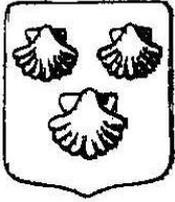
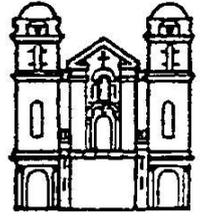


08/21



This week at the Church of
St James the Greater
Leicester

www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk
office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk



21 FEBRUARY 2021
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

A Prayer for the Nation

Lord Jesus Christ,
in these dark and difficult days, we turn our hearts to you.
In ages past, you have delivered our nation from disaster.

Do it again, we pray.

Give wisdom beyond human wisdom to our leaders,
Give strength beyond human strength to the NHS and all our frontline workers.
Give comfort beyond human comfort to the elderly and all who grieve.

Lord Jesus Christ,
in these dark and difficult days,
turn your face towards us,
have mercy upon us,
and heal our land, we pray.
Amen.

Our Prayers are asked for:

All prevented from worshipping with us, remembering this week
Conceição Fernandes
and all those currently unable to attend services.

Unwell

Michael Quigley : Ann Blanchard : Anthony Green :
Margaret Norman : Owen Shepherd : Josephine Chizema

Recovering

The Very Reverend Derek Hole : Jean Warren : John Finn

Rest In Peace

George Daley

Welcome to St James the Greater

21st February

10:30am

Welcome to our weekly online service. To be able to join us please ensure you have downloaded Zoom to your computer, mobile phone or tablet and click on the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81897708742?pwd=OXV5UIBkZ2ZlYWtjMTYveVU5RjEzQT09>

Meeting ID: 818 9770 8742

Passcode: 364834

A Service of Morning Prayer For The First Sunday Of Lent

Please join in the responses in **bold type**, but ensure your microphone is muted.

Preparation

Grace, mercy and peace,
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

All: **And also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

All: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

The minister may say

We have come together in the name of Christ
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,
to hear and receive God's holy word,
to pray for the needs of the world,
and to seek the forgiveness of our sins,
that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we may give ourselves to the service of God.

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'
So let us turn away from our sin and turn to Christ,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

All:

Lord God,

we have sinned against you;

we have done evil in your sight.

We are sorry and repent.

Have mercy on us according to your love.

Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.

Renew a right spirit within us

and restore us to the joy of your salvation;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the Father of all mercies
cleanse you from your sins,
and restore you in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Blessed is the Lord,

All: for he has heard the voice of our prayer;

therefore, shall our hearts dance for joy

All: and in our song will we praise our God.

Blessed are you, Lord our God,
creator and redeemer of all;
to you be glory and praise for ever.
From the waters of chaos, you drew forth the world
and in your great love fashioned us in your image.
Now, through the deep waters of death,
you have brought your people to new birth
by raising your Son to life in triumph.
May Christ your light ever dawn in our hearts
as we offer you our sacrifice of thanks and praise.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All: Blessed be God for ever.

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.

All: Amen.

The Word of God ***Genesis 9. 8 – 17***

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is

with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Mark 1. 9 – 15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead.

All: **And Christ shall give you light.**

You have died and your life is hid with Christ in God.

All: **Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead.**

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on the earth.

All: **And Christ shall give you light.**

When Christ our life appears you will appear with him in glory.

All: **Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead,
and Christ shall give you light.**

Gospel Canticle

The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah) is said:

All:

I. Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,

- who has come to his people and set them free.
2. He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.
 3. Through his holy prophets God promised of old
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,
 4. To show mercy to our ancestors,
and to remember his holy covenant.
 5. This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
 6. Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.
 7. And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
 8. To give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of all their sins.
 9. In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
 10. To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.68-79

All:

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

A sermon is preached

The Creed

All:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayers

*Intercessions are offered.
At the end of each petition:*

Lord in your mercy
All: Hear our prayer.

The Collect is said.
Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer is said
Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**All:
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 Conclusion

The Blessing

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil,
and keep us in eternal life.

All: Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

You are welcome to stay online for a chat – feel free to remain logged in while you make a drink!

Wednesday 24th February

6:30pm

A Service of Compline

Welcome to our first online service of Compline, which this week is led by Shelia Roberts. To be able to join us please ensure you have downloaded Zoom to your computer, mobile phone or tablet and click on the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88344475582?pwd=V0lqRFFJVEJldWZrM2UvTUdnamVHQT09>

Meeting ID: 883 4447 5582

Passcode: ak60zx

A copy of the Order of Service can be downloaded from the church's website by visiting:

<http://www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk/resources/Order%20of%20Service%20-%20Online%20Compline.pdf>

You can join in the responses, but just make sure you've muted your microphone. There will also be some parts sung by a small group from the choir and the words of the service will also be shown on screen.

The Vicar Writes ...

We entered lockdown in Lent last year, and now as we enter Lent this year it can feel more like a continuation than a change, as if Lent has lasted twelve months.

Certainly, stripped of familiar pleasures, company and human contact, we find ourselves in a kind of wilderness, a strange desolation in our lives. Much has been made of the pressures, lockdown and pandemic anxiety (as well as actual grief) has put on our mental health - perhaps these are the demons we face in the wilderness.



Although apart, we do not face them alone - we remain a community, united by prayer (and sometimes Zoom!), as well sharing the spirit of Christ.

Dates For Your Diary

ONLINE HOUSE GROUPS These will be continuing through Lent, with the next sessions taking place on Tuesday 23rd February at 7:30pm, co-ordinated by Alastair Jackson. And Monday 1st March at 3:30pm, co-ordinated by Val Bailey. For more details, please contact Angela Jagger at: A.F.Jagger@dunelm.org.uk.

TEA AT THE VICARAGE Will take a break this Thursday – 25th February – as the Vicar is attending an online course. Normal service will be resumed the following Thursday, 4th March.

