

ONE CAN TRUST

We are pleased to confirm that Caroline has reinstated the One Can donation box outside the Church so that we can resume making our gifts to this worthy cause. Caroline will continue to take what has been collected on our behalf and deliver it to the main collection centre. Thanks very much to everyone who continues to support this cause.

This Week you are Asked to Pray For:

- Those in the parish and further afield who are sick or in need that they receive peace and healing, including: Irene Foord, Mary Mines, Helena Oecken, Ian Wilson, Ron Goodearl, Ian Goodearl, Phillipa King, Jenny King, Beryl Palmer and Sally Zeybek.
- The recently departed, may their souls rest in peace. And for their families at this difficult time.
- All parts of the world affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19), those who are ill with the virus and those caring for them. For our own country where infection rates have been rapidly increasing in recent weeks and the health services as they work to cope with increasing numbers of hospital cases.
- For the country of South Africa, for the people of Cape Town and Diocese of Kimberly and Kuruman including our linked parish of St. Mary's Kuruman.

THE ST. JOHN'S LENTEN FRONTAL

In last Sunday's Pew Sheet, I asked how many of the 5 groups of symbols relating to Jesus' journey to the Cross shown on the Lenten Array Altar Frontal could you name?

Starting top left there is a lantern. This probably relates to events after the Last Supper, when Jesus and the disciples (except Judas Iscariot) are spending the night at Gethsemane where Jesus is praying. The disciples have fallen asleep and Judas arrives with a crowd of people from the Chief Priests, probably by lantern light, to arrest Jesus. We will hear this story again on Palm Sunday (Mark Ch. 14 VV. 32 – 50).



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PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, LACEY GREEN



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing
Sunday 7th March 2021
3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

FOCUS ON... THE JERUSALEM TEMPLE

The First Temple in Jerusalem was built by King Solomon and said to have been completed in the year 957 BCE. According to the Book of Deuteronomy, Solomon's Temple replaced the Tabernacle, or "Tent of Meeting", which was a portable earthly shrine first erected in the Sinai wilderness under the leadership of Moses. Solomon's Temple was raided by the Egyptians, and later by the Assyrians. And it was totally destroyed following invasion by the Neo-Babylonian Empire in 586 BCE under King Nebuchadnezzar. A series of deportations of those from the upper echelons of Jewish Society then took place in what is known as the Babylonian Exile. In the year 539 BCE, the Neo-Babylonian Empire was defeated by the Persians and the exiled Judaeans were allowed to return home under the governorship of Prince Zerubbabel. Permission was given for the building of a Second Temple on the Jerusalem site; the construction of which is dated to the period 521-516 BCE. Accounts do suggest that Zerubbabel's Temple was a much more modest building than Solomon's Temple. Later the whole region fell to Alexander the Great but after his death in 323 BCE, his vast Empire was divided, and Judaea fell under the jurisdiction of the Seleucids. Antiochus IV "Epiphanes", a Seleucid ruler, embarked on a programme of enforced Hellenisation in which Jewish religious observances were banned and an image of Zeus placed in the Temple. The Jewish Festival of Chanukah therefore celebrates the restoration of the Temple in 166 BCE after the Maccabean uprising. Around 20 BCE, the Temple was renovated and greatly expanded by Herod the Great, who was a puppet ruler during the Roman occupation of Judaea. Herod's Temple was the building that Jesus would have known at the time of his earthly ministry. It was destroyed by the Romans in the year 70 CE; an event which the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke all say had been foretold by Jesus.

Canon Tony Bundock

Weekly Services:

SUNDAY

10:00 am GMT On-line Morning Worship with Hymns on Zoom

TUESDAY

9:30 am GMT On-line Celtic Morning Worship on Zoom

WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S

England remains in a third National Lockdown. Current guidance is where churches decide to do so and it has been judged safe, collective worship is still permitted, although the latest guidance from the Bishop strongly encourages churches to suspend collective worship in church and switch to on-line services. However, the PCC has decided that in-church collective worship will be suspended for the present. This decision has been made to protect our congregation due to high infection rates in Buckinghamshire including with the new more transmissible strain of Covid-19. (The other churches in the Risborough Team are also suspending in-church services for the present.) It is currently expected that this arrangement will continue until further notice.

We will continue to hold an On-line Morning Worship Service with Hymns on Sundays (at 10:00 am GMT for the present). The Tuesday morning service has been replaced with an On-line Celtic Morning Prayer service at 09:30 am GMT. We will also be opening the church for private prayer on two days during the week (Tuesday Morning from 10:00 to 10:30 am and Thursday Evening from 7:00 to 7:30 pm).

COLLECT FOR THE 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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., *Amen.*



READINGS FOR 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

Exodus Ch. 20 VV. 1 – 17
1 Corinthians Ch. 1 VV. 18 – 25

John Ch. 2 VV. 13 – 22

PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK (THIS SUNDAY THE INTERCESSIONS WILL BE LED BY MARK ROBERTS)



Create a clean heart in me, O God: a humble heart, a meek heart, a peaceful heart, a benevolent heart, a devout heart which does evil to no one, which does not repay evil for evil, but overcomes evil with good, which loves you above all things, thinks always about you, speaks about you, gives you thanks, delights in hymns and spiritual songs, and has its citizenship in heaven. Amen

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us evermore. Amen.

MORNING WORSHIP ON THE 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

This Sunday's Online Morning Worship service on Zoom will be led by Canon Tony with assistance from Graham King. The service will start at 10:00 am GMT. Details are being supplied in the email sending out this Pew Sheet, and are as follows:

Topic: Morning Prayer with Hymns
Time: Mar 7, 2021 10:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71955909446?pwd=bUlpWEZadEt0TldlTzNMRUFpRktZZz09>

Meeting ID: 719 5590 9446
Passcode: 2FnJtW

(if copying the above into your internet browser window, you need to type in all of the text in blue as a single entry without a space – it has been split into two for formatting purposes.)



Lent Course

This year's Lent Study course as adopted by Churches Together in Risborough will be based on the book "Singing in Babylon" by Jeff Lucas. Ordering this book via St. Mary's Princes Risborough is now closed, but the book can be ordered online from various stockists.

The 5 sessions will be weekly and online; and the St. John's sessions will be Thursday afternoons at 2.30 pm during Lent. The Zoom link will be supplied to those who have registered to attend.

For further details, please speak to Canon Tony.

