

The United Benefice of Henley-on-Thames with Remenham
THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN
Registered Charity

The Third Sunday of Lent
March 24th 2019

Welcome to this ancient Parish Church. If you are a visitor or a new member of the congregation, you will find the order of service in the booklets. The hymns are not announced - they can be found on this sheet. The crèche is available throughout the service for toddlers and parents; Junior Church also takes place in the Chantry House. Tea & coffee are served in the Chantry House after the service: please join us and make yourself known.

Mass: St Anne's Mass *James MacMillan*

Entrance Hymn: 369 Happy are they, they that love God

The Opening Prayer:

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.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, 'The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.' We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

The Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 63:1-9

R/ My soul is athirst for God, as in a dry and thirsty land.

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;
my soul is athirst for you.

My flesh also faints for you,
as in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water.

So would I gaze upon you in your holy place,
that I might behold your power and your glory.

R/

Your loving-kindness is better than life itself
and so my lips shall praise you.

I will bless you as long as I live
and lift up my hands in your name.

My soul shall be satisfied, as with marrow and fatness,
and my mouth shall praise you with joyful lips,

R/

When I remember you upon my bed
and meditate on you in the watches of the night.

For you have been my helper
and under the shadow of your wings will I rejoice.

My soul clings to you;
your right hand shall hold me fast.

R/

The Gospel Reading: Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.'

Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

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THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The Offertory Hymn: **65** Christian, dost thou see them

A Communion Hymn may be sung: 307 Sweet Sacrament divine

The Anthem: Verily, verily I say unto you *Thomas Tallis*

Verily, verily I say unto you,
except ye eat the flesh of the Son of Man
and drink his blood, ye have not life in you.
Whoso eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood hath eternal life,
and I will raise him up at the last day.
For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.
He that eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood
dwelleth in me, and I in him.

John 6:53-56

The Final Hymn: **414** O for a closer walk with God

The Organ Voluntary: Sarabande *Herbert Howells*

Today's Sung Eucharist:

Sidesmen	Jim Hurst and Rebeca Hindle
Lessons	Kathryn Turner and Gill Aitchison
Intercessions	Sue Hockley
Servers	Sheila Croton and Louis Bell
Acolytes	Sue Hockley and Peter Fernandez
Chalice	Sheila Croton and Stuart Crippen
Coffee	Jacqui Pritchard and Jenny Lloyd

Please replace the kneelers on your pew before leaving. Thank you!

Today 6pm-7.30pm Youth Club (CH)

Sunday March 31 ~ The Fourth Sunday of Lent ~ Mothering Sunday

8.00am Eucharist (SM) 9.30am Sung Eucharist, Junior Church & Creche (SM)
 11.15am Sung Matins (SN) 6pm Youth Club (CH)

This Week

Mon 25	The Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary	Eucharist 10.00am (SM) followed by coffee and cake (CH)
Tues 26		Eucharist 7.30pm (SM) St Mary's PCC Meeting 8.00pm (CH)
Wed 27		Aliquando Choir Practice 7.15pm (CH)
Thurs 28		Eucharist 10.00am (SM) Lent lunchtime service 12noon (Christ Church) Choir Practice 7.15pm (SM)
Fri 29		Praying Together 9.30am (CH) Bible Study 10.15am (CH) Stations of the Cross 11.00am (SM) Eucharist 12noon (SM) Lent Reading Group 8.00pm (CH)
Sat 30		

Morning Prayer will be said at 9am and Evening Prayer usually at 5pm at St Mary's on weekdays

Please pray for ~ The Church: *The Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui
 The Most Revd Paul Kwong - Archbishop of Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui &
 Bishop of Hong Kong Island*

Our Bishops: *Bishop Steven confirming at St Peter's, Wolvercote
 Bishop Colin confirming at Shiplake College and Christ Church, Abingdon*

The sick: *Nicola, Neil, Helen, Stella, Maria, Jennifer, Henry*

The departed: *Alan Pope*

Those whose year's minds falls this week: *Thomas Blunden (29),
 Rev Stanley Whitfield, James Coffee (30)*

Notices for the week beginning 24 March

If you would like to give a lily in memory of a loved one to decorate St Mary's at Easter, please give your donation (£3) to Blanche Williams or Sheila Constantinidi.
 Fr Jeremy is leading a Lent Reading Group on Fridays at 8pm in the Chantry House. Our Lent Book: *The Catholic Jesus: Knowing Christ through the Church he founded*, by the Revd Dr Thomas Plant.
 The Lent lunchtime services at Christ Church, Reading Road, are focusing on the unique accounts of Christ's Passion in Luke's Gospel. Thursday March 28, April 4, 11. Starting at 12 noon, followed by a simple lunch at 12.30pm. All welcome.
 Fr Jeremy will be leading a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, from Tuesday 27 to Friday 30 August. It will include an optional day visit to the Shrine of Julian of Norwich, just over an hour's drive from Walsingham. As space will be limited Fr Jeremy would welcome expressions of interest in joining the pilgrimage.
 All who wish to have their names entered on the new electoral roll, whether they are entered on the present roll or not, are requested to apply for enrolment. Forms can be found at the back of church, to be returned to the parish office please.

'Creating a Garden for Chelsea Flower Show' illustrated talk in Remenham Parish Hall on Friday 12 April, 7.30pm for 8.00pm. Tickets £10 to include a complimentary drink. Patricia Thirion and Janet Honour will describe the joys and challenges of exhibiting at Chelsea using mainly their 'Christian before Dior' garden as a typical example to explain what is involved. Please contact Pat Sly on 577925.

***Parish Office ~ Mon, Tues 9.30am-12.30pm : Wed, Fri, 9.30am-4.30pm
tel: 577340 email: office.hwr@lineone.net rector.hwr@btinternet.com
Fr Jeremy is always happy to talk to parishioners about any subject, please call the parish
office to make an appointment. Saturday is the his day off and Friday is his study day.
Fr Jeremy would appreciate being spared calls on these days except in an emergency.***