The links for each course are below.

Whichever of the resources you choose, whether from the above or your own, I encourage you to take this time as an opportunity to stop, think, pray and prepare for the powerful message of Easter renewal.

Blessings, Andy

Benefice prayer meeting

Saturday 6th February is the benefice prayer meeting on Zoom and phone, praying for the casualties of Covid-19 and about the future direction of the benefice. It will be a structured meeting from 10–11am, for which Bibles may be useful. The Zoom link will be open from 9am. To join the Zoom meeting:

Online: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84396618013

One tap mobile: 0203 4815237,,84396618013#

Dial by your location: 0203 481 5237

Meeting ID: 843 9661 8013

Accessing the Lent courses

Living in Love and Faith

Mondays at 10am, from 22 February

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83450433926 or Phone-in number: 0203 051

2874

Meeting ID: 834 5043 3926

Thursdays at 8pm, from 18 February

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83952911896 or Phone-in number: 0203 051

2874

Meeting ID: 839 5291 1896

Caring for Creation

Wednesdays at 2pm, from 24 February

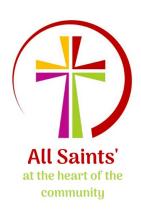
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82953074429 or Phone-in number: 0203 051

2874

Meeting ID: 829 5307 4429

Methodist Lent Course

To access this course, contact Becki Stennett on 07566 795211 or at becki stennett@yahoo.co.uk



SUNDAY 7th FEBRUARY 2021 Second Sunday before Lent Sexagesima Creation Sunday

Funeral of John Oliver

John died peacefully at St. Gemma's two weeks ago and his funeral is this Saturday 6th February at All Saint's from 12noon.

With the current Covid restrictions, there will be a maximum of 30 people attending, mostly family.

There will be a memorial service for John when it is safe to do so at a later date.

Please pray for Anne and the family as they say goodbye to John.

Please also remember to keep to the current Covid-19 laws for yours and others safety.

Please do not come into the church grounds, nor stand on the apron.

Thank you for all the messages and cards received by Anne.

Also thank you for all the kindness and care Anne has received, it is very much appreciated.

If you would like to donate a gift in memory of John please consider giving to Dementia UK and St. Gemma's.

continued overleaf

John had a long and distinguished ministry in this Diocese.

He was a much loved priest in the ministry of our Benefice and far beyond, a loving friend, father, grandfather and husband.

He will be deeply missed.

Bob

Have you ever wanted to put the preacher on the spot?

To ask a question they have not touched on in a sermon, or to ask the 'so what?' question?

You can do this on Sunday 14th February by sending your questions on The Transfiguration in for Alan, who will be preaching that day, to answer in his sermon.



Have a read through this incident in Mark 9:2-9 and send your questions to <u>alan.stanley8@btinternet.com</u> or phone them through to **0113 281 2769**.

He promises straight answers to everything you ask! **Sunday Worship 7th February 2021.**

Worship with the Bailey family from their home. Sermon by John Crouch.

Prayers Pauline Robson. Gospel reading John 1.1–14.

This week we will be exploring an environmental theme. We invite you to bring paper and pens to draw during the service - if you would like!

https://youtu.be/WmK81E6bvJk

Blessings, Bob

Letter from the Rector

Saturday 6 February 2021

Dear all

This letter should arrive with you on Saturday 6th February, the day of John Oliver's funeral. John was a previous Archdeacon of Leeds who retired to Barwick in Elmet and was a wonderful addition to the team of worship leaders during the early part of my time here. I will miss his energy, enthusiasm and wisdom.

This week we also heard of the death of Captain Sir Tom Moore, who did so much to raise our spirits during the first lockdown.

With the vaccination programme making strides, it feels as if we are on the cusp of a new dawn both locally and nationally. But before that dawn happens there is a time of preparation and waiting. Lent is the perfect season for just that and I encourage all to take the next six weeks as a time to live with both the death and the resurrection that Lent and Easter afford us.

Recognising that each of us has different needs, abilities and resources, we are offering, across the benefice, three different Lent courses for people to access:

Living in Love and Faith. As I have previously spoken of this, I'll say little more here than that it will run on Mondays at 10am and Thursdays at 8pm via Zoom, online and by phone. But online is preferable to phone access, as people do need to be able to see a screen because the course includes a series of video recordings.

For those who either don't feel up to the *Living in Love and Faith* course or who don't do Zoom, we have a York Course, *Caring for Creation*, running on Wednesdays at 2pm. Although accessible via Zoom online as well as by phone, this course does not require people to see a screen as it uses audio recordings.

Becki Stennet of Scholes Methodist Church is running a course via WhatsApp and Zoom using the Lent book *Rooted in Love: 40 Reflections for Lent*. This will encourage a continuous conversation over the whole of Lent through the medium of WhatsApp, supplemented by weekly Zoom chats.