

Advent on Zoom

Reflecting on 2020 through the Christmas story

This is an opportunity for adults & young people to explore the challenges and changes to everyday life we have experienced this year, & look towards the new year with hope in Jesus.

Wednesday Evenings on Zoom
@ 7.30pm, approx 1 hr
25th November
2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd December



exploring

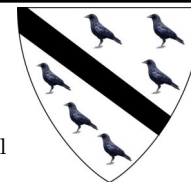
Rules and regulations
Unsung heroes
Travelling light
At a distance
Ways and means

Zoom details available from Rev'd Julie Hutchinson
highframlandrectory@icloud.com / 01476 870083

HIGH FRAMLAND NEWS

COVERING THE PARISHES OF

St Guthlac's, Branston : St Botolph & John the Baptist, Croxton Kerrial
St Michael & All Angels, Harston : All Saints, Knipton
St Peter's, Saltby : St Bartholomew, Sproxtton



December 2020

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

The Revd David Cowie, The Rectory, 7 Sycamore Lane, Wymondham, LE14 2AZ
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The song by Sydney Carter, "The Lord of the Dance", may be familiar to a number of you, sung at school, worship and weddings, sung to a lively American tune. The words are written as though Jesus was singing them and pictures the Christian life as a dance, with Jesus as the leader. While clearly an Easter song, it can be sung at any time, as it picks out many happenings from Jesus' life, including his birth - perhaps you could sing it as a carol at Christmas!

One verse reads thus:

"I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;
But I am the dance, and I still go on."

Could this be a verse for 2020? With the ravages of Covid, and the way it has affected lives, communities and our world, a year such as none of us have experienced before.

As some of you know, in May we buried my Father, a combination of sepsis and Covid. We consider ourselves fortunate in that my sister was called in as he reached the end of his life, and managed to stay with him, in a hospital side room, for three days until he died. My 85 year old Mum, with Alzheimer's, was not allowed to see him during the last four weeks of his life.

At the end of September my husband Phillip died in surgery due to a dissected aorta. There was no chance to say goodbye. It is not a day that I would wish on anyone, but the truth is that so many of us struggle physically, emotionally and mentally at this time.

On 5th November in amidst the gloom of the American election and the beginning of our second period of national lockdown, Radio 4, Today programme, interviewed a grandmother, Susan, aged 69, and her 27 year old granddaughter Amy. Their relationship was close, as Susan had brought up Amy and her autistic brother Jack.

What a treat was that interview. Amy furloughed, with obvious concern for her grandmother. "How will you spend your days Susan", asked commentator Martha. "Well", she said, "I must stay active", and she went on to tell the listeners that she intended to exercise on her tread mill, rowing machine and exercise bike daily. She would continue to text Amy and her brother Jack, and did we know that Jack had the most beautiful Christmas Tree up in his bedroom. Her love for life, and her grandchildren was so obvious.

She chuckled her way through the interview and told us how proud she was of Jack, who had continued to work in Sainsburys all through lockdown.

How wonderful it was to smile and laugh alongside this family.

This for me depicts Christmas, whatever our circumstances: hope, colour, joy, relationships, laughter, all at the heart of the Gospel. The final verse of "Lord of the Dance" goes like this:

"They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that will never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me -
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he."

"I am the life that will never, never die!" We have a Gospel to Proclaim, and as we celebrate Christmas in whatever way Covid allows, let us find that light, love and laughter, and know that whatever life throws at us, all will be well. A child has been born, Jesus Christ our Lord, Emmanuel, "God is with us".

A happy and blessed Christmas to you all.

Julie



CONTACTS

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CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday, 13th December

10.30 am Knipton Holy Communion

This service will be a farewell to the Rev Stuart and Mrs Penny Foster
Please contact the Revd Canon Julie Hutchinson if you would like to attend
The service will be zoomed to those who cannot be there

Thursday, 24th December

3.00 pm Sproxton Crib service

Friday, 25th December

8.30 am	Croxton Kerrial	Christmas Day Holy Communion	Rev Canon J Hutchinson
10.00 am	Branston	All age service	Rev Canon J Hutchinson

ALSO

Each Wednesday

10.45 am Sproxton Holy Communion Rev Canon J Hutchinson

Each Friday

10.00 am Branston Holy Communion Rev Canon J Hutchinson

Sproxton Village Hall - October 50/50 winners

1st B Birch : 2nd S Britten : 3rd P Dodds

Copies of this newsletter can be found at www.highframland.co.uk

Please would you pass any items for January by

SUNDAY, 13th DECEMBER

to Sue Watford, tel 01949 861256; email SueWatford@aol.com