

WEEKLY DIARY

Monday 16th March

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

Wednesday 18th March

- 10.00am Little Lions Toddler Group *St Mark's*
8.00pm Lifegroup *Call office for location*

Thursday 19th March

- 10.00am Holy Communion *Vestry*

Friday 20th March

- 2.30pm Lifegroup *Call office for location*

THE BLESSING OF GRANDPARENTS!

Have your grandparents been an important influence on your faith journey? We'd love you to share your story in a few short sentences for an article in the next Denham Parish News. Please send your contribution to our church office or email it to magazine@denhamparish.church

Gardening Help Needed

Would you have a couple of hours you could offer to help with gardening and simple maintenance tasks in the churchyard? We want to put a small team together. If so, please contact Dexter Brown: 07903476535 or dexterjane@btinternet.com

CORONAVIRUS AND THE CHURCH

Please find the latest update (including a short video message from Christoph) on our website at denhamparish.church/blog or click on "The Latest" in the menu bar.

This is a worrying time for many. *If you have any concerns about yourself or others*, please do contact one of our ministers or churchwardens or the church office. All contact details can be found in Denham Parish News or from our church office. If you are 'self-isolating' do let our church office know!

DIARY DATE!

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) 26 April 2020 – 11.45am

This is an important date in our church's calendar, when we look back to thank God for all his blessings in 2019 and look forward with hope and faith to step into his mission for us. The meeting will take place after our morning service. *Please try to be there!*

Electoral Roll 2020

This year's Electoral Roll registration will be a revised version of 2019. If there are any changes to your details, please complete a new form which is available at the main entrance (by the internal post tray) of the Church or from Maurice Litchmore at maurl@btinternet.com. Anyone who has been attending St Mary's for at least 6 months may apply to become a member of the Church which will enable you to vote at the APCM. Completed application forms should be returned by 27 March 2020.



PAROUSIA

Weekly News Sheet

15th March 2020

3rd 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 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

People of hope in our current crisis

Graham Nicholls, premierchristianity.com (shortened)

The COVID-19 crisis has taken over as the dominant news story and it is stoking people's fear of the unknown, a fear of being out of control. Hand sanitiser has become the new gold currency. How should Christians think and respond?

Realism

This is a genuinely dangerous disease. We should not be in denial about its real potential to cause harm and will do what we can to protect ourselves and others. But we also know that illness is part of living in a fallen world and its threat is a real and daily reality for many people across the world. We do not want to get caught up in disproportionate, irrational panic; we must keep our heads in every situation.

Prayer

Because we know God cares for us and knows all about us, we can cry out to him with honesty about our fears and weaknesses. We pray for protection for ourselves and our loved ones and for those suffering the effects of this virus.

But we should also pray that we might serve and love people in their fear and that God would be glorified. We ask God to be at work to bring many to realise the frailty of life and the need for real, everlasting hope that is only found in Jesus Christ.

Faith, not fear

The temptation to fear coronavirus is real. God know this. This is why he says "do not fear" hundreds of times in the Bible.

Do not call conspiracy everything this people calls a conspiracy; do not fear what they fear, and do not dread it. The Lord Almighty is the one you are to regard as holy, he is the one you are to fear. (Isaiah 8:12,13a)

Christian blogger David Robertson recently wrote: "A far more infectious virus is that of sin. 100 per cent of us are born with it. 100 per cent will die because of it. But we were created for eternity. The world's answer is to panic and buy toilet paper. The church's answer is to look to Christ."

The confidence of our secular culture is all smoke and mirrors. We trust our sovereign and gracious God. We need not fear but look to the Lord to provide, protect and teach us through these testing times.

(Find the latest updates on our website at www.denhamparish.church/blog)

email: office@denhamparish.church

phone: 01895 832771

website: www.denhamparish.church

Worship today



15th March 2020
3rd Sunday of Lent

8.00am Holy Communion *St Mary's*

Sidesman: Philip Constable

Reader: Roger Gage

Readings: Ephesians 5. 1-14,
Luke 11. 14-28

9.55-10.00am Pre-Service Prayer

St Mary's, front of church

10.30am Morning Worship *St Mary's*

Sidesteam:

Sylvia Gammond & Cheryl Webb

Readings:

Psalm 95 Sandra Wickenden

John 4. 5-42 (page 91 NT) Jenny Ashe

Prayers: Ann Collins

Sunday Club: Edda Lindner

Destiny at St Mark's: Jane Brown

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

Psalm 95

1 O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.

2 **Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving and be glad in him with psalms.**

3 For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods.

4 **In his hand are the depths of the earth and the heights of the mountains are his also.**

5 The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands have moulded the dry land.

6 **Come, let us worship and bow down and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

7 For he is our God; we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Are you thirsty, are you empty

Come and drink these living waters

Tired and broken, peace unspoken

Rest beside these living waters

Christ is calling, find refreshing
At the cross of living waters
Lay your life down, all the old gone
Rise up in these living waters

*There's a river that flows
With mercy and love
Bringing joy to the city of our God
There our hope is secure
Do not fear anymore
Praise the Lord of living waters*

Spirit moving, mercy washing
Healing in these living waters
Lead your children, to the shoreline
Life is in these living waters

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Are you thirsty, are you empty
Come and drink these living waters
Love forgiveness, vast and boundless
Christ He is our living waters

(Choir)

**Lord Jesus, I give you my hands
to do your work;**

I give you my feet to go your way;
I give you my eyes to see as you do;
I give you my tongue to speak your words;
I give you my mind, Lord,
that you may think in me;
I give you my spirit that you may pray in me,
that you may pray in me.

Above all, Lord, I give you my heart,
that you may love in me your Father
and all humankind;
I give you my whole self that you
may grow in me,
so that it is you, Lord Jesus,
who live and work and pray in me;
I give you my whole self,
that you may live and work and pray in me.

Lord Jesus, I give you my spirit
that you may pray in me,
I give you my heart, Lord,
that you may love in me,
pray in me, love in me,
pray in me, love in me.

(Margaret Rizza)

Worship next week



22nd March 2020
4th Sunday of Lent
Mothering Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion *St Mary's*

Sidesman: Carlene Litchmore

Reader: Alison Barrett

Readings: Gal. 4. 21-end
John 6. 1-14

9.55-10.00am Pre-Service Prayer

St Mary's, front of church

10.30am Mothering Sunday Family
Service *St Mary's*

Sidesteam:

John Breese & Anne Thomas

Prayers: Carole Wadlow

Sunday Club Activity: Edda Lindner

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 Igor Samsonov.

