

Time to Reflect

Our Old Testament reading today comes from a crucial moment in the narrative of God's people. After all the bits of history that you may know; Abraham walking to the promised land, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph (ending up in Egypt), Moses (leading the people *out* of Egypt), Joshua (leading the people *back* into the promised land), David, Solomon, the catastrophes of the victories of Assyria and then Babylon, finally, finally, the people of God return home from Exile (in Iraq) to the promised land.

Over that history, this people have been called Hebrews (carrying God with them in the Ark), then Israelites (with the Temple in Jerusalem) and now these people have become, or more accurately, are becoming, the Jews. And, whereas before they had encountered God in the Ark or in the Temple, our reading tells of their coming face to face with God when the scriptures are read to them. These people are becoming the "People of the Book".

Read of the passage before you continue.....
what do you notice?

- ◆ how they stood to hear? We echo that when we stand for the Gospel reading.
- ◆ how the reader (Ezra) prayed before he read aloud? Do you pray before you read the bible?
- ◆ how the people responded in joyful anticipation that they were about to encounter God?
- ◆ how, alongside the reading, there was interpretation (just like there is this weekly "Time to Reflect"?)
- ◆ how the people felt completely emotional and overwhelmed because God was speaking to them?

Worship and Activities this week

Today	5.00pm Office Hour
	6.30pm Choral Evensong
Mon	9.30am Morning Prayer
	1.00pm "In-house" @ House on t'Rock
	7.30pm Youth Central @ Church Hall
Tues	7.30pm Publicity Committee
Wed	11.00am Holy Communion
	7.00pm Study Group@ Ashton Room
Thurs	9.30am Morning Prayer
	10.30am Tiddlers @ Church House
	12.45pm Holy Communion
Fri	8.00am Dust Busters
	9.30am Morning Prayer
	12.30pm Lunchtime Concert with ?????
	4.00pm Choir School
	7.00pm Full Choir Practice
Sat	9.30am Morning Prayer

Next Week: Candlemas 5 February 2019

8.00am	Said Holy Communion
10.00am	Parish Eucharist and Sunday School
5.00pm	Office Hour
6.30pm	Evensong

Collects from *Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England*; *Common Worship: Pastoral Services*; *The Christian Year: Calendar, Lectionary and Collects 2000* *The New Revised Standard Version (Anglicised Edition)*, copyright 1989, 1995 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Baptisms, Blessings, Weddings.

Speak to any of the clergy after the service. They will be at the back of church. Spot the dog collar! Our monthly Parish Magazine has a full list of contact details for clergy and organisations on the inside of the back page. For inclusion on the weekly pew sheet: please email: bpc.office@tiscali.co.uk by *Wednesday*.

4th Sunday of Epiphany

27th January 2019

www.buryparishchurch.com



We **welcome you** and hope you enjoy being with us. If you're not familiar with our services, don't worry. We follow a written order of service and at times will tell you which page we're on.

We also **welcome children in church**. If your child gets restive in church, don't be afraid to get up and move around if this helps. There is a toilet at the back of church. There is a children's area at the back of Church.

8.00am Said Holy Communion
President: Julian Heaton, Rector
Preaching : Julian Heaton, Rector

10.00am Parish Eucharist and Sunday School
President: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc Rtr
Preaching : Rhiannon Jones, Assoc Rtr
Hymns: 556; 321; 534; 209; 514
Motet :
Thomas Attwood : Teach us, O Lord
S S Wesley : Lead me, Lord

6.30pm Evensong
Minister : Rhiannon Jones, Assoc Rtr
Preaching : Rhiannon Jones, Assoc Rtr
Hymns: 89; 395; 455
Psalm 33 : 1 –12 (pg. 383-384)
Numbers 9. 15-end (pg.106—107)
1 Corinthians 7. 17-24 (pg. 959)
Anthem: Herbert Howells :
Here is the little door

Cornerstone

Serving Bury, deepening our faith, caring for the marginalised, sharing the Good News of Jesus.

Today's Readings

The Collect

God our creator,
who in the beginning
commanded the light to shine out of darkness:
we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ
may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief,
shine into the hearts of all your people,
and reveal the knowledge of your glory
in the face of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen**

A reading from the book of Nehemiah

(Nehemiah 8.1-3,5-6, 8-10)

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught

the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hear the Gospel of our Lord
Jesus Christ according to Luke
(Luke 4.14-21)



Glory to you, O Lord

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Parish Lunch

Sunday, 10th February at
12.00 noon, served by the
choir. Tickets at £4.00,
available from the Church
Wardens or Keith Sedman



Authorised Lay Ministers (in training)

Last Saturday saw Dawn Wight, Jackie Heaton and John Vale begin their training as ALMs. Dawn and Jackie are training in Children's Ministry and John is specialising in Worship. Do ask them regularly about it



Mission Action Plan

If all goes well, by the time we print this, our Mission Action Plan will be displayed in the North Aisle. Do go and have a look and see what it is that God is calling us to. It's very exciting.

Manchester Spatial Plan

What should our town/borough look like in the future? The Manchester Spatial Plan is a regional strategy to think through this. On **Wednesday 30 January** from 12 Noon—8pm in the Town Hall the plans will be available for us to see and members of the local authority. This should matter to us as the people of Bury. So, if you get the chance, do go along and chat.

Gloves for the Homeless

The Street Pastors have flagged up that what they particularly need in their work (apart from new members!) are gloves (and socks and hats).....