

The Benefice & Team Ministry of Tettenhall Wood and Perton

The Parish of Tettenhall Wood

Rev Phil Wootton
Team Rector

7 Broxwood Park, Tettenhall Wood
Wolverhampton. WV6 8LZ
Tel: 01902 751116
e-mail: philwootton@sky.com

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Dear Friends,

I hope you are bearing up through these trying times.

In our Gospel reading this week, the lectionary returns to Jesus' early ministry in Capernaum, by Lake Galilee, in Mark chapter 1. We'll learn more about this through Jane Brough's sermon. In the intercessions Samantha Haughtey draws on the themes from the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, traditionally celebrated in the church as Candlemas (2nd February). If you want to look this up, it's Luke 2: 21-40.

Readings: 1 Corinthians 8: 1-13 Mark 1: 21-28

Collect: *God of heaven, you send the gospel to the ends of the earth
and your messengers to every nation:
send your Holy Spirit to transform us by the good news of everlasting life
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

I hope you enjoyed the quiz questions sent out last week. This week, it's the answers! Hope you did better than me! And don't forget to sign up for the online quiz evening on Saturday 13 February. Pam Humphrey tells me she made an error on the email address she gave last week (which may explain why she's had few responses!) It should be: pmhumphrey12@gmail.com

Some sad news from within our two church families. Millie Gibbs, who worshipped at Good Shepherd for many years, passed away on 12th January. Her funeral is on 1st February at Gornal Wood crematorium. Ernie Thomas, former member of the choir at Christ Church, died about a week ago at New Cross. The funeral is yet to be arranged. There are three other funerals where the person may be known by some in our churches: Marie Muchmore (9 February), Michael Perks (12 February) and Ina Webb (17 February). Please pray for all their families.

Lent is almost upon us, with Ash Wednesday on 17th February. It clearly will not be possible to hold the normal Covenanting Churches Lent Lunches, but we will continue with Lent courses – for groups online and individuals at home. 'York Courses' are a tried and tested format with input from well-known Christian leaders, course booklets and discussion points. I've chosen ***Psalms: Prayers for Today's Church***. Written by Archbishop Stephen Cottrell and including contributions by Rose Hudson-Taylor and John Bell, sessions explore how the Psalms address many of today's problems: violence, injustice, anger, bewilderment and how we worship in hard times.

I'm going to offer two sessions each week on Zoom: Tuesday afternoons at 2.00 and Wednesday evenings at 7.30. Let me know if you'd like to join in, and I'll send the links nearer the time. If you would like a course booklet, again let me know. They cost £3.80, but I don't want any money at the moment. Just put it in the collection when we're back in church. You can of course have a booklet to follow the course without Zooming: you can also have your own CD for the audio content (£8.99) or a transcript of it (£3.55). So, I hope as many as possible will join in one way or another.

Quite enough from me for today. Have as good a week as you can!

Phil.