

## WEEKLY DIARY

### Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February

10.00am Women's Lifegroup *The Rectory*  
7.30pm Alpha *St Mark's*  
7.30pm Lifegroup. *Call office for location*

### Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February

10am Little Lions Toddler Group  
*St Mark's*  
8pm Baptism Preparation Evening  
*The Rectory*

8pm Lifegroup. *Call office for location*

### Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February

10.00am Holy Communion *St Mary's*

### Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February

2.30pm Lifegroup *Call office for location*

## DENHAM PARISH NEWS

Our new magazine is out. Please take extra copies to give away, and put them in public and community places around the parish (of course, asking the owners for permission beforehand!)

### Birthday Thanks

Thank you to everyone who sang Happy Birthday and sent me such good wishes for my 80th birthday on 3rd February. I had a marvellous weekend of celebration. My love goes to all my church family. Carole Wadlow

### Samuel Kpagheri

Samuel is one of our mission partners with Wycliffe Bible Translators in Togo (please read the article in our current magazine). We had invited him to visit us in March. Sadly, he has not been granted a visa. We very much hope to invite him again at a later stage. Please continue to pray for him, his family and his work.

## SAFEGUARDING IN THE CHURCH

Our churches and church-related activities must be safe for all, with safeguarding policies and practices that promote a safer church.

We need to be certain that all known cases of concern about the behaviour of our clergy or church officers towards children and adults have been considered and dealt with appropriately.

Every church in the Diocese, including our own, is now undertaking a comprehensive review as part of the national Past Cases Review 2 (PCR2). You can find out more about PCR2 on the Diocese of Oxford website: [oxford.anglican.org/pcr-2](http://oxford.anglican.org/pcr-2)

If you have information or need to make a disclosure regarding church-related abuse, please make direct contact with the Safeguarding Team at the Diocese of Oxford on 01865 208290.

If you have lived experience of abuse from within the Church of England, you may prefer to call the dedicated telephone NSPCC helpline, which is independent of the Church. Call 0800 80 20 20

The NSPCC helpline is also available to anyone wishing to provide information or to raise concerns regarding abuse within the Church of England. The helpline is there for you whether you are reporting issues relating to children or adults or seeking to whistleblow about poor safeguarding practice. Your call is confidential, and your concerns will be taken seriously.



# PAROUSIA

Weekly News Sheet

9<sup>th</sup> February 2020

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before 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 a 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*

### Healthy Family: The Aims of Discipleship

*"If you aim at nothing, you are bound to hit it!"*

*"Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven has come near." (Jesus)*

What are the aims of Christian Discipleship?

- **Participating in the Kingdom mission of Jesus.** "Your kingdom come ... on earth as it is in heaven." "The Kingdom of God ... is the reign of God over all the forces of death, the triumph of love over all the forces of hatred, the triumph of peace over all the forces of violence and warfare." (*Professor John Hull*)
- **Transformation:** personally (conversion and discipleship) and of our society and world (social justice). This larger transformation happens one person at a time as we become more like Jesus. "What can you do to promote world peace? Go home and love your family." (*Mother Teresa*). We can only do this through the power of the Holy Spirit and because through all our failures, God forgives us and gives us another chance (and another!).
- **Disciples in the whole of our lives.** "Our primary calling is to make a difference where we find ourselves most of the time." (*The London Institute for Contemporary Christianity (LICC) – [licc.org.uk](http://licc.org.uk)*)
- **A vibrant, full life.** Not just 'whole-life disciples', but 'full-life disciples'. "I have come that they may have abundant life." (*Jesus in John 10.10*). No one is attracted to Jesus by a dull and joyless Christian!
- **Gathering people into community.** Community with Jesus and one another, that will model heaven on earth, "resident aliens" (*Stanley Hauerwas*). The more communities of disciples there are, the more transformation we will see!
- **A heavenly calling.** "We may be confident that the crowning wonder of our experience will be in the heavenly realm with endless exploration of that unutterable beauty, majesty, love, holiness, power, joy and grace which is God himself." (*Bruce Milne*)

