



Sunday 5 December 2021
@ PPT Bovey Tracey & St Mary's Hennock



The Vicar writes

“In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.” (2 Tim 4.1-3)

Another week, another variant hits the headlines, and a new set of government rules to navigate- mandatory masks in shops and public transport, and hefty fines for those who fail to self-isolate when instructed.

The Bishop of London leads the church's response, and you can read her sensible [statement here](#). The House of Bishops has slightly revised its COVID advice. There are no mandatory changes for places of worship- no new rules on singing, face coverings, social distancing etc- but obviously there is a great deal of concern about the new *omicron* variant, and a lack of hard evidence: is it more infectious, or milder- and do masks make any difference? Will supporting 'Track & Trace' help contain the pandemic or just cause a pingdemic of unnecessary inconvenience?

There will be strong views across the spectrum among the congregation, and I am not going to vent my opinions here! We are not planning any change of rules. The Christingle service will go ahead on Sunday, and Christmas is not (yet) cancelled. You must of course make your own decisions on wearing masks, keeping social distance or staying away.

Paul called Timothy to preach the word in season and out of season, with great patience, and so we must continue to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, the Alpha and Omega, and Lord even of the *omicron* variant.

yours in Christ,
Graham

What's on this week:

5 Sun

PPT Readings

9.30am

11.00am

4.00pm

7.00pm

Second Sunday of Advent : *Living in Love*

am: 1 Thess 5.12-end, Luke 3.1-6

NO Sunday Praise

Holy Communion: Mrs Carolyn Laycock
(Rev Graham Hamilton presiding)

Christingle: Rev Graham Hamilton

14-18s at Rellian, Liverton

St Mary's 11.00am Holy Communion: Rev David Harris
Hennock Readings: Ezekiel 36.22-26, Psalm 94, 1 Thess 4.1-12

6 Mon	9.00am	Morning prayer on Zoom
7 Tue	9.30am	Mums' bible study in the church room
	7.30pm	New Century Singers Concert
8 Wed	10.00am	Communion service: Rev Graham Hamilton
	7.00pm	Midweek Prayer Group (on Zoom- see notes)
9 Thu	7.00am	Men's Prayer Breakfast in the Church Room
	7.30pm	Light up a Life Service in church
10 Fri	9.00am	Morning prayer on Zoom
	9.45am	First Steps in the Church Room
11 Sat	9.00am	Morning prayer on Zoom
	7.30pm	Men's Curry Night - see notice
12 Sun		Third Sunday of Advent
PPT	Readings	am: Zephaniah 3.14-20, Luke 3.7-18
		pm: tbc
	9.30am	Sunday Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton
	11.00am	Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
	5.00pm	Prayer & Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton
	7.00pm	14-18s Rellian, Liverton

St Mary's 11.00am Morning Worship: Mrs Carolyn Laycock
Hennock Readings: 1 Thess 5.12-end, Luke 3.1-6

Discussion Questions:

Icebreaker:

What would a perfect church be like? Would you fit in?

What was life like in the church at Thessalonica?
(read between the lines of vv 14-15!)

When will the church be perfect and holy, and who will accomplish it? 23-24?

Did the Thessalonian church have any leaders/pastors/clergy?
What was their responsibility? v12

What role did scripture have v.27, and 'prophecy' (v.20)?

What responsibility for one another do we all have? v.13-15?

Notices:

Rora House Christmas Table Top Sale with gift stalls 10am -1pm on Saturday 4th December. Raising funds for Aurora Christian Association which supports poor children and families in Romania. At The Barn, Rora House, Liverton TQ126HZ.

Christingle: There is no 9.30am or 5pm service this week. Instead we are holding a Christingle service at 4pm in church, followed by refreshments in the church room.

New Century Singers Concert:

Tuesday 7 December at 7.30pm in church. Tickets £6 on door

Church Office update: the PCC has decided to upgrade the photocopier. The new one will be installed in the new office pod in January, so the old one will remain in use in the former office space until the new year. We are still looking for a smaller desk on which to mount the office computer.

New to PPT?

