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Electoral Roll / Annual Church Meeting

Thank you to all who have returned their electoral roll application! The list is now being finalised for our Annual Parochial Church Meeting, straight after the service on Sunday, 7 April, 11.45am. This is an important meeting in our church's life and we hope you can be there!

Francis and Annabel Moloney

Francis Moloney, our Parish Assistant and Ordinand, will be leaving us to serve his training curacy at St. Leonard's, Beoley in the Diocese of Worcester. Francis and Annabel's last Sunday in Denham will be Sunday 2nd June. Francis will be ordained in Worcester Cathedral on the 23rd June. Annabel will also finish her nursing degree this summer. Please pray for them as they prepare for this next chapter in their life and ministry.

"By A Departing Light: Growing Through Grief"

By Ian Jennings

Ian has copies of his book available now. Please speak directly to him if you would like to buy one.

Vestry Teas

The Vestry Tea rota is now available at the back of church. Please do sign up. If you organising a vestry tea in aid of the church, you will have first choice of date. In April all other charities can sign up for any remaining dates.

Collect

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

WEEKLY DIARY

Monday 18th March

10.30am Alpha Course. *St Mark's*
7.30pm Alpha Course. *St Mark's*

Wednesday 20th March

10.00am Little Lions Toddler Group *St Mark's*

Thursday 21st March

10.00am Holy Communion. BCP. *Vestry*
11.00am Lent Course Part 2. *Vestry*
7.30pm Alpha Course. *St Mark's*

Tombola for Denham Fayre

Collection for the Tombola at the Denham Fayre has begun. Please place any unwanted gifts which are in good condition in the Tombola Box at the back of the church.

Book Stall at Denham Fayre

We are running a book stall this year. Please place your book donations into the boxes provided at the back of church.

No other gifts, please. There will be no bric-a-brac stall. Thank you.

Mothering Sunday: 31 March

Mothering Sunday cards, Easter cards and children's books are available now on the book shelves at the back of church.

LENT COURSE: ABUNDANT LIFE

*Thursday 14th, 21st, 28th March, 11am-12pm
St Mary's Vestry*

(Refreshments served from 10.45am)

Join us for the second and third week of our Lent course as we reflect on the *Raising of Lazarus (John 11)*. The course has been written by Bishop Steven Croft. Come just for the course or join us for our service of Holy Communion from 10am. Each session stands on its own – so do come even if you can only make one of them.



PAROUSIA

Weekly News Sheet

17th March 2019

The Second Sunday of Lent

Welcome to church! If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello to the service leader or a member of the welcome team so we can welcome you personally. During the 10.30 service there is Sunday club for children. If your child is under three or if you would like to help him/her settle, you are welcome to join in.
Christoph Lindner, Rector

Worshipping with our wallets

By Kate Bottley

Growing up, Thursday nights were nights of fear and dread. My dad got his wages on a Thursday, in a tiny double folded piece of brown paper. After counting out the notes into little piles – the gas, the electric, the insurance, he pushed over a small pile to my mum 'for housekeeping'. Most of the time it was enough. When dad was made redundant, Mum took on three jobs so we could manage.

When I first came to faith as a teenager I suggested to my dad I might like to give some of my pocket money to the church's building project. He said 'The churches are full of gold and silver and yet they ask the people for money? Don't be a fool.' When I got married to a vicar's son who'd grown up tithing [i.e. giving ten percent of their income to the church] there was a clash of cultures.

I recently preached on tithing. Afterwards a lifelong daily worshipper in his 80s grabbed me and told me he'd never heard of such an idea and was I absolutely sure there was some biblical evidence for it.

I tend to tell the story of what changed for me when I went from being someone who didn't give to someone who did give to the church. I started to see that giving was part of my worship. No longer did it seem a functional exercise aimed at repairing the roof, this became about my relationship with God. My father-in-law (to be) talked about not the amount but the attitude being key to being a cheerful and generous giver and that if I was to give grumpily I could keep my money.

