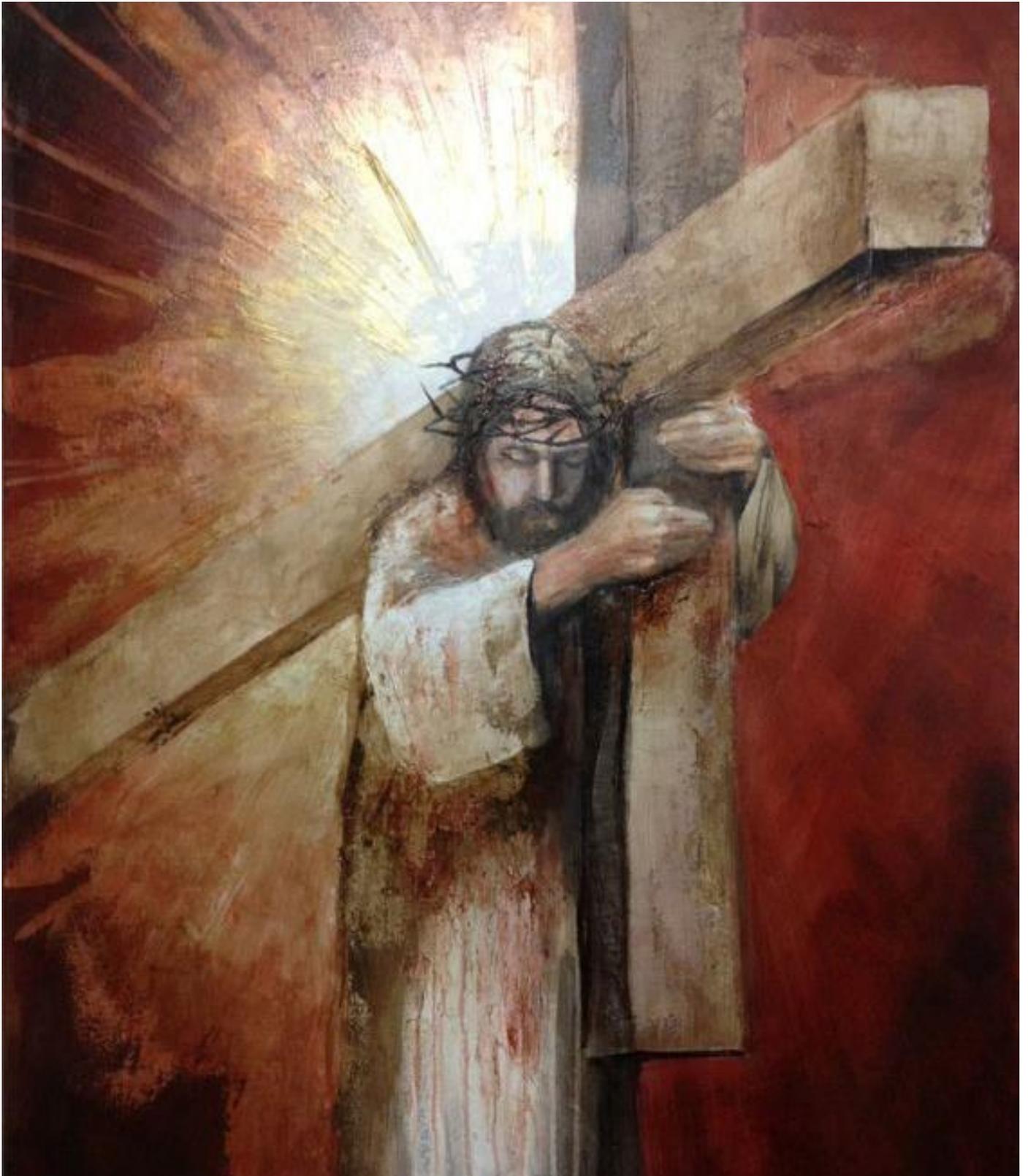




The Parish of Thorpe St Andrew

Weekly Newsletter and Service Sheet
28 February 2021 The Second Sunday of Lent



Take up your cross and follow me...

