

Introduction to the Season of Lent

Last Wednesday, we marked the beginning of Lent with the Liturgy of Ash Wednesday and the Imposition of Ashes for school (1.15pm) and church (8pm), noting its themes of self-examination, penitence, self-denial, almsgiving & study. Lent is attached to Easter, as the principal occasion for baptism and for the reconciliation of those who had been excluded from the Church's fellowship for apostasy or serious faults.

In the West, it is usual to count the 40 days of Lent from Ash Wednesday continuously to the end of Holy Week (not including Sundays). Churches are kept bare of flowers and decoration. **Gloria in excelsis is not used.**

There are many devotional exercises which may be used in Lent and Holy Week – **Our Lent Study groups this year will be on Zoom, using the Christian Aid material on Thursdays at 8pm (10, 17, 24 and 31 March; concluding on 7 April).**

Zoom details to be distributed on the day.

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Bishop Jonathan's farewell service

On 24th February at Croydon Minster, clergy, dignitaries, members of a variety of organisations, parishioners and well-wishers from across the Croydon Episcopal Area and beyond attended a moving Farewell Evensong for the Bishop of Croydon, the Rt. Revd. Jonathan Clark.

In his sermon, Bishop Jonathan said: "The Church can live in hope because and insofar that it is durable, rooted and hospitable. If we have these things, we have no fear. These are qualities of healthy communities, whether or not God is the source." He continued: "Community needs' continually and consciously, to be built to counter the erosion that contemporary society is inflicting on it."

"To those of you here today representing organisations... I want to remind you that power is given to you in order to give away...It's given to be shared, to create conditions and encourage the situation where people can make their own choices. Communities are built and rebuilt and sustained from the ground up, by the people who decide to use the power that they have."

In conclusion, he said: "Whatever I have been able to give, I have received. Whatever you have received from me, I have received from you."

Bishop Christopher led the thanks from colleagues and civil society leaders. He said: "Bishop Jonathan has modelled servant leadership and has been your faithful pastor and I gave thanks to God for that." In a moving ceremony, and as his last act as Bishop of Croydon, Bishop Jonathan handed over his crosier and his Episcopal Bishop's ring to Bishop Christopher saying that they were for the new Bishop.

A plaque was unveiled, which showed the names of previous Bishops of Croydon and of course, Bishop Jonathan's was the most recent. During the reception that followed, Bishop Jonathan was able to personally say his farewells and thanks to the many who had gathered.

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For young people in Year 7 and upwards, Public Spirit Listening Dinner: 5.30pm, Saturday 19th March, Saint Stephen's Church Hall, Warwick Road, CR7 7NH. Please see Ann Squirrel if you wish to attend.

Welcome to the United Benefice of Holy Innocents & St. Mark, South Norwood

Sharing God's grace and love in our community



6th March 2022

Vicar: The Revd. Canon Roxanne Eversley
Asst. Priest: Mother Susan Wheeler-Kiley
Reader: Mrs. Cicelyn Hinds

**The First Sunday of Lent
10.00am Parish Mass**

President, Mother Susan * Preacher, Mrs Cicelyn Hinds

Exodus 34.29-35 * Psalm 99 * 2Cor.3.12-4.2 * Luke 9.28-36

Access online worship via

www.youtube.com/c/StMarksSouthNorwood

CHURCH NOTICES

Until further notice, both Parishes will continue to meet for worship here at Saint Mark at 8am and 10am on Sundays; and at Holy Innocents for the weekday Mass on Thursdays at 10am.

Pastoral Care: Mother Roxanne is available (except on Mondays) on Tel. 020 8916 1830 or 07723 038215 or mtrroxanne@gmail.com Mother Susan (07890 780572 fs.kiley@btinternet.com not available on Fridays.

To hire the Church Halls, please call:
Jan on 020 8653 0447 for St Mark; and
Annette on 020 8771 5779 for Holy Innocents.

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We pray: for Archbishops Justin and Stephen; Bishops Christopher, Jonathan, Richard and Karowei in this Diocese; and the Bishops in our link Dioceses in Zimbabwe.

For All Saints, Sydenham Philip Smith (PiC)
For Bishops, priests & people of the Anglican Church of Korea

For the sick: Claude & Richard, Helen, Jennifer & Reuben, Marie-Gabrielle, Amanda, Rose, Caroline, Sigi, Anecka, Lynn, Ronald, Tommy, Ena, Adeline, Peggy, Rudolph, Stephanie, Pamela, Barry, Dennis, Linda, David, Oslene, Anthony, Adrian, Barbara, Jacqueline, Pauline, Anne, Mark, Jean.

For the bereaved: the Shaw and Afare families.

