

L-L WEEKLY

The Weekly Pewsheet of the Leith-Lyvennet Parishes

Welcome...

...to Stephen Tudway, an Ordinand (a vicar-in-training) on placement with us until Easter. Please give him a warm welcome and pray for his ministerial training.

Mothering Sunday

Special celebrations coming to a service near you. Sunday 6 March: 9.15, Bolton; 11.00, Morland, Cliburn & Crosby Ravensworth; 6.30 Gt Strickland

Palm Sunday

United joint service at Crosby Ravensworth with shared lunch. Food to village hall from 10.15. Meet at church, 10.30 for donkey procession via chapel. Service begins at 11.00 in church. Lunch in VH at 12.30.

Holy Week

Holy Week (20-27 Mar) will be lead this year by Bishop Cyril Ashton. Highly recommended! Theme: Being with Jesus. Full details in the parish newsletter.

Deanery Moves

Revd Beverley Lock will be licensed to her new parish on Palm Sunday and Revd Andrew Parkinson will be leaving Kirkby Stephen in the Spring to pursue a vocation as a primary school teacher. Please keep them all in your prayers.



About Today...

Our theme for Lent this year is taken from the Lent Eucharistic prayer: "In these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again."

Learning to be God's people once again is the theme of our vocations project, a focus which is occupying the first half of our liturgical year, between Advent and Easter. For Christians, our "vocation" describes the purpose of our existence - what it is we were created to be and do. Although we use the phrase 'vocation' to describe a particular calling (e.g. a calling to ordination or perhaps to teaching or medicine), the Bible tells us that every Christian has a vocation - a calling from God to play a particular part on the life of God's people.

Our vocation is both deeply personal and entirely corporate. It is personal in that each of us as a unique creation is called to a particular role and purpose, but it is corporate in that we are called to belong to the community of Christ's body, the church and to serve Christ together as a body, not as isolated Christians.

St Paul describes us as being like a single body with many limbs. Each of us has a particular function within the body, but we only function as Christians when we work together as a whole. Jesus uses an older Jewish image of the Fig Tree in a vineyard. We are all unique branches of the tree, but we only bear fruit if we are part of the tree.

So through our Lenten disciplines of self-examination, penitence, self-denial, study, almsgiving, we discover our vocation, growing in grace and learning to be God's people once again.



For your prayers

- Our spiritual disciplines for Lent: fasting, scripture study, prayer and almsgiving.
- Our ministry and vocation as the people of God.
- Our Lent Groups and their leaders.
- Those in training for ordained ministry, especially Sandy Pearl and Stephen Tudway.
- Couples preparing for marriage, especially Joe Thomas & Becky Woodward, whose banns are being read in Crosby this morning.
- The High Westmorland group of parishes beginning a vacancy and Beverley Lock as she prepares for her new ministry in Ambleside.
- Those caught up in the refugee crisis and those seeking to help them.

From our calendar of prayer:

- In the Anglican Communion: L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo, The Most Reverend Kahwa Henri Isingoma, Archbishop of the Congo & Bishop of Kinshasa, clergy and people.
- In Carlisle Diocese: For Calder Deanery - The Benefice of Seascale and Drigg. Priest-in-Charge: Lindsay Gray; Readers: Dorothy Chatterley, Sheila Falkner, Brian Pateman; Retired Priests: Jonathan Falkner, Robert and Wendy Bracegirdle; Lay ministers: James Geering and Peter Holburt.
- Bishop Robert, Confirmation at Hensingham, 6.30 pm.

Today's readings

Isaiah 55.1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

³ Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵ See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

⁶ Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;

⁷ let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.

⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Luke 13.1-9

At that time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?' ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did.

⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.'

⁶ Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" ⁸He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."'