We email this bulletin every week (with working links) to the members of the Church Family Role. If you would like to receive this, to join the electoral roll, or find out more what it means to be part of the church family, then please complete a "Connect" card from the pews.

Men's Curry Night

Sat 11 December at Church Room, from 7.30pm. £7.50 on the door. You can book on [Eventbrite on this link](#). A warm friendly environment with a short time of sharing a personal story of faith. Lots of Indian food on offer. All food and soft drink provided. Bring your own alcoholic drinks. Vegetarian and non curry option available.

Charity Concert by Adrienne Hesketh: in aid of Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital. It will be at 2.30pm on Saturday 11 December at Bovey Methodist Church.

Daily Prayer Meetings

Some are held in person on Wednesday at 10am and Thursday at 7am, and on Zoom at 9am on Monday, Friday and Saturday and Sunday at 9.30am.

The Zoom code for all services at PPT is:-

<https://zoom.us/j/98621308247pwd=RGRoR2RXK3hac1IWQnJKL0qwbmxmdz09>
Meeting ID: 986 2130 8247 Passcode: 102020

Sunday recordings:

The 9.30am service is currently being streamed on Zoom (see above) and recorded. The recording can be accessed from our PPTV Youtube site:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQsEU-cx-04ZRzMTAspQEXQ>

Prayer List:

Juliet Borowiec, Pat Savage-Jones, Ann English, Michelle Sadd, Mary Bambridge, Veronica Laurie, Wendy Harrison, Theresa Samuels, Lucy McIlhenney, David Elliott, Paul Monaghan, Hans Hodes, Ester Weeks, Ann Goulden, Carola Saunders (daughter of Linda), Joan Codner

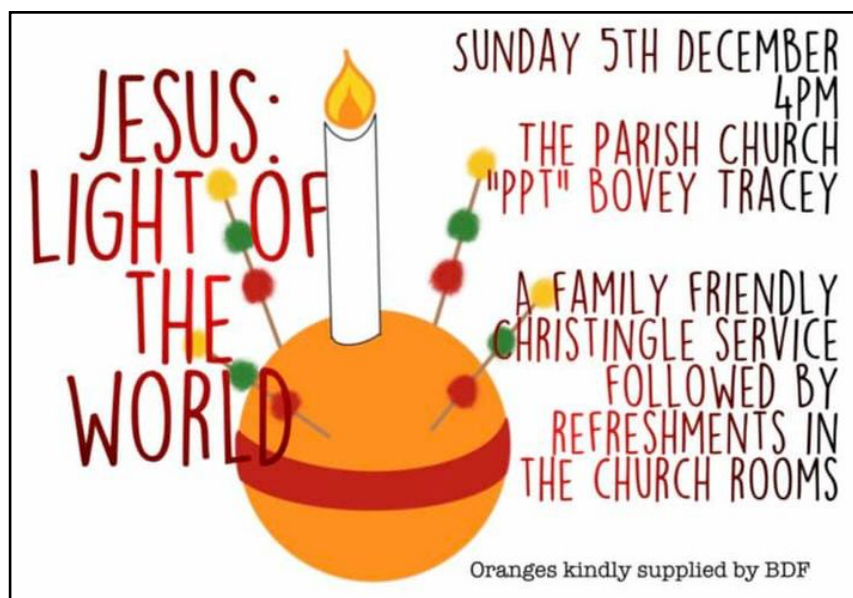
In memory: John Foulkes

Collect for second Sunday of Advent:

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power
and come among us,
and with great might succour us;
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness
we are grievously hindered
in running the race that is set before us,
your bountiful grace and mercy
may speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory, now and for ever.

