

Focus February 2021



Northall Baptist Church – 200 years and still going.

A little Church with strong local links.

Light in the Darkness

Over the Christmas and New Year we have had our attention drawn two or three times to the passage in John 1 v 4 & 5. 'In Him was life and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it'.

It was part of the message about Jesus birth – The Word became Flesh.

We are in the darkest part of the year – very late sunrise and very early sunset. Some people suffer from 'SAD', Seasonal Affective Disorder because of the dreary conditions. Jesus is the Light of the World and can change how we feel.

A poem written by Stephen S. a resident in a Christian drug and alcohol centre in 2020 had experienced a great change in his life, having put his trust in Jesus and wrote:

Out of the darkness and into the light, you are my guide, you are my sight
When I was down in the depths of despair, you never left me, you were always there.
You gave me rest underneath your wing, you gave my heart a new song to sing.
In my darkest hour you called my name, you gave me life, you took my shame.
You held me up when I was weak, Oh Lord my God, 'tis you I seek.
You are my rock, You are my shield, in your mighty name I gladly yield.
You placed your spirit inside my soul, by your righteous hand You made me whole.
You give me strength to face each day, you are my light, you are my way.

So Jesus can shine the light, his light to save you, just as Stephen found when he was rescued from the despair he speaks of. In these difficult times, a light at the end of the tunnel is a hope for a brighter future.

We are approaching Pancake Day (Shrove Tuesday) on Tuesday 16th February and Christians celebrate Lent beginning the following day, Wednesday 17th February leading up to Easter. We are hoping to run our Lent study sessions, usually shared with other Churches, on Zoom this year. Please let me know if you would like to join us.

We are continuing our Sunday services on Zoom for the foreseeable future at 11 am. If you would like to join in the worship, music and song, you'll get a very warm welcome. Please ring the number below or contact us via our website.

For those interested in the history of Northall Baptist Church, a free copy of the booklet, Rebels in Green Pastures can be supplied or downloaded from our website: <http://northallbaptistchurch.org/>



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