## Worship today



9<sup>th</sup> February 2020  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Lent

8.00am Holy Communion *St Mary's*

**Sidesman:** Carlene Litchmore  
**Reader:** Stephen Barrett  
**Readings:** 1 Cor. 9. 24-27  
Matt. 20. 1-16

9.55-10.00am Pre-Service Prayer  
*St Mary's, front of church*

10.30am Sung Communion *St Mary's*  
**Healthy Family: "Where are we going?"**  
*(The Aims of Discipleship)*

**Sidesteam:**  
Maurice Litchmore & Sharon Williams  
**Readers:**  
1 Cor 2. 1-5 Michael Carmody  
Matt 3. 1-6, 4.12-17 Beverley Gray  
**Prayers:** Carole Wadlow  
**Servers:** Carlene Litchmore & Clergy  
**Sunday Club:** Sonja Clements

### Collect

Eternal God, whose Son went among the crowds and brought healing with his touch: help us to show his love, in your Church as we gather together, and by our lives as they are transformed into the image of Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Post Communion

Merciful Father, who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life, that those who come to him should never hunger: draw us to the Lord in faith and love, that we may eat and drink with him at his table in the kingdom, where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## 1 Corinthians 2. 1-5

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup>My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**All: Thanks be to God**

## Matthew 3. 1-6, 4.12-17

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' <sup>3</sup>This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' <sup>4</sup>Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ...

<sup>12</sup> Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup>'Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— <sup>16</sup> the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.' <sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to proclaim, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.'

*This is Gospel of the Lord.*

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## My hope is built on nothing less

Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name  
(REPEAT)

*Christ alone cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love  
Through the storm He is Lord, Lord of all*

When darkness seems to hide His face  
I rest on His unchanging grace  
In every high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil  
My anchor holds within the veil

When He shall come with trumpet sound  
Oh may I then in Him be found  
Dressed in His righteousness alone  
Faultless stand before the throne

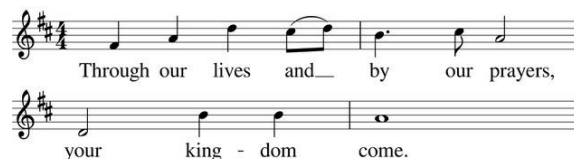
**Hope of our calling: hope through courage won;**  
By those who dared to share all Christ had done.  
Saints of today, Christ's banner now unfurled,  
We bring his gospel to a waiting world.

Hope of our calling: hope with strength empowered,  
Inspired by all that we have seen and heard;  
This call is ours, for we are chosen too,  
To live for God in all we say and do.

Hope of our calling: hope with grace outpoured,  
From death's despair the gift of life restored;  
Our call to serve, to wash each others' feet,  
To bring Christ's healing touch to all we meet.

Hope of our calling: hope by faith made bold;  
To sow God's righteousness throughout the world;  
Bring peace from conflict, fruitfulness from weeds,  
The kingdom's harvest from a mustard seed.

Hope of our calling: Spirit-filled, unbound,  
Old joys remembered and new purpose found,  
Our call refreshed by sacrament and word,  
We go in peace to love and serve the Lord.



## Worship next week



16<sup>th</sup> February 2020  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent

8.00am Holy Communion *St Mary's*

**Sidesman:** Philip Constable  
**Reader:** Roger Gage  
**Readings:** 2 Cor. 11. 19-31  
Luke 8. 4-15

9.55-10.00am Pre-Service Prayer  
*St Mary's, front of church*

10.30am Morning Worship *St Mary's*  
**Healthy Family: "This is going to hurt!"**  
*(Suffering and Sacrifice)*

**Sidesteam:**  
Brian and Heather O'Regan  
**Readers:**  
Rom. 8. 18-25 Anne Thomas  
Matt. 16. 24-26 Stuart Montgomery  
**Prayers:** Chinwendu Maduka  
**Sunday Club:** Kathy Paine

In your prayers this week, please remember **Jo Beal, Sean Ryde and Christine Willson**. Also anyone known to us who is sick or suffering the pain of bereavement at this time especially the family of **Dr June MacGregor**.

