

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

**Sunday 15th March 2020**  
**The Third 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.*

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**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. **Amen**

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**The First Reading:** Exodus 17:1-7

*Water from the Rock*

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

**The Second Reading:** Romans 5:1-11

*Results of Justification*

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

**The Psalm:** Psalm 95 *Sung by the Choir*

O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving: and shew ourselves glad in him with psalms.  
For the Lord is a great God: and a great King above all gods.  
In his hand are all the corners of the earth: and the strength of the hills is his also.  
The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands prepared the dry land.  
O come, let us worship and fall down: and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is the Lord our God: and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.  
To-day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts: as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness;  
When your fathers tempted me: proved me, and saw my works.  
Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said: It is a people that do err in their hearts, for they have not known my ways;  
Unto whom I swear in my wrath: that they should not enter into my rest.

**The Gospel Reading:** John 4:5-42

So Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to

the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

**THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

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

**The Communion Hymn:**   **69**     Lord, in this thy mercy's day

**Choir Anthem:**               Call to remembrance, O Lord *Richard Farrant*

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

**The Organ Voluntary** O mensch, bewein' dein' Sünde gross *J.S.Bach*

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**Today's Sung Eucharist:**

Sidesmen	Jim Hurst and Lavinia Southern
Lessons	Kathryn Turner and Louis Bell
Intercessions	Terry Grouk
Servers	Sheila Croton and Norman Topsom
Acolytes	Sue Hockley and Peter Fernandez

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

**Today**

4.30pm Choral Evensong (SM) 6.00pm Youth Club (CH)

**This Week**

Mon 16  
Tues 17     St Mary's PCC Meeting 7.30pm (CH)  
Wed 18     Babies and Toddlers Session 10.00am (CH) BATS Eucharist 11.00am (CH)  
            Aliquando Choir Practice 7.15pm (CH)  
Thurs 19    Eucharist 10am (SM)  
            Churches Together in Henley Lent service 12noon (Christ Church)  
            Funeral of Jonathan Mason 1.30pm (SM)  
            Choir Practice: Juniors 6pm Seniors 8pm  
            St Nicholas PCC Meeting 8pm (Parish Hall)  
Fri 20     Praying Together 9.30am (CH) Inspired to follow 10.15am & 8.00pm (CH)  
            Eucharist 12noon (CH)  
Sat 21     Church Cleaning Day 9.00am (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 22nd March ~ The Fourth Sunday of Lent, Mothering Sunday**

8.00am Eucharist (SM) 9.30am Sung Eucharist, Junior Church and Creche (SM)  
11.15am Holy Communion with Hymns (BCP) (SN) 6.00pm Youth Club (CH)

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***Please pray for***

***The church:*** *The Church of England*

*The Most Revd and Right Hon Justin Welby - Archbishop of Canterbury  
Bishop Colin confirming at Christ Church, Abingdon; Bishop Olivia confirming  
at Sunninghill; Bishop Alan confirming in Milton Keynes Deanery*

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

***The departed:*** *David Evans, Jonathan Mason, Nora Flett*

***Those whose year's minds falls this week:*** *Ursula Valentine (15),  
Joyce Whittington (16), Henry Clark, James Hockley (20),  
Arnold Lewis, Margaret Lax (21)*

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### **Notices for the week beginning 15th 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 Junior Church team are holding a Children's Easter Workshop on Monday 6th April 9.30 – 11.45am in the Chantry House, with Holy Eucharist at 12noon, followed by a light lunch. Please let us know if you are coming by ringing the Parish Office on 577340.

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

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

On Saturday 4th April, St Nicholas are organising a sponsored walk in aid of Remenham Parish Hall. The Hall is supported entirely through donations and fundraising events and this year we need to refurbish the remainder of the wall round the Parish Hall garden which has cost £26,000 so far and we need to raise a further £20,000. We hope that every participant will contribute at least £10 for an adult and £2.50 for children and dogs. You will be provided with a map and there will be a soup lunch in the Hall at the end for everyone (and a cash bar!). We also hope that people will seek sponsorship and/or donations and between us we can raise a target of £2000. There will be 2 walks; Walk A: lasting about 2 and a half hours starting between 10.00am and 10.30am and Walk B: lasting 45 minutes starting at 11.30am - 12 noon. Both will start and end at Remenham Hall. Parking available in the Parish Hall Garden. Please contact Sue Laing on 07885 851362 or [sue@isobel.com](mailto:sue@isobel.com) to register and for any further details.

The six Hambleden Valley churches form the Hambleden Valley Group and are seeking a new Administrator, 40 to 50 hours a month largely to fit within one's own time. There are weekly and monthly meetings with the clergy members and this includes the preparation and circulation of monthly rotas and arranging organists attendance along with responding to enquiries. The hourly rate of remuneration (£14) is paid at each month end. For further information please contact the Valley Group treasurer: David Napier 573609.

***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.***

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