



8TH DECEMBER 2019

Denise Crook writes...

On this second Sunday of Advent we remember John the Baptist and his preaching 'Prepare the way of the Lord!' As part of that preparation he called people to repent and be baptised.

We have as a church been looking at revival and being prepared for it to happen and how people prayed earnestly for revival to come. Wow! What incredible accounts of past revivals we have heard. One thing that's struck me is how people have been suddenly aware of their need to repent. I was reminded some weeks back about the bible verses that call us to be "set apart, a Holy people." Sometimes I forget how Holy God is and I'm reminded of how much I take for granted, and how privileged and honoured we are to be allowed to enter His presence in worship. Thank God for Jesus making that possible. It's incredible that I can sometimes find it hard to enter into that place of worship when I know that even though it's all about Him, he blesses me so much through it.

Here's another verse that keeps coming to mind; 'But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.'

1Peter2:9

The second candle for advent can be 'a symbol of the faith of Abraham and of the patriarchs who believe in the gift of the promised land.' What are you believing for and do you have the faith to see it happen? Are you believing for a revival? As a holy people are there things the Holy Spirit is speaking to you about, asking you to do? Sometimes I know there are things I've been asked to do but have been too conscious about myself and not putting God and others before my selfish pride. This is a verse I need to reflect on, Micah 6:8 'He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.'

As we prepare for Christmas and all that entails let's allow the Holy Spirit to work in us to set us apart for Yahweh, the lover of my soul.

Peace and blessings to you, Denise

Notices

HERE AT EMMANUEL
SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER.
CHRISTMAS TABLE DECORATION
MAKING. £5 DONATION
FOR MORE INFO PICK UP A
FLYER IN CHURCH.



Pamper, Craft and Chat
£5 contribution
Saturday 14th December 10 - 11.30am
Come and be pampered by the *Cherish* team
& make floral Christmas table decorations with Barbara.
Booking required.
Please text Barbera Walton on 07968 950724
Or email barbaraasalamon@gmail.com
Any evergreen foliage from gardens would be greatly appreciated.

**WHO LET THE
BLOKES
OUT!**

Who Let The Blokes Out - 2nd Saturday 10 -12 at ECB
Curry Nights - 3rd Tuesdays 7.45pm
Info/Book - Contact Colin Arter - 07717875566

**EMMANUEL CHURCH
SATURDAY 14TH
DECEMBER 10AM**

**SHAKIL'S TUESDAY 17TH
DECEMBER 7.45PM**

**NEXT ENCOUNTER
MEETING**

SATURDAY 21ST

DECEMBER AT

GAGLE BROOK SCHOOL



Encounter Dates
2019-2020
At Gaglebrook school Bicester
7pm

| | 2019 |
|--|-------------|
| | 23 November |
| | 21 December |
| | 2020 |
| | 25 January |
| | 22 February |
| | 21 March |
| | 25 April |
| | 23 May |
| | 27 June |
| | 25 July |

ROTAS: If you need to check rotas please log on to Church Builder. If you need help with this or any other information about events, groups or who's who then please contact the church office. Details overleaf.

ECB DIARY

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|---------------------|-------------|--|
| SUN 8th DECEMBER | 10.30am | Café Church– With love from God to you Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Erika Biscoe |
| | 7.00pm | Evening Service (Refreshments at 6.30pm) Preparing for Revival Leader: Dorothy Williams Preacher: Nigel Crook |
| TUES 10th DECEMBER | 9.00am | Prayers |
| | 7.00pm | Prayers |
| WED 11th DECEMBER | 8.45-12noon | Café open |
| | 10.30am | Oasis Small Group |
| THURS 12th DECEMBER | 8.45-12noon | Café open |
| FRI 13th DECEMBER | 8.45-12noon | Café open |
| | 7.00pm | Prayers |
| | 7.30pm | Contemplative Compline |
| SAT 14th DECEMBER | 10.00am | Ladies Pamper, Craft & Chat |
| | 10.00am | Who Let the Blokes Out! |
| SUN 15th DECEMBER | 10.30am | Informal Worship Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Martha Simpson |
| | 7.00pm | Evening Service (Refreshments at 6.30pm) Lessons and Carols Leader: Philip Wilson |

Website: www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk **Church Office:** **01869 320021**

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All notices to Admin Team by 7pm Wednesday