

BENEFICE OF ARICONIUM

25th October
Last Sunday after Trinity

Collect

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings

Old Testament
New Testament
Gospel

Deuteronomy 34. 1-12.

1 Thessalonians 2. 1-8.

Matthew 22. 34-end.

THE EXAM YOU CANNOT FAIL

At the age of sixteen I took my O Level equivalent examinations which resulted in a pass. It was my entry into a world of exams! A Levels came next. Because of my birthday I got to do A Levels twice - the advantage was that I covered Ancient History twice, one Greek and the other Roman. Fascinating. That got me into university, but it didn't end there, there were exams every year until I got my degree (in Classics). Not finished yet! There were still Divinity exams to qualify for ordination, then more to obtain my BD degree which I did mainly to please my dad. It was a weird sensation grappling with Hebrew texts while big jets whizzed overhead (I had joined the RAF as a Chaplain by this time). Then it all stopped until I retired and came to live in Weston under Penyard. I attended night classes in John Kyrle School and scraped through an O Level in Italian. What fun! No more!

I recollect all this neither to complain or to boast. It is just to say that there is no exam to qualify for entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven. All that is asked for is acceptance that Jesus has qualified for us. We are not capable of passing an exam that qualifies us. We lack the required pass in the relevant subject. Happily, Jesus has paid the price for us, and it was very costly, but it meant that we do not have to sit an exam especially one that we cannot pass, in order to enter the Kingdom of God. What a relief! At least I was left with a liking for books on my subject. Add to that a collection of books called The Bible, and you will appreciate how I have been formed and informed into my present situation. But that situation has

left me with a taste for qualifying for the Kingdom of God with Jesus as my mentor.

Incidentally if anyone reading this is actually working up to facing an exam, I can only say all the best: Revise hard and remember that exams passed will stand you in good stead, but the most important exam of all has already been passed for you by the sufferings of Jesus.

ROBIN

Services next Sunday 01st November – All Saints Day

Weston-under-Penyard	Morning Worship	11.00 a.m.
The Lea	Family Communion	9.30 a.m.
Hope Mansell	Parish Communion 1662 BCP	9.30 a.m.
Aston Ingham	Evensong	4.30 p.m.
Linton	Remembering Service	5.00 p.m.
Upton Bishop	All Age Worship & Remembering Service	11.00 a.m. 4.00 p.m.

Midweek Services - 20th Sunday after Trinity

LINTON Wednesday 21st October	The Gospel This Week (Bible Study)	5.00 p.m.
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Forthcoming Services & Events

UPTON BISHOP. Quiz and Sausage Supper, 30th October 6.30 pm at The Millennium Hall. Tickets £10 from Olivia 07496685960 or Jane 07989572356.

LINTON. Linton's annual Quiz and Pudding evening will be on Saturday 14th November in Linton Village Hall, 7pm for a 7.30 pm start. Tables of 4; tickets £8 a head available from Ernst. Delicious puddings guaranteed.

WESTON. Christmas Bingo Friday November 27th @ Weston Village Hall.

LEA I.T. SKILLS WORKSHOP. Build confidence with your phone or tablet with our FREE 3-week course. Lea Village Hall from 10.30am to 12.30pm Tuesday 27th October, Tuesday 3rd November, and Tuesday 10th November.

LEA SHOEBOX APPEAL. leaflets should be in all your respective churches from now. Any Questions call 01989 750808. Marion. **Boxes by 7th November**

Bible Book Club on Sunday 15th November we will be discussing Book 3 of Psalms, Psalms 73 -89. The collection of Psalms which make up Book 3 discuss the Temple and God's enthronement and so make an appropriate follow up to Leviticus.

Please be aware that if you have any events you would like to advertise here, do please contact Debs directly (details below) and she will be pleased to include them.

Please pray for all who are sick, Annette Howell (WuP),

Please pray for all who have died, Geoff Phelps (WuP), Adrian Bowkett (Lin),

Rev David Howell: 07903 790049 email: revdavidhowell@icloud.com

Rev Ewan Gillings: 07568 515628 email: revgillings@gmail.com