

Readings for the Second Sunday before Lent

Genesis 1. 1-23

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. ⁶And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. ⁹And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. ¹⁴And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. ²⁰And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

Psalm 136. 1-9

¹O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.
²O give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever.
³O give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his steadfast love endures forever;
⁴who alone does great wonders, for his steadfast love endures forever;
⁵who by understanding made the heavens, for his steadfast love endures forever;
⁶who spread out the earth on the waters, for his steadfast love endures forever;
⁷who made the great lights, for his steadfast love endures forever;
⁸the sun to rule over the day, for his steadfast love endures forever;
⁹the moon and stars to rule over the night, for his steadfast love endures forever;

Romans 8. 18-25

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Matthew 6. 25-end

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' ³²For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

Dates for your Diary

Mon 9th Feb - 11.00am Funeral of Lily Mann at Wood End & S. Crem

Wed 11th Feb - 10.30am Funeral of Margaret Hazzard at S/Crem
7.00pm PCC meet at the School Room, Baxterley

Wed 18th Feb - Ash Wednesday
Services, 9.30am at Wood End & 7.00pm at Hurley

Thur 19th Feb - 11.45am Funeral of Margaret Evans at Wood End then cremation 1.00pm at S/Crem.

Sat 21st Feb - 11.00-1.00 Soup Scones & Snowdrops @ Baxterley

Wed 25th Feb - 11.30am Funeral of Emily-Jane Scandrett at Kingsbury

Interregnum Arrangements

Our parish is now in interregnum and the Vicarage and its telephone will be 'off limits'. From now on all pastoral matters should be passed to **Revd. Carole** via the new 'office' telephone number of **07426 068938** or via email on admin@kingbaxgroup.org.uk. Matters regarding church buildings/grounds should be passed to the church wardens. *Many Thanks.*

Jigsaw Puzzle Lending Library...

 Free jigsaw puzzle lending library on **Tuesday 10th & 24th February at The Old Stables, Kingsbury Church**—between **1.30-3.30pm**. Open every **2nd & 4th Tuesday**!



Lent Reflections coming soon!

Wood End 10.15am on 25th Feb and 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th March
Baxterley 5.15pm on 26th Feb and 5th, 12th, 18th & 26th March
More details shortly.

Joining Details for most Online Zoom Services & Meetings

Meeting ID: **999 516 9418**

Passcode: **Twigster3**

You can also join by telephone on number: **0203 481 5237** and entering the ID: **999 516 9418** and Code: **570910568**