

## **The Benefice of Foremark and Repton with Newton Solney**

### **The Third Sunday of Lent - Sunday 7th March 2021**

#### **Daily Reading Sunday 7th March to Saturday 13th March**

##### **Sunday 7th March - (3rd Sunday of Lent)**

###### **Exodus 20: 1 – 17**

The people are given the 10 Commandments. God has rescued them from slavery in Egypt and now gives the instructions on how they should live.

###### **1 Corinthians 1: 18 - 25**

Paul highlights the seeming absurdity that the true Messiah was Jesus Christ nailed to the cross. This is God's way of saving the human race, whereas Jews and Greeks, in their different ways, would have looked for something different.

###### **John 2: 13 – 22**

Jesus angrily drives the people out of the Temple in Jerusalem. Challenged by the Jews to explain his actions, he simply says that the 46 year old Temple, if destroyed, would be raised in three days. His listeners do not understand the meaning.

###### **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March (Edward King)**

Psalm 98, Jeremiah 11:1-17, John 7:37-52

###### **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March**

Psalm 103, Jeremiah 11:18-12:6, John 7:53-8:11

###### **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

Psalm 111, Jeremiah 13:1-11, John 8:12-30

###### **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March**

Psalm 115, Jeremiah 14, John 8:31-47

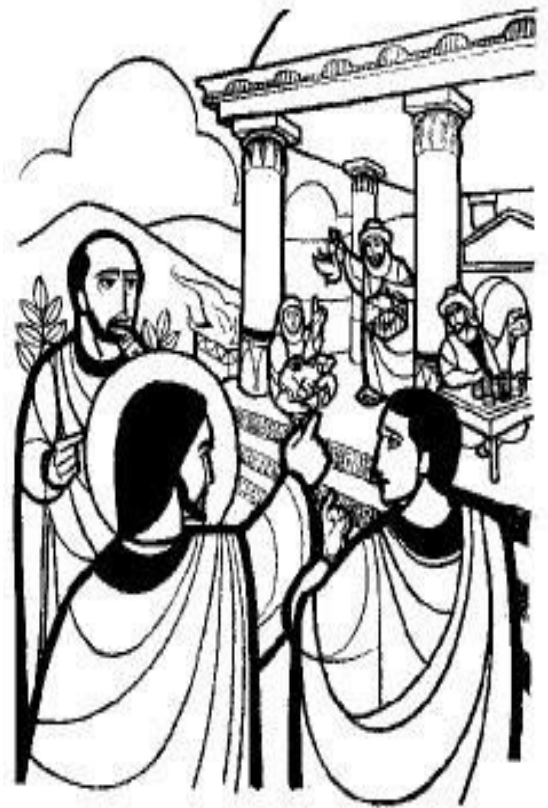
###### **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March**

Psalm 139, Jeremiah 15:10-21, John 8:48-59

###### **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March**

Psalm 121, Jeremiah 16:10-17:4, John 9:1-17

**Next Sunday will celebrate Mothering Sunday**



###### **Collect**

Eternal God,  
give us insight  
to discern your will for us,  
to give up what harms us,  
and to seek the perfection we are promised  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

#### **FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

For grace to keep Lent faithfully.

All continuing to provide spiritual and pastoral care to our parishes and those within the wider community during this period of COVID-19.

All our Church, Messy Church and Youth Alpha families that they may continue to deepen their faith.

Those serving God, here and abroad: Nick Parish training for ordination, Sarah Attwood as she continues her ministry with the church in Bosnia.

Those in need of long-term prayerful support: Andrew Pitchford, Lynn Wells, Ian Tennant, Samantha Taylor, Ted Weston, Alf Booth, Kay Howard, Claire Rose, Audrey Morris, Joan Taylor, Robin Nelson, Carl Baker, Shirley Wells, Lorna Griffiths, Karen Perks.

Prayer requests: Nazanin that she may be released in March when her sentence is due to end, for her family awaiting that day; all affected by the coronavirus and all seeking to contain & combat this pandemic.