Even my dad has changed his mind although he's a little more pragmatic. 'Well, you give it away if you want, it's yours and after all there are no pockets in a shroud.'

Kate Bottley is an Anglican priest, wife and mother and one of Britain's best known TV vicars. This is a shortened article from Preach Magazine.

Worship today



17th March 2019

The Second Sunday of Lent

8.00am Holy Communion St Mary's

Sidesman: Carlene Litchmore

Reader: Stephen Barrett

Readings: 1 Thess 4. 1-8
Matt. 15.21-28

9.55-10.00 Pre-service Prayer

St Mary's, front of church

10.30am Morning Worship St Mary's:

*Unmasking the Idols:
Money Changes Everything*

Sidesteam:

Craig Alexander & Caroline Goodwin

Readings and Readers:

2 Cor 8. 1-9 Carole Wadlow
Luke 19. 1-10 Sandy Wickenden

Prayers: Ann Collins

Sunday Club: Kathy Paine

2 Cor 8. 1-9

We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia; ²for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. ³For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means, ⁴begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints—⁵and this, not merely as we expected; they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us, ⁶so that we might urge Titus that, as he had already made a beginning, so he should also complete this generous undertaking among you.
>>>>>

⁷Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you—so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking. ⁸I do not say this as a command, but I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others. ⁹For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Luke 19. 1-10

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. ²A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax-collector and was rich. ³He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. ⁴So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. ⁵When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.' ⁶So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. ⁷All who saw it began to grumble and said, 'He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.' ⁸Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, 'Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.' ⁹Then Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.'

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

You have called us out of darkest night

Into Your glorious light
That we may sing the wonders of
The risen Christ
May our every breath retell the grace
That broke into our strife
With boundless love and deepest joy
With endless life

May the peoples praise You

Let the nations be glad

All Your blessing comes that we may praise

May praise the Name of Jesus >>>>>

All the earth is Yours and all within
Each harvest is Your own
And from Your hand we give to You
To make Christ known
May the seeds of mercy grow in us
For those who have not heard
May songs of praise build lives of grace
To spread Your Word. **May the ...**

This our holy priv'lege to declare
Your praises and Your name
To every nation tribe and tongue
Your church proclaims. **May the ...**

Holy, Holy is the Lord Almighty
Worthy, worthy is the Lamb
who was slain
Holy, Holy is the Lord Almighty
All creation praise Your glorious Name

Long ago You taught Your people

Part of what you reap is Mine
From your cattle bring the firstborn
Tithe the crops of field and vine
Though beneath the law's restrictions
We are not compelled to live
As we reap our monthly harvest
Make us eager Lord to give

What a way of life You showed us
Through the Son You gladly gave
Never snared by earthly treasure
Buried in a borrowed grave
Yet to all He freely offered
Riches of the deepest kind
Let us live with His example
Firmly fixed in heart and mind

In the lifestyle of the Spirit
Giving has a central part
Teach us Lord this grace of sharing
With a cheerful loving heart
Not a tiresome obligation
Not a barren legal due
But an overflow of worship
All we have belongs to You

Worship next week



24th March 2019

The Third Sunday of Lent

8.00am Holy Communion St Mary's

Sidesman: Philip Constable

Reader: Roger Gage

Readings: Ephes. 5. 1-14
Luke 11. 14-28

9.55-10.00 Pre-service Prayer

St Mary's, front of church

10.30am Holy Communion St Mary's:

*Unmasking the Idols:
The Seduction of Power*

Sidesteam:

Marion Francis & Joan Bell

Readings and Readers:

1 Cor. 26-2.5 Sam Carter
Matt. 20. 20-28 Pam Montgomery

Prayers: Carole Wadlow

Servers: Michael Carmody & Nnamdi Maduka

Sunday Club: Sonja Clements

In your prayers this week, please remember **Jo Beal, Vi Slade, Sean Ryde, Audrey Sells and Christine Willson.** Also anyone known to us who is sick or suffering the pain of bereavement at this time especially the family of **David Stanley.**

