

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN

Sunday 3rd March 2024, 3rd Sunday of Lent



Readings for today: Exodus 20 vs 1-17; John 2 vs 13-22

Dear Friends, it might be stating the obvious, but we live in a massively imperfect world, in which it is often difficult to maintain, develop and practise our faith as Christians. Many of us would claim to truly believe, despite the questions we may have and the questioning by others we experience, and the doubts that we sometimes allow to fester. But we shouldn't beat ourselves up about that, no-one's faith is perfect! However, we must make the effort to improve!

The one thing we must always hold dear is that our Lord and Saviour is different to everyone else and can impact people's lives in a way others simply cannot. It is Jesus that brings hope in desperate situations, Jesus who alleviates sorrow, Jesus who brings peace in turbulent times and Jesus who shows love where hatred reigns.

We only have to listen to the news to see just how dangerous and divisive our world has become, to witness man's inhumanity to man, and the terrible consequences on the lives of innocent human beings. I don't know about you, but I constantly think and worry about the various conflicts going on in the world right now and the potential dangers for us all as a result, the damage humankind is doing to the environment – every time I drive my car I feel guilty - and the overwhelming feeling of helplessness I feel when I realise that, in reality, there is little I can do about most things! The weaknesses and failings in my own Christian journey concern me too. Does any of this resonate with you?

The truth is, what we must do in this world, is to cling on to is Jesus and his love, the only one pure and holy, blameless in everything. He is our only hope, the 'last throw of the dice' as it were. We need the qualities he has, right now.

This Lent, however you are spending it, whether giving anything up or taking things on with conviction, as we journey to Good Friday when Jesus made that awful full and final sacrifice for each and every one of us, to take away our sin, I urge you above all to constantly *pray*. Pray like you never have before. For it is only by prayer that we can build up and improve our faith and it is only prayer and true faith in him, that can give us the hope of a better world. The need for prayer is urgent.

In God we *must* trust. Please also hold in your prayers the forthcoming Easter school visits to our church, an important part of our ministry. With every blessing, **Qyan**

COMING UP AT ST DENYS THIS WEEK:

Thursday 29th (Feb) 7pm Choir rehearsal in church

Sunday 3rd March 10am Matins in church & on Zoom ID 820 0369 6332

(password from Qyan) **3pm Informal Holy Communion** in church or parish centre

Monday 4th 8am Private Booking in the parish centre

Monday 4th 9.30am Linden Primary School visit the church

Monday 4th 2pm Monday Meet meet in the parish centre

Tuesday 5th 8am Private Booking in the parish centre

Tuesday 5th 1.30pm Near Neighbours meet in the parish centre

Tuesday 5th 7.30pm Cruse Bereavement Group meet in church & parish centre

Wednesday 6th 7pm Journey in Faith Course meet in the parish centre

Thursday 7th 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group meet in the parish centre

Thursday 7th Private Booking in the parish centre

Thursday 7th 7pm Choir rehearsal in church

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.

Whilst both Churchwardens and the Treasurer are away due to holidays and illness, for the next two weeks, please contact Qyan if you need to get in touch about anything. He will then direct you to the right person if he cannot help further himself. Thank you.



Qyan and Kay would like to thank all those who have given all good wishes and congratulations following the occasion of their engagement on Valentine's Night just past. It is much appreciated. Thank you.

Film Night will show Forest Gump on Saturday 2nd March at 6pm in St. Peter's Church, Highfields. FREE entry and refreshments. All welcome.

Informal Holy Communion will take place in the parish centre on Sunday 3rd March at 3pm. All welcome.

Choral Evensong will take place this coming Sunday 3rd March at 4pm in St. John the Baptist Church, Billesdon. With full choir, organ and congregational hymns. All are very welcome.



Last Orders! Join Reverends Anthony and Mark and others in the Cedars for a pint and chat on Sunday 3rd March at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Lent Home Groups ‘Loving my Neighbour’ continue. Viv’s group is on Tuesdays at 10.30am. If you can’t attend, there is a group held over Zoom every Monday at 7.30pm, log in: Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88259032868?pwd=dVBjRWxvemZKNmhEYzF1REN5dTFcUT09> Meeting ID: 882 5903 2868 Passcode: 1219

Did you know? Leicester Cathedral are currently holding a series of FREE lunchtime professional music concerts on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. Starting at 12.30pm they last approximately 45 minutes. The next concert is on Monday 11th March and will feature local Mezzo-Soprano Avalon Summerfield and pianist Jonathan Jarvis who featured in our Music festival series last September with Erica and James.

Passiontide For Holy Week, please record in your diaries, the several services taking place in St. Denys, including on Tuesday 26th March at 7.30pm, a deeply moving performance of ‘Passiontide’ by local composer Simon Mold, with full choir including members of our own congregation, soloists, and organ accompanying.



Flower creation by Kimberley Tyler

God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him, should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3 v 16.

Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand, the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land; a home within a wilderness, a rest upon the way, from burning heat at noon-tide and the burden of the day. **Elizabeth C. Clephane (1830—1869)**

Holy Week and Easter Services in St. Denys Church

24th March, Palm Sunday, 10am, Holy Communion with Liturgy of the Palms
and dramatized Passion reading

Monday 25th March, 6pm, Compline

Tuesday 26th March, 7.30pm, Performance of 'Passiontide'

Wednesday 27th March, 6pm, Compline

Maundy Thursday 28th March, 10am, Holy Communion

Good Friday 29th March, 2pm, The Last Hour

Easter Sunday, 31st March, 7am, Dawn service

Easter Sunday, 31st March, 10am, Holy Communion

*We sing the praise of him who died, of him who died upon the cross; the
sinner's hope, though all deride, will turn to gain this bitter loss.*

*Inscribed upon the cross we see In shining letters 'God is love'; He bears our
sins upon the tree; He brings us mercy from above.*

*The cross! It takes our guilt away: It holds the fainting spirit up; it cheers with
hope the gloomy day, and sweetens every bitter cup.*

Thomas Kelly (1769—1855)

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 perfection we are
promised in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pray for the sick: Brenda Bedingfield, Pat Davies, Ann
Dixon, Marion Heygate, Roy Lee, Janette Pearson,
Barbara Pinder, Sian Rigby, Jessica Saul, Andrew (Andy)
White **Pray for those who mourn including the family
and friends of anyone we know personally who has died**



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

www.stdenys.org.uk