

intouch

NEWSLETTER

Benefice of Clothall, Rushden, Sandon,
Wallington, and Weston



Welcome to In Touch

Well July is here, and we are all hoping for a good summer whilst the garden and the farmers are hoping for rain – such it has always been. We are rarely content with our weather and it is one of our favourite topic of conversation. I am reminded of the main tune from Camelot;

*It's true! It's true! The crown has made it clear
The climate must be perfect all the year
A law was made a distant moon ago here
July and August cannot be too hot
And there's a legal limit to the snow here
In Camelot
The winter is forbidden till December
And exits March the second on the dot
By order, summer lingers through September
In Camelot
The rain may never fall till after sundown
By eight, the morning fog must disappear
In short, there's simply not
A more congenial spot
For happily-ever-aftering than here
In Camelot...*

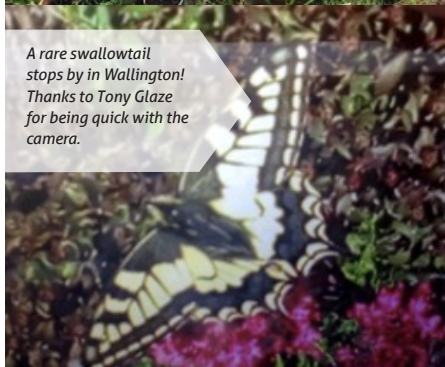
So, I am hoping your washing is drying, your flowers blooming and you are both able to relax in the sunshine and not to have to get the hose out – well you never know!

With blessings Fiona

Judith and Peter Uttley
(who join our Zoom
service) sent this lovely
photo of their garden in
Yorkshire,



A rare swallowtail
stops by in Wallington!
Thanks to Tony Glaze
for being quick with the
camera.



A Scottish garden with
thanks to Roger and Brenda
Searle who attend our Zoom
service and live at Ballater
near Balmoral



Photo courtesy of
Margaret Armitage
grandson Edward



BEATITUDES

FOR A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

BLESSED ARE THOSE
WHO STAY INDOORS



FOR THEY HAVE
PROTECTED OTHERS

BLESSED ARE THE
UNEMPLOYED AND THE
SELF-EMPLOYED



FOR THEIR NEED OF
GOD IS GREAT

BLESSED ARE THE
CORNER SHOPKEEPERS



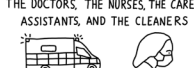
FOR THEY ARE THE
PURVEYORS OF SCARCE
THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE DELIVERY
DRIVERS AND THE POSTAL
WORKERS



FOR THEY ARE THE
BRINGERS OF ESSENTIAL
THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE HOSPITAL
WORKERS, THE AMBULANCE CREWS,
THE DOCTORS, THE NURSES, THE CARE
ASSISTANTS, AND THE CLEANERS



FOR THEY STAND BETWEEN US AND
THE GRAVE, AND THE KINGDOM OF
HEAVEN IS SURELY THEIRS

BLESSED ARE THE
CHECKOUT WORKERS



FOR THEY HAVE PATIENCE AND
FORTITUDE IN THE FACE OF
OVERWORK AND FRUSTRATION

BLESSED ARE THE
REFUSE COLLECTORS



FOR THEY WILL SEE
GOD DESPITE THE
MOUNTAINS OF WASTE

BLESSED ARE THE
TEACHERS



FOR THEY REMAIN
STEADFAST AND
CONSTANT IN
DISTURBING TIMES

BLESSED ARE THE CHURCH
WORKERS; THE DEACONS,
PRIESTS AND BISHOPS



FOR THEY ARE A COMFORTING
PRESENCE IN A HURTING
WORLD AS THEY CONTINUE TO
SIGNPOST TOWARDS GOD

BLESSED ARE THE SINGLE
PARENTS,



FOR THEY ARE COPING
ALONE WITH THEIR
RESPONSIBILITIES AND
THERE IS NO RESPIRE

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO
ARE ALONE,



FOR THEY ARE CHILDREN OF
GOD AND WITH HIM THEY
WILL NEVER BE LONELY

BLESSED ARE THE
BEREAVED,



FOR WHOM THE WORST HAS
ALREADY HAPPENED, THEY
SHALL BE COMFORTED

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO
ARE ISOLATED WITH THEIR
ABUSERS



