



The Benefice of Ross
with Walford
and
Brampton
Abbotts

Newsletter

10th March 2019

1st Sunday of Lent

We offer a warm welcome to everyone at our services today.

rawchurch.org.uk



Lent is a penitential season which generally means we spend more time looking at ourselves from within trying to examine who we really are, what may be called finding the true self. It is not about beating ourselves up, but is about transforming the problematic bits of us into something more positive. The purpose of things like fasting (giving up rich foods for certain periods) is to try to hone the spiritual discipline that we may undertake during Lent. Have we perhaps decided on a particular book to take us through this Lent? - maybe a deeper theological journey like Rowan Williams' 'Christ the heart of Creation', or the inspirational new book by Richard Rohr, 'The Universal Christ'. A very good recent prayer journey is David Cole's 40 days with the Celtic Saints. There are many helpful ways of journeying through Lent.

One very new way of doing Lent is outlined by a movement called '40 acts'. During Lent families who come to All-age Worship at Walford will be asked to take part in a programme of generosity, love and care with different suggestions for each day. Anyone in our Benefice can do this by just downloading the information and teaming

up with a friend to do the challenges. The overall challenge is to carry out simple acts of giving and kindness during Lent, so that giving up things becomes giving out to someone else. There is a downloadable wall chart for children (and adults) to pin up in the house - it's all available at 40acts.org.uk.

Much of our thinking this year is on the Christian attitude to ecology and the environment, with our special understanding of Christ at the centre of Creation and our responsibilities within the created order. This Lent the house groups are following an exciting new diocesan course entitled Future Calling, published by The Marches Environmental Network in the Hereford Diocese. The groups are meeting at 7.30pm on Monday evenings in Ross and at 7.30pm on Tuesday evenings in Walford. If you would like to come to a group please contact me for more information.

May I wish you a joyous and holy Lent,

Chris

The Rev'd Simon Tarlton | 01600 890185 | 07462 893457 | simon@rawchurch.org.uk (not Wed)
The Rev'd Canon Chris Blanchard | 01989 762368 | frchris2@icloud.com (Sun - Wed)
Intergenerational Missioner: Christine Cattanach | christine.cattanach@hereford.anglican.org
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TODAY'S COLLECT

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.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

Vera Foster, Terry Carter, Rev'd David Bowen

**WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND
WE PRAY FOR THEIR FAMILIES: Elizabeth
Gwatkin, Margaret Dines, Margaret Taylor,
John Hallett**

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading Deuteronomy 26.1-11

Moses spoke to the people, saying: 1When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, 2 you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. 3 You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, 'Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.' 4 When the priest takes the basket from your hand

and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, 5 you shall make this response before the LORD your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. 6 When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us, 7 we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. 8 The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; 9 and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. 10 So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.' You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. 11 Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

Second Reading Romans 10.8b-13

8 What does scripture say?

'The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart'
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); 9 because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. 11 The scripture says, 'No one who believes in him will be put to shame.' 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. 13 For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

Gospel Reading Luke 4.1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was

famished. 3 The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.' 4 Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone.'"

5 Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6 And the devil said to him, 'To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. 7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.' 8 Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

9 Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10 for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you", 11 and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

12 Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

13 When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

NOTICES

Toast & Toddle continues in the Church Hall from 8.45 to 10.15am on Wednesdays.
Christine

Ross Reinvented - next Sunday afternoon (17th) St Mary's hosts a professional puppet show that is a part of a weekend festival in the town entitled "Ross Reinvented" you can read all about it at

<http://www.createross.co.uk/>

Immediately after this we launch the first exhibit in the new Museum without Walls for our town which is a recreation of John Kyrle's lost fountain on the Prospect. St Mary's has

been involved in this too through work with four schools. Please come along. It's all very exciting! Mark Sanderson

Flower Rota I am compiling the Flower Rota for St Mary's and would be delighted to hear from anyone who would either like to provide and arrange their own flowers or who would prefer to make a donation towards the flowers in church. Thank you Freda Davies (Tel 562366)

