

# In & around the Benefice....

8th March | Second Sunday of Lent

Our Rector is The Reverend Paula York  
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[www.yardleyhastingsbenefice.co.uk](http://www.yardleyhastingsbenefice.co.uk)



## Worship in our churches ....

### Today.....

|         |                 |                  |
|---------|-----------------|------------------|
| 9.00am  | Holy Communion  | Yardley Hastings |
| 11.00am | Holy Communion  | Castle Ashby     |
| 4.00pm  | Worship For All | Denton           |

### Next Week 15th March, Third Sunday of Lent

|         |  |         |
|---------|--|---------|
| 10.00am | Benefice service<br>- Rev Paula's last service | Grendon |
|---------|--|---------|

### Midweek Services

|      |        |                |         |
|------|--------|----------------|---------|
| Weds | 9.30am | Holy Communion | Grendon |
| Fri  | 9.30am | Morning Prayer | Denton  |

## Please hold in your prayers this week...

- ◇ Those suffering from, affected by or working to prevent the spread of Coronavirus.
- ◇ Those caught up in the bush fires in Australia, the fire fighters, residents and those who are concerned about relatives affected.
- ◇ Persecuted Christians across the world, especially in North Korea
- ◇ Those in residential care and the housebound, among them: Audrey Desborough, Ruth Williams, Gwen York, Ann and Colin Dix
- ◇ Those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, among them: Edith O'Loughlin, Chris Sayles, Tom Stock, Nicholas Vaughan, Freddie Hogan, Diane Claber, Mandy Bates
- ◇ The recently departed, amongst them Edith O'Loughlin, and all who grieve at this time

## LENT LUNCHES, 12-2pm

Please join us for a simple Lent Lunch on:

| Date     | Hosted by  |
|----------|--|
| 12 March | <b>Carole Clark</b> , The Old Quart Pot, Denton, NN7 1DR             |
| 19 March | <b>URC</b> Yardley Hastings  |
| 26 March | <b>Deborah Rush</b> , 26 Main Road, Grendon, NN7 1JW                 |
| 2 April  | <b>Lucy Williamson</b> , 14 Chase Park Rd, Yardley Hastings, NN7 1HD |

Donations to the Daylight Centre gratefully received



## 2020 Lent Course: Matthew's Gospel

Led by **Canon Margaret Johnson**

Every Saturday morning from

**29th February until 4th April**

at the United Reformed Church in  
Yardley Hastings.

Starting at **9.15am** with breakfast

Please do come along to one or all of  
the sessions, everyone is welcome!

For more details please speak to  
Paula, Amanda or Janet.

## Dates for the Diary...

|              |      |             |   |
|--------------|------|-------------|---|
| Weds         | 11th | 7.45pm      | Benefice Choir practice, St Andrew's Yardley Hastings                 |
| Thurs        | 12th | 12.00-2pm   | Lent Lunch at the home of Carole Clark, The Old Quart Pot, Denton     |
| Thurs        | 12th | 6.30-8pm    | Youth Group, St Mary's Grendon  |
| Fri          | 13th | 3.30pm      | After School Club at St Margaret's, Denton                            |
| Sat          | 14th | 9.15am      | Lent Course at the URC, Yardley Hastings - Third of six sessions      |
| Sat          | 14th | 9.30-4pm    | Bishop's Bible Day, Northampton High School, see website for details. |
| Sat          | 21st | 11am-5pm    | Daffodil Festival, Grendon  |
| Sun          | 22nd | 10.30am     | Mothering Sunday service at St Mary's, Grendon                        |
| Weds         | 25th | 10.30am     | Castle Ashby Community Coffee morning, The Buttery, Castle Ashby      |
| Thurs        | 26th | 6.30-8pm    | Youth Group, St Mary's Grendon  |
| <b>April</b> |      |             |   |
| Fri          | 3rd  | 9.30am      | Little Fishes and Health Visitor clinic at St Margaret's, Denton      |
| Fri          | 3rd  | 10.00am-12  | 'The Meeting Place' - Coffee morning, Grendon Village Hall            |
| Tues         | 7th  | 1.00-3.00pm | Carers' group at Yardley Hastings Memorial Hall.                      |
| Weds         | 8th  | 11.00am-12  | Little Fishes, St Mary's Grendon                                      |
| Sat          | 18th | 11am-2pm    | Spring Fair at St Margaret's, Denton                                  |
| Thurs        | 23rd | 6.30-8pm    | Youth Group, St Mary's Grendon  |

## The 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.

**Amen**

*or*

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## First Reading

*Genesis 12: 1-4a*

The Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

*Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17*

What are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of

us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading

*John 3: 1-17*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord**

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Post Communion

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. **Amen**