

PARTNERS

weekly newsletter



5th November 2023 - 4th Sunday before Advent

In this season of 'remembering' on Monday the Church remembers and commemorates the life of William Temple.

I think we have much to thank William Temple for, William became Archbishop of Canterbury in 1942 and spent his life trying to link Christian Theological concerns to everyday life, whilst also trying to connect the Church to wider society.

William was the son of an Archbishop of Canterbury, born in 1881, in Exeter, he had a traditional education, became a headmaster, a lecturer and served as a parish priest from 1914-1917. One of his passions was to improve the social conditions for workers. He also worked to improve ecumenical connections between people of differing faiths.

He was a scholar who acted out his faith by trying to improve the lot of poor people, standing up to governments at home or abroad. Some of his theological views prevented his ordination to the diaconate at his first attempt in 1906 but in 1908 the then Archbishop of Canterbury made him a deacon.

William became the first president of the newly formed Workers' Educational Association which sought to provide the best educational opportunities available for all.

As Bishop of Manchester, he was instrumental in founding the separate Diocese of Blackburn believing the Manchester Diocese to be over large.

Although William Temple was only Archbishop of Canterbury for just over 2 years, his life's work on equality, justice, inclusion and ecumenical working together can be seen in many spheres of our everyday life, not least in the creation of the British Welfare State.

Ruth Crosland

St Mary's
Fordingbridge
SP6 1BB

St Mary's
Breamore
SP6 2DF

Holy Ascension
Hyde
SP6 2QJ

St Giles
Godshill
SP6 2JJ

St Boniface
Woodgreen
SP6 2AJ

St Mary's
Hale
SP6 2RF

Sandleheath
Uniting Church
SP6 1PT

We welcome all, especially visitors and those attending for the first time. If you need gluten free wafers at Communion, please speak to someone at the door before the service.

Please take this newsletter home with you for the week ahead. God Bless!

Readings for this Week: 5th November 2023

4th Sunday before Advent

COLLECT:

Almighty and eternal God,
you have kindled the flame of love
in the hearts of the saints:
grant to us the same faith and power of love,
that, as we rejoice in their triumphs,
we may be sustained by their example and fellowship;
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.

PSALM 43

- 1 Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause
against an ungodly people;
from those who are deceitful and unjust
deliver me!
- 2 For you are the God in whom I take refuge;
why have you cast me off?
Why must I walk about mournfully
because of the oppression of the enemy?
- 3 O send out your light and your truth;
let them lead me;
let them bring me to your holy hill
and to your dwelling.
- 4 Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy;
and I will praise you with the harp,
O God, my God.
- 5 Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.

A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

⁹The coming of the lawless one is apparent in the working of Satan, who uses all power, signs, lying wonders, ¹⁰and every kind of wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. ¹¹For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion, leading them to believe what is false, ¹²so that all who have not believed the truth but took pleasure in unrighteousness will be condemned. ¹³But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth.

At the end, the Reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

THE GOSPEL READING

Please stand and turn to face the Gospel Reader

When the Gospel is announced, the Reader says:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Matthew*

Glory to you, O Lord.

(Glory be to thee, O Lord.)

Matthew 24: 1-14

As Jesus came out of the temple and was going away, his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple. ²Then he asked them, 'You see all these, do you not? Truly I tell you, not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.'³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, 'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?' ⁴Jesus answered them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁵For many will come in my name, saying, "I am the Messiah!" and they will lead many astray. ⁶And you will hear of wars and rumours of wars; see that you are not alarmed; for this must take place, but the end is not yet. ⁷For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places: ⁸all this is but the beginning of the birth pangs. ⁹'Then they will hand you over to be tortured and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of my name. ¹⁰Then many will fall away, and they will betray one another and hate one another. ¹¹And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. ¹²And because of the increase of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold. ¹³But anyone who endures to the end will be saved. ¹⁴And this good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world, as a testimony to all the nations; and then the end will come.

At the end, the Reader says:
This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

(At the end, the Reader says:
This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to thee, O Christ.)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Lord of heaven,
in this eucharist you have brought us near
to an innumerable company of angels
and to the spirits of the saints made perfect:
as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage
we have shared their fellowship,
so may we come to share their joy in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN

Please note that there will be different readings from the above used at the various services in the Parish

Breamore 10.00am - Romans 14:7-9, John 11:32-44

Fordingbridge 8.15am - Wisdom 3:1-9; John 6:37-40

Fordingbridge 10.00am - Luke 9: 10-17

Fordingbridge 6.00pm - Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Hyde 10.00am - Romans 8:12-19, 31-32, 38-39, Mark 13:1-13

Hyde 3.00pm - Thessalonian 4:13-18; John 11:17-27

Woodgreen 4.00pm - Romans 8:37-39

Road closure – Church Street 6 -9 November - The road in Church Street will be blocked and closed between the above dates from 9.30am until 4pm each day because the church requires a new electricity cable which has to come across from under the pavement outside the Church Hall. This will also affect the path that runs next to the church and the inside corner of the church where the electricity meters and switches are. Inside church will be particularly affected on Wednesday 8th. The nearest two alternative routes are along Ashford Road (narrow) or to use the roads to Aderholt and Sandheath joined by Sandheath Rd/Alderholt Rd passing Alderholt Mill.