It was 25 years ago this May that the first women priests were ordained in Hereford. To mark this anniversary, and to celebrate the fact that for 25 years men and women have ministered alongside each other as priests in our diocese, there will be a **celebration Eucharist** in the cathedral at 3.00 pm on Saturday 11th May. The preacher will be John Saxbee, former bishop of Ludlow. This will be followed by tea and cake in the hall at the Bishop's Palace. The cathedral choir isn't available that day and so there are plans to form a choir for the service under the direction of Kay Garlick. There will be more publicity coming out from the diocesan office soon but, in the meantime –

- If you'd like to sing in the choir, please contact Kay at kaygarlick@hotmail.com
- Put the date in your diary
- If you have any photographs of men and women ministering together please let me know. Simon

Lent Lunches - will be available on Wednesdays during Lent from midday until 1.30pm in St Mary's Church Hall. There will be a choice of delicious homemade soups with bread and tea or coffee. The idea of a Lent Lunch, or as they are sometimes known, a Hunger Lunch, is that the money we would normally spend on lunch is given to those in need. It is part of our observance of Lent and whilst we don't charge for the lunch we do ask that you donate generously. Margaret Mason

The monthly draw of the **100 Club** took place before the 9.30am Parish Communion Service on Sunday 3rd March 2019 and the winners are 1st Prize Val Allen - 2nd Prize Patricia Langston - 3rd Ken Burchell Pauline Waters

Palm Sunday “Bring & Share” Lunch and Pilgrim Walk. There will be two walks, the actual and the virtual. For those who want to walk, at about 11.30am we will set out towards Abacus Nursery and return via the Bowling Club; stopping to pray at various places for our schools, planet, security, life etc. For those who don't want to walk but stay in the hall there will be a map and photos of the stopping points and on the big screen a video link to the walkers so everyone can see the stopping points, join in the prayers and be fully part of the experience. We will all then have a “bring & share” lunch together. Please come and join us for the walk, or the virtual walk or just for lunch. Everyone is welcome. See Colin for more details.

Easter Walks This Easter join us for a walk of witness through our Benefice. On Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th April we will be walking, first from Brampton Abbots to Ross and then from Ross to Walford. Armed only with a simple wooden cross we will be stepping out in faith and being bold to show our community something of the faith we share. We set off each evening at 5.30pm and there will be a short service at the end of each walk to give thanks for the footsteps and for what God is leading us towards.. Simon

Lent House Groups - Future Calling meet on Monday evenings at 7.30pm in Ross and Tuesday evenings 7.30pm in Walford. All welcome please contact Chris on 762368 for more details.

SERVICES TODAY

8.00am Holy Communion - Ross

The Rev'd Simon Tarlton

9.30am Sung Eucharist - Ross

The Rev'd Simon Tarlton

Setting: A People's Mass - *Greening*

Choir Introit: A Lent Prose v2

Introit: 107 The sinless one to Jordan came

Psalm: 91.1&2, 9-16

Grad: 134 Praise to you, O Christ or saviour

Offertory: 131 O for a closer walk with God

Communion: Steal Away - *trad arr Sanderson*

Post Com: 425 Be known to us in breaking
Please *join us for coffee after this service.*

9.30am Family Service - Walford

The Rev'd Canon Chris Blanchard and The Rev'd Prebendary Caroline Pascoe

Hymn: 190 Forty days and forty nights

Hymn: 114 Come down, O Love divine

Hymn: 45 As the deer pants for the water
Refreshments after the service

6.30pm Choral Evensong - Ross

Canon Freda Davies

Introit: A Lent Prose v2

Hymn: 586 All praise to Christ

Responses: *Oxley*

Psalm: 91.1&2, 9-16

Hymn: 628 Father of heaven

Canticles: *Walmisley* in D minor

Anthem: When I survey the wondrous cross -
Chilcott

Hymn: 121 Forty days and forty nights

SERVICES NEXT WEEK

Thursday 14th March

10.00am Holy Communion - Ross

Sunday 17th March

8.00am Holy Communion - Ross

9.30am Sung Eucharist - Ross

9.30am Parish Communion - Walford

11.15am Village Service - Brampton Abbots School

11.30am Baptism - Ross

11.30am Baptism - Walford