Whenever we have a group of young confirmation candidates I set them a challenge over the weeks of the confirmation classes, to produce by the last one, some form of cross. We have seen all sorts of creations over the years – shiny, wooden, wooly – and in many different colours! One child asked if there was any size limit. I replied that I hoped it would be something which they could easily bring into church and that it would not be a problem transporting! The cross of Christ is inseparable from the life of a Christian. When we are baptized we are marked with the sign of the cross – and so the journey begins. The crosses which we bear come in all shapes and sizes and sometimes seem like burdens that are impossible to carry or indeed transport. Any honest struggle to stay true to God, true to love, true to the commandments, true to our faith, true to our hope as Christians is how we carry the cross, for it was out of love and obedience to his Father's will that Jesus carried his cross to Golgotha. Since each of our lives and challenges are unique, the cross is specific for each one of us. For some, it can be bearing with a difficult situation at work or at home, for others it is coping and suffering in faith and trust through an illness, bereavement or injury. No two crosses are alike. The cross causes us to die to self and a joining together with God, which brings about new life. What seemed on the surface to be death, becomes the means through which God gives us life. "Whoever loses his life for my sake and the sake of the Gospel will find it." It's fair to say this long lockdown may feel like part of our crosses. Nevertheless we take them up and follow Christ, knowing that through and in him comes new and abundant life. Wishing you every blessing,

Fr James

The following 'tanka' (Japanese form of poem) was sent to me by Joy McCall and was written by Steve Wilkinson (County Durham), with whom she collaborates in this form of poetry and was inspired by last Sunday's sermon:

Looking for a place
in the world's wilderness
to find refreshment
I sit in my garden
to rest and restore

More details about tanka and ryuka in Parish Life to follow.

The Eucharist for the Second Sunday of Lent

Organ Voluntary

Hymn *New English Hymnal* 333

**All my hope on God is founded;
He doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance he guideth,
Only good and only true.
God unknown, he alone
Calls my heart to be his own.**

**Pride of man and earthly glory,
Sword and crown betray his trust;
What with care and toil he buildeth,
Tower and temple, fall to dust
But God's power, hour by hour,
Is my temple and my tower.**

**God's great goodness aye endureth,
Deep his wisdom, passing thought:
Splendour, light and life attend him,
Beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore from his store
New-born worlds rise and adore.**

**Daily doth th'Almighty giver
Bounteous gifts on us bestow;
His desire our soul delighteth,
Pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand at his hand;
Joy doth wait on his command.**

**Still from man to God eternal
Sacrifice of praise be done,
High above all praises praising
For the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call one and all:
Ye who follow shall not fall.**

The Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

Welcome

Words of welcome to those in church and those online are given.

Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin: Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me: Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Cast me not away from your presence and take not your holy spirit from me: Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.



Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect

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.**

Reading Romans 4:13-25

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. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn *New English Hymnal* 76

**Take up thy cross, the Saviour said,
If thou wouldst my disciple be;
Deny thyself, the world forsake,
And humbly follow after me.**

**Take up thy cross; let not its weight
Fill thy weak spirit with alarm;
His strength shall bear thy spirit up,
And brace thy heart, and nerve thine arm.**

**Take up thy cross then in his strength,
And calmly every danger brave;
'Twill guide thee to a better home,
And lead to victory o'er the grave.**

**Take up thy cross, and follow Christ,
Nor think till death to lay it down;
For only he who bears the cross
May hope to wear the glorious crown.**

**To thee, great Lord, the One in Three,
All praise for evermore ascend;
O grant us in our home to see
The heavenly life that knows no end.**

Gospel Reading Mark 8:31-38

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Blessed are those who have endured temptation; they have stood the test and will receive the crown of life.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly.

And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

This is the gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

The response to the bidding

Lord in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

The Peace

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace. The peace of the Lord be always with you **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Preparation of the Table

The table is prepared, and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Organ music is played. At the end this prayer is said.

God of our journey, as we walk with you on your path of obedience, sustain us on our way and lead us to your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again. Through fasting, prayer and acts of service you bring us back to your generous heart. Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world and free our hands to welcome others into the radiant splendour of your love. As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds, singing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Andrew and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread *The minister breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Agnus Dei *The Agnus Dei is sung as the bread is broken.*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

The Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper. **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Communion *The sacrament is distributed. Short organ music is played.*

Prayer after Communion

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Notices *The notices and announcements are given.*

Hymn *New English Hymnal* 338

**At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow,
Every tongue confess him King of glory now;
'Tis the Father's pleasure we should call him Lord,
Who from the beginning was the mighty Word.**

**At his voice creation sprang at once to sight,
All the angel faces, all the hosts of light,
Thrones and bright dominations, stars upon their way,
All the heavenly orders, in their great array.**

