

Vol.65 No 3 March 2025 Online Edition

ST PETER'S CHURCH. BRACKLEY



“LOVING GOD,
LOVING EACH OTHER,
LOVING BRACKLEY”



Revd. Rob Woods writes.....



Our Ambition this Lent

Towards the end of his life, the respected Christian leader, John Stott, said, 'I am sometimes asked whether at my age I have any ambitions left. I always now reply, "Yes, my overriding ambition is that I may become a little more like Christ.'"

Lent starts in March and is a good time to remind ourselves what our ambition should be. If you choose to give something up for lent, that act is meant to remind you of Jesus, who gave everything. I think Lent is a time to help us pattern our life on Christ's. Lent is an invitation for us, in some small way, to grow in living like Jesus.

This is a healthy challenge. Just think about the person who had the biggest impact on your Christian life. Wasn't their character more impactful than their charisma? It was their Christlikeness, their living like Jesus, that influenced you more than anything else. We're called to be that influence for others.

Now, perhaps this sounds challenging. Have you ever kicked yourself for responding to a difficult person in a certain way? Have you ever been annoyed at the words that came out of your mouth? Have you been surprised at the irritation you felt when a decision didn't go your way? Or have you been angry at yourself for how you responded to a tough situation? If so, you, like me, need to hear this practical advice from the Apostle Peter.

A high Calling

Slaves, in reverent fear of God submit yourselves to your masters, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh... if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. To this you were called... (1 Peter 2:18, 21a).

In this part of his letter, Peter was writing to bondservants and telling them how to act towards their masters. Some say the 1st Century social institution of bondservants is no longer around. I'd reply, perhaps a curate is the nearest equivalent?! If you happen not to be a curate, however, this verse offers a high calling for you too.

We could sum up the message of this verse as follows — do good and suffer.

Quickly, get the sign-up sheets! It's an incredibly counter-cultural message, isn't it? Jesus gives us the perfect pattern for how to live this calling out.

A Pattern to Follow

To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. (1 Peter 2:21)

That word example carries the meaning of pattern. Like a stencil that a child uses to write, Christ's life provides the stencil for the Christian life. Like a pattern that the knitter must follow, the Christian seeks to follow the pattern Christ gave. We're to reflect on Christ's sufferings so much that when we face various trials, our lives gladly follow his steps.

How can this be done? There are two steps the Apostle Peter gives, a don't and a do.

*'He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.'
When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. (1 Peter 2:22–23).*

First, don't retaliate.

Christ didn't threaten when he suffered. When insulted, he didn't retaliate.

In other words, he didn't live in response to the sin of others. Instead, his life was lived in response to God's will.

Isn't it so easy to respond to the unkind words, the gossip, the angry driver, the negativity of others, the character assassination, or whatever it may be? Seemingly, every fibre of our being wants to respond. If we respond to sin, however, what is really the driving force behind our lives? Jesus didn't retaliate. That's the pattern we're to follow.

Not retaliating isn't easy. But with God's help, it is something that can be done. This type of retaliation is something to give up for lent. Remember this the next time you're cut up at a junction, or dealing with a rude individual in the workplace!

Second, trust the judge.

Jesus didn't respond to the sin of others, but he did do something. According to his humanity, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. We're called to do this too.

Whatever the trial you face, you have an opportunity to entrust yourself to your heavenly Father. He is the perfect judge. He can be trusted with your trial.

Imagine someone who has been greatly wronged, and no justice has been done. Now imagine the person who has been wronged but knows the wrongdoer will be before a judge the next day. On a cosmic scale, that's the Christian worldview. What's more, the judge we entrust ourselves to is perfect.

The trials we face are to be a trigger for our hearts to trust. So, when wronged in whatever way, we can entrust ourselves to our heavenly Father. We cast our anxieties upon him, knowing that he cares for us. We can trust him with our burdens.

Can you imagine a church where the ambition of those involved was to be more and more like Jesus?

John Stott's ambition should be our ambition. If it is, we may be led to suffer, even in some small way, for doing good. When this happens, we're called to follow Christ's example and not retaliate but instead trust our heavenly Father. That's something worth giving up, and something worth doing, this Lent.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

FRIDAY 7 MARCH
2.30PM ST MARTIN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

ALL WELCOME

**If you wish to donate to
St Peter's Church
Our bank details are
Account Name P C C Brackley
Sort code 30-11-08
Account number 00060124
Thank You**



Saturday 8th March
9:30am-3pm (give an hour/more)

St Peter's

**MAINTENANCE
DAY**

Cleaning, mowing, odd jobs
Soup and bread lunch at 12 noon



**ST PETER'S
BRACKLEY**



ASH
WEDNESDAY

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

5th MARCH

10.00am Holy Communion

7.30pm Holy Communion

Fridays
12.30 - 1.30pm

21st March
to
11th April

(all welcome)

LENT

lunch



Methodist
Church

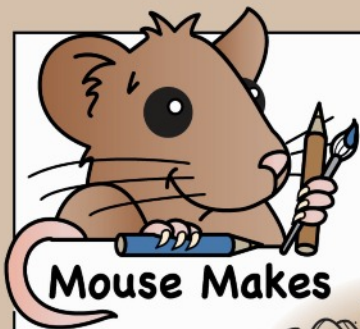
MOTHERING SUNDAY

30TH MARCH

10.00am HOLY COMMUNION

FOLLOWED BY THE DISTRIBUTION OF FLOWERS





Mouse Makes

THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

After Jesus was baptised who led him into the wilderness?

