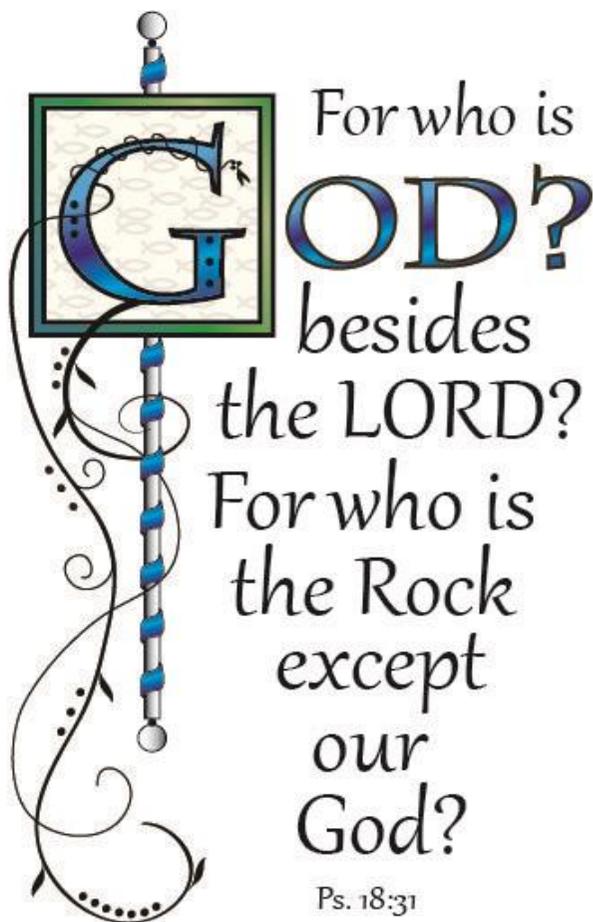


# 'Gossip' According to St John's

FEBRUARY 2018



## SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2018

Thursday 1 <sup>ST</sup>	Holy Communion	
Sunday 4 <sup>TH</sup>	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	9.45 am	Parish Communion
Wednesday 7th	3.15 pm	Smile
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 11th	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	9.45 am	Parish Communion
Thursday 15th	10.00 am	Matins
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	9.45 am	Parish Communion
Thursday 22nd	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 25th	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	9.45 am	Parish Communion

## LIST OF WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS & FUNERALS

### WEDDINGS

None

### BAPTISMS

January 14 <sup>th</sup> 2018	Caleb Bidgway	Son of Daniel Bidgway and Nadine Gamlin of Foxdown Terrace, Wellington
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*May the Lord Jesus always watch over the little ones*

### FUNERALS

23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2018	Astrid Grensted	Aged 89, of Longforth Road, Wellington
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*Safely rest, all is well, God is nigh*

# THE BISHOP'S LETTER

## Living Lent

We've got one of our lovely sons and daughter-in-laws living with us at the moment. It's great! For me at least. (I've never had to live with my mother-in-law before so can't speak for Danielle!) I find myself coming home to dinner on the table, the house swept clean and my cupboards all neatly rearranged. We've even got a newly painted downstairs loo! And we are having some really good conversations, sharing our hopes and dreams.

This month sees us enter Lent, the season of reflection as we trace Jesus' footprints and walk the road to the cross. It's an opportunity for us to do some clearing out. We empty our cupboards of the rich foods, beating up the batter of our pancakes, in preparation for a more abstemious few weeks.

However living Lent is more than merely attending to our diets but rather making room to reflect on those aspects of our lives that need adjustment. Those things we need to bring into God's light for him to forgive, help us to turn from and find a new way of being. This means doing more than just rearranging the shelves. It requires us to rid ourselves of those things that hold us back from God's call on our lives. What might that mean for you this Lent? What needs to go?

But it's not just about taking bags of old and unwanted items down to the recycling bank. It's also about how we form hopes and dreams for the future. How we look beyond the 'now' to 'what might be'. How we move into a new resurrection, a renewal of life beyond the cross.

Bishop's letter continued...

Many of us make plans whether that's for this weekend or for our children's long-term future. How many of us seek out what God's plan might be for us? We will be hearing something of how Jesus 'set his face towards Jerusalem' this Lent. How he walked towards what he must have sensed as imminent danger. But he did so in obedience to his father. Not knowing what might be the outcome but expectant that the will of his father would be fulfilled.

At that moment in the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus seemingly faltered. 'If it be your will, take this cup from me' he prays. However it was only through the cross that resurrection hope, new possibilities could be revealed. What future are you seeking? God's will to be revealed? Or have you mapped it all out already?