**Humbled for a season, to receive a name
From the lips of sinners unto whom he came,
Faithfully he bore it spotless to the last,
Brought it back victorious when from death he passed:**

**Bore it up triumphant with its human light,
Through all ranks of creatures, to the central height,
To the throne of Godhead, to the Father's breast;
Filled it with the glory of that perfect rest.**

**5 In your hearts enthrone him; there let him subdue
All that is not holy, all that is not true:
He is God the Saviour, he is Christ the Lord,
Ever to be worshipped, trusted, and adored.**

The Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Closing Voluntary

Prayer Intentions

THE CHURCH

Our Ministry Team James Stewart, Taylor Wilton-Morgan, Nicole King
Our Bishops Graham and Alan **Archdeacons** Karen Hutchinson, Steven Betts, Ian Bentley **Ecumenical** The Methodist Church locally – Heartsease Lane and Wroxham Road **Anglican Communion** Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America.

THE WORLD

All those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic all key workers in NHS and all fields of frontline work, particularly all who work in our food shops, including Sainsbury's, Coop, Londis, Fish's, Thorpe Convenience Store, Thorpe Family Butchers, Blofield Farm Shop and our post offices at Thunder Lane (Mr Gurney) and Yarmouth Road (Mr and Mrs Dhalla)

THE COMMUNITY

Streets of the Parish Janet Smith Close, Laud Close, Laundry Close
Our community Those struggling with the national lockdown and remembering all our civic leaders at Town, District and County level.
Vaccination Giving thanks for those who have already received the first dose of their vaccine and the rolling out of the programme.

THOSE IN NEED OF OUR PRAYER including Paul Carter, Mark Little, Graham and Monique Rowland, Jennifer Jones, Janet Fancy, Colin Hicks, Alan Harrison, Grace Howes, Peter and Gaynor Garrod, Rita Ward, Joy and Andy McCall, Jean High, Jean Mayhew, Brother Gabriel, Craig Fransham, Anthony Travis, Mark King, Chloe Smith MP, Alan Fleming, Jean Morris (St C's Road)

THE DEPARTED

The recently departed Jayne Basford (4 March), Maureen Alexander (5 March), Herbert Davy (8 March), Carol Moore (12 March), Peter Lockwood (12 March), Marjorie Balls (15 March), Trevor Sexty (18 March)

Those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time including Eileen Daines (1 March), Jack Fisher (2 March)

Other notices and announcements

RETURNING TO OUR CHURCHES – AN UPDATE

Following guidance from the Bishop of Norwich that parishes may now consider a return to 'in person' worship there have been conversations with the Ministry Team, Churchwardens and others. A 'roadmap' of our services is set out on the back page of this booklet. Some churches elsewhere have already returned very quickly. Other churches have already decided that they will wait until after Easter. A cautious and safe 'middle way' seems sensible here. Our annual remembrance of Holy Week beginning with Palm Sunday and ending triumphantly with Easter Sunday is very important to us and so our plan ensures we can in some way be in church for this period, with services in both churches by Easter morning. We are gently returning (in addition) for one service at the Parish Church at 9.30am on **21 March** (the Sunday before Palm Sunday) to 'ease our way in'. The Services from the Parish Church will continue to be streamed online LIVE on Facebook. Our Holy Week programme begins with a Family Eucharist for Palm Sunday which will include all congregations and will take place at 10.30am for a number of reasons (including the fact that clocks will have gone forward an hour that night!) The Holy Week offering will be a mixture of online and in person, with reflections online on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week and on Easter Saturday. The Easter Family Workshop for children will not be possible this year but a Covid-19 safe option is being developed. These plans are subject to change and our being developed further. In addition, we will shortly open Morning Prayer to all, although we will continue to stream Thursday's Morning Prayer each week LIVE. There are further details and if you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact Fr James.

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER The church will remain open between 10am and 4pm Tuesday to Sunday but be closed on Mondays. Covid-19 precautions are in place and seating is limited.

100 CLUB – FEBRUARY DRAW RESULTS

1ST Prize £25 No. 84 Jackie Tunbridge; 2nd Prize £15 No. 86 Pip Jenkinson

#LIVE LENT



God's Story
Our Story

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

#LIVE LENT I am pleased to say that I have a supply of the Church of England's Lent resource - #Live Lent. It is a small 100 page booklet and has something for each day of Lent. We will use it for our Lent Study group but it is useful thing to have to help us keep a holy Lent. They are available for £2.00 each. Please can you email me to order a copy, and also confirm whether you will be attending our Lent Study group – 6 Wednesdays continuing on Wednesday 3 March: rector@thorpeparishchurch.org or 01603 439160. Starting 2.30pm each week.