Luke 4:1



For how many days was Jesus tempted by the devil?

Luke 4:2

Who did Jesus say you should ONLY worship and serve?



What did the devil tempt Jesus to turn a stone into?

Luke 4:8



READ

the story in
Luke 4:1-13

Jesus said not to put the Lord your God to the...

Luke 4:12



Luke 4:3

What happened after the temptation of Jesus? see Luke 4:14-15

JESUS • LED
WILDERNESS
DESERT
TEMPTATIONS
DAYS • DEVIL
HUNGRY • SON
STONE • ROCK
KINGDOMS
WORLD • GLORY
WRITTEN
SCRIPTURE
WORSHIP • ONLY
SERVE • LORD
JERUSALEM
HIGH • TEMPLE
THROW • DOWN
JUMP • ANGELS
HANDS • HOLD
LIFT • FOOT

R	W	O	R	S	H	I	P	H	A	N	D	S	D
L	I	F	T	W	P	A	H	D	J	U	M	P	A
E	L	O	R	D	K	I	O	E	D	O	S	E	Y
D	D	O	A	N	G	E	L	S	E	K	T	M	S
F	E	H	U	N	G	R	Y	E	B	R	O	C	K
O	R	E	J	E	S	U	S	R	Y	O	N	L	Y
R	N	S	S	C	R	I	P	T	U	R	E	U	H
T	E	M	P	T	A	T	I	O	N	S	G	T	S
Y	S	T	D	S	J	E	R	U	S	A	L	E	M
B	S	H	O	E	H	K	I	N	G	D	O	M	S
R	F	R	W	R	I	T	T	E	N	E	R	P	O
E	O	O	N	V	G	G	O	C	E	V	Y	L	N
A	O	W	V	E	H	O	L	D	K	I	W	E	
D	T	E	S	T	V	D	W	O	R	L	D		



Find the words from the questions too!

Booklets of gravestone inscriptions available for 225 parishes in the county

For over thirty-five years, volunteers from the Northamptonshire Family History Society have been transcribing churchyard gravestone inscriptions, indexing them, producing graveyard plans, and publishing the results in inexpensive booklets. They have so far covered about 225 Church of England parishes in the county, together with any nonconformist graveyards and older parish cemeteries in the parish. Transcripts for several other parishes are in the pipeline, awaiting publication.

As many local church members know, these booklets can provide a very helpful reference source for queries from people tracing family or local history, whether local people, visitors, or people enquiring from afar.

As a result of browsing through a booklet in Great Addington Church quite recently, one local resident was so interested to find an entry for someone who previously lived in his house that he organised a special remembrance ceremony, attended by local people. The man being remembered was William Hepton who died over a hundred years ago, in 1919, as a result of injuries received in the First World War.

The booklet for Weedon Bec Church includes memorials to a number of soldiers who died whilst posted to the Weedon Barracks and the one from Kilsby churchyard records: "Here lyeth the body of JOHN BAYLY sonn of JOHN BAYLY of Kilesbe departed this life upon the 27 of November in ye yeare 1649. Well growne in statur, more in grace and hence removed to see God's face."

A list of the published parishes can be seen on the Society website at: www.northants-fhs.org/publications together with individual prices, varying from £1 to £6 each depending on the size of the booklet. It also gives details of how to purchase them.

Some parishes also find it helpful to have a supply in stock to sell to visitors - and might wish to arrange for an extra supply to be delivered to them to sell at a special church or community event. Copies could be provided on a sale or return basis if preferred.

Recording in the churchyards generally take place from May to October. The programme for 2025 hopes to record the remaining parishes in the Brackley area and details, when available, will be posted on the Society website. New volunteers to help record are always welcome.

If you would like further information on purchasing a supply of books for your parish or would like to volunteer to help with this remarkable work, please contact the society at info@northants-fhs.org

PRAISE EVENING

TUESDAY 11th MARCH, 7.30 PM

ST PETER'S CHURCH, BRACKLEY



A TIME OF PRAYER AND SINGING, WITH CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP MUSIC

Would you like to hear more from St Peter's?

If you would like to receive an update by email from Rich every few weeks, including news and information of upcoming events at St Peter's, you can subscribe to the email list by sending an email to brackleyvicar@gmail.com and ask to receive the bulletin



Candlemas fell on Sunday February 2nd this year. It is traditionally the 40th day of Christmas and commemorates the presentation of Jesus in the temple, his purification and the light of the world.

There has been a very positive response to the dedication of flowers idea which we will be introducing at St Peters. When flowers are dedicated, you will see a stand and notice next to the arrangement telling you about the dedication.

