

# ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN

## Sunday 10th March 2024, 4th Sunday of Lent, Mothering Sunday



*Readings for today: 1 Samuel 1 vs20—end; John 19 vs 25b-27*

Dear Friends, a theme that keeps cropping up this Lent, is love – God’s amazing love for us; His faithful, never changing love; and our love for God and for our neighbour. Not surprising, really, that our thoughts keep turning to love, as God is love. We love God in response to Him, to His love for us. He has loved us from the beginning, knowing us before we were born. It was He who created us; He formed us, knit us together, as we read in that beautiful Psalm, 139. And in Lent, as we reflect on our life, our relationship with God, so it is a time to seek to draw closer to Him; seeking His will for our lives, whatever stage we may be at in our life and in our journey of faith.

There may be times when we do not feel close to God. But again, as we are reminded by the Psalmist, there is nowhere that we can go, to be out of God’s presence. Whether it feels that God is close or not, we need to remember that promise of Jesus, in the closing words of St Matthew’s Gospel, that he is with us, always. All around us, we see signs of God’s love for us, and for the world, in and through His works of creation. This is a beautiful time of year, with all the flowering bulbs, the blossom, all the new life bursting forth.

This Sunday is Mothering Sunday; a day to remember and give thanks, especially for our mothers, but also our families, those who love us, care for us; those whom we love; and also, to give thanks for the Mother Church. For some people, the day will have a tinge of sadness to it, remembering those whom we love but see no more. But we can still give thanks, for those relationships, for all the love shared; for all they have meant to us.

Let us thank God for love, and that He is love.

Love in abundance.  
God’s love is all around us.  
Open your eyes, see.

**Geraldine**



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

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

**Thursday 7th 2pm Private Booking** in the parish centre

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

**Friday 8th 10am Musical Toddlers** meet in the parish centre

**Friday 8th 7pm Youth Club** meets in the parish centre

**Sunday 10th March Mothering Sunday Holy Communion 10am** in church & on Zoom ID 820 0369 6332 (password from Qyan)

**Monday 11th 8am Private Booking** in the parish centre

**Tuesday 12th 10am IME Curate Training** in the parish centre

**Tuesday 12th 7.30pm Cruse Bereavement Group** meet in church & parish centre

**Wednesday 13th 2.30pm Evington History and Heritage Group** in parish centre

**Wednesday 13th 7pm Journey in Faith Course** meet in the parish centre

**Thursday 14th 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group** meet in the parish centre

**Thursday 14th Private Booking** in the parish centre

**Thursday 14th 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.

**Bishop of Leicester's Lent Appeal for Child Refugees** If you would like to respond to this cause, please visit the following link:

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/about-us/lent-appeal>

**Morning Coffee Concert** Saturday 9th March, St. John the Baptist Church, Billesdon. Organist Ron Berry and Dr Simon Ainge (singing Tenor) perform a varied programme of light music. Refreshments served from 10.30am, concert begins at 11am and lasts for 30—45 minutes. NO CHARGE, all welcome!

**Film Night will show 'The Incredibles'** on Saturday 9th March at 6pm in St. Peter's Church, Highfields. FREE entry and refreshments. All welcome.



**Evington History and Heritage Group** meet on Wednesday 13th March at 2.30pm in the parish centre. Mark Temple will speak about Beaumanor's Y Station, the Secrets of the World War 2 Listening Service and its links to Bletchley Park. Members free. Visitors £3 at the door. 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 on 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.

**Minster Communities** - We have received an invitation from the Archdeacon to begin the process of forming a Minster Community. There will be a lot of meetings and discussions over the next year or so, although final decisions will rest with the PCC. *The PCC is currently small and overstretched and so we are appealing for more members for this important period in the church's life.* If you feel God might be calling you to represent St Denys in the discussions about Minster Communities, please speak to Anthony before the next PCC meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> March. Thank you.

**Deanery Synod Meeting** will take place on Tuesday 19th March, 7.30pm in the Duchy Room, Wyggestons, 160 Hinckley Road, Leicester LE3 0UX. The theme will be 'Making Church Welcome for all.' This is an open meeting to which all are invited to attend.

**'Stories from the Road'** 'Observations from the saddle of an aging Harley' by Revd Nigel Rostock. *"An honest, humorous and at times scary account of how God has inspired, guided and protected him on his journeys. His faith shines through like a light in the darkness."* Bishop Martyn. Our former Curate and member of the



motorcycling God's Squad, will be visiting St. Denys to sign copies of his new book on Wednesday 1st May at 4pm. This follows the official launch at the church where he is Vicar, St. Peter's Church, Woodshawe Rise, Braunstone LE3 1RH on Saturday 27th April at 4pm. Why not try and attend on one of the dates? It promises to be truly fascinating.

## **The Carpenter, a beautiful poem written by our very own Ruth Burford**

Oh, what fateful irony  
That thou shouldst die upon a tree.  
Hands that made  
A bench for rest,  
A chair to sit,  
A bed for ease.  
Hands that sawed,  
Hands that planed.  
Side was pierced,  
Thorns bore down.  
Now you wear a brighter crown.  
Saviour loved,  
Saviour dear,  
Be thou forever near us.



**Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Lent** Merciful Lord, you know our struggle to serve you: when sin spoils our lives and overshadows our hearts, come to our aid and turn us back to you again; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

**Collect for Mothering Sunday** God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through 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](http://www.stdenys.org.uk)

