



St. Luke's Church,

Maidenhead



www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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Week commencing: 7th March 2021

The Third Sunday in Lent

We are already approaching the half-way point in Lent. How have you been keeping it this year?

Do continue to think about your own keeping of Lent as a time to grow with Jesus, perhaps making time to read a spiritual book, or a Gospel, or use your regular walks as a time to appreciate creation, or to pray for the people on the streets you walk on. You may be finding the Mindfulness March calendar poster helpful, or be receiving the daily Come and See email from the diocese, or using the daily thought booklet that we delivered.

Morning Prayer continues daily, Tuesday – Saturday on Zoom at 9am; **Evening Prayer**, Friday at 5pm. Why not join in during Lent?

Sundays at Six continues on Zoom at 6pm on first and third Sundays each month. The next will be tonight, and then 21st March (when we are invited to the Riding Lights Passion Play, see later).

Roots at Home: <https://www.rootsontheweb.com/media/22434/roots-at-home-7-march.pdf>

Thought for the week: the temple in Jerusalem was the very centre of religious life at the time of Jesus. More than that, people gathered there for many reasons and it was overlooked by the towers of the Roman garrison, keeping an eye out to keep the (limited) peace. This photo of a large scale model of the city at the time of Jesus is in the grounds of the Israel museum in Jerusalem.



There were three courtyards, each becoming more holy as they moved towards the central 'holy of holies'. The outer court was open to absolutely anyone and a hive of activity as people changed Roman money for Jewish coins (with no images on them) which could be used as offerings, and bought birds or animals for sacrifice from stalls. All these tradespeople needed to be there.

What made Jesus see red was not their presence but their shady practices – selling less than perfect birds and animals for sacrifice at high prices, exorbitant exchange rates. He wanted all people to have access to worship God – at the 'price' they could afford.

Do we place unfair restrictions on people who seek to worship God today? Do we openly welcome all into our church building (when it is open!) and to our church family? It is always good to check ourselves from time to time.

Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 7th March are:

Sunday	Psalm 18. 1-25	Philippians 1.1-26	
Monday	Psalm 5	Jeremiah 11.1-17	John 7. 37-52
Tuesday	Psalm 9	Jeremiah 11.18-12.6	John 7.53-8.11
Wednesday	Psalm 38	Jeremiah 13.1-11	John 8.12-30
Thursday	Psalm 56	Jeremiah 14	John 8.31-47
Friday	Psalm 22	Jeremiah 15. 10-end	John 8. 48-end
Saturday	Psalm 31	Jeremiah 16. 10-17.4	John 9. 1-17

Prayer suggestions for this week:

- Give thanks for vaccines for Covid19 and pray for those rolling out the programme
- For all children staff returning to school tomorrow, especially for St. Luke's and St. Piran's schools
- For our government, and our nation, as we slowly 'unlock'; for patience
- For every family bereaved through Covid 19, and all others too
- For our keeping of a holy Lent, and our engagement with the LLF materials
- That we might be kind to each other – in 'thought, word and deed'
- For all NHS staff, carers, Care Home staff and those caring for the sick
- For our care for God's world
- For our prayer shawl ministry, and those who will receive shawls, in love
- For our brothers and sisters of faith at the Synagogue, Mosques, Gurdwara and elsewhere
- For the people of Myanmar, Yemen, Ethiopia, Syria, Armenia and other places of conflict
- Those whose anniversary of baptism falls in March: Olivia Carter, Robyn Nash,
- For all those who live and work in In-the-Ray
- The sick and those who care for them: Monica Olley, Tony Boaks, Mick Curley, Brenda Windass, Katharine McKay
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Stan Swansborough, Mick Hine, Christine Dawson
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in March: Lilian Vizard, Edgar Walford, Anthony Wright, Anna Meredith, Rex Hugo, Audrey Eggleton, Arthur Harris, Brian King, Sandy Raffan, Ernest Gammon, Dora Newcombe, Marjery Lawson, Ellen Ritson, Victor Garroway, Christine Sawyers, Caroline Wood, Robert Russell, Jacqueline Mundy, Alan Moss, Beryl Bintcliffe, Francis (Jack) Garnett, Gillian Sinclair-Hill, Eileen Herbert, Stella Lee, Andrew Curtis.

Rotas for next week: 14th March, Mothering Sunday

Read: Natasha Sloan Intercede: Phyl Sopp

Mothering Sunday Service: given that schools are only just back on Monday, or service for Mothering Sunday will be an All Age Zoom service at 10am, using the usual Sunday link, with the theme: Love and Loss. You may like to have a candle handy to light at home and the order of service will be on the website and sent out next week with the weekly sheet. It will not be possible to offer flowers this year, but there will be a delivery to everyone for Holy Week / Easter.

Our church is floodlit at night.

*This week the floodlighting has been sponsored this week by Kim Rumble:
"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."*

To sponsor the floodlighting just call or email Revd. Sally. There are plenty of weeks available this year.



What's on...

Stan Swansborough, RIP: Stan's funeral takes place at the crematorium on Tuesday 9th March at 1pm. Although only family are able to attend, the service is being streamed. If you would like to 'watch', the link is here: <https://webcast.obitus.com> Username: Qifi1446 Password: 763675
The link is then live for 20 days (but may take 3-4 days to be posted)

There is a link to the funeral notice, for any donations in place of flowers:

<https://www.dignityfunerals.co.uk/funeral-notice/12-02-2021-stanley-hugh-swansborough/>

Jane and Paul plan to hold a Thanksgiving service in church when we are able to do so.