SP6 Friendship Group – Our friendship group will be held on **Tuesday 7th November, 21st November, 5th December and 19th December** from 10.00am – 12.00md at the Ship Inn, Fordingbridge High Street. There will also be a **Christmas lunch on December 12th at 12.00noon**. This group is for anyone who is bereaved or lonely and would like a cuppa and a friendly chat. We also organize outings, theatre trips and garden visits. If anyone would like to join us do come.

Avon Valley Community Matters- Families Together - Well done and a great big thank you to everyone who volunteered and attended our October Half Term Family Picnic. We successfully provided 16 families with a (very tasty) Jacket Potato and Apple Crumble. Activities ranged from cooking to pumpkin carving and all family members got stuck in for an absolutely lovely time. So with some great reviews we are now looking forward to the next Family Dinner and Nativity at Christmas. If you would like to be involved then please contact familybefriender@yahoo.com we always welcome an extra pair of hands to make teas and coffees, help with craft activities or run a game, and of course we need people to sweep and wash up too!

Upcoming dates: Saturday 11th November - Family Lantern Making Workshop, 2pm-4pm at St Mary's Church Hall **Saturday 25th November** - Family Lantern Making Workshop, 2pm-4pm at St Mary's Church Hall **Friday 1st December** - Christmas Lantern Parade (please email familybefriender@yahoo.com for more information) **Wednesday 20th December** - Family Christmas Dinner and Nativity, 11am-2pm at St Mary's Church Hall You can find information about our events by going to <https://AvonValleyCommunityMatters.eventbrite.com> or emailing familybefriender@yahoo.com

Remember those who flew from our Parish - At Ibsley, a wartime airfield was created in WWII. Volunteers from foreign air-forces, joined with 'Brits' in flying from there. Over 90 of them, from Britain and eight other countries, flew from our Parish, and were killed in action. On **Saturday 11th** at 'the end of the runway', in Ibsley Drove (it runs from the main road to Moyles Court), at **10.50 am**, as in every year, a short 'Service of Remembrance' will be held, and all the names read out. Any queries to Jeremy HB.

Remembrance Sunday, 12 November, in Fordingbridge

10.10 a.m. Act of Remembrance at the Memorial Gates, entrance to Riverside Park, Ringwood Road, followed by a procession to **10.50 a.m.** The Remembrance Sunday Service, at St Mary's Church (this includes the two-minute silence at 11.00 a.m.)

Rupert Brooke wrote 'The Soldier' whilst at Blandfold Camp, home to the Royal Corps of Signals. On **Monday 13 November from 2.30pm in the Church Hall**, Fordingbridge History Society will welcome Bob Brannigan, Lt Col (Rtd) to talk about the Camp's long and varied history - from 'flags to fibre, semaphore to cyber'.

Do join us: visitors and guests are sure of a friendly welcome.

Further info from Helen Coote on 01425 654995

Hyde next **Mothers' Union** meeting will be on **Tuesday 14th 2.30 in Hyde Church Centre**. Our speaker is Canon Michael Anderson speaking on "By Royal Appointment" (clue it will be on King Charles' birthday) Tea will be served after the meeting. All are invited

On **Saturday 18th November, St Boniface Church** will be open for soup and a roll from **12.30 to 2.30pm**. So why not pop in after you've visited the Art Exhibition in Woodgreen Village Hall which takes place that morning... Inside the church we will

have locally made crafts on display, Fair Trade items, gifts for Christmas and a warm welcome!

Michaelmas Group Shoebox Appeal, St. Mary's, Fordingbridge - We are meeting on Tuesday **21st November at 7.30 p.m.** in the Church Hall to assemble shoe boxes. We would welcome any empty shoe boxes, decorated if possible, (not boot boxes!), also any items listed below. We are told that items for older boys & men are much needed. Suggested donation towards shipping is £4 per completed box. We will have two boxes at the back of the church after Remembrance Sunday if you would like to donate. Completed shoe boxes also welcome by the 21st November. Please get in touch with me on 01425 655462 or thetagues@fordingbridge.com.

The **shoe box appeal** has begun. The family of Hale and Woodgreen churches are pleased to support St Paul's church, Salisbury again but under a different name of 'House of Opportunity.' Items can be left at the church office or dropped off at St Boniface church. The deadline is **Friday, 24th November** but we would like to receive items in plenty of time for delivery to them. Please see below for categories and gift ideas. Thank you for your support.