The Right Reverend Ruth Worsley

Bishop of Taunton

## **MOTHERS' UNION LIST OF SPEAKERS**

February 6 <sup>th</sup>	Rev. John Stone
March 6 <sup>th</sup>	Rev Tim Potage
April 10 <sup>th</sup>	John Young & Alan Cook
May 1 <sup>st</sup>	Rev Hendzel, Wellington Methodist Minister
June 5 <sup>th</sup>	Poetry Choice
July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	James Clapham

## Praying for God's Kingdom

'Letting go and letting God...' has been a phrase I've been turning over in my head since the beginning of the year. When Jesus has his conversation with Nicodemus he talks about the wind blowing where it wills. He uses this as an image to speak of the work of the Holy Spirit in breathing new life into those being 'born again of the Spirit'.

Our prayer is not about controlling God. It's not about giving him a list of daily tasks to fulfil on our behalf. As I think more about it I imagine our prayer to be as if we place in our upturned hands those things we are offering to God. For his blessing, his attention, his grace to be expressed. And then it's as if that wind of the Spirit blows gently across our palm and lifts those things. What happens next is not something we can control.

That's no easy task is it? We often know the answer we would like to see God give to our prayer. However as Jesus taught us, we pray for God's Kingdom to come and His will to be done. We are not called to predict or demand the outcome of our prayer but to let go and let God...

How might you liberate the power of the Spirit through your prayer this month?

The Right Reverend Ruth Worsley

Bishop of Taunton

**MORE OF SELINA'S BEAUTIFUL POEMS**  
**LEARNING TO WALK AGAIN WITH CHRIST**  
**A STROKE OF GRACE**

**A Stroke**

A cruel poke explodes my world My life unravels  
Winding down and down To stop Dead in my tracks  
I cannot move Nights time stops still, with echoing ticks  
Loud piercing beeps reverberate around my skull  
My limbs seem severed from my head; they weigh like lead  
Tiredness creeps along my veins and energy drains away, dissolves  
Christ's cross I hold  
A silent prayer, repels my fear.  
Love unfolds in warm embrace  
I see his face and know I'm not alone;  
Experiencing grace.

Selina's poems continued...

### **My Stroke**

A cruel poke, a broken spoke,

God's parabolic joke

which spoke,

no screamed

of loss and letting go.

Then God began to sew

a tapestry of sacred seeds

to grow

His Kingdom, through the fabric of my life.

Each darker thread reveals

the rainbow colours of my soul;

and strands of gold are woven deep,

as roots of love take hold.

*"I will not die but live,*

*and I will proclaim what the LORD has done"*

*Psalm 118:17*

Selina's poems continued.....

Kintsukuroi

Stroke struck legs  
a lurch and leaning left  
until the jenga tower falls  
limbs flailing in the unsupportive air  
grasping particles too small to steady.

My pot of life flies free  
from hallowed hands.

Cascading to the unforgiving floor,  
where fractured fragments fly.

Snow silence falls,  
dissolving time.

The pieces lie in unfamiliar frame,  
assimilating they will never be the same.  
Dreams seeping slowly through the cracks  
into crevices of ancient rocks.

While stones of pain are pounding in my brain.

Then gentle hands reach down to cradle,  
broken pieces tenderly  
to reassemble damaged fragments of my jigsaw life.

Golden glue of love, joins wounded pieces  
of my pot  
in sacred union.

Kintsukuroi turning death into a new beginning.  
And my broken bowl is blessed and beautiful again

*In Japan, broken objects are often repaired with Gold.*

*The flaw is seen as a unique piece of the object's history which adds to its  
beauty.*

**CONSIDER THIS WHEN YOU FEEL BROKEN**

Selina's poems continued.....

### Kintsukuroi Love

Love is the golden glue  
uniting fragments  
of my broken bowl.  
Framing flaws in glistening glory;  
holding hope in Kintsukuroi.  
A stroke. My wounded history  
enfolded in God's suffering story.  
Revealing resurrection glory.  
My life transformed by Kintsukuroi.  
Kintsukuroi, weaving golden light,  
through wounds and gory dreams.  
Sewing hope with glistening golden seams  
deep underground.  
Strengthening my fractured core.  
Opening God's kingdom store.  
Through letting go and grasping my quirky and unique,  
allowing imperfection time to speak,  
and holding tenderly my weak  
and wounded body, heart and mind;  
for God to find.  
And using Kintsukuroi's golden seals,  
my fragile pot of life is healed.  
Our God of infinite love, revealed.

Selina's poems continued....