LENT COURSE Our online course for this Lent will continue this Friday, 26th February, at 7:00pm. To join us, you just need to click on the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/yxz8dv3r>.

ONLINE LENT RETREAT In addition to our Lent Course, BBC Radio 4's Sunday Worship and Daily Service programmes will be following the themes of an Ignatian Lent Retreat. The online resources provide images, readings, prayers and music for each day. Details can be found online at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/3gGFW2dW4dqbsFxRMjqzdmD/pathways-to-prayer-lent-retreat-2021> and <https://www.onlineprayer.net/>.

LENT APPEAL Under normal circumstances we would usually support the Bishop's Lent Appeal. However, this year with churches in Leicester and Leicestershire unable to open, an appeal isn't being held. Because of this, we'd like to encourage you to take this opportunity to help a charity of your choice.

We know many of you already support charities both locally, nationally and abroad. However, if you're unsure of a charity to back, or would like to help a different one, maybe you'd like to consider making a donation to one of the fantastic organisations listed below. We've included a link to their website to allow you to learn more about them.

- **Open Hands** Is a Leicester charity, whose primary purpose is to show compassion, support and care to those in need, to invest hope in and through people and to empower individuals to work towards a better future.
<https://www.openhandsleicester.org.uk/>
- **Leicester South Foodbank** This is the nearest foodbank to St James and we've supported them in previous Harvest Thanksgiving and Christmas appeals.
<https://leicestersouth.foodbank.org.uk/>
- **One Roof** Provide accommodation, support and advice to people who are homeless, destitute refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerably housed in Leicester. <https://www.oneroof.org.uk/>
- **Menphys** Is a local charity that provides a range of specialist services to support children and young adults with additional needs and disabilities, and their families. <https://www.menphys.org.uk/>
- **After 18** Is a charity which specialises in supporting unaccompanied asylum-seeking children and young refugees under 25 to adjust to living in Leicestershire, consider their options and prepare for their future.
<https://www.after18.org.uk/>
- **Christian Aid** Whilst Christian Aid week will take place in late May, last year's appeal was greatly impacted by the first Covid lockdown and they still need our support. <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/>

The last twelve months have been difficult for all of us, but this Lent it would be good if we could show our Christian charity by displaying our support for those who are less fortunate as ourselves.

THE SHELL It's that time again! Once again, the editor is beginning to put together the Spring edition of The Shell, which he hopes to publish in the last week of February.

There must be a lot to talk about in this issue. What have you been doing during the lockdown, for example? How have you been coping? It is at times like this when sharing what we have all been up to might be particularly helpful to one another. There will, of course, be the usual fun items, but don't be dissuaded from writing something on the basis that there might not be space to print it. What gets submitted, gets printed (subject of course to the usual constraints of public decency!).

Please let Graham have your contributions as soon as possible, and in any event by this coming **Monday, 22nd February**. Send via the Church office or directly to: editor@stjamesthegreater.org.uk.

CHRISTIAN AID CONFERENCE: CHANGEMAKERS: 22ND – 26TH FEBRUARY Christian Aid is running an online conference on Zoom this coming week. There will be several sessions each day and everyone is welcome to register for as many or as few sessions as they like.

For full details of the programme and to book onto sessions please go to: <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/events/changemakers-conference-programme>

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER is celebrated in over 120 countries and this year takes place on Friday 5th March. This year the service has been prepared by the women of Vanuatu on the theme, “Build on a strong foundation.”

Services, including one recorded by the women of Vanuatu, will be posted online on 5th March at both <https://worlddayofprayer.net/index.html> and <https://www.wwdp.org.uk/>.

WEBSITE UPDATE We're aware that some of you may be experiencing issues when trying to access the church website. Andy Judge, our webmaster, thinks this is down to the large number of links to our YouTube videos and will be updating the website to resolve this.

CONTACTING THE TEAM Andrew can be contacted by email at: revdaquigley@gmail.com or 0116 254 4113. The Church Office can be contacted by email at: office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk or by telephoning 0116 254 2111 and leaving a message. Please don't hesitate to get in touch, further details are on our website www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk

Resources for Home Worship

Broadcast Media

Daily Service	Monday – Friday at 9.45am	Radio 4 LW
Choral Evensong	Wednesday at 3.30pm and Sunday at 3pm	Radio 3
Sunday Worship	Sunday at 8.10am	Radio 4
Songs of Praise	Sunday – check schedule for time	BBC I

There is also a service on Radio Leicester at 8:00am on a Sunday morning

Online

www.churchofengland.org

www.leicestercathedral.org

DAILY HOPE TELEPHONE SERVICE offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. 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. This is a Freephone number.

Options available include materials also available digitally by the Church of England's Communications team such as Prayer during the Day and Night Prayer updated daily, from Common Worship, and a recording of the Church of England weekly national online service. A section called Hymn Line offers callers a selection of hymns, updated daily. An option entitled 'Hymns We Love', provides an increasing range of hymns and reflections on them. More options have been added.

The options are detailed below:

1. Hymns we love – one each day with a spoken reflection based on it.
2. Hymn line – favourite hymns on a repeating loop.
3. Chair exercises – a different set of exercise for each day of the week.
4. Daily Reflection for these times – read by Pam Rhodes.
5. Access to more options (6 – 9).
6. Weekly service from C of E.
7. Morning and Evening Prayer from Common Worship.
8. Latest Government advice on Coronavirus.
9. Mother's Union Midday Service.

Pressing 0 returns you to the top menu (1 – 5) and * gives access to the full text of the Archbishop of Canterbury's introduction. It is helpful to have the telephone on speakerphone to avoid having to hold the handset for a long time.

Vicky Roe

Pastoral Assistant

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