

# ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON BULLETIN

## Sunday 12th March 2023, Third Sunday of Lent



Readings for today: *Exodus 17 vs 1-7; John 4 vs 5-42*



Dear Friends,

How do you picture God? An almost impossible question to answer. But, thinking about how God looks to us - made a little easier if you think of some of His characteristics - was the start of the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of our Lent Course based around the book and film, 'The Shack'. Various pictures, images, thoughts were suggested - including, of course, having a beard - a quite traditional sort of image! But how can we even begin to imagine what God looks like? In 'The Shack', the three Persons of the Trinity are pictured in perhaps surprising ways - but I am not telling you how here, as you might like to read the book or watch the film for yourself, if you have not already done so! But I think most of those taking part in the Course, last Sunday evening, agreed that the portrayal of God, especially God the Father, although different and unexpected, was very helpful to them.

Whilst we cannot know what God actually looks like, we can understand something of what He is like from the Bible and through Jesus. It is about relationship; our having and building up a personal relationship with God, especially through prayer. Our spending time with Him, through prayer, talking with Him, listening to Him, bringing everything to Him in prayer. Nothing is too large or too small for Him to be involved in, interested in, because He cares for us, wants us to share our everyday life with Him. He does already know about everything that is going on in our lives, but He also wants us to talk to Him about it.

So, this Lent, may we all seek to build up our relationship with God, whether or not we are taking part in 'The Shack' Lent Course or using the 'Dust and Glory' booklet. That this season of Lent may be a time of deepening faith for us; of our drawing closer to our loving God, and coming to know Him more. **Geraldine**



**COMING UP AT ST DENYS THIS WEEK:**

**Thursday 9th & 16th 10.45am (after Holy Communion)** Lent Course church

**Thursday 9th & 16th 7pm Choir rehearsal** in the church

**Friday 10th & 17th 10am Musical Toddlers Group** in the parish centre

**Friday 10th 7pm Youth Music Evening** in the church

**Saturday 11th St. Peter's Church Alpha Spirit Away Day** in parish centre

**Sunday 12th 10am Holy Communion** in church and on Zoom (password available from Qyan) **Café Church 3pm** in the parish centre

**Sunday 12th Lent Course 6.30pm** in church

**Monday 13th 2.30pm Arbor House Service** all welcome

**Tuesday 14th 9am Krishna Avanti School Visit** to the church

**Tuesday 14th 7.30pm Cruse Bereavement Group** meet in the parish centre

**Wednesday 15th 9am Krishna Avanti School Visit** to the church

**Wednesday 15th 10am Evington Family History Group** in the parish centre

**Wednesday 15th 2.30pm Evington History & Heritage Group** parish centre

**Friday 17th Youth Club 7pm** in the parish centre

**Saturday 18th 2pm Faith and Friendship Group** in the parish centre

**Morning Prayer 9am Monday and Thursday only** in church

**Open Church Thursday 9am—12 noon with 10am Holy Communion (said)** church and parish centre, free wi-fi and refreshments

**Lent Course 2023: The Shack** Group A: continuing in person in church, or via Zoom, Meeting ID: 841 3387 6616) 12th and 26th March, 2nd April. Each meeting in church, 6.30pm—8pm. Group B: continuing in person on 16th, 23rd, 30th March after the 10am Communion service in church.

**Remember!** Tomorrow (Monday), a service will take place at Arbor House at 2.30pm, to which all are welcome. Please do come along and join our clergy and the residents in worship.

**Morning Prayer** will NOT take place on Tuesday and Thursday of this week.

**Help Needed!** Can you, or anyone you know, help to audit the church accounts for 2022? If you are able to assist in this way, please speak to Michael, Treasurer, who will be happy to discuss what is needed further. Thank you.

**05/04/23 6.30pm** Don't miss this important Holy Week service in church.



**Schools this Easter - Help needed!** Once again, we will be welcoming our local primary schools to St. Denys this Easter. For this important missional opportunity, we need YOU to help make it happen. Below are the dates and approximate times the schools will be with us (or us with them). Each visit needs up to six or more volunteers who are prepared to help present a part of the Easter story to a small group of, what has always been, lovely and interested children.