Charlie

Monday was Dog therapy  
In Dunkery ward.  
I shuffled in  
and some were brought in chairs;  
to stroke some dogs.  
Rather unexpectedly,  
a glimpse of ordinary life  
was there to see.  
At visiting time we talked 'puppy'  
We laughed and smiled  
and hope was born.  
Matthew chose the colour and the breed  
and Julian agreed.  
And conversations changed,  
to choosing names.  
The feeding tube removed  
replaced by pureed food;  
my ticket home.  
I was afraid  
and quite undone;  
to find myself so frail, at home.  
They drove to Cardiff  
brought him back;  
placed tiny Charlie on my lap  
and that was that!

Selina's poems continued....

**Dew Drop Blessings. *Morning prayer in autumn***

The dew of Christ's blessing  
sits silently upon the grass,  
as morning breaks  
and night is past.  
A new day dawns.  
Glory glistens  
on each tender, tearful blade.  
Silvery dew,  
like precious stones in royal diadem;  
a crown of praise.  
Manna for a thirsty soul,  
garnered in my Kintsukuroi bowl;  
A golden chalice now that holds,  
each treasured teardrop plea  
and watery jewels of praise.  
The stars of liquid light  
repel the darkness of the night.  
Christ as dew is poured into  
my sacred cup;  
now overflowing,  
with the waters of creation.  
I raise my chalice of salvation  
and pray  
that dew drop blessings flow;  
through this new day.

*'You shall be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord a royal diadem in the hand of your God' Isaiah 62:3*

## **THE WOMEN'S REFUGE**

I have recently met with the ladies from the Refuge and the following is the list they have given me regarding the most urgently needed items:-

Curtains, things for the kitchen

Crockery, cooking utensils ie mixing bowls etc.

Any items that would be useful to ladies moving out of the Refuge and into their own home.

Food including tea, coffee

We would also like to start collecting items towards their Easter celebrations

*Thank you to you all for all your past support for this worthy cause  
Lenore*

## **PASTORAL CARE**

If you know of anyone who is unwell and would like their name added to the prayer list or if a visit is needed, please contact Mrs Judith Dufour who is the St John's Pastoral Companions co-ordinator, telephone number 01823

666633

## **MESSIAH AT EASTER – WELLINGTON CHORAL SOCIETY**

**ON SATURDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2018**

**WELLINGTON CHORAL SOCIETY PERFORMS HANDEL'S MESSIAH**

**AT**

**7.30 PM IN ST JOHN'S CHURCH, WELLINGTON**

TICKETS: £12 (UNDER 18'S Free) from Odette's Tearoom, Wellington (01813 667919), Taunton Visitor Centre(01823 340470), on line at [www.wellingtonchoralsociety.org.uk](http://www.wellingtonchoralsociety.org.uk) or on the door

## SOCIAL GROUP PROGRAMME UNTIL MAY 2018

February

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup>                      Coffee Morning

Friday 16<sup>th</sup>                      Soup Lunch

March

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup>                      Coffee Morning

Friday 16<sup>th</sup>                      Soup Lunch

April

Friday 20<sup>th</sup>                      Soup Lunch

May

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>                      Coffee Morning

Friday 18<sup>th</sup>                      Soup Lunch

Thank you to those members of the congregation of St John's who came and supported us at the Barn Dance on 19<sup>th</sup> January.

It was a bad night weatherwise outside but a wonderful night inside, so thanks for your support.

***Thank you very much for all your support during the past year***

## **THE CHRISTIAN HEALING MINISTRY CONTINUED**

### **WHAT IS THE CHURCH'S RESPONSE?**

At St John's we offer prayer for individual people every Sunday morning during or after the 9.45 service which is Holy Communion or Eucharist. If you want prayer for some specific need, simply move across to the Lady Chapel after receiving the Sacrament. There will be two people waiting to gently pray with you, quietly and simply. They may ask your name and if there is anyone or anything you wish them to pray for. If you prefer you need say nothing at all.

You need not necessarily come for yourself. If someone for whom you care about is in need, come and receive prayer on their behalf.

### **WHAT IF I DO NOT TAKE HOLY COMMUNION?**

It makes no difference. Simply come up to the Lady Chapel while others are receiving Communion, or at the end of the service. If the ministrants are praying with someone, sit in one of the seats until they are free.

### **WHAT OF THE OUTCOME?**

We never know how God will answer our prayers. We simply lay our concerns before him, leaving the outcome to his wisdom. Sometimes there may be an evident response quite quickly. More often there is a steady and progressive process of healing, and ongoing ministry may be needed.

Christian Healing Ministry.....

