

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN
Sunday 2nd March 2025, Sunday next
before Lent



*Readings for today: Exodus 34 vs 29-end; 2 Corinthians 3 v 12-
ch 4 v 2; Luke 9 vs 28-36 [37-43a]*

Dear Friends, while we have been in a period of vacancy without our own vicar or curate, we have been pleased to welcome a priest each Sunday to lead our Holy Communion service. Some we have known, like Sunny George who served as a curate at St Denys, and others we have not known so well or have met for the first time. Each one, however, has brought their own personality to St Denys and it has been a privilege to welcome them all.

We have also continued our Thursday morning services, sometimes with a priest to celebrate Holy Communion and sometimes with Geraldine who has led Morning Prayer. On a recent Thursday morning we were pleased to welcome and meet Rev Dr Vijay Kumar who came to celebrate Holy Communion with us. Vijay has come from Amritsar in North India, serving as a priest there, and has recently been appointed as Pioneer Priest in the parish of The Resurrection, Belgrave. He and his wife have only been in this country a couple of months and are waiting for their teenage son and daughter to join them when they get their visas.

Vijay preached on the Gospel story of the Stilling of the Storm, when the disciples were terrified that they were all going to drown. Jesus was with them in the boat sleeping, so the disciples immediately went to him and woke him up, saying 'Lord, save us for we are perishing!' Jesus commanded the wind and waves to cease and to the disciples' amazement the wind dropped, the sea became calm, and they were safe once again. They were safe because Jesus was in their boat. Vijay's message to us was that we all have difficult times in our lives but if Jesus is in our boat He will protect us and guide us through the hard times, not promising us an easy life, but going through the bad times with us. In a powerful message Vijay prayed for us to have Jesus in our boat throughout our life.



With best wishes, **Ann Bennett**

COMING UP AT ST DENYS:

Thursday 27th 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre

Friday 28th 10am Musical Toddlers meet in the parish centre

Friday 28th 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre

Sunday 2nd March 10am Holy Communion in church, also on Zoom; ID 820 0369 6332 (password from Qyan)

Monday 3rd 8am Private Booking in the parish centre

Monday 3rd 2pm Monday Meet meet in the parish centre

Tuesday 4th 8am Private Booking in the parish centre

Tuesday 4th 7.30pm Lily House Bereavement Support church & parish centre

Wednesday 5th 12pm Best Community Charity Lunch Club in parish centre.

Wednesday 5th 6pm Ash Wednesday Holy Communion with ashing in church

Thursday 6th 10.30 Gentle Exercise Group meet in parish centre

Thursday 6th 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre

diary

Thursday 6th 10am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer, said) in church

Thursday 6th 10am—12noon Open Church in church



Revd Sharon Plant, Assistant Priest at St. Anne's with St. Augustine's, will be returning for the second time, this coming Sunday, 2nd March, 10am, to preside and preach for us. We warmly welcome her back.

Joint Choral Evensong Service on Sunday 2nd March at 4pm in St. Andrew's Church, Old Church Street, Aylestone LE2 8ND. All welcome. Campanologists are welcome to ring the bells for an hour before the service, beginning at 3pm. Light refreshments and nibbles will follow after the service, which will also be a time to chat and get to know more about each other.

Spoilt for Choice! Another Evensong takes place at St. John the Baptist, Billesdon this coming Sunday 2nd March at 4pm, with the choir singing music by composer Dyson and the contemporary composer Karl Jenkins. Organ accompaniment.

Ash Wednesday Holy Communion with the disposition of ashes, will be held on 5th March, 6pm, marking the start of Lent. The Revd Canon Philip Norwood will join us to preside and preach.



Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer, said) will be held on Thursday 6th March at 10am, with Revd Sue Willetts presiding and preaching.

Women's World Day of Prayer Friday 7th March at St. Mary's Church, Brinsmead Road, Knighton LE2 3WG at 2pm and at Stoneygate Baptist Church, 315 London Road, LE2 3ND at 7.30pm. The service this year has been prepared by Christian women from the Cook Islands. Everyone welcome!



IWC (Intercultural Worship Community) Service of Worship

Next week, on Sunday 9th March at 10am, Jessie Tang, Intercultural Worship Community Director, Leicester Diocese, will lead our worship—an informal service with a mix of cultural songs and traditional hymns, readings etc, much to be enjoyed! This builds on St. Denys' status as a partner church to the IWC community in the diocese. Please do come along and experience some of the richness of the variety of worship throughout our Christian community. Please note that there won't be Holy Communion in this service and that it will be the only service in St. Denys that day.

Looking ahead! Evensong in St. Denys will be held on Sunday 23rd March at 4pm, the fourth Sunday of the month, not the week before!

Concerts and Recitals are currently being held at St. James' the Greater, London Road, LE2 1NE, 3pm, as follows: 9th March the University of Leicester Chamber Orchestra, 13th April Knighton Chamber Orchestra, 11th May Mark Trounson Trio (jazz, piano, double bass and drums) and 8th June Organ with Simon Headley. Entry is free (except 13th April), refreshments will be provided.

NEW ELECTORAL ROLL Every six years the Church of England requires that each church carries out a complete renewal of its electoral roll, and that renewal is now taking place. This means that everyone who wishes to continue to be on the electoral roll must reapply.