Those who have recently died and those known to us, Rest in Peace; for their families and friends who mourn them, that they find comfort and strength in God's presence.

## **BENEFICE SERVICES AT ST WYSTAN'S**

**10.00am on SUNDAYS**

**Will continue during this lockdown.**

### **PLEASE NOTE LIVE-STREAMING WILL BE ON ZOOM**

These are the instructions for joining

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7855049461>

Meeting ID: 785 504 9461

Telephone: 0203 901 7895

Enter the Meeting ID: 785 504 9461 when prompted. There is no password required.

The service will be uploaded to YouTube and Facebook afterwards.

### **ROADMAP TO RECOVERY, HOLY WEEK AND EASTER**

Having been waiting nearly two weeks for advice on how to proceed in line with Government proposals we have received this from the Bishop's office:

***Church of England Advice** There have been no updates to the Church of England's coronavirus advice in the last seven days. The national team continues to monitor developments as the government prepares to ease restrictions and will update its advice in accordance with government guidance at each stage.*

With this lack of guidance we are left to plan things hoping they fit in with guidelines or can be easily adapted to fit.

We hope to deliver to everyone a Palm Cross so that you can all join in with the zoom service on that day - March 28<sup>th</sup>.

The second part of Stage 1 of the Governments proposals come in on Monday March 29<sup>th</sup>.

It is unlikely we will be allowed to congregate in church at that stage so we are planning on Good Friday at 2.00pm an online Service following the Stations of the Cross through to Jesus' Crucifixion at 3.00pm. We believe it may be possible to hold an outdoor service [subject to weather as well], similar to 'Carols in the Churchyard' on Easter morning and we will also offer a 'Said' Zoom Communion Service at some stage.

We anticipate being able to worship together in church once more from Sunday April 18<sup>th</sup> after lots of things have opened up on Monday 12<sup>th</sup>.

These things are reliant on the Government sticking to its timetabled dates. We must wait and pray and see!

### **WINTER OPENING TIMES - OUR CHURCHES CONTINUE TO BE OPEN FOR PRAYER**

**ST MARY'S [EVERY DAY] 10.00 – 3.00pm.**

**ST WYSTAN'S [WEEK DAYS] 10.00 - 4.00pm**

**St Wystan's is open on Saturdays 10.00AM – 3.00pm** then it will be cleaned and set up ready for Sunday.

On **Sundays** the church will be cleaned after the service and then open for prayer until **4.00pm**.

### **DAILY PRAYER – A small group of us continue to say Morning Prayer each weekday from 9.00 – 9.30am**

We use a Service Order from Iona Abbey. We 'meet' on Zoom and the telephone link works for this as well. If you wish to join us, then you are most welcome. Please ask Rebecca for a copy of the service order and a Zoom link.

## MOTHERING SUNDAY ACROSS THE BENEFICE

With such a year as it has been and not being able to hold special services in our churches as we would normally, we have been thinking about what we could do to lift the spirits of those who have been on their own a great deal, those who have been bereaved, those who are struggling with ill health and especially those for whom Mothering Sunday won't be the same because children will not be able to visit.

Normally many people would receive plants or bouquets at the special services with any extras being distributed after the service by church members - as far as they would stretch. This year we have come to realise that the list of those to whom we would like to give a token of our and God's love, far outnumber our ability to make arrangements for.

May I therefore encourage you to consider members of all of our churches' congregations you live near, are close to, or know of, and if there are any you feel would appreciate a small gift or a doorstep visit - give/make one to them next Sunday on behalf of yourselves and the Church.