Items Soap / shampoo Toothpaste / toothbrush / Face cloth / sponge / Deodorant / Comb / brush / Razors / shaving gel

Pens / pencils Notepad / colouring book / Eraser / sharpener / ruler

Sweets / chocolate Make-up Sewing kit/ Candles / Household tools /

Cleaning / baby wipes / Jewellery / hair accessories

Gloves / hat / scarf / Underwear / socks / Baby-grows

Cars / vehicles Dolls / teddies

Category : Woman Girl 11 - 15 Girl 7 - 10 Girl 4 - 6 Girl 2 - 3 girl 0-3 Man Boy 11 - 15 Boy 7 - 10 Boy 4 - 6 Boy 2 - 3 boy 0 - 1

Fordingbridge Choral Society is performing a concert of magnificent music in **St Mary's Church, Fordingbridge** on **Saturday 25th November 2023 at**

7.30pm, This exciting programme includes Brahms' **Song of Destiny**

(Schicksalslied) followed by Mendelssohn's **Hymn of Praise** (Lobgesang)

accompanied by the Edwards Ensemble and talented soloists. Please come - we love a huge audience! Advance tickets include interval drink £15 from Fordingbridge Bookshop and online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/fordingbridgechoral

Open Doors Leaflets and Magazines for November/December have arrived! Please pick them up from any of the churches in our Parish. With positive stories, they keep us informed of the situation in the wider world, and help us know how to pray for our Christian brothers and sisters further afield.

Rectory Garden - A huge thank you to the group of people, all from Fordingbridge, who responded to the request to help to tidy the garden at the Parish Rectory either on a very damp Saturday and over several days before. We also managed to clear the area to the side of the Church Hall and tidy up the small garden at the front of it. I am immensely grateful. I am hopeful that the parish will not have to look after it in 2024!

St Mary's Fordingbridge - At last the scaffolding is down! And you can see again Charlie Mackesey's wonderful book 'The Boy the mole, the fox and the Horse' in the West niche (outside the West door). The North niche now displays Timothy R Bot's stunning calligraphy of Proverbs, with a prayer he has written beside it. The pages are turned every now and then, so come back to see another one!

Vergers Needed - St.Mary's, Fordingbridge. Over the last year a number of our congregation have unfortunately moved on, leaving us with noticeably too few vergers, especially for our morning services at St Mary's. This is not a particularly onerous role, but is extremely helpful to the smooth running of the church services. There are clear guidelines as to what is required at any given service, and the existing vergers will always ease new candidates in until they are perfectly happy with their responsibilities. Please consider whether you might like to help us in this area, and speak to the Churchwardens, Martin, Melvyn, Helen, Sarah or any of the other vergers or clergy for more information

Church Wardens' News

Last Sunday as you know we had a sung Matins service for the whole parish at Breamore. The church was warm, the music was wonderful and the hospitality was accepted by all. Unfortunately the weather was not the best but it was great to see the church nearly full. Thank you to the Fordingbridge choir and Nigel for a Matins service the like of which I was used to when I was a choir boy (just a few years ago!)



As you can see it has made the church look so much better and rid us of a place for others to discard various unmentionables.

Some of you may not have noticed but we have divested ourselves of the privet/box bush in front of the church.



Andy Finch

CHURCH OFFICE IS OPEN TO VISITORS between 10.00 am and 12.00
Contact via Email : Office@AvonValleyChurches.org.uk or call 01425 653163 between 10.00 am and 12.00 or
leave a message Website : www.AvonValleyChurches.org.uk

4th Sunday before Advent
5th November

Online services available via Facebook or Website
at 'Avon Valley Churches'

Sunday	8.15 am	Fordingbridge	Holy Communion (BCP)
5th Nov	10.00 am	Breamore	All Souls' Service
	10.00 am	Fordingbridge	Allsorts
	10.00 am	Hyde	Holy Communion
	10.45 am	Sandleheath	Morning Service
	3.00 pm	Hyde	All Souls' Service
	4.00 pm	Woodgreen	All Souls' Service
	6.00 pm	Fordingbridge	All Souls' Service
Monday	10.00 am	Online	Morning prayer (<i>Meeting ID: 846 5168 7529, Password: 764200</i>)
Wednesday			
Friday			
Wed 8 th	10.00 am	Heather Cottage	Bible Study and Prayer
Sat 11 th	10.50 am	Stuckton Road	Remembrance Service
	10.55 am	Ibsley RAF	Remembrance Service
	2.00 pm	Fordingbridge Church Hall	Lantern Making Workshop
Sunday	8.15 am	Hyde	Holy Communion (BCP)
12th Nov	10.45 am	Breamore	Remembrance Day
	10.45 am	Hale	Remembrance Day
	10.45 am	Hyde	Remembrance Day
	10.45 am	Sandeheath	Remembrance Day
	10.50 am	Fordingbridge	Remembrance Day (following procession)