

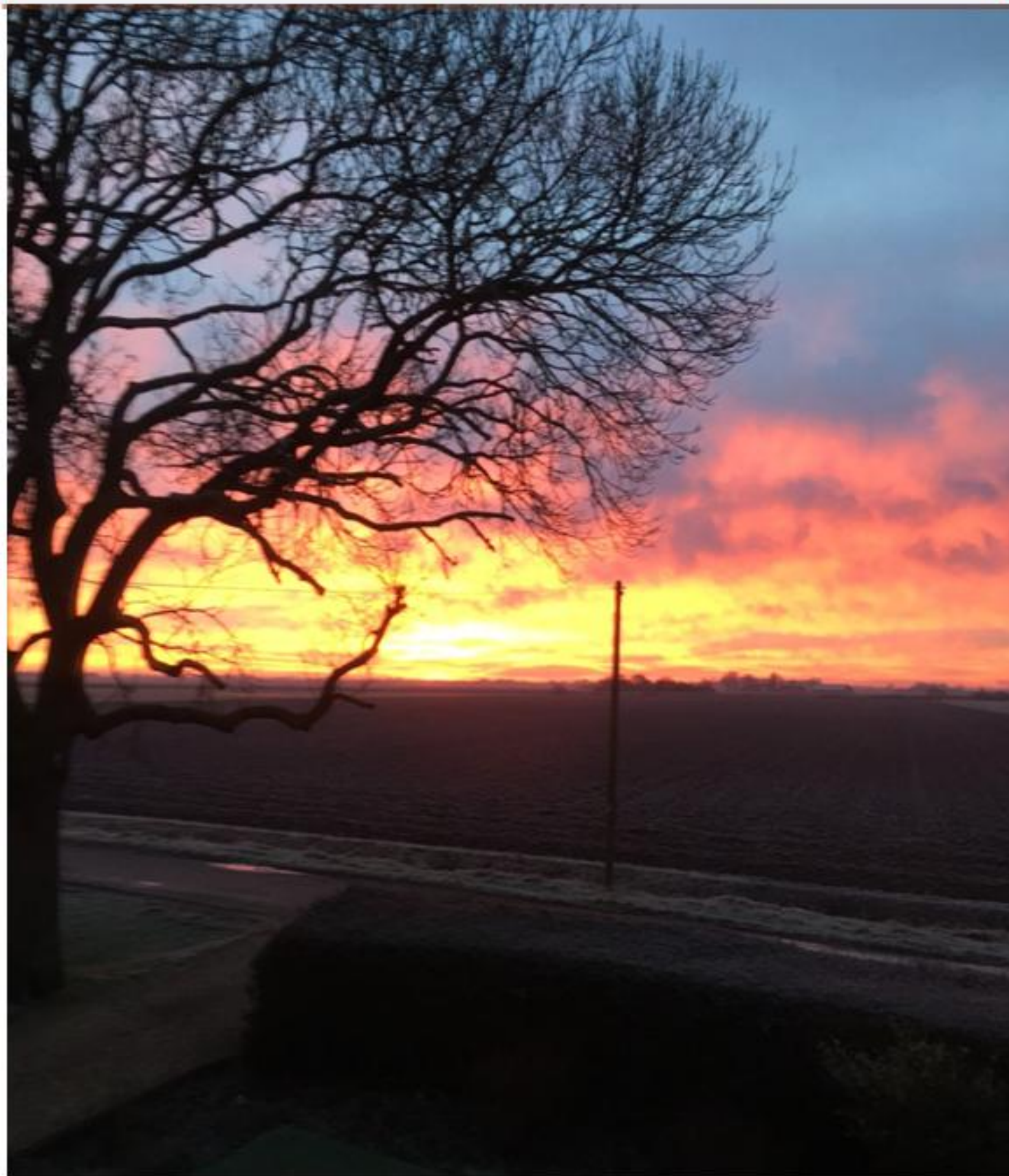
priory news

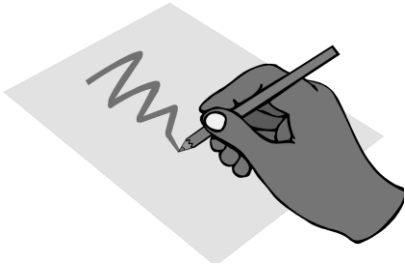
Deeping St James Parish Church Magazine

50p

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February 2021





From the Vicar

As I write this, we have just heard the sad news that Colonel Sir Tom Moore has died of COVID-19. Many tributes have poured in about this remarkable, yet very ordinary man. Those tributes reflected, in part, his amazing achievement. Not only was it pretty impressive that a (then) 99-year-old could complete that much regular exercise, but his initial aim to raise £1,000 for NHS charities finally resulted in almost £39 million (including Gift Aid). For this Captain Tom was awarded the rank of Knight Bachelor by the Queen, and was appointed Honorary Colonel of the Army Foundation College.



