







During the week:

Mondays at 7pm
Lent Gathering
in St Peter's Chapel
Wednesday 10am
Midweek Mass
in St Peter's Chapel
Online Zoom service\*:
Wednesdays at 10am
NO Morning Coffee this
week

JUST TO LET YOU KNOW THAT WE WILL NOT BE RUNNING OUR FRIDAY COFFEE MORNING ON 23rd FEBRUARY. THIS IS DUE TO REHEARSALS TAKING PLACE FOR OUR FUND-RAISING PLAY, THE FLOOD, AND ALSO ON 29TH MARCH AS THIS IS GOOD FRIDAY





**THE FLOOD** Friday Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> & Sat Feb 24<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. **- BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO BUYING TICKETS:** (£15 adults; £10 under 12s with accompanying adult) Please contact the Parish Office (Tina) on 07831904321 or <a href="mailto:admstjohns30@gmail.com">admstjohns30@gmail.com</a> to reserve your tickets. Payment by cheque, made payable to St Johns PCC or by bank transfer as below. Parochial Church Council St Johns Sort code: 405240; Account no: 00006561 Please add the

Parochial Church Council St Johns Sort code: 405240; Account no: 00006561 Please add the ref: FLOOD/your surname. If paying by cheque, please post through the Church hall letterbox. In extremis, tickets CAN be purchased on the door, but this makes a huge amount of work for the kind volunteers on the desk and causes queues so please do take advantage of the above methods if at all possible. THANK YOU. Lesley Ann and the Team

Our prayers are asked for: David S, Tony G; Rachel T; Ken and Shirley K **Please pray also for** the repose of the souls of the recently departed. especially Beverley C and Pauline ... and those whose Years Minds fall around this time, and all who mourn.



Thank you.



#### A prayer for the Middle Fast

God, hear our prayers for peace in the Middle East. May all people in the region be protected, safe from harm. We pray that this crisis will end now. with no further loss of life. God, may the injured and distressed know your healing presence. May the powerful and the decisionmakers follow the paths of justice, mercy and peace. We pray for recognition of the dignity and value of every life. May the clamour of violence cease, replaced by the beating of swords into ploughshares.

God, in your name, Amen

\*Please request a link to the Wednesday Zoom service by emailing

pewsnewsstjohns@gmail.com

Also to this email address please send any updates for prayer lists or pews news sheet asap. (Print date is dependent on Tina's working days) Thank you.

## **Introit**: Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us (Plainchant)

#### **Opening Hymn**

Forty days and forty nights Thou wast fasting in the wild, Forty days and forty nights Tempted and yet undefiled.

Sunbeams scorching all the day, Chilly dewdrops nightly shed, Prowling beasts about thy way, Stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.

Let us thine endurance share, And awhile from joys abstain, With thee watching unto prayer, Strong with thee to suffer pain.

And if Satan, vexing sore, Flesh or spirit should assail, Thou, his vanquisher before, Grant we may not faint nor fail.

So shall we have peace divine, Holier gladness ours shall be, Round us too shall angels shine, Such as ministered to thee.

Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear, Ever constant by thy side, That with thee we may appear At the eternal Eastertide. G H Smyttan (1822-70) and Frances Pott (1832-1909)

#### The Welcoming of the People

**Priest** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **All Amen.** 

*Priest.* The Lord be with you. *All* and also with you.

Prayers of Penitence

Deacon The sacrifice of God is a

broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart God will not despise. Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion, and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

#### Silence is kept

Dcn Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin. Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Dcn Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Dcn Cast me not away from your presence and take not your holy spirit from me. Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

The **Kyrie Eleison** is sung by choir and congregation

Lord have mercy,
Lord have mercy,
Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy,
Christ have mercy,
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy,
Lord have mercy,
Lord have mercy,
Lord have mercy upon us.

Priest May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. All Amen.

#### The Collect

**Priest** Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer

that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

# The Liturgy of the Word all sit A reading from the book of Genesis



#### 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."

For the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

### A Reading from the first letter of Peter

1 Peter 3.18-end

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.

And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

All Thanks be to God.

**Hymn** during which the Gospel is brought amongst us.

Be thou my guardian and my guide,

And hear me when I call; Let not my slippery footsteps slide,

And hold me lest I fall.

The world, the flesh, and Satan dwell

Around the path I tread; O, save me from the snares of hell,

Thou quickener of the dead.

And if I tempted am to sin, And outward things are strong, Do thou, O Lord, keep watch within,

And save my soul from wrong.

Still let me ever watch and pray, And feel that I am frail; That if the tempter cross my way, Yet he may not prevail.

