

## **Newsletter from The Rector 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

Dear Friends

I am currently reading a book entitled Being Interrupted which in part reflects on the occasions when Jesus is described in the Gospels as being interrupted when he is about his ministry. It may tell you more about your own response to interruption as to how you hear his words "who touched me?" when a bleeding woman touches the hem of his robe, seeking out healing. Is this gentle enquiry or an impatient snapping? I say this as someone who is rather too prone to snapping when interrupted, often finding myself muttering apologies when I have discovered that the interruption is far more important than whatever I was doing prior to the interruption. In this light, I confess I am currently the victim of impatience and frustration, having received an alert late on Tuesday evening to advise me that I had been in the vicinity of someone with the corona virus and needed to self-isolate for 8 days. I know my first thought should have been for the poor person who has been diagnosed, but in truth all I could think of were the plans that I would now have to change. Whether the Lord was annoyed or not by the woman's touch, ultimately it becomes an occasion for his blessing to flow. May we too look for such opportunities: to bless others rather than dismiss them as an inconvenience.

### **Daisy**

I have been upbraided for failing to mention the third member of our household. Daisy is a nine year old West Highland Terrier who we have had since she was a few weeks old. She is a supreme escape artist, so we are pleased to have a back garden that is secure, but she has still managed to sneak out and reach the road a couple of times. She is very friendly. If you do find her wandering Pontesbury Village, please tuck her under your arm and bring her back!

### **Visits to Minsterley and Shelve**

My visit to Minsterley on Wednesday had to be postponed (see above), but I am hoping to come to the village next Weds afternoon at 2 p.m. and would again be pleased to meet people. Similarly, on Thursday I plan to come to Shelve and would be glad to meet anyone who is around.

### **Get behind me Satan**

Famous if uncomfortable words. The Rector will be preaching on the relevant passage in Mark 8.31-end in a zoom service led by Ian Williams. You would be very welcome to join us using the customary link.

### **Sunday Services**

It is our intention that from Sunday March 14th, there will be live in person services at St George's Pontesbury and Holy Trinity Minsterley at

10.30 and each Sunday thereafter: details to follow. In parallel with this, for the final three Sundays of March, we will pre-record a service to be broadcast at 10.30 a.m. for those not ready or able to join us just yet. Again, more details to follow.

**Gmail**

If anyone considers themselves adept at using gmail, I would be pleased to hear from them.