## A PRAYER

Written on last week's Lent course theme of the Transfiguration by Samragi Madden

God of all hopefulness and light made known to us in the vision of Jesus transfigured on the mountain, seen in awe and wonder by Peter, James, John in raiment exceeding white. More than any earthly fuller could whiten. Grant us Gracious God, your beautiful unspoilt majesty to behold and contemplate. Grant us eyes to see and a heart to know we are loved by God, and God knows us, each of us by name. So that we can see, even in our broken and bruised world, and even in shadows numberless, let us always find your divine light, ever with us, comforting, guiding, restoring and healing. Thank you Father. Amen

As printed in the magazine:

### REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES – A PLACE OF MEMORIAL

As Covid continues so many more of us have been unable to attend a funeral of a loved one or a friend. Others will have been unable to grieve in a variety of ways because of the guidelines enforced at the moment. Many can't visit the graves of loved ones because of travel restrictions. With Mothering Sunday [March 14<sup>th</sup>] and Easter [April 4<sup>th</sup>] both falling in the next few weeks, not being able to do such things will be all the harder to bear.

Many have come from within and outside our Benefice to St Wystan's in Repton to light a candle and say a prayer, but we felt that for others, perhaps you, a family member or a friend, that might not be enough or that going into church might feel awkward.

**Until mid-April** we have set aside an area near the Lychgate in St Wystan's Churchyard in Repton as a Place of Memorial. A low fence encloses an area of grass and the first yew tree. On one side there is a Cross made out of the Christmas Trees used in Church this last December.

**Anyone is most welcome** to come and place flowers, photos, momentos, or any item with special significance on the ground either under the tree or around the Cross. If you wish to hang a prayer, photo, ribbon or lightweight memento from the tree you are most welcome to do so. [*We know that Churchyard regulations don't allow such things but this is a special one off event in a defined area so we are turning a blind eye for 7 weeks*].

All we ask is that you don't leave anything made from glass, or which is dangerous or easily breakable, and please, do not hang things from the tree over the path. We reserve the right to remove items that are not 'safe'.

As part of the **Marie Curie National Day of Reflection on Tuesday March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11.50 am** [marking 1 year since the first lockdown began] there will be a short act of remembering and giving thanks leading up to the 1 minute of silent reflection at 12.00noon. Again, anyone is most welcome to come along for that special time.

The Place of Memorial will continue through Easter [our Christian Festival marking the death of Jesus and Celebrating His Resurrection] another time when many people also remember loved ones by visiting graves

and so on. At our services on Mothering Sunday and Easter a special prayer will be said for all our loved ones.

We plan to clear the area later in April so would ask if you wish to retrieve a memento you do so before **Monday April 19<sup>th</sup>**.

We do pray continually for all those who die and for those who mourn the loss of loved ones – may you know God's peace if you are mourning at this time.

Martin the Vicar

### **DAILYHOPE PHONE LINE**

DailyHope, a free national telephone line, offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of the phone.

A Church of England initiative in partnership with CONNECTIONS at Holy Trinity Claygate, and Faith in Later Life.



A free phone line of hymns,  
reflections and prayers

The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind; to provide comfort and spiritual nourishment to the most isolated in our society.

**"With many in our country on lockdown, it's important that we support those who are feeling lonely and isolated, whatever age they are."**

*Archbishop Justin Welby*

### **CHRISTIAN AID GIVING THANKS AND DONATIONS**

The Diocese of Derby is now supporting an initiative by Christian Aid to give both thanks and a donation once you have received the vaccine.

The donation will be used by Christian Aid to help vulnerable communities around the world access soap, food and vital health information in the face of the pandemic.

Christian Aid will also support vaccination programmes in countries where it is operating by providing data on hard-to-reach populations to local health services and by challenging misleading information about the virus and vaccination, as well as any stigma faced by those who contract Covid-19.

Full details are available on the diocesan website.

### **ST WYSTAN'S CHURCH PORCH**

Works have been completed on the porch and other small jobs that required attention. Thank you again to Virginia, George, the Building and Churchyard Committee and all those who have helped out with extra cleaning, during the time these necessary works have been undertaken. Thank you for those who filled in the grant applications and raised the funds that made the work possible. Thank God for people pulling together to make things happen.