



The West Hereford Team Ministry
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Hello everyone,

What a week of weather it's been! Snow, rain, wind and sunshine; it's hard to know what to expect some days. I hope you have kept warm when it's snowed, dry when it has rained, sheltered when it's been windy, and have had a chance to enjoy the sunshine. We have much to be thankful for, don't we; that we have homes in which to keep warm and sheltered, that we have kept dry when so many others have been flooded, and that the sunshine continues to shine behind and through even the darkest of clouds.

This week we celebrate Candlemas, a sort of hinge in the Church year where we look back towards the birth of Christ, and forward towards his death and resurrection. As we look back, we might focus on the hard conditions in which Mary gave birth, or the escape to Egypt and the threat from Herod, OR we might focus on the gift of God to us; his son, Jesus, Emmanuel. As we look forward to his death and resurrection, we might focus on the horror of the betrayal and crucifixion, OR we might remember that this led to the glorious resurrection and the hope this holds for us.

How will you look back on the last year, and what will you look forward to?

In the intercessions for the recorded Eucharist from Breinton church last week, Ann Powell prayed:

“Finally, O Lord, let us move forward with hope: The days are lengthening, bulbs are pushing through the ground - the first snowdrops, and I have already seen some daffodils out in Breinton. The increasing warmth of the sun, and very importantly, the roll-out of the vaccine, which gives hope that life may return to a more normal situation.”

Yes, indeed, let us move forward with hope, for at the heart of our Christian faith, is the hope of the risen Christ.

We are still looking into developing a phone-in service, and a dvd of services for those that would like them. We haven't got all the details sorted yet, but it would help to know if this would be helpful, or not. If it would be, perhaps you could give the office a ring on a Tuesday or Thursday between 10.30am and 2pm to indicate this. If it would not be helpful for you then there is no need to phone.

We know that for many of you the uncertainty and anxiety about lockdown restrictions and health continues. We want to continue to remind you that we are here for you. If you need a chat, prayer, or some practical help then do reach out – either by phoning 01432 273086 or by contacting your Pastoral Coordinator.

We hope these resources help you feel connected as we worship as a scattered Church. Please be assured that you are not forgotten and that you are remembered in our prayers.

God Bless,

Ruth and Jo