Isaac Williams (1802-65)



### **Gospel Reading** When the Gospel is announced the Deacon says

Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal glory. The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice. Harden not your hearts.

All Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Deacon The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

Don Hear the Gospel of our Lord

Jesus Christ according to Mark

All Glory to you, O Lord.

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 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 Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

#### Sermon

#### The Creed

**Deacon** Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

All Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession -led by the intercessor in their own words or.....We pray to the Lord for courage to give up other things and to give ourselves to him this Lent.

Give your Church the courage to give up her preoccupation with herself and to give more time to your mission in the world.
[We pray for...]
May the blood and water flowing from the side of Jesus bring forgiveness to your people and help us to face the cost of proclaiming salvation.
Lord, meet us in the silence, give us strength and hear our prayer.

Give your world the courage to give up war, bitterness and hatred, and to seek peace.
[We pray for...]
May the shoulders of the risen Jesus, once scourged by soldiers, bear the burden of political and military conflict in our world.
Lord, meet us in the silence, give us strength and hear our prayer.

Give us the courage to give up quarrels, strife and jealousy in our families, neighbourhoods and communities. [We pray for...] May the presence of the risen Jesus, his body once broken and now made whole, bring peace and direction as we live with one another.

Lord, meet us in the silence, give us strength and hear our prayer.

Give us the courage to give up our selfishness as we live for others, and to give time, care and comfort to the sick. [We pray for...] May the wounded hands of Jesus bring his healing touch, and the light of his presence fill their rooms.

Lord, meet us in the silence, give us strength and hear our prayer.

Give us the courage to give up our fear of death and to rejoice with those who have died in faith. [Especially we hold ... in our minds.] May the feet of the risen Lord Jesus, once nailed to the cross, walk alongside the dying and bereaved in their agony, and walk with us and all your Church through death to the gate of glory.

Lord, meet us in the silence, give us strength and hear our prayer. here and in eternity. Amen.

#### The Peace

**Priest** Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you are called to peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you *All* and also with you. *Deacon* Let us offer one another a

sign of God's peace

All may exchange a sign of peace.

**Offertory hymn** during which the altar is prepared, and bread and wine are placed upon it.

I cannot tell why he, whom angels worship, Should stoop to love the peoples of the earth, or why, as Shepherd, he should seek the wanderers. to bring them back, they know not how or when. But this I know, that he was born of Mary when Bethl'em's manger was his only home, and that he lived at Nazareth and laboured. and so the Saviour. Saviour of the world, is come.

I cannot tell how silently he suffered, as with his peace he graced this place of tears, or how his heart upon the cross was broken. the crown of pain to three and thirty years. But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted and stays our sin and calms our lurking fear and lifts the burden from the heavy laden; for still the Saviour, Saviour of the world is here.

I cannot tell how he will win the nations, how he will claim his earthly heritage, how satisfy the needs and aspirations, of east and west,
of sinner and of sage.
But this I know,
all flesh shall see his glory,
and he shall reap
the harvest he has sown,
and some glad day
his sun will shine in splendour
when he the Saviour, Saviour of
the world, is known.

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship, when at his bidding every storm is stilled. or who can say how great the jubilation when every heart with love and joy is filled. But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture, and myriad myriad human voices sing, and earth to heav'n, and heav'n to earth, will answer, 'at last the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is King!'

(Y. W. Fullerton 1857-1932)

#### Prayer at the Preparation of the Altar

Merciful Father, turn us from sin to faithfulness and from disobedience to love, and prepare us to celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ our Saviour, who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. *All* **Amen.** 

#### The Eucharistic Prayer (B)

Priest The Lord is here.

All His Spirit is with us.

Priest Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Priest Let us give thanks to the

Lord our God.

### All It is right to give thanks and praise

Priest Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you have created all things; who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks because you give us the spirit of discipline, that we may triumph over evil and grow in grace as we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and singing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory,

Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Deacon Christ is the bread of life All When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of St John the Evangelist and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. *All* **Amen.** 

#### The Lord's Prayer

**Deacon** Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

#### **Breaking of the Bread**

The priest breaks the consecrated bread.

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

All God here among us light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

We sit as Agnus Dei is sung by all.
O Lamb of God,
our Lord most holy,
who redeems us from our sin.
Have mercy on us,
meek and lowly,
make us clean and pure within.
Grant us peace we humbly pray,
as we who worship you today
receive your body
and your blood,
renewed in faith
by heav'nly food.

