



17th March 2024 Fifth Sunday of Lent

Serving the churches and villages of the Walesby group and working with the Barkwith, Market Rasen and Middle Rasen groups

Priests in charge:

Revd Claire Burnett (Walesby Group, except Tealby):

claire.burnett@lincoln.anglican.org

Revd Bryan Dixon (Barkwith Group and parish of Tealby):

rev.bryan@icloud.com

Group website: https://www.walesbychurches.org

Collect Prayer:

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Collect Prayer (BCP):

We beseech thee, Almighty God, mercifully to look upon thy people; that by thy great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore, both in body and soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Post Communion Prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

Amen.

Our thought for the week focuses on the season of Lent and is available to read on the home page of our website: www.walesbychurches.org

'The Season of Lent'

We are still in the church season of Lent, which may originally have followed Epiphany, just as Jesus' time in the wilderness followed immediately after his baptism. Lent soon became firmly attached to Easter, as the principal occasion for baptism and for the reconciliation of those who had been excluded from the Church's fellowship for serious faults. This history explains the characteristic notes of Lent: penitence, self-examination, study, self-denial, and preparation for Easter, to which almsgiving has traditionally been added.

As candidates for baptism were instructed in Christian faith, and as penitents prepared themselves, through fasting and penance, to be readmitted to communion, the whole Christian community was invited to join them in the process of study and repentance. The extension of this over forty days would remind them of the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness, being tested by Satan.

Ashes are an ancient sign of penitence and from the middle ages it became the custom to begin Lent by being marked in ash with the sign of the cross. The calculation of the forty days has varied considerably in Christian history but it is now usual in the West to count continuously to the end of Holy Week, excluding Sundays - thus Lent begins on the sixth Wednesday before Easter, Ash Wednesday. Liturgical dress is the simplest possible, churches are usually kept bare of flowers and decoration and the *Gloria in excelsis* is not used. This Sunday, the Fifth Sunday of Lent, *Passiontide* begins and we look to Palm Sunday next week and then enter Holy week.

(based on material taken from the Church of England website)

First Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹ 'The days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah.

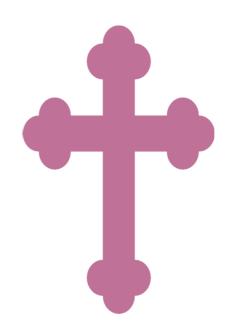
³² It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,' declares the LORD.

will make with the people of Israel after that time,' declares the LORD. 'I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.

³⁴ No longer will they teach their neighbour, or say to one another, "Know the LORD," because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,' declares the LORD. 'For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.'

This is the word of the Lord. **All Thanks be to God.**





Second Reading Hebrews 5:5-10

⁵ In the same way, Christ did not take on himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, 'You are my Son; today I have become your Father.'

⁶ And he says in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, in the order of Melchizedek.'

⁷ During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸ Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered ⁹ and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him ¹⁰ and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.

This is the word of the Lord. **All Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm set for today Psalm 51:1-13

¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

² Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

- ³ For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.
- ⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.
- ⁵ Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
- ⁶ Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place.
- ⁷ Cleanse me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
- ¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.
- ¹³Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you.

Gospel Reading John 12:20-33

²⁰ Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. 21 They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee. with a request. 'Sir,' they said, 'we would like to see Jesus.' 22 Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

²³ Jesus replied, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Very truly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. ²⁵ Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honour the one who serves me. ²⁷ 'Now my soul is troubled, and what

shall I say? "Father, save me from this hour ?? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify your name!' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.' 29 The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an

angel had spoken to him.

³⁰ Jesus said, 'This voice was for your benefit, not mine. 31 Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. 32 And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' 33 He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you O Christ. All

Services for the Benefices of the Walesby and Barkwith Groups:

Sunday 17th March Fifth Sunday of Lent (Purple)

09:30	Claxby	Holy Communion (BCP)
09:30	East Barkwith	Holy Communion (CW)
11:00	Tealby	Morning Praise (CW)
11:00	Thoresway	Holy Communion (CW)
11:30	Brookenby	Community Praise

Sunday 24th March Palm Sunday (Red)

09:30	Sixhills	Morning Prayer (BCP)
09:30	Walesby	Holy Communion (CW)
11:00	Tealby	Holy Communion (CW)

Online Services:

Monday Evening Fellowship Every Monday (term time) at 6:45 for 7pm

Forthcoming Events:

Please see website for further information and details of all our events https://www.walesbychurches.org/events.html

Brookenby Community Praise Service - this Sunday, 17th March, at 11:30. There will also be a 'Family Service' at 11:30 on Easter Day.

<u>Lent Study 2024</u> - concludes next Thursday, 21st March, from 1:15pm to 3pm, at Walesby Village Hall. Parking is available and the hall is open from 1pm if you would like to come early and bring your lunch. For further details, see 'Events' on our website, or e-mail us via: walesbygroup@gmail.com

<u>Easter Day Group Holy Communion Services</u> - as Easter Day falls on a fifth Sunday this year, there will only be one Holy Communion service in each group. These are at Sixhills at 9:30 for the Barkwith Group and at Thoresway at 10:00 for the Walesby Group. For details of all our services during Holy Week and on Easter Day, please see the attached poster or 'Events' on our website.

<u>Barkwith Group events</u> - in March and April: an Organ Recital and Informal Lunch at St. Martin's, South Willingham on 28th March and a Spring Tea Dance at East Barkwith Village Hall on 13th April. For details, please see 'Events' on our website.

Notices for the next pew sheet:

Please send these to Kathy & Martin Jago by Wednesday 20th March via the Walesby Group e-mail: walesbygroup@gmail.com

Holy Week 2024 Walesby Group of Parishes



Please come and join us at any of our Holy Week and Easter services which will take place as follows:

Monday 25th March 6pm at Middle Rasen - Evening Service

Tuesday 26th March 6pm at Stainton le Vale - Evening Service

Wednesday 27th March 6pm at Normanby le Wold
Stations of the Cross

Thursday 28th March 6pm at Kirmond le Mire -The Last Supper (Holy Communion)

Friday 29th March 2pm at Tealby - Faces at the Cross Saturday 30th March Holy Saturday - No Services

Sunday 31st March Easter Day

6.30am at Walesby Old Church - Dawn Service10am at Thoresway - Group Service of Holy Communion and Easter praise

10.30am at Walesby St Mary's - Easter Praise + Egg-Rolling 5pm at Kirmond le Mire - Evening Prayer and Easter Hymns