<p>Mon 6 December: Ps 30, Isaiah 30.1-18 Pray for businesses that offer hospitality, hotels, cafes and restaurants, faced with the loss of Christmas bookings because of concerns about COVID.</p>
<p>Tue 7 December: Ps 36, Isaiah 30.19-end Give thanks for the work of Falcon Camps, and pray that young people from disadvantaged backgrounds may have opportunity this year to learn and grow in faith.</p>
<p>Wed 8 December: Ps 34, Isaiah 31 Pray for the work of Open Doors, and for Christians facing persecution and prejudice, especially in Nigeria, facing intensified attack from jihadist groups, to persevere in faith.</p>
<p>Thu 9 December: Ps 37, Isaiah 32 Pray for the Light up a Life service to bring comfort, hope and faith to those who are grieving a loss.</p>
<p>Fri 10 December:: Ps 31, Isaiah 33.1-22 Give thanks for the First Steps group as their term finishes, for Camilla and Rosie who lead it.</p>
<p>Sat 11 December: Ps 42, Isaiah 35 Pray for the men's Curry night to deepen fellowship among Christian men and across our congregations</p>
<p>Sun 12 December: Ps 80, Matthew 11.2-11 Pray for Christians to grasp the glorious truths of the gospel and not be ashamed or afraid to share it at every opportunity with friends, colleagues and neighbours.</p>

Christmas services at PPT Bovey & Hennock			
Sun 5 Dec	4.00pm	Christingle	PPT Bovey
Thu 9 Dec	7.30pm	Light up a Life	PPT Bovey
Mon 13 Dec	5/ 6.30pm	Bovey School Carols	PPT Bovey
Fri 17 Dec	4pm	Carols around the village	Hennock
Sat 18 Dec	4pm	Carols around the village	Teign Village
Sun 19 Dec			
	4.00pm	Carol Service	St Mary's Hennock
	6.00pm	Carols by Candlelight	PPT Bovey
Fri 24 Dec		<i>Christmas Eve</i>	
	3.00pm	Farmyard Crib Service	Warmhill Farm
	5.00pm	Carols at the Crib (outdoor if dry)	PPT Bovey
	11.00pm	Midnight Communion by Candlelight	PPT Bovey
Sat 25 Dec		<i>Christmas Day</i>	
	9.30am	Christmas Day Service (all-age)	PPT Bovey
	11.00am	Christmas Communion	St Mary's, Hennock
Sun 26 Dec			
	10.00am	Holy Communion	PPT Bovey



Vicar:

Rev. Graham Hamilton, 833813
 St Peter's Vicarage, Coombe Cross, TQ13 9EP.
 email: vicar@pptbovey.church.
 Day off -Tuesday

Church Office: 834835
 ansaphone checked regularly during the week

Family Worker:

Rosie Stephens 07876 662138
 email: familyworker@pptbovey.church

Churchwardens (PPT)

Jill Hosford 832966
 Mike Limb 832705

(Hennock)

Frances Swan 437895
 Miles Pomfrett 331062

Readers:

Carolyn Laycock 832335

Elected P.C.C.Members:

Angie Blanche 07863 854013
 Francis Gilbert QC -
 Barry Newport 07753 309797
 Jane Midgley 832751
 Jack Knightly
 Mark Alexander 07955 716329

Deanery Synod Reps:

Charlie Beauchamp 01647 27731
 Roy White 832771
 Mathew Percy 07913 706627

Diocesan Synod Rep:

Dawn Hamilton 833813

P.C.C. Hon. Treasurer:

Tafline Percy
 e: treasurer@pptbovey.church

Gift Aid Hon. Secretary:

Kate Martin 01647 277458

Safeguarding Officer:

Jane Midgley 832751

Safeguarding Administrator:

Angie Blanche 07863 854013

Captain of the Ringers

Chris Dell 834994

Choir Co-ordinator:

Margaret Steele 832137

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator:

Jill Hosford 832966

First Steps Toddler Group:

Camilla Matheson 01364 661195

Church Room Secretary:

Jane Midgley, 832751

Flower Rota:

Sarah Gilbert 833934

PPT Bovey is a registered Charity: 1128849.

The PPT Bank account is
 'P C C Bovey Tracey', acct no. 01219910,
 sort code 30-96-06.

The Hennock bank account is:

Please note that the Church office is no longer staffed, but ansaphones, emails and post will be checked regularly during the week. Contact the church wardens for details.