Everyone on the current roll will receive a letter and an application form. The forms should be returned to Elizabeth Rudge at the church by Easter Sunday, 20th April at the latest.

Applications received after that date will not be entered on the new roll until after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 1st May.

If you are not already on the roll, but would be interested in applying, please contact Elizabeth on elizabeth@rudges.org.uk for an application form or for more details. Thank you.



Lights at Last! At long last we have lighting on the paths around the church. This has only been made possible by people's generosity. We cannot let this milestone go by without giving thanks to those involved. We are planning a 'Songs of Praise and Thanksgiving' service to celebrate this occasion which will be for the whole St Denys family.

We will also be inviting all those people that gave so generously and the designer and contractors who installed the lighting. In addition, we hope to involve those from the wider community. More details will follow.

To ensure we have correct details of those who gave donations please would they contact Michael (Treasurer) or Gerry (Churchwarden) as soon as possible. Thank you.

Prayer Focus (with thanks to Geraldine):

Sunday: Thank God for His amazing love for us.
Pray we may reflect God's love into the lives of those around us.

Monday: Thank God for employment.
Pray for the unemployed.

Tuesday: Thank God for family and friends.
Pray for the lonely.

Wednesday: Thank God that He never gives up on us.
Pray that this Lent, we may seek to draw closer to Him.

Thursday: Thank God for His compassion.
Pray for those whose lives are upended by circumstances.

Friday: Thank God for opportunities.
Pray for Christians in the workplace.

Saturday: Thank God for the gift of music.
Pray for those who use this gift in His service; and all musicians.



Prayer should be the key of the day and the lock of the night. Thomas Fuller (1608 - 1661) English writer

Lent Resources 2025 Though St. Denys isn't holding Lent House Groups or separate Lent Bible studies this year, there are a number of resources available to us, to help you in your journey through Lent, which begins next Wednesday 5th March.



We prepare for, perhaps what is *the* most important part of our Christian life, forty days of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, a time of repentance and reflection, as we look towards the glorious resurrection hope of Easter.

The theme this year is '**Living Hope**' and we are encouraged to put down deep roots of hope by connecting with God who is with us at all times. Shortly, 'Living Hope' booklets, suitable for adults and children, will be available which contain reflections and prayer suggestions etc. Please do take a copy when they arrive. If you can't get to church and would like a copy, please contact me and I will endeavour to get a copy to you.

If you Google 'Church of England Lent Resources 2025' a veritable feast of information can be accessed including links to all the church's social media platforms, the Everyday Faith App and weekly online services of worship where further Lent material can be found. You can also sign up to receive Lent reflection e-mails if desired.

*1. Forty days and forty nights
You were fasting in the wild;
Forty days and forty nights
Tempted, and yet undefiled.*

*2. Sunbeams scorching all the day;
Chilly dew-drops nightly shed;
Prowling beasts about your way;
Stones your pillow; earth your bed.*

*3. Shall not we your sorrow share,
And from earthly joys abstain,
Fasting with unceasing prayer,
Glad with you to suffer pain?*



Words: George Hunt Smyttan (1822-1870)

Lent and Easter Services

Ash Wednesday 5th March, 6pm, Holy Communion with ashing
Thursday 6th March, 10am, Holy Communion (said Book of Common Prayer)
Thursday 13th March, 10am, Holy Communion (said Book of Common Prayer)
 Sunday 16th March, 10am, Holy Communion
Thursday 20th March, 10am, Holy Communion (said Book of Common Prayer)
 Sunday 23rd March, 10am, Holy Communion
 Sunday 23rd March, 4pm, Evensong
Thursday 27th March, 10am, Holy Communion (said Book of Common Prayer)
 Sunday 30th March, 10am, Mothering Sunday Holy Communion
 Thursday 3rd April, 10am, *to be announced*
 Sunday 6th April, 10am, Passiontide begins, Holy Communion
Thursday 10th April, 10am, Holy Communion (said Book of Common Prayer)
Sunday 13th April, 10am, Palm Sunday with Procession and Holy Communion
 Monday-Wednesday 14th—16th April, 6pm, Compline
 Thursday 17th April, 10am, Holy Communion
 Good Friday 18th April, 10am, Crafty Church Activity Morning
 Good Friday, 18th April, 2pm, The Last Hour, *to be confirmed*
Easter Sunday, 20th April, 6am DAWN service, Holy Communion
 Easter Day, 20th April, 10am, Holy Communion

Collect for Sunday next before Lent Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts, and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please continue to pray for Ukraine/Russia, Israel/Palestine, Sudan, Myanmar, Syria and other places across the world suffering conflict and war.

Pray for the sick: Pat Davies, Ann Dixon, Zak Gardner, Alison Keddilty, Linda Perks, Kimberley Tyler, Andy White, Richard Williams. **Pray for those who mourn including the family and friends of** Josephine Butler, and anyone we know personally.



Gerry Goode (Churchwarden) 07531 548793 churchwardens@stdenys.org.uk

Sian Rigby (Reader & Temporary Safeguarding Officer) 07538 756709

Geraldine (Reader & Pioneer) 0116 2737717

Qyan (Administrator) 07803 828454 office@stdenys.org.uk

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

www.stdenys.org.uk

