

ALL SAINTS' NOTICE BOARD



SUNDAY 28th FEBRUARY 2021

LENT 2

Readings for Sunday 28th Feb
Romans 4:13-25 and Mark 8:31-38

THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday

Sue Cole on Wednesday
3rd March

THANK YOU

to everyone who has written to me,
phoned me or stood out in the bitter cold to
have a word at the front door during the past
few weeks since John's death.

You have been a great comfort to me in my
sadness and I am grateful to be living
within such a supportive church family.
I look forward to seeing you all when we can get
our lives back. Thank you again.

Anne Oliver

URGENT PRAYER REQUEST

for Keith B. who is seriously ill in
hospital, and for his wife as they
wait for news.

PRAYER CORNER

Monday 1st March is St David's Day
Please pray for the people of Wales
as they prepare to come out of
lockdown.

Church services

Owing to the latest lockdown, there are no services in the three churches at present. Sunday services will possibly resume on 18 April and midweek services possibly from the week commencing 17 May.

Online services

The Elmete Trinity Benefice [YouTube channel](#) hosts:
Sunday services, usually live-streamed from one of the church services and then available for catch-up
daily reflections (Monday–Friday in Lent)
weekly 'On the Sofa' Bible stories
monthly Messy Church.

Zoom activities include:

weekly prayers and chat, on Wednesdays at 11am;
join by Zoom –click on <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87348030764>
and key the Meeting ID 873 4803 0764 (if requested), or
join by phone – dial 0203 051 2874 and then enter the Meeting ID
873 4803 0764.

weekly Bible study, on Thursdays at 8–8.30pm; contact [Alan Stanley](#) to
join (currently suspended as Alan is running a Lent course that
evening – see below).

weekly Pathfinders , on Fridays at 8–9pm, for young people (aged 11+);
contact [Matt Briggs](#) to join.

Email elmettrinitypa@gmail.com to be notified by email of new recordings etc.

Telephone services

There is a **dial-in prayer service (c.30 mins) at 6pm on Sundays.**

The services allow people to speak and listen, to be anonymous or to take part.

To join these calls, **dial 0330 336 0036 and enter the PIN 716 416.**

Calls can be made from either a landline or mobile and are at a local rate from your service provider.

Call Alan Stanley on 0113 281 2769 if you need help.

See on page 1 under Zoom activities for details of the Wednesday phone-in prayer service.

Lent courses 2021

Two courses, *Living in Love and Faith* and *Caring for Creation*, are running on different days and at different times. Please contact [Andy Nicholson](#) for more information.

Living in Love and Faith

Mondays at 10am, led by Andy Nicholson

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83450433926>

or phone-in number: 0203 051 2874

Meeting ID: 834 5043 3926

Thursdays at 8pm, led by Alan Stanley

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83952911896>

or phone-in number: 0203 051 2874

Meeting ID: 839 5291 1896

Caring for Creation

Wednesdays at 2pm, led by a different worship leader each week

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82953074429>

or phone-in number: 0203 051 2874

Meeting ID: 829 5307 4429

The Rector's letter for Saturday 27 February 2021

Dear all

This week in the church year we are very definitely entering the realms of Lent, and tomorrow's Gospel reading contains two classic sentences that have entered common usage. People who have never read the Bible or attended church will know at least the first of these phrases:

'Get behind me, Satan!'

And the second:

'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

Both sentences, when unpacked, bring into sharp relief the message of the Gospel, though the first phrase needs a bit more unpacking than the second.

The first sentence is Jesus' rebuke to Peter because he misunderstands Jesus' purpose. Peter thinks Jesus has come to reign in glory here on earth and cannot comprehend that he might have come to die. Read in the context of the rest of the chapter, we see Jesus healing a blind man in stages (first seeing partially before full healing occurs), followed by Peter's declaration of Jesus as the Messiah, and then Peter's presumption of what kind of Messiah Jesus will be. All too often we, like Peter and the partially healed man, see only part of the message and think we've grasped the whole.

We need to allow time and God's unravelling before we fully understand. Paul puts it in the beautifully poetic language that we 'see now through a glass, darkly'. Either way, we need to learn to allow God to show us the full truth in his time, not ours.

If the first sentence is opaque and about Jesus' suffering, the second sentence is easier to understand and speaks directly to us. Jesus makes plain through these sentences that if his mission is to offer himself as a sacrifice for others, then we as his followers shouldn't expect anything different.

It's a challenging message to take on and not easy, especially in the midst of so much suffering, both mental and physical, in the society around us.

As we make our way through Lent, let us open our eyes to the suffering of others and seek, where possible, to alleviate that suffering. Let us also remind ourselves that what we see now is only part of the picture, and that we may never fully comprehend the picture this side of eternity.

Blessings, Andy