If you would like to dedicate the church flowers to someone special, particularly those who are no longer with you but still in your heart and thoughts, you can do so by donating towards the cost of the flowers for the fortnight and we will do our best to use the colours of your choice. It might be that you ask for this on the anniversary of their passing or a date that is special to you or the deceased person e.g. birthday or anniversary.

If you wish to dedicate flowers to someone, please speak to me in church or call me on 01280 700778.

Sally Hughes

Flower team co-ordinator

Town Garage

(Brackley) Limited

M.O.T. Testing Station on all cars and

Light commercials

Car Body Repairs

Servicing, Repairs, and Weldings

Diagnostics

Tyres and Exhausts

Phone or call in for our Special Offers at

71 High Street, Brackley

Phone (01280) 702227

Email: deemann2013@gmail.com

www.towngarage-brackley.co.uk

ABBEY BUILDERS

RENOVATIONS &
RESTORATIONS

CONVERSIONS & ROOFING

GENERAL BUILDERS

01280 703368

www.abbey-builders.co.uk

J.E.M.S. STATIONERS LTD.

For all your home and office stationery
supplies including computer consumables

Also stockists of -

Winsor & Newton Artists Materials

Medici, Caspari and Carte Blanche quality
greetings cards

13 MARKET PLACE, BRACKLEY

Tel/Fax 01280 706265

www.jemsstationers.co.uk



Edd Frost & Daughters

Family Funeral Directors of Brackley

"where caring comes first"

Brackley's only

Independent Family Funeral Director

✓ Dedicated care and advice

✓ 24 Hour Service

✓ Pre-Paid Plans

✓ Monumental Masonry



27 Market Place, Brackley, NN13 7AB



Tel: (01280) 630 630 (24 Hour Service)

www.eddfrostanddaughters.co.uk

SERVICE AND REPAIRS

R. SOMERTON

Brackley 01280 700319

Washing Machines,

Tumble Dryers,

Electric Cookers, New

Appliances supplied & fitted

WESTWORKS, THE PLAYING FIELDS, WESTBURY,
NR. BRACKLEY, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

For the very best in
Motorcycle Rider Training

www.ridertraining.biz

Tel: 0333 123 2277

Motorcycle Rider Training
at its very best

Tel: 0333 123 2277

call the team on
01280 706017 or
07770 608199



ALL IN ONE
LOCKSMITH
& UPVC Door/Windows Repairs

**WE CAN HELP YOU
SAVE MONEY
ON YOUR ENERGY BILLS**

WE CAN HELP WITH:

- DRAUGHT & GAP REPAIRS** ✓
- REPLACEMENT PARTS** ✓
- REGLAZING** ✓
- DOOR & WINDOW REPAIRS** ✓



EMERGENCY CALL OUTS AVAILABLE!

Call Robert Today on: 07368 960466 / 01280308803



TYRE
warehouse

THE CAR, VAN AND 4x4
TYRE SPECIALISTS



- Competitive Prices
- Comprehensive Stocks
- Exceptional Fast Friendly Service
- Comfortable, Clean Reception & Free Coffee



KUMHO TYRES



on Mon- Fri 8.30am-6pm
Saturday 8.30am-4pm

01280 706 030

1 Borough Court, Buckingham Road Industrial Estate
Brackley, NN13 7BE
www.tyre-warehouse.co.uk

Telephone 01280 701919

PUG1OFF

BRACKLEY BASED PEUGEOT & CITROEN SPECIALISTS

- Servicing carried out to dealer specifications
- Servicing during warranty periods
- Engine diagnostics
- Qualified technicians
- MOT testing
- Courtesy car available

SAVE NEARLY 50% ON DEALER LABOUR RATES!

FREE COLLECTION AND DELIVERY SERVICE
Within a 10 mile radius of Brackley

www.PUG1OFF.com

PUG1OFF 1 Boundary Rd, Buckingham Rd Industrial Estate, Brackley, Northants NN13 7ES

FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTATIONS
DAN 07979425060
JASON 07921722836
BRACKLEYGROUNDWORKS@GMAIL.COM

- PATIOS
- DRIVEWAYS
- FOOTINGS
- DRAINAGE
- TARMAC
- FENCING & MORE



BRACKLEY GROUNDWORKS & LANDSCAPES

ABComputing

Sales Support Repairs Networking

- v Computer, laptop and peripheral sales
- v Computer repair and upgrades
- v On-site and telephone support
- v Data recovery and data transfer
- v Virus and spyware removal
- v Broadband and wireless setup

AB Computing provides computer services for small businesses and home users in the Brackley area. We provide a first class service at an affordable price.

Call Andy Blencowe
01280 840032 or 07815 180969
email andy@abcomputing.net

TastyThymes

Mobile catering direct to your door

Buffets for Special occasions
Canapés & Sandwich Luncheons
Afternoon Teas
Children's Parties
Menus can be tailored to suit requirements
Minimum order of 12 people.

**For further information and menus
Please call Kim on 07966 254215**