The Lent course: has started on Wednesday mornings at 11 am and Thursday evenings at 7.30 pm for 90 minutes. The two sessions each week will be the same. Zoom links:

Wednesday: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87204057445?pwd=RWtCS2xFejZ5VUcrSDlqeHY4TGFDdz09>

Meeting ID: 872 0405 7445

Passcode: 441510

Thur: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89179240683?pwd=V0d2dVdueWVhOVJxa2NNWDdSeXBOUT09>

Meeting ID: 891 7924 0683

Passcode: 677112

Keeping Lent

We listed suggested reading in previous weekly sheets (back copies available on the website).

Lent Lunches will not be possible again this year, but you are invited to have your own soup, bread and cheese lunch on three Sundays during Lent in place of your usual Sunday roast (or whatever you normally eat on Sundays!) and make a donation to the work of Christian Aid. You can donate via an envelope through the vicarage door, or Richard's door or by bac with the reference: Lent Lunch.

Messy Church: our next session is on Zoom (email Revd. Sally for the link) from 4-5pm today, when we will think about the story of the Lost Son / Forgiving Father. Do let Revd. Sally know if you'd like a craft pack in advance. Then 9th April.

Lent and Holy Week plans more details of services will be released soon but for now, do book in your diaries this Zoom offering.

Daybreak on Good Friday. The Governor's grip on authority is slipping, his wife plagued by dreams, and their servant clearly knows more than she should. Torn between the Capitol, the Sanhedrin & the mob, the lines between personal & political begin to blur. The teacher at the centre of it all remains silent.

Filmed remotely in lockdown, *Breaking Day* is an innovative (online) passion play for Easter 2021, immersing us with stark intimacy in decisions that led to crucifixion.

We will be joining again with our friends at All Saints and ChoGS to offer this, with some worship reflections, at 6pm on Sunday 21st March and 3pm on Tuesday 30th March. Link coming soon.

National Day of Reflection: Tuesday 23rd March marks a year since the start of Lockdown#1. A National Day of Reflection will be kept and the church will be open all day from 10 am – 4 pm. We have so much to be grateful for and folk to remember too. Do consider popping into church at some point to light a candle, be quiet and reflect, or take a flower from the porch.

Prayer Shawl Ministry it is never too late to join in this beautiful simple knitting ministry. Details are on our website and Revd. Terrie can tell you more. Next get together: 3pm, Thursday 18th March:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84874518710?pwd=eFFwSEd5SS9NdmdTdDVIQXICRIBWUT09>

Meeting ID: 848 7451 8710

Passcode: 078376

Church cleaning: in the hope that we can have some in-person worship at Easter we will have a church cleaning party on Friday 26th March from 10 am – midday. Please come along and help out if you can. Face coverings needed and you may wish to bring your own tools.

When your all seems small

'And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.' (Colossians 3:17)

I have often wondered what it is that I can offer God. I am only one person in a vast universe; I am only one life set against all eternity.

But God does not want anything grand from us. God is the loving parent who delights in who we are, as we are - our passions, our interests, our dreams, but also all of the small things.

'Whatever you do' is a reminder that God is not interested in particular types of people doing particular types of things. It is an invitation to give our all to God, even if our all seems small. Do you love gardening? Give that to God. Do you love working out? Give that to God. Do you love accounting (there's bound to be someone out there!) - give that to God. God will love it!

The Examen is a type of prayer to help us keep in a regular rhythm of conversation with God and bring our all before him.

1. Find a quiet place and be still.
2. Begin by giving thanks to God for every detail you can remember over the last few hours.
3. Reflect on how you're currently feeling. Name these emotions and give them to God.
4. Choose one joy or sorrow and lift this to God in prayer.
5. Commit the next few hours to God.

Rosa Camargo de Bravo

Rosa oversees Tearfund's work in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The article above is from the daily Lenten thought emailed by Tear Fund. You may like to sign up to receive these.

Please note that for all Zoom services the links below are being used:

Sunday Morning Worship:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87358197400?pwd=MTFxVINad1R6NEl6cVZ6TVJ5bGlzd09>

Meeting ID: 873 5819 7400

Passcode: 526076

To phone in on Sundays:

- Dial 0 131 460 1196
- It will say 'welcome to Zoom' and ask you for the meeting ID followed by #
- Type in 873 5819 7400 #
- Then it asks you for personal id/participant number but just press #
- Then it asks for password Type in 526076 #
- You are muted so nobody can hear you. You can unmute yourself by pressing *6 (star six)

Zoom Morning Prayer at 9 am Tuesday - Saturday

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81459090925?pwd=Y2hKZkFYZ04zbGZBd1BHcmllldU5Hdz09>

Meeting ID: 814 5909 0925

Passcode: 180609

Zoom Evening Prayer at 5pm on Fridays

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85206769810?pwd=MHBweHA5YVRqemRod1RSR1ITcm5TUT09>

Meeting ID: 852 0676 9810

Passcode: 171263

Sundays at Six:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83960514349?pwd=YUxYSVZSVjF1cDVTdS85cDRIZm95UT09>

Meeting ID: 839 6051 4349

Passcode: 945101

If you know of someone who would like to receive this update and does not have access to the internet, please do print a copy for them. Please note that the church office is open on reduced hours so urgent communication should be to the vicarage telephone and my email. Vicar: The Reverend Sally Lynch (01628) 783033