



**24TH NOVEMBER 2019**

## *Erika Biscoe writes...*

Today we continue our series on preparing for Revival both in the morning and evening services.

Last week in the morning service, Roger reminded us of the need for reading God's word and the importance of prayer during this time of preparation for Revival and in the evening Sharon shared a word God had laid on her heart over eighteen months ago around Matthew 25, the parable of the Ten Bridesmaids.

This parable is about a wedding. On the wedding day the bridegroom went to the bride's house for the ceremony; then the bride and groom, along with a great procession, returned to the groom's house where a feast took place, often lasting a full week.

These ten virgins were waiting to join the procession, and they hoped to take part in the wedding banquet. But when the groom didn't come at the expected time, five of them ran out of lamp oil. By the time they had purchased extra oil, it was too late to join the feast.

Are you ready for Jesus to return? Are you ready for Revival? Spiritual preparation cannot be brought or borrowed at the last minute. Our relationship with God must be our own.

What does your relationship with God look like now? Are you serious to see Revival in Bicester?

Maybe this is God's question to us. Spiritual preparation requires sacrifice of prayer and perseverance to pursue the God who longs to share an intimacy with us and bring revival to our church and beyond.

It is at times like this that we need to rend our hearts and go back to the start, when we first encountered Jesus, when we weren't afraid to tell others about a God that has changed us from the inside out.

And remembering that revival is as Arthur Wallis states;

'Divine intervention in the normal course of spiritual things. It is God revealing Himself to man in awful holiness and irresistible power. It is such a manifest working of God that human personalities are overshadowed, and human programs abandoned. It is man retiring into the background because God has taken the field. It is the Lord making bare His holy arm and working in extraordinary power on saint and sinner.'

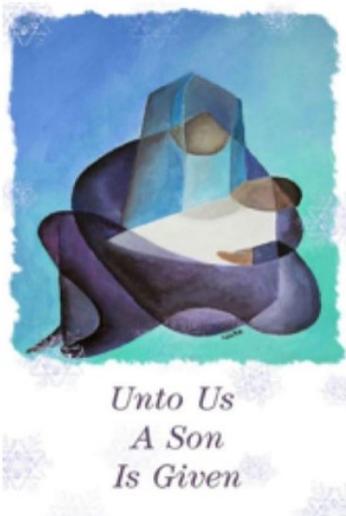
May our prayer be;

Come Holy Spirit and prepare my heart, fanning into flame your life in me and in your Church.

Amen.

*Blessings, Erika*

## Notices



### Advent Quiet Day

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019  
at Emmanuel Church  
from 9.30am – 2.00pm

*This is a shared event for  
Emmanuel, Highway, The  
Methodist and Catholic Church*

**ADVENT QUIET DAY**

**SATURDAY 30th NOVEMBER**

**9.30am – 2.00pm**

**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**SATURDAY 7th DECEMBER**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**



**WHO LET THE  
BLOKES  
OUT!**



Who Let The Blokes Out - 2nd Saturday 9.30-12 at ECB  
Curry Nights - 3rd Tuesdays 7.45pm  
Info/Book - Contact Colin Arter - 07717875566

**NEXT WHO LET  
THE BLOKES  
OUT 14TH  
DECEMBER  
10AM**

**GARDEN TALK**

**SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER  
10.30AM HERE AT EMMANUEL  
CHURCH**

**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

SUN 24th NOVEMBER	10.30am	<b>Communion Service, Preparing for revival</b> Leader: Peter Hill Preacher: Carol Hill
	7.00pm	<b>Evening Service</b> (Refreshments at 6.30pm) <b>Preparing for Revival</b> Leader: Ian Biscoe Preachers: Erika Biscoe
TUES 26th NOVEMBER	9.00am	<b>Prayers</b>
	7.00pm	<b>Prayers</b>
	7.30pm	<b>Prison Fellowship</b>
WED 27th NOVEMBER	8.45-12noon	<b>Café open</b>
	10.30am	<b>Oasis Small Group</b>
THURS 28th NOVEMBER	8.45-12noon	<b>Café open</b>
FRI 29th NOVEMBER	8.45-12noon	<b>Café open</b>
	7.00pm	<b>Prayers</b>
	7.30pm	<b>Contemplative Compline</b>
SAT 30th NOVEMBER	10.00am	<b>Advent Quiet Day</b>
	10.30am	<b>Garden Talk</b>
SUN 1st DECEMBER	10.30am	<b>Informal Worship, Preparing for revival</b> Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Clive Collier
	7.00pm	<b>Evening Service</b> (Refreshments at 6.30pm) <b>Preparing for Revival</b> Leader: Phil Trout Preacher: Ian Biscoe

**Website:** [www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk](http://www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk) **Church Office:** **01869 320021**

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**All notices to Admin Team by 7pm Wednesday**