FOR ONE DAY - WE PRAY-
THEY WILL KNOW SAFETY

BLESSED ARE ALL DURING THIS TIME WHO HAVE PURE HEARTS:
ALL WHO STILL HUNGER AND THIRST FOR JUSTICE; ALL WHO
WORK FOR PEACE AND WHO MODEL MERCY



MAY YOU KNOW COMFORT. MAY YOU KNOW CALM. AND MAY THE
GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THE LOVE OF GOD, AND
THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, BE WITH US ALL. AMEN

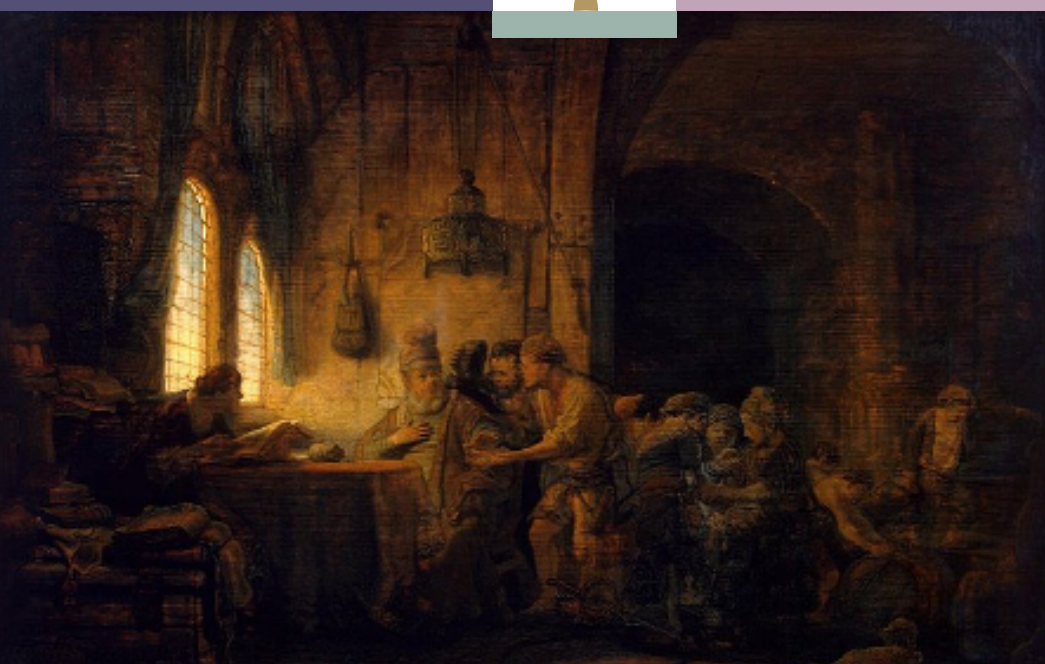
TEXT: JAYNE MANFREDI

CartoonChurch.com



Our Parish logo

You may have noticed changes to the logo on the top of our page! The five parishes have been working toward a new benefice name and we are hoping to become the Kingswood Benefice. Kingswood lies at the centre of our five parishes and we would like to flourish like the trees in the wood in the name of Christ our King. Our new logo represents the hopes we have for our combined parishes and embodies the idea of five parishes in one. The cross at our heart, Christ the King above us (with five points) to guard and guide us, green leaves for richness and growth, and the hands (five fingers on each) of God as our trunk to support us but also as our hands caring for each other, our communities and the world around us. The five coloured leaves are the colour of the parishes - Clothall, Rushden, Sandon, Wallington & Weston. We will have to wait for permission to change our name, but we can start sharing the logo now. Our grateful thanks to Sandra Sargusingh from Rushden for all the hard work she had done in listening to our ideas and creating this wonderful logo.