In addition, he received the BBC Sports Personality of the Year Helen Rollason Award at the 2020 ceremony, and performed in a charity cover version of the song "You'll Never Walk Alone". The single topped the UK music charts, making him the oldest person to achieve a UK number one.

One key word repeatedly came up in the tributes – that he was a ‘beacon’ of hope in a dark time. While the country was gripped by the virus in the first lockdown, and divided by bitter arguments about Brexit, Captain Tom became an inspirational figure that the whole country could become united around.

On Tuesday 2nd February, the church celebrated the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, or Candlemas as it is often known. It remembers the event recorded in Luke 2: 22-40, when, as per custom, Jesus’ parents brought their first-born boy to the temple, to be ‘redeemed’ by a sacrifice. We read that *there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah.*

When he sees the infant Jesus, he recognises that he is the one, and exclaims what we know as the ‘Nunc Dimittis’ *Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people. To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.* (BCP version). Perhaps we could say, instead of *a light to lighten* (or enlighten), a *beacon of hope* for the nations.

But he will be a rather strange beacon of hope, for instead of unifying the nation(s), rather, *this child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.*

That light is a piercing, revealing light. A light that shows the world, and ourselves, as we really are. A light that hides nothing. Which all sounds a bit scary – not at all like that warm cosy glow that we might get from contemplating Captain Tom. But perhaps that is the kind of light that we need when we're stumbling around in the dark. The kind of light that warns of perils and dangers that could trip us up, or lead us astray... and, ultimately, leads us safely and securely to our destination.

Jesus spoke to them, saying, *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."* (John 8: 12). As we approach the season of Lent, let us purposely and purposefully seek that light, and become light-bringers to the world. May the whole church be a beacon of hope for our nation.

Revd Mark

• *Services and Church Opening*

Services update:

Currently services will be online only until further notice. We will be livestreaming a service at 10.00am on Sundays, and at 6.00pm on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

Bible Study & Lent Course

We will meet on Zoom, Thursdays 2.30-3.30ish pm. The Zoom details are:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/8109399155?pwd=STVVTU44RzJxTFFHbTY1MnI0bjJ2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 810 939 9155

Passcode: 1w2C9a

Registers for January

Funerals: We commend to God's keeping:

22nd January Nancy Willis

26th January Malcolm Brown

Parish Directory

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Curate	The Revd Sonia Marshall	curate@dsj.org.uk
Churchwardens	Caroline Herron Nick Drewett	churchwarden@dsj.org.uk nick.drewett@outlook.com
Assistant Churchwarden	John Worthington	priorynews@dsj.org.uk
Parochial Church Council		
Chairman	The Revd Mark Williams	vicar@dsj.org.uk
Vice-Chairman	Canon Niccy Fisher	
Hon. Secretary	Johanna Jones	
Hon. Treasurer	Simon Marshall	treasurer@dsj.org.uk
Covenant Secretary	Vivien Hamilton	
Electoral Roll Officer	Barry Fisher	
Safeguarding Officer	Ted Fisk	safeguarding@dsj.org.uk
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Organist & Director of Music	Chris Brown	music@dsj.org.uk
Organisations		
Bellringers	Hilary Gentle	
Church Hall Bookings	Nick Drewett & Jan Fisk	churchhall@dsj.org.uk
Church Ladies' Fellowship	Juliet Mills	
Church Flowers	Pauline Brooksbank Christine Masters	
House Group	Doris Warner	
Rose & Sweet Pea Show	Nick & Kate Drewett	priorynews@dsj.org.uk
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Dear Readers,

What strange days we are in - somehow it feels as though time itself has become distorted. Christmas seems to have been a long time ago and yet somehow at the same time only yesterday. And here we are, almost in Lent with Easter just around the corner. But already there are signs of spring bulbs poking through the snow and in spite of the cold winds already the days are clearly lengthening - yes, I know this is not strictly and scientifically true but you know what I mean.