The Church Website contains details of all events, audio sermon files and documents for download: go to www.pptbovey.church

"PPT Bovey is committed to the safeguarding of children, young people and adults.. If you are concerned that a child or adult has been harmed or may be at risk of harm please contact the Parish Safeguarding officer. If you have immediate concerns about the safety of someone, please contact the police or local authority Children or Adults Services."



Scan. Pay. Go.

Open Doors - the Centre of Hope

by Ann Power

“For peoples without hope, until you step in,
“hope deferred makes the heart sick,
but a long fulfilled is a tree of life (proverbs 13.12)

We are so blessed daily by our Father God and his dear son Jesus. When we have needed a friend, they have been there. They have indeed been there for billions of faithful Christian followers throughout the ages, and today are there for persecuted and rejected believers throughout the world.

OPEN DOORS brings that hope, friendship and encouragement to them as well as practical love, bringing food, medical help and support.

I receive, bi-monthly, a magazine and prayer diary full of heart-rending stories of commitment and courage, not asking us to for pray for them, but with them, our brothers and sisters in Christ, for our world. Their gratitude and knowledge that whatever befalls them, ‘God is always with me’ , is infectious and humbling.

What can we do to play our part in relieving distress for those who are homeless, sick, persecuted even to death among these brave and rejected Christians? Of course we must pray with them, but OPEN DOORS workers need practical help to supply their needs. Could you find it in your heart to make a donation this month, and put a gift in the plate by the door as you leave on Sunday?

If you would like to receive Open Doors magazines to read the stories of answered prayers, please let me know.

Ann Power (835810)

Ways to pray for Christians in Nigeria this Christmas



For many of us, the approaching festive season is cause for excitement and celebration. But for Christians globally,

Christmas brings acute risk of attack. This is certainly the case in Nigeria, where believers are experiencing escalating and targeted violence at the hands of extremist groups and bandits. Nigeria is [number nine on the World Watch List](#) of countries where it's hardest to follow Jesus – but it has the highest violence. More Christians are killed for their faith in Nigeria than anywhere else in the world. Your prayers are desperately needed.

1. Protection of church activities over festive period

Following the deaths of several of its leaders, so-called Islamic State of West Africa (ISWAP) have sworn in replacements, and the new leaders are committed to attacking Christians in Nigeria and beyond. And they aren't the only persecutors. In northern Nigeria – which is majority Muslim – the church is experiencing a high level of threat, with Christmas and New Year festivities likely to be targeted. Only this week, the church in Zamfara State, northern Nigeria, received a letter from a group of bandits demanding that they close churches or risk 'ferocious' attacks.

Heavenly Father, bring supernatural peace to fearful hearts in Nigeria as Christmas approaches. Thwart the plans of those intent on harming your people and protect all Christian gatherings over the festive period. Amen.

2. Provision for families devastated by ransom demands

Christian families are carefully selected and targeted for abduction from schools, church services and while travelling, with perpetrators demanding overwhelming sums of money for their release. It's a calculated strategy that's led to the impoverishment of thousands of Christians, with families even forced to part with their homes to pay ransoms.

Lord God, provide for the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of families devastated by such calculated acts of evil, and heal their trauma. Intervene to bring about the release of Christians held captive. Amen.

3. Fresh revelation of God's grace

Many Christian families are losing enthusiasm for the gospel, and struggling with feelings of anger and resentment towards those who persecute them. This reflects how increasingly unbearable life is for many Christians in Nigeria, and how much they need your prayers to stand strong in their faith.

Lord Jesus, we can't imagine how challenging life is for our family in Nigeria. Give Your children a fresh revelation of Your love and grace, and use this to strengthen them to stand firm despite persecution. Amen.

4. Stable economy and reunited families

The activities of extremists across northern Nigeria have led to rising food prices. Many families are living in hunger and uncertainty. Large numbers have fled to internal displacement camps (IDPs), with families even being separated from each other.

Father, reunite families, provide for their needs, and enable Christians to return to their homes. Stabilise the economy through a reduction in food prices and opportunities to earn a living. Amen.