#### **Giving of Communion**

The priest says the invitation.
God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.
All Jesus Christ is holy
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Communion is received. Please bow your head if you prefer to receive a blessing. The Body of Christ. Amen.
The Blood of Christ. Amen.

**Anthem**: Thou knowest, Lord - Purcell

#### Hymn

Lord Jesus, think on me, And purge away my sin; From earthborn passions set me free, And make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me, With care and woe opprest; Let me thy loving servant be, And taste thy promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me, Amid the battle's strife; In all my pain and misery Be thou my health and life.

Lord Jesus, think on me, Nor let me go astray; Through darkness and perplexity Point thou the heavenly way.

Lord Jesus, think on me, When flows the tempest high: When on doth rush the enemy O Saviour, be thou nigh.

Lord Jesus, think on me, That, when the flood is past,

#### I may the eternal brightness see, And share thy joy at last.

Greek, Synesius of Cyrene (375-430) Tr A W Chatfield (1808-96)

#### **Prayer after Communion**

Priest Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. All Amen.

All Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. **A**men

#### **Notices**

#### The Blessing

Priest The Lord be with you.

All And also with you

Priest Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

#### Final hymn

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us o'er the world's tempestuous sea; guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us, for we have no help but thee; yet possessing every blessing, if our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us: all our weakness thou dost know; thou didst tread this earth before us, thou didst feel its keenest woe; self-denying, death defying, thou to Calvary didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending, fill our hearts with heavenly joy, love with every passion blending, pleasure that can never cloy: thus provided, pardoned, guided, nothing can our peace destroy.

James Edmeston (1791-1867)

#### The Dismissal

Priest The Lord be with you.

All And also with you

All May the grace of our Lord

Jesus Christ, and love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy

Spirit, be with us all, evermore.

Amen.

**Priest** May the souls of the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace...

All and rise in glory. Amen.

**Deacon** This is love, not that we loved God

All but that he loved us and sent his Son.

Dcn He is the sacrifice for our sins All that we might live through him.

Deacon If God loves us so much

All we ought to love one another.

Deacon If we love one another

All God lives in us.

**Deacon** Go in the peace of Christ. **All Thanks be to God.** 

Organ voluntary: Toccata in D minor (Dorian) – J. S. Bach

### Do stay for coffee!



If you were unable to get to an Ash Wednesday service, but would still like to receive the imposition of ashes, this is offered now at the High Altar



On her YouTube channel you can listen to Pen Wilcock's book of Lent readings, which travels from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday. Look for Penelope Wilcock on YouTube, go to her channel, select "Playlists" and then select "The Wilderness Within You".

#### From the Rector about gathering in Lent

- It strikes me that most Lent courses are a bit like lessons in school. We probably don't take a register and hopefully you won't get too rowdy so that I'll have to keep you in at *lunchtime* for detention and end up writing to your Mum! However, we do usually have some sort of stimulus, a painting, a Bible passage, an erudite talk, a piece of music followed by a few pertinent, or sometimes not so pertinent questions. So, I thought this year we would make it a bit simpler. Some of the usual elements will remain but perhaps in the midst of the present age we need a bit of space. Each week we will travel with Jesus through five key pieces of His story. The Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, the Cleansing of the Temple, the Healing of the haemorrhaging woman, the Crucifixion and Resurrection. We will read the story together and then consider awhile what it means in our community now. What it might tell us about poverty, loneliness, the exercise and abuse of power, what it means to be a community at all and so on. After that we will spend some time in silent prayer committing our concerns to God and waiting upon Him. We will end with the Lord's Prayer, a Blessing and a Hymn. Mondays at 7 pm in St Peter's Chapel from 19th February until 19th March.

#### A great tea-time concert at St Johns!

#### Into the vortex:

French vocal and chamber music before the Great War

Saturday March 9, 4pm at St John the Evangelist

Tea is served from 3:30

Jenny Miller, mezzo soprano, Francis Rayner, pianist,

and Rachel Firmager, cellist.

Experience a ravishing colorscape of poetry infused by

inspired music, including Debussy, Fauré and Du Parc

<u>All profits to St John the Evangelist</u> in thanks for their

great support for Barefoot Opera

Tickets £12.50 on the Barefoot Opera website

www.barefootopera.com



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Tina is our Administrator.

Please contact her also for Church Hall bookings.

Safeguarding Officer can be contacted on safestjohns30@gmail.com

Photo of rainbow by <u>Yulia Gadalina</u> on <u>Unsplash</u>
Baptism of Christ picture From the <u>Orations</u> by Gregory Nazianzenus - Byzantine (Constantinople), 11th - 12th