Rembrandt van Rijn: *The Parable of the Labourers in the Vineyard* (1637)

Late in the day in the makeshift office of an Amsterdam wine merchant. The carefully observed pulley-operated birdcage lantern overhead is not yet lit. So the attentive clerk seated beneath the window with a litter of papers in the niche behind him and with other tomes scattered untidily on the chest to his right props up his ledger to make the most of the evening sun as he enters the sums of money his master pays to his workers. Across the room, light barely reaching them, workers manoeuvre heavy casks. Before them an inquisitive dog desires to know the meaning of the discussion taking place at the table whilst in the foreground a cat pounces to deal with an undesirable mouse.

Behind the three main characters by the table who occupy the best of the light, sits a group whose day's work is done and who seem well satisfied with what they have

received for it. Not so the two standing men, who in consternation have realised that that they, having laboured a full day, are to be paid the same as those who worked only the final hour. One rattles his near empty money pouch, the other opens his hand beseeching his master to acknowledge the inadequacy of the sum of cash it contains. Both can plainly see the abundance of silver coins flowing from the tipped-over money bag on the heavy worn tablecloth.

Emphasising his honesty the master places his right hand over his heart, his left held palm down almost as if in blessing, mirroring the hand of the chief complainant. He underlines the message of this parable from Matthew 20, that generosity is even-handed, that all are equal in reward before God. Those who arrived last receive the same as those who worked all day.

A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus
*Keep us, good Lord,
 under the shadow of your mercy.
 Sustain and support the anxious,
 be with those who care for the sick,
 and lift up all who are brought low;
 that we may find comfort
 knowing that nothing can separate us
 from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.
 Amen.*

If you would like to donate to any of our churches in the current crisis - details are below. We would be very grateful in your help to keep our churches going.
Thank you.

PCC OF RUSHDEN
 LLOYDS BANK: 30-94-30 A/C 01845350

SANDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
 BARCLAYS BANK: 20-73-26 A/C 53610802

PCC ST MARYS CHURCH WALLINGTON
 LLOYDS BANK: 30-94-30 A/C 01845466

WESTON PCC
 BARCLAYS BANK: 20-41-12 A/C 40946850

PCC OF CLOTHALL
 LLOYDS BANK: 30-94-30 A/C 01845245

Holland possesses few vineyards, so Rembrandt's relocation of the story to a wine merchant's warehouse is something of a visual rhyme. Although he never travelled to Italy he was much influenced by slightly earlier Dutch artists who had. Impressed by Caravaggio's dramatic use of light and shadow they had brought his ideas into their own work. But where Caravaggio was all hard edges and stark contrasts Rembrandt's genius was to understand that light is best illustrated by its partial absence and its gradual fading into darkness. He shows us not just how light looks but how it feels. In this painting the heat of day exhausts itself into the suffused glow of the evening's ease. And in that light we may be content with what we have received.

Focus on *Holy Trinity, Weston*



Tucked down one end of the village of Weston lies Holy Trinity church. By road it seems as if you are right on the edge of the village but when you walk down the leafy pathways from inside the village it takes no time at all to come into the lovely peaceful churchyard, a favourite walk for many. The oldest part of the church is the north transept with its high deep 12thC

windows that give a glimpse of what the church must have been like all those years ago. The main part of the church has been added to, repaired and reordered many times over the centuries but is still an harmonious whole. It has a wide central area which is light and airy (and with perfect

acoustics), a stately organ, modern choir stalls, a beautiful baptistry and a quiet serene chancel and high altar decorated by curtesy of the Cherry family. Its flexible seating means that it can host a variety of occasions and it is always packed for Christmas services. The church has services in a variety of traditions so there is always a welcome here whether you like the traditional style or the more relaxed all age worship. Don't forget to read the legend of Jack 'O Legs in the porch and find his grave by the gates!