For the recently departed: Ben Shaw, Stephen Afare.
Years Mind

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Prayer for the people of Ukraine

The Lord shall give strength to his people; the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace. (Psalm 29.10)

**God of strength and peace,
Send your blessing on all the people of Ukraine.
Sustain them in their struggles,
hold them in their fear, protect them from all danger and be for them, the hope they desire;
for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.**

We will be taking a retiring collection for Ukraine after the Mass today.

COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty
days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet
without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves
in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
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.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses spoke to the people, saying:
When you have come into the land
that the LORD your God is giving
you as an inheritance to possess, and
you possess it, and settle in it, you
shall take some of the first of all the
fruit of the ground, which you harvest
from the land that the LORD your
God is giving you, and you shall put
it in a basket and go to the place that
the LORD your God will choose as a
dwelling for his name. You shall go to
the priest who is in office at that time,
and say to him, "Today I declare to
the LORD your God that I have come
into the land that the LORD swore to
our ancestors to give us." When the
priest takes the basket from your hand
and sets it down before the altar of
the LORD your God, you shall make
this response before the LORD your
God: "A wandering Aramean was my
ancestor; he went down into Egypt
and lived there as an alien, few in
number, and there he became a great
nation, mighty and populous. When
the Egyptians treated us harshly and
afflicted us, by imposing hard labour
on us, we cried to the LORD, the God
of our ancestors; the LORD heard
our voice and saw our affliction, our
toil, and our oppression. The LORD
brought us out of Egypt with a mighty
hand and an outstretched arm, with a
terrifying display of power, and with
signs and wonders; and he brought us
into this place and gave us this land, a
land flowing with milk and honey. So
now I bring the first of the fruit of the
ground that you, O LORD, have given
me." You shall set it down before
the LORD your God and bow down
before the LORD your God. Then

you, together with the Levites and the
aliens who reside among you, shall
celebrate with all the bounty that the
LORD your God has given to you and
to your house.

PSALM Psalm 91:1-2. 9-end

R *Be with me, O Lord, in trouble.*

Or

R *You, O Lord, are my refuge
[my God in whom I put my trust].*

He who dwells in the shelter of the
Most High,
abides under the shadow of the
Almighty.
He shall say to the Lord,
"You are my refuge and my stronghold,
my God in whom I put my trust." **R**

Because you have made the Lord your
refuge,
and the Most High your habitation,
There shall no evil happen to you,
neither shall any plague come near
your dwelling. **R**

For he shall give his angels charge
over you,
to keep you in all your ways.
They shall bear you in their hands,
lest you dash your foot against
a stone. **R**

You shall tread upon the lion and adder;
you shall trample the young lion and
the serpent
under your feet.

Because he is bound to me in love,
therefore will I deliver him;
I will protect him, because he knows
my name. **R**

He shall call upon me and I will
answer him;
I am with him in trouble,
I will rescue him and bring him to
honour.

With long life will I satisfy him,
and show him my salvation. **R**

SECOND READING

Romans 10:8b-13

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

What does scripture say? "The word
is near you, on your lips and in your
heart" (that is, the word of faith that
we proclaim); because if you confess
with your lips that Jesus is Lord and
believe in your heart that God raised
him from the dead, you will be saved.
For one believes with the heart and

so is justified, and one confesses
with the mouth and so is saved. The
scripture says, "No one who believes
in him will be put to shame." For
there is no distinction between Jew
and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of
all and is generous to all who call on
him. For, "Everyone who calls on the
name of the Lord shall be saved."

GOSPEL Luke 4:1-13

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned
from the Jordan and was led by the
Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty
days he was tempted by the devil.
He ate nothing at all during those
days, and when they were over, he
was famished. The devil said to him,
"If you are the Son of God, command
this stone to become a loaf of bread."
Jesus answered him, "It is written,
'One does not live by bread alone.'"
Then the devil led him up and showed
him in an instant all the kingdoms of
the world. And the devil said to him,
"To you I will give their glory and all
this authority; for it has been given
over to me, and I give it to anyone I
please. If you, then, will worship me,
it will all be yours." Jesus answered
him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord
your God, and serve only him.'" Then
the devil took him to Jerusalem, and
placed him on the pinnacle of the
temple, saying to him, "If you are
the Son of God, throw yourself down
from here, for it is written, 'He will
command his angels concerning you,
to protect you,' and 'On their hands
they will bear you up, so that you will
not dash your foot against a stone.'"
Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do
not put the Lord your God to the
test.'" When the devil had finished
every test, he departed from him until
an opportune time.

POST COMMUNION

Lord God,
you have renewed us with the living
bread from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith,
increase our hope,
and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for him
who is the true and living bread,
and enable us to live by every word
that proceeds from out of your mouth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.