## WHAT WOULD MY DOCTOR SAY?

Both the Bible and human experience teach Prayer and Medicine should go together, and are certainly not in conflict. On the contrary, they are complementary. Medication and any other prescribed treatment should on no account be discontinued against medical advice

*This is taken from the healing leaflet produced some time ago, the healing team felt it should be put into the 'Gossip' over a period of three months for all to read and digest, just in case they had not read before and to strengthen the healing within the church.*

## A KIND WORD

A kind word spoken at just the right time, a smile as you pass on your way.

A hand stretched forth in greeting, may gladden someone's day

You don't have to be rich and famous, for happiness can't be bought,

It's the little things in life that count. They do mean such a lot.

A little time spent with the lonely, a little gift for the old,

A little laughter here and there, can bring happiness untold.

So as you journey on through life, remember if you will,

That the little things you say and do, often give the biggest thrill.

However, one of the most difficult things to give away is KINDNESS,

As it is usually returned

# WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

FRIDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2018

St John's Church will play host to all the other churches in Wellington at 2 p.m. on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at the service for the Women's World Day of Prayer.

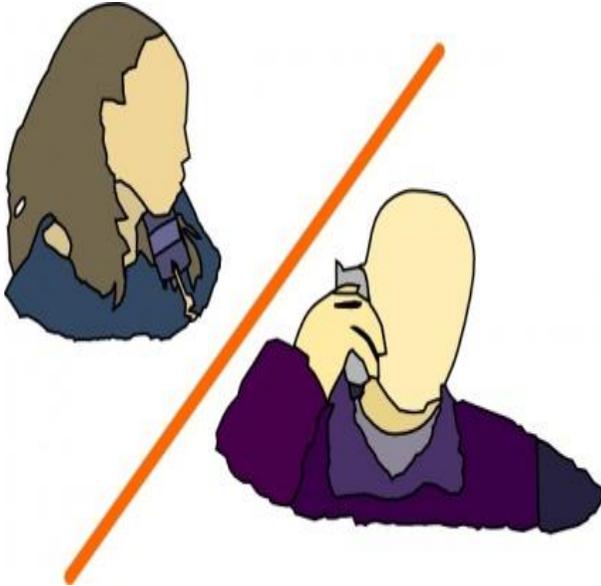
**"All God's Creation is very good"** is the theme of the service, drawn up by the women of Suriname, a country on the north east coast of South America. This same service will be held on that day not only here in Wellington, but also throughout the UK and indeed throughout the world.

I should like to encourage you to come along to welcome those coming from the other churches, to learn about Suriname and to participate in this worship together.

Tea and cake will be served after the service.

*Maralyn Norman, St John's Representative on the Wellington W/W/DoP Committee*

## ST JOHN'S PRAYER CHAIN



Judith 666633

Sue 664592

Sally650778

Iris 664613

Jean 669622

John 07530689700

Jaqui 667589

Jane 07775663385

Barbara and Gikes

Peter 663374

Lois 667971

If you are in need of prayer please use the chain and ring and give brief details to the first person on the above list and we will pass your prayer need around the chain. Please be assured all is confidential and you need only give your first name and your prayer need or even just the need. This does not in any way take the place of the Sunday Healing Prayer ministry but is in addition to it.



## PRINCIPALS OF THE CHURCH

<b>Rector</b>	<b>Rev'd Tim Treanor</b>	<b>01823 662248</b>
		Email. <a href="mailto:tlvtreanor@btinternet.com">tlvtreanor@btinternet.com</a>
<b>Team Missioner</b>	<b>Revd Selina Garner</b>	<b>01823 662227</b>
		Email. <a href="mailto:Selina@thegarner.me.uk">Selina@thegarner.me.uk</a>
<b>Rural Dean</b>	<b>Revd Matthew Tragenza</b>	
<b>Assistant Rural Dean</b>	<b>Revd Helene Stainer</b>	
<b>Reader</b>	<b>Mr John Elder</b>	<b>01823 669820</b>
		<a href="mailto:Email.john.elder@virgin.net">Email.john.elder@virgin.net</a>
<b>Churchwardens</b>	<b>Mr Grahame Woodward</b>	<b>01823 663236</b>
	<b>Mrs Christine Winhall</b>	<b>01823 663253</b>
<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	<b>Mrs Jenny Bache</b>	<b>01823 664390</b>
<b>Stewardship &amp; Gift Aid</b>	<b>Mrs Alison Woodward</b>	<b>01823 663236</b>
<b>Director of Music</b>	<b>Mr John Young</b>	<b>01823 663157</b>
<b>PCC Secretary</b>		
<b>Mothers' Union</b>	<b>Contact Pat Andrews 664857 or Joyce Norrish 669633</b>	
<b>Electoral Roll Officer</b>	<b>Mrs Julie Morton</b>	<b>01823 661996</b>