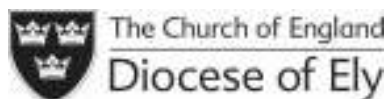


Fulbourn and the Wilbrahams



St Vigor's Fulbourn, St Nicholas' Great Wilbraham,
St John's Little Wilbraham, St George's Six Mile Bottom

3 March 2024: Third Sunday in Lent

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Rather than place Jesus' cleansing of the Temple at the end of Jesus' public ministry, as Matthew, Mark, and Luke do, John places it at the beginning of the story. Jesus is the Lamb of God, as John the Baptist said, who takes away the sin of the world (Jn. 1:29). He is, to return a few verses earlier, the embodiment of "grace upon grace" (1:16). There is no further need for sacrifice; Jesus' incarnate, embodied grace suffices completely. Keep in mind, the Temple had become a marketplace out of necessity. In order to buy the animals for sacrifice, worshippers needed to change their Roman coins for Jewish ones and then purchase whichever animal was called for. Mary and Joseph had done just this when they came up to the Temple at the Purification, and offered two doves. But with Jesus on the scene – the one who embodies abundance having immediately before, at the wedding at Cana taken the waters of purification (also no longer needed) and turned them instead into the wine of celebration – there is no need for changing money, for purchasing animals, for making sacrifice...at all or ever again. In John's version, Jesus doesn't say that the Temple has become a den of robbers; the fact of it being a marketplace is enough. With Jesus we are, John suggests, no longer in the realm of commerce, of exchange, but in the realm of gift, of grace upon grace.



Services in the benefice this coming week

Third Sunday in Lent

8.00 Holy Communion (BCP) F
9:30 'Come and Join' GW
11.00 Parish Communion F
6.00 Evensong F

Wednesday 6 March

9.15 Wild Goose Worship GW

Thursday 7 March

8.30 Morning Prayer F

Friday 8 March

8.30 Morning Prayer F

Fourth Sunday in Lent: Mothering Sunday

9:30 Parish Communion LW
11.00 Parish Communion F

Readings for Sunday

Second Sunday in Lent

Exodus 20.1-17
1 Cor.1.18-25
John 2.13-22

Fourth Sunday in Lent (Mothering Sunday)

Numbers 21.4-9
Ephesians 2.1-10
John 3.14-21

Evensong: Psalms 11, 12, Exodus 5.1-6.1, Philippians 3. 4b-14

Children's ministry

There is Sunday School at every 11 am service at St Vigor's. In addition, Sunday School materials are sent out each week in our weekly email.

Notices

Lent Study Group: We'll be discussing *Lent with the Beloved Disciple* by Michael Marshall. We'll look at the Passion narrative in the Gospel of St John, at St Nicholas', at 2.30pm on five Mondays in Lent: 19 and 26 February, 4, 11, and 18 March. It is helpful, but not essential, to have a copy of the book. No previous experience of Bible study is necessary. Led by Emma Bourne.

Lent Lunches: We have Lent Lunches scheduled for Wednesday 6 March at St Nicholas', Thursday 14 March at St Vigor's and Wednesday 20th March at 19 School Lane, Fulbourn, all at 12.30. Looking for one more host. Contact Emma!

Wednesday Church will be meeting at St Nicholas'. 13th March, and 27th March, all at 3.15pm.

Easter Flowers at St Vigor's: If you wish to donate to help make St Vigor's gorgeous at Easter, please give your contribution, in a labelled envelope, to Jean Doe—or leave it for her in Twelve.

Mulberry One, the acute assessment unit at Fulbourn Hospital, is in desperate need of the following items: New/unused toiletries (travel size is great too!), New/unused brushes, combs and hairbands, Nail varnish, Board games, New/unworn underwear (all sizes, male, female), Hats and gloves, Jigsaw puzzles. Art Supplies. **If you can help, please bring them to St Vigor's or to Twelve, with a note saying MULBERRY WARD.**

Children who sing! We are always on the lookout for **more children to join our choristers** at St Vigor's! The children get free singing and music theory lessons, get to be part of a team, pizza provided at rehearsals and they are paid pocket money for singing at services! We welcome all children, 7-18 years old. If you know of any children who might be interested in joining the choir, please contact Sian, as Choir Administrator (fulbournchoirs@gmail.com), for more details. We always welcome new adult members too!

Contacts

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Fulbourn Director of Music: David Poulter dccm.fulbourn@gmail.com

Wilbrahams Director of Music: Gillian Humphrey
gillianhumphrey@icloud.com

Benefice Safeguarding Officer: Mary Kendall: Tel: 07814669713,
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