'BAKING THROUGH THE LOCKDOWN' RECIPE BOOK

We have done so well with the sales of this (with surplus/profit exceeding an amazing £2000) but there are still some copies available. This is an ideal gift for Mothering Sunday/Easter present. Order your copies whilst stocks last. Copies can be purchased from church, Mazzoni's Newsagents, Gordon Barber Funeral Directors. You can also email Christine Cutting (cutting248@btinternet.com) or telephone the Rectory or leaving a message on the answerphone **01603 439160**. We will deliver free in Thorpe St Andrew/Thorpe End. Beyond that postage and packing starts at £2.00.



ZOOM COFFEE and LENT LUNCHESS Our pattern in Lent is to alternate our Lent provision on a fortnightly basis. **Next week (5 March) will be the second Lent Lunch at 12 noon.** The next Coffee morning is on **Thursday 11 March at 11am**. Please do support these if you can. It is a great way of staying in touch. Zoom details will come out with the weekly email. Bring your own soup or coffee and cakes, biscuits...!

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – 5 MARCH 2021 This usually takes place on the first Friday of March in one of the local churches. We have hosted it in the past, with our Mothers' Union being involved. This year it will be Zoomed from St Cuthbert's, Sprowston at 2pm on Friday 5 March. If you require the Zoom details please contact Fr James.

GIFT AID The treasury team would like to say "thank you" to all of you who have returned the completed gift aid forms so far. If you haven't done so yet, please can you get this back as soon as you can. Huge thanks to Margaret Hope, Robert Chalmers and Sally Entwistle and all who assist.

THANK YOU TO YOU ALL Thank to you all for the way in which you have responded to giving during this pandemic. Please continue to give as generously as you can. There is a lot to do this year and we will need as much financial support as possible. When we are in a position to return to church we will provide more information about how you help us. If you have a question in relation to giving in any way whatsoever please contact our Treasurer on her email: treasurersa@gmail.com If you don't 'do email' please do have a word with the Rector – 01603 439160.

ZOOM CAFÉ CHURCH This takes place **TODAY Sunday 28 February at 11.00am**. A short gathering on Zoom.

DIOCESE OF NORWICH LENT APPEAL 2021

This year as a diocese we will be joining together to give towards the Archbishop of Canterbury's 'Together in Unity' appeal to support churches and communities around the world during the pandemic. In his letter inviting us all to contribute Bishop Graham writes:

I have been so inspired by the response of churches and individuals in our diocese during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you for your part in that. Now I'm asking us all to turn our thoughts to our sisters and brothers in some of the poorest communities around the world by supporting this year's Lent Appeal. The pandemic has put a great strain on those who are already vulnerable, and as usual, it is they who suffer most. I invite you to be Jesus' hands and feet in offering assistance through the Archbishop's Together in Unity Appeal. Thank you.

To support the appeal visit www.dioceseofnorwich.org/news/lent-appeal/ Donations marked Lent Appeal can, when safe, be put through the Rectory Office door. If we return to church in time we will have a separate collection in church.

Lent, Holy Week and Easter 2021

5 March, 19 March Virtual Lent Lunches by Zoom. A chance to come together (and a change from Zoom Coffee) – 12.00pm. Bring your own soup.

24 February, 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 March Lent Study Group:
Each session takes place at 2.30pm

21 March at 9.30am Parish Eucharist at the Parish Church

28 March at 10.30am Palm Sunday Family Service for all
at the Parish Church

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week online

Maundy Thursday (1 April) at 7.00pm at the Parish Church
Eucharist and Liturgy for Maundy Thursday

Good Friday (2 April) both online and in person (*the precise details of time and place(s) - to be confirmed*)

Easter Sunday (4 April)

8.00am Easter Eucharist – Church of Good Shepherd

9.30am Easter Eucharist – Parish Church

11.15am Eucharist – Church of Good Shepherd

Further information

Rector: The Revd James Stewart

Tel: 01603 439160 email: rector@thorpeparishchurch.org

Curate: The Revd Taylor Wilton-Morgan

Tel: 01603 387401 email: fr.taylor@outlook.com