

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

Sunday 8th March 2020
The Second Sunday of Lent

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: **76** Take up thy cross

The Opening Prayer

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**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a

The Call of Abram

Now 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. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

The Second Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

The Example of Abraham

What then 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.

God's Promise Realized through Faith

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.

The Psalm: Psalm: 121 *Sung by the Choir*

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills: from whence cometh my help.

My help cometh even from the Lord: who hath made heaven and earth.

He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.

Behold, he that keepeth Israel: shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord himself is thy keeper: the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand;

So that the sun shall not burn thee by day: neither the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.
The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in: from this time forth for evermore.

The Gospel Reading: John 3:1-17

Nicodemus Visits Jesus

Now 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.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The Offertory Hymn: **337** As pants the hart for cooling streams
During which an offertory collection will be taken

The Communion Hymn: **70** Lord Jesus, think on me

Choir Anthem: View me, Lord *Richard Lloyd*

The Final Hymn: **453** Stand up! - stand up for Jesus!

The Organ Voluntary Chorale prelude: *Martyrdom C. H. Parry*

Today's Sung Eucharist:

Sidesmen	Jim Hurst and Rebecca Hindle
Lessons	George Constantinidi and Rob Ellerby
Intercessions	Sue Hockley
Servers	Sheila Croton, Louis Bell, Sue Hockley
Chalice	Jim Hurst and Carol Brook-Partridge
Coffee	Joan Edwards and Cleone Augur

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

This Week

Mon 9	
Tues 10	Chantry House Meeting 11.00am (CH)
Wed 11	Babies and Toddlers Session 10.00am (CH) BATS Eucharist 11.00am (CH) Safeguarding 6.30pm (CH)
Thurs 12	Eucharist 10am (SM) Choir Practice: Juniors 6.00pm Seniors 8.00pm
Fri 13	Praying Together 9.30am (CH) Inspired to follow 10.15am & 8.00pm (CH) Eucharist 12noon (CH)

Sat 14 Tamesis Chamber Choir - Come and sing a Patchwork Mass
Workshop 10.30am Performance 6pm (SM)

*Morning Prayer will be said at 9am and Evening Prayer usually at 5pm at St Mary's on weekdays.
Please note that because of the failure of our boiler most weekday services at St Mary's will be held in
the Chantry House until the Spring.*

Sunday 15th March ~ The Third Sunday of Lent

8.00am Eucharist (SM) 9.30am Sung Eucharist, Junior Church and Creche (SM)
11.15am Sung Matins (BCP) (SN) 4.30pm Choral Evensong (SM)
6.00pm Youth Club (CH)

Please pray for

The church: *The Iglesia Anglicana de Chile*

*The Most Revd Héctor (Tito) Zavala Muñoz - Bishop of Santiago & Primate
Bishop Alan confirming at All Saints, High Wycombe*

The sick: *Nicola, Neil, Helen, Stella, Maria, Richard, Duncan, Robert,
Caroline, Teresa, Anthony, Barbara*

The departed: *David Evans, Jonathan Mason*

Those whose year's minds falls this week:

*Keith Barker, Peter Sly, Henri Goodwin (9), Tom Arnison, Annie Daniells (13),
Reginald Daniells, Andy Hurst (14)*

Notices for the week beginning 8th March

We are holding a church cleaning day at St Mary's on Saturday 21st March, starting at 9am. There will be a light lunch in the Chantry House. Please sign your name on the list at the back of church if you can help, thank you.

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.

The Churches Together in Henley Lent services are being held in Christ Church on Thursdays: March 12, 19, 26, and April 2 from 12noon to 12.30pm, followed by a simple lunch. The theme is Matthew's account of the Passion and Crucifixion.

Inspired to Follow, looking at the Bible with the help of great paintings continues on Friday 13th March at 10.15am, repeated at 8pm, in the Chantry House. The study continues on 20th and 27th March.

The Benefice Pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place on Monday 24th August to Thursday 27th August. Please let Fr Jeremy know if you are interested in attending.

Bishop Colin will be Confirming at St Mary's on Tuesday 8th September at 6pm. This will be his last official visit to the benefice as Bishop of Dorchester.

The Henley Food Bank Box can be found by the crèche. Please bring donations on Sunday mornings - toiletry items, tinned veg, tinned fruit, savoury biscuits, tinned meat, long lasting milk, cereal, crisps, biscuits, squash, pasta sauce.

Tamesis Chamber Choir - Come and sing a Patchwork Mass at St Mary's, Saturday 14th March. For further details visit tamesischamberchoir.co.uk or ring 0118 934 3200.

The next Traidcraft Stall at St Mary's will be on Sunday March 29th after the 9.30am service.

Parish Office ~ Mon, Tues 9.30am-12.30pm : Wed, Fri, 9.30am-4.30pm

tel: 577340 email: office.hwr@btinternet.com 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 his day off and Monday morning. Friday is his study day. Fr Jeremy would appreciate being spared calls on these days except in an emergency.