The Coronavirus pandemic is still very much with us but thankfully with the administering of the Covid-19 vaccinations at last there appears to be 'light at the end of the tunnel'. Have you had your first jab yet? I know many of us have. My NHS letter led me to the website where I was offered the delightful prospects of a hundred-odd mile round trip to Bedfordshire for mine! A day later I received a 'phone call from the Health Centre offering the much improved offer of a trip to Peterborough! Since then I know several members of our church have only had to travel as far as Glington.

I expect that like me, you will be glad when we are able to return once again to the Priory to meet for worship but I feel sure you would like us to say a big "thankyou" to Mark, Sonia, Simon and the others who have again made it possible for us to join in 'virtually' with the weekly services online.

John

<p>Our recipe this month first appeared in February 2014. Isn't it strange how some recipes seem to improve when re-heated?! Thank you Margaret.</p>	<p>This month's 'virtual-cover' picture was taken through the window of Cranmore Farmhouse at sunrise in late January.</p>
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Thanks to those who have sent in articles for Priory News. Please keep them coming. ***Please note: pictures containing recognisable children must be accompanied by authorisation to publish from their parents or guardians. We will not publish the names of children pictured unless specifically requested to do so by their parents or guardians.***

John Worthington, Cranmore Farmhouse, DSJ - Tel: 343860 priorynews@dsj.org.uk
 Please let us have your contributions for the March issue of Priory News **BEFORE the deadline of Friday 19th February.** Thank you.

Cooking with Margaret

Chicken and Apple Cheesebake



Ingredients

12 oz Cooked Chicken

4 oz Butter

4 tablespoons toasted white
Breadcrumbs

½ pint white sauce

4 oz Grated Cheddar Cheese

5 Cox's Apples

Salt and Pepper

Method

Set the oven to 400°F/ Gas 6.

Butter a shallow ovenproof dish

Peel, core and slice 4 of the apples and fry them gently
in the butter

Place the chicken in the bottom of the dish and put the
apple slices on top

Mix 3 oz of the cheese into the white sauce and pour
over the apples

Season to taste

Mix the breadcrumbs with the remaining cheese and
sprinkle over the sauce

Cut the remaining apple into rings and toss (unpeeled)
in the butter; arrange neatly on the top of the dish

Bake for 20 – 30 minutes until crisp and golden

Sidespersons' Rota - February

7th	10.00 am	Juliet Mills, Nick Drewett, Kate Drewett
	6.00 pm	
14th	10.00 am	Nick Drewett, Jan Fisk, Ann Meekings
17th (Ash Wed)	7.30 pm	
21st	10.00 am	Margaret Merchant, Helen Williams, Val Wilde
	6.00 pm	
28th	10.00 am	
Mar 7th	10.00 am	
	6.00 pm	

Readers' Rota - February

7th	
14th	
17th (Ash Wed)	
21st	
28th	
Mar 7th	

Flower Rota - February

7th	Joan Dyke
14th	<i>Vacant</i>
21st	LENT
28th	LENT
March 7th	LENT

Intercessions Rota - February

7th	Jo Astle
14th	Tony Masters
17th (Ash Wed)	Nickey Fisher
21st	Bet Washbrooke
28th	Nick Drewett
Mar 7th	Jo Astle

- *And finally . . .*

Our thanks to Jo Astle who found the following on Facebook:

My Self-Isolation Quarantine Diary

Day 1 – I Can Do This!! Got enough food and wine to last a month!

Day 2 – Opening my 8th bottle of Wine. I fear wine supplies might not last!

Day 3 – Strawberries: Some have 210 seeds, some have 235 seeds. Who Knew??

Day 4 – 8:00pm. Removed my Day Pajamas and put on my Night Pajamas.

Day 5 – Today, I tried to make Hand Sanitizer. It came out as Jello Shots!!

Day 6 – I get to take the Garbage out. I'm So excited, I can't decide what to wear.

Day 7 – Laughing way too much at my own jokes!!

Day 8 – Went to a new restaurant called "The Kitchen". You have to gather all the ingredients and make your own meal. I have No clue how this place is still in business.

Day 9 – I put liquor bottles in every room. Tonight, I'm getting all dressed up and going Bar hopping.

Day 10 – Struck up a conversation with a Spider today. Seems nice. He's a Web Designer.

Day 11 – Isolation is hard. I swear my fridge just said, "What the hell do you want now?"

Day 12 – I realized why dogs get so excited about something moving outside, going for walks or car rides. I think I just barked at a squirrel.

Day 13 – If you keep a glass of wine in each hand, you can't accidentally touch your face.

Day 14 – Watched the birds fight over a worm. The Cardinals lead the Blue Jays 3-1.

Day 15 – Anybody else feel like they've cooked dinner about 395 times this month?