churches
together Verwood

Services in January

We will aim to provide virtual services or other resources wherever possible. [Together on Zoom](#) will still continue online and our next service is **Sunday 17th January at 4.45pm.**

If you wish to, you are able to join the online services for Wimborne Minster using the following [Zoom](#) meeting number: 883 2976 1518 or by following them on [YouTube](#). Further details of their services can be found [here](#).

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As before, if you, or anyone you know is unwell or is in need of a chat, or a prayer, please let the office or one of the Lay Pastoral Assistants know.

Please pray for everyone who has been affected during this pandemic.

Please spread the message -no-one should feel isolated during these times.

## From the Treasurer

As we wish a fond farewell to 2020, on behalf of the PCC, I would like to thank everyone for their financial contributions to our Church over the last year.

Whilst to say the least, the banking situation was very challenging, we have come through this trial. The wonderful news is that we have paid all our bills, we have paid our Parish Share in full, our Outreach Giving - always important, but especially so recently - paid in full.

All the contributions received, whether great or small, have made a major difference to the maintenance and expansion of our Mission to our community. Hopefully we will soon be able to recommence all the many social and personal contacts that mean so much to us and the wider society.

God bless, may we all enjoy a happy and healthy 2021. *Neil Gibson*

## A Message from our Youth & Children's Minister

During our first Together on Zoom service of 2021, we began our two part series titled; New Year, Same God. January 1st is a day for which many wait expectantly, when the prior year seemed endlessly daunting.

Many of us will be setting resolutions and goals for this coming year, which is a wonderful way to help keep us focused. The truth about the new year we must keep at the forefront of our minds as we set goals is this: God hasn't changed. It's a new year but the same God.

As exciting as it is to embark on the adventure of a new year, the hype tends to die down a few days or weeks later and real life sets in. I can't tell you how many times I've started the bible in one year challenge. Goal progress slows down, we miss a day and before we know it, one day of an unopened bible leads to two, then three and without realising it, we've spent longer out of the Word than we did in the Word.

There is no doubt that 2020 has been a very challenging year, each one of us will have our own losses and gains. In 2 Corinthians 1:20, it says that all God's promises are yes and amen. As followers of Christ we gain unlimited access to those promises, reading these in the bible and applying them to our lives will give us a deeper understanding of God's love for us.

The more we lean into Him and cling to His Word, the more we will be transformed into His image. We are ever changing; He is unchanging. That's what grounds us, propels us forward, and roots us in every season. A very Happy New Year to you all and remember, it's a New Year but the same God.

Amen, Helen Anderson

We would like to direct you to our [YouTube](#) channel for children and youth videos. On Sundays there will be a talk uploaded that will follow the lectionary readings. I will also be uploading a bible study video on a Wednesday, this is aimed for the youth, however, anyone is welcome to watch them.





[www.childrenssociety.org.uk](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk)

Thank you all for your continued support for the Children's Society, even in these difficult times.

Last year our church still managed to raise nearly £2000 from House Boxes, Christingle, Brian's bird boxes and from COVID-19 masks. If you have a house box, we are sorry we cannot collect these in at present, but no doubt you can arrange an overflow box if necessary. Following the success of the Christmas Masks, Carol will be getting her sewing machine out to make some 'everyday' versions. If you would like one, or two, please contact her any time.



The Church of England has created a [page](#) containing prayers and intercessions and a simple form of prayer for the morning and evening .

The [Daily Hope phone line](#) is also still available, free of charge, to those unable to access online resources.

These resources are offered to help those who are struggling to find words at this difficult and stressful time and to enable Christians to worship in solidarity with one another even if it is not possible to gather in a church building.

## Together on Zoom in January

TOGETHER ON ZOOM



at 5pm

Sunday 17th January  
2nd of Epiphany

Sunday 31st January  
Presentation of Christ

Follow this link

[us02web.zoom.us/j/87280074630](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87280074630)

between 4.45pm & 5pm to join us.

### Calendar for January

Sunday 10th January  
The Baptism of Christ

Sunday 17th January  
The Second Sunday of Epiphany

Sunday 24th January  
The Conversion of Paul

Sunday 31st January  
The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

### Church Contacts

Rev. Deborah Matthews 01202 823707  
(Day off Friday)

The Parish Office  
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