

# ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN

## Sunday 18th February 2024, 1st Sunday of Lent



*Readings for 10am: Genesis 9 vs 8-17; Mark 1 vs 9-15*

*Readings for 4pm: Genesis 2 vs 15-17, ch 3 vs 1-7; Luke 13 vs 31—end*

Dear Friends, I can hardly believe that I am writing this - I have made it through half an academic year at theological college! Last week I spoke about the transfiguration and how we all have mountains to climb in our lives. College has certainly felt like a hard climb after not studying since I was sixteen!

This week marks a pause in my academic studies as it is half term in Nottingham, and it could not have come at a better time as I am in need of a bit of rest! I am reminded of my favourite hymn 'Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy one is here'. Life can be so busy that it is important to take time to rest.

Lent is a time for us to look at our faith and reflect on any areas in our lives that need to become more Christ like. I would like to encourage you this Lent to take time to be still, and rest in God's presence. For me, I like to put my feet up, listen to worship songs and pray whilst curled up on the sofa with Elsa, my dog. I find that regularly allowing myself to be still actually restores me and brings me back in line with Christ.

At the end of each day, I like to reflect on something called the 'Prayer of Examen', there are different ways to do this, but I ask 3 simple questions:

1. Where has God been at work today in my life? Give him thanks.
2. Has there been any difficult moments where I have not been Christ like? Ask for God's forgiveness.
3. Think about the day ahead and pray through any appointments or meetings.

My prayer this Lent is that we would all take time to rest and draw closer to Christ so that we can reflect his character and nature in our community. Amen.

**Kimberley**



## COMING UP AT ST DENYS THIS WEEK:

**Thursday 15th 2pm Private Booking** in the parish centre

**Thursday 15th 7pm Choir rehearsal** in church

**Friday 16th 10am Musical Toddlers** meet in the parish centre

**Friday 16th 7pm Youth Club** meet in the parish centre

**Sunday 18th 10am Holy Communion** in church & on Zoom ID 820 0369 6332

(password from Qyan) **4pm Evensong** in the church

**Monday 19th 8am Private Booking** in the parish centre

**Monday 19th 2pm Monday Meet** meet in the parish centre

**Tuesday 20th 10am Coffee, Cake and Fellowship** meet in the parish centre

**Tuesday 20th 7.30pm Cruse Bereavement Group** meet in church & parish centre

**Wednesday 21st 7pm Journey in Faith Course** meet in the parish centre

**Thursday 22nd 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group** meet in the parish centre

**Thursday 22nd 2pm Private Booking** in the parish centre

**Morning Prayer** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9am in church.

**Thursday 10am Holy Communion (BCP said)** in church

**Open Church 9am—12noon** Free wi-fi, refreshments, chat! All welcome.

**Evensong** will be held on Sunday evening (18th) at 4pm. It will be live streamed on Zoom (same log in details as for the morning service).

**Lent** This year we are taking a theme of ‘Loving my Neighbour’ and discussing where this will lead us to. Home groups are restarting for this season with Gail’s group from Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February at 2.30pm. Viv’s group will begin to meet from Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30am.

**Online Lent Group** If you are unable to make it to one of the two Lent home groups then there is an online group meeting over Zoom on Mondays through Lent. The first one will be this Monday 19th February starting at 7.30pm and finishing at 8.30pm. We will start by discussing the first chapter from our Lent book ‘Loving My Neighbour’ entitled ‘Loving in Truth.’ Don’t worry too much if you are unable to do the reading ahead of then, as we shall begin with a summary. The log-in details are below:

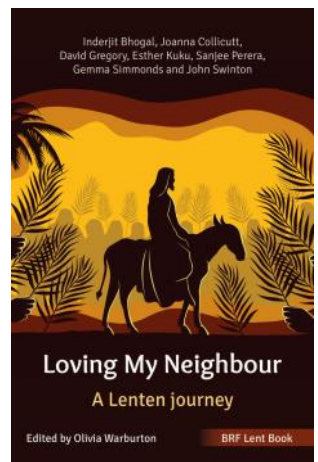
Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88259032868?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88259032868?pwd=dVBjRWxvemZKNmhEYzF1REN5dTFCUT09)

[pwd=dVBjRWxvemZKNmhEYzF1REN5dTFCUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88259032868?pwd=dVBjRWxvemZKNmhEYzF1REN5dTFCUT09)

Meeting ID: 882 5903 2868

Passcode: 1219



**Our Lent book** is titled 'Loving My Neighbour, A Lenten Journey' It has seven chapters that lead us up to, and then into Easter, each contributed by a different author. We will be discussing a chapter each week, so it is important that as many of us as possible get access to a copy. I have already ordered several copies, and these are available to purchase at the reduced price of £8.64. If you talk to Mark, he can order further copies in this way. If you prefer to get your own, then there are copies available from Christian Resources at St. Martin's House in the city (at a slightly higher price) or, you could order your own copy to be delivered to your home from the online Christian book seller: eden.co.uk

**I am still in need of people to join the intercessions rota** for Sunday morning services and/or monthly Evensong services. If this is something you would like to consider, please get in touch with me. Many thanks. **Qyan**

**The next film evening** at St. Peter's Church, Highfields will show Oppenheimer, the breathtaking global phenomenon, on Saturday 17th February. It begins at 6pm in the church and is FREE! Refreshments are provided.

**Holy Week Devotion, Singers Still Needed!** Save the date! On Tuesday 26th March, during Holy Week, St. Denys will host a performance of a beautiful choral work entitled 'Passiontide.' Rehearsals continue this Thursday 15th Feb. Attending as many of the remaining rehearsals as possible is necessary. Thank you, **Qyan**



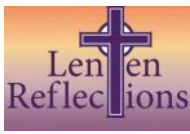
**A further two beautiful flower creations made by Kimberley Tyler at her flower class.**



**Collect for the First Sunday of Lent** Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Pray for the sick:** Brenda Bedingfield, Paul Cavanagh, Pat Davies, Ann Dixon, Marion Heygate, Roy Lee, Janette Pearson, Sian Rigby, Jessica Saul, Andrew (Andy) White **Pray for those who mourn including the family and friends of Revd Peter Blackman, Thomas Drake**





## Lenten Poem by Ann Weems

Lent is a time to take time to let the power  
of our faith story take hold of us,  
a time to let the events get up  
and walk around in us,  
a time to intensify our living unto Christ,  
a time to hover over the thoughts of our hearts,  
a time to place our feet in the streets of  
Jerusalem or to walk along the sea and  
listen to his Word,  
a time to touch his robe  
and feel the healing surge through us,  
a time to ponder and a time to wonder....

Lent is a time to allow  
a fresh new taste of God!  
Perhaps we're afraid to have time to think,  
for thoughts come unbidden.  
Perhaps we're afraid to face our future  
knowing our past.  
Give us courage, O God,  
to hear your Word  
and to read our living into it.  
Give us the trust to know we're forgiven  
and give us the faith  
to take up our lives and walk.

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(not Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Fridays)

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

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

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

