

16 March 2025,

Second Sunday of Lent



Services today

8am – Holy Communion, (Revd Gordon Briggs)
10am – Holy Communion, (Revd Gordon Briggs)
10am Young Church

Hymns for 10am today:- 259, 478, 56, 235.

Services next week, 23 March

8am – Holy Communion
10am – Holy Communion
10am Young Church

INTERCESSIONS - Our prayers have been asked for Charlie J, Lorna and Charles F, Hazel B, Malcolm W, Jane A, Janine J, Julie M.

COLLECT

Almighty God,
you show to those who are in error the light of your truth,
that they may return to the way of righteousness:
grant to all those who are admitted
into the fellowship of Christ's religion,
that they may reject those things
that are contrary to their profession,
and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

READINGS

Genesis 15: v 1-12, 17-18

God's Covenant with Abram

15 After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."

2 But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"

3 And Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir."

4 And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir."

5 And he brought him outside and said, "Look towards heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be."

6 And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

7 And he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess."

8 But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?"

9 He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon."

10 And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half.

¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him.

¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking firepot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸ On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates,

Luke 13: v 31-35

Lament over Jerusalem

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you."

³² And he said to them, "Go and tell that fox, 'Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course.

³³ Nevertheless, I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the day following, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.'

³⁴ O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it!

How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not!

³⁵ Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'"

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all adversities
which may happen to the body,
and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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YOUNG CHURCH - This Sunday we will talk about how God loves and cares for his children. We will do the song Five Little Ducks in the story time. We will do a wing craft collage to go on our Young Church board and play find the heart game.

PANTO

Many thanks to all who supported St Mary's at the Panto. Your contributions were greatly appreciated. The final total will be announced at church on Sunday. We are very grateful for all the hard work the cast and backroom crew put in to make it a success.

ACTIVITIES

BINGO, Mondays, 7.30pm for 7.45pm start, in the hall; all welcome.

Tuesday, Bible Study Home - We are continuing our look at the charities the church supports. If you'd like to join us **contact Jill on 07812741279**.

Wednesdays, 10am – 11am – "Keep Fit" in the hall with Alice. The classes can be done both seated or standing, so everyone can work at whichever level suits them. First class is free. Call **Alice on 07834362675** for more information

Thursday, 20th March – Emmaus Road Fellowship Group meet in the church at 7.30pm.

Saturday - Annual church spring clean and safety check – from 10am, Please could you spare an hour or two to give us a hand, all help gratefully received.