

## News for the Pews

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Sunday: The Presentation of Christ in the Temple



### News and Views

Save the date! Over the past few months (or longer!), the Group Council has been considering ways in which we can make the structures of the six parishes more effective (and more attractive to a new incumbent). One option is to combine the parishes into two sets of three – either as a “joint council” or a “united parish” – both technical and legal terms which I won’t go into here! Basically it would involve being able to share more resources across those three parishes; possibly having one parish and one PCC for the three churches. On the morning of Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March, Matt Jermyn, the Diocesan Learning Mentor for Effective Structures, will be coming to explain to PCCs (and anyone else who might be interested) what this would look like and what it will involve. Please put the date in your diary and I will be in touch with details. This will be a very important meeting on which PCCs will have to make some significant decisions.

### Events for the next week two weeks

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February – Celtic First Spring Celebration at 7pm in Napton churchyard (see poster)

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February – Baptism of Percy Robinson at 2pm at St. Peter’s Church, Wormleighton

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February – Stockton PCC meeting at 7pm at 17 St. Michael’s Crescent

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February – Memorial service for Lesley Wright at 11.30am in Stockton Church

### Looking ahead

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – Ash Wednesday Communion at 10.00am in St. John the Baptist, L. Shuckburgh

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – “Holy Habits” Lent course begins at 7.30pm in Stockton Church

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March – World Day of Prayer – time to be confirmed – at St. Leonard’s Church, Priors Marston

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Joint PCC meeting re structures (see above) 9am for 9.30am in Stockton Church

### Services on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Lent:

9.00am – Morning Worship at St. Mary’s, Priors Hardwick

10.30am – CW Holy Communion at St. Lawrence’s, Napton

10.30am – Morning Worship at St. Leonard’s, Priors Marston

10.30am – Morning Worship at St. Michael’s, Stockton

Bible readings for the week are: 1 Corinthians 2:1-16 and Matthew 5:13-20

### Services on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent:

9.00am – BCP Holy Communion at St. Peter’s, Wormleighton

10.30am – CW Holy Communion at St. Leonard’s, Priors Marston

10.30am – Morning Worship at St. Lawrence’s, Napton

10.30am – Methodist-led Holy Communion at St. Michael’s, Stockton

5.00pm – BCP Evensong at St. Mary’s, Priors Hardwick

Bible readings for the week are: Romans 8:18-25 and Matthew 6:25-end

### And finally

This week the church celebrates the conversion of St. Paul. His ministry and life were solely about proclaiming and living out the Gospel – the message of the cross. What an inspiration he should be for each one of us. The collect for the day: “Almighty God, who caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul: grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion may follow him in bearing witness to your truth; 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. Amen.”

### THERE WILL BE NO NEWS FOR THE PEWS NEXT WEEK

God bless,  
Gillian

(For more details of events and diary dates, see our website: [www.thebridgesgroup.org.uk](http://www.thebridgesgroup.org.uk) or the parish magazines)