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March Krishna Avanti (foundation) 9.00am - 10.00am

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March Krishna Avanti (foundation) 9.00am -10.00am

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March Linden (Yr4) 10.00am-11.00am and 1.30pm-2.30pm

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March Oaklands (visiting the school) 9.00am-11.00am

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March Oaklands (visiting St. Denys) 9.30am -11.30am

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March Krishna Avanti (Yr1) 10.00am-11.00am and 1.00pm

If you think you can help, or want to find out a bit more, then please contact or speak to Mark. If you can't help directly then please do pray for us and the children who will be visiting. **Mark**

**Quiet Day Retreat** on Thursday 30th March at the Stable House, Kilworth. Places are still available at a cost of £30. Please speak privately to me if you want to go but need help with the cost. Lifts will be provided. It would be lovely for more people to join us. **Mark**



**Development of the old St Denys Youth Centre** You are warmly invited to a **Community Consultation at St Denys Church on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April between 10.30am and 12 noon** so that you can hear about plans for the development of the site of the old youth centre which sits on the church car park adjacent to the Village Hall. Working with One Roof Leicester, the proposal is to use the site for four modular homes to help those who have experienced homelessness to rebuild and transform their lives with appropriate support and care. Feel free to call in at any point between 10.30am and 12 noon on 1<sup>st</sup> April to talk informally to representatives from New Meaning Foundation who construct the proposed modular homes, staff and trustees from One Roof Leicester, as well as existing residents of similar properties. Refreshments will be available throughout the morning. Church members are warmly invited to attend too.

**Coronation of King Charles III** This historic event will take place on Saturday 6th May and will be shown in full in St. Denys on the big screen. We hope to provide tea and cake but we would be grateful for offers of help with both of these things. All are welcome to come and share in what will be a fabulous occasion. Please contact Qyan or Kimberley if you can assist. Thank you.

*Lord, as we prepare to mark once again, your death and passion, we earnestly pray for the people of Ukraine in their pain and grave distress, suffering immensely due to Russian barbarism. We lift to you those who have been killed and seriously injured and the whole population who have had their lives turned upside down by this war. We don't fully understand why, but Lord, visit them we pray, may they feel your love. We cry out to you to end this evil. May we learn to lay at the foot of the cross, all the sins of the world, trusting in you. We also pray for those who have suffered terribly in the earthquakes and many aftershocks in Turkey and Syria. May the nations of the world acknowledge their moral responsibility to provide aid and practical help so that the population can begin the long process of rebuilding their lives as much as they can. Amen.*

**Collect for the Third Sunday of Lent** Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Pray for the sick:** Mark Bulbeck, Mick Clay, Ann Dixon, Gwilym Edmonson-Jones, Susan Hall, Roy Hammond, Marion Heygate, Roman Orzel, Suzanne Watson **Pray for those who mourn** including the family and friends of Nigel King and all those who have died from Covid 19, also those killed in the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.



**Revd Anthony (Vicar)** 0116 2155500 [vicar@stdenys.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stdenys.org.uk) (not Tues, Weds or Fri)

**Mark (Curate)** 07534 805454 [m.batchelor@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:m.batchelor@hotmail.co.uk) (not Fridays)

**Gerry (Churchwarden)** 07531 548793 [geraldinegoode368@btinternet.com](mailto:geraldinegoode368@btinternet.com)

**Sian (Reader)** 07538 756709 [sian.rigby2@outlook.com](mailto:sian.rigby2@outlook.com)

**Geraldine (Reader)** 0116 2737717

**Janette (Safeguarding Officer)** 0116 2414051 [janpears13@aol.com](mailto:janpears13@aol.com)

**Administrator (Qyan)** 07803 828454 [office@stdenys.org.uk](mailto:office@stdenys.org.uk)

St. Denys website, including the Giving Links for Church and Youth Work:

[www.stdenys.org.uk](http://www.stdenys.org.uk)

