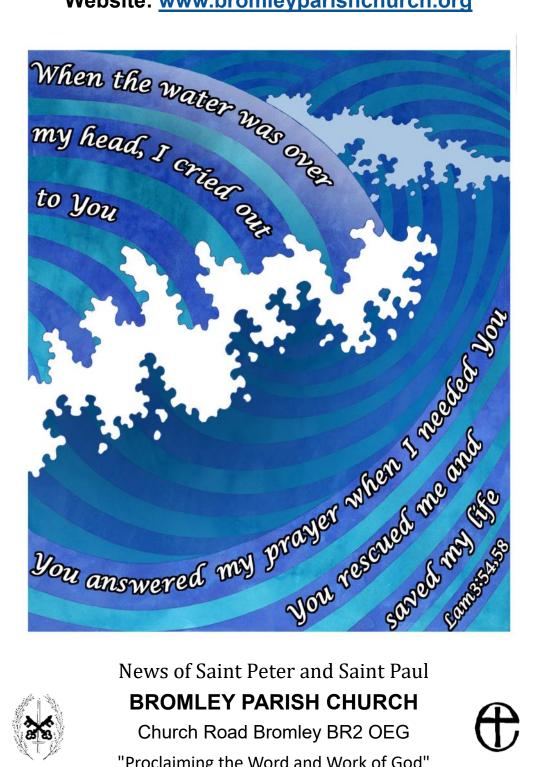


Number 232 March 2023 50p

Website: www.bromleyparishchurch.org





"Proclaiming the Word and Work of God" Member of Churches Together in Central Bromley

#### **Vicar**

Reverend James Harratt <a href="mailto:vicar@bromleyparishchurch.org">vicar@bromleyparishchurch.org</a>

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Contact: Lynn Hedges, Parish Administrator

administrator@bromleyparishchurch.org

For contributions to the Key, or if you would like to receive the Key by email, please contact thekeyeditor@gmail.com

#### Dear Reader,

Thank you for picking up this edition of the Key.

There are lots of events coming up in March, including World Day of Prayer, a lecture on God and Science, and two concerts, one raising money for Footsteps International, and another raising money for the Urology Foundation. Some may already be in your diary from last month, but if not here is your reminder!

Charlotte has kindly written a piece about Transform Trade, as many of you will have heard Traidcraft has closed down but it is great to hear from this article how its legacy is continuing.

There is also a sermon from James for reflection at the start of Lent, and prayers and poems for this time too.

I hope you enjoy reading this and wish you blessings over this very important time in the calendar of the Church.

With love

Lisa

Thank you to Rev James for providing this sermon from the beginning of Lent.

Lent 1 2023

Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7

Romans 5.12-19

Matthew 4.1–11

To be honest with you, I sat down yesterday morning to write this sermon and for the first time in a long time, I had absolutely no idea what to write. Normally, I can just look at the readings and think yes, those are the themes that clearly come out: I can say this about them, or I've had an idea brewing in my head over the week which I think needs saying and just need commit it to paper – normally they are the better sermons!

But yesterday, I had a complete blank about what to write about, not through a lack of time or being too busy, the week has been fairly sedate.

I looked at the readings and thought well, at the beginning of Lent, there are two classic themes you can speak about – one that talks about Lent as a time of growth, drawing on the word meaning something like springtime, I can talk about disciplines and habits being for our growth in faith as we look towards Easter.

Or I could talk about repentance, a key theme for the 40 days being originally preparation for Baptism and the opportunity for some for public penance - something which ties nicely with the readings – Genesis being about first temptation where it went wrong, the epistle being about how it went wrong with the first Adam but the second will sort it out, and the Gospel being the example of that.

But then I thought you will have heard those two sermons at Lent over and over again across the years. So I should probably do something else. And there I hit a bit of a blank, which was very strange. Because I normally have a sense of what I am going to say and where I want things to go, but not this time.

I did however come to something, so this isn't the end of the sermon alas.

Because that sense of not having a clear picture of what to do or where to go might be helpful in Lent.

We live in an age where uncertainty is not always welcome, we like to define where we are going, what that looks like, what the effects will be. Certainly that is more

and more the focus in churches, the need to have plans for how the church will grow and develop and faith, involvement and numbers increase, and clear ways to do that. Not necessarily a bad thing, we see it work in many places very well. Though perhaps the risk is that vision becomes the end point of everything, not always adaptable, or always easy to check if it is the right thing or not, or anything to do with the will of God even.

Once we have set an end point or goal in mind, deviation is hard, difficult to listen to other voices that might dissent. That applies to people and it can apply to God.

What we see in our gospel today is Jesus driven into the wilderness by the spirit. He is not in control, nor has he pre planned this jaunt which happens to be reminiscent of the time the Israelites spent in the desert.

There is always a question around how much Jesus knows of his story and fate, there are times when he seems to know a great deal – in his teaching and sayings about what he must undergo. However it is less certain at the moments of testing here and at Gethsemane, if the choices he makes to resist temptation to follow the Father's will despite the cost are real ones, then he cannot have the knowledge of all that will happen, that all will be well, that the discomfort and worry of the moment will end ok. The temptation to give up has to be real and meaningful to validate the choices made which have such important consequences.

So we have Jesus I believe at least, in the wilderness, there for 40 days, not knowing why or what will happen, only that he is driven there by the will of the Father which he is determined to follow despite the real cost. It is that determination which, despite not knowing what he is there for, allows him to resist the great temptation for food, power and glory.

Temptation and sin, what is it – many concepts- not going to go into here – but one relevant to us seen in reading from Genesis – to eat of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil is to have the power to differentiate between good and evil and the power to choose between them. To take power and control for ourselves and shape our future accordingly - to place ourselves rather than God in the driving seat and see what the consequences are. Something that can do great things, but terrible things as well.

It is this temptation we see with Jesus in the desert too, to gain power and control, when he feels far from being in control or knowing where things are going. Instead he trusts in that sense that drives him, the power and spirit of God, which navigates him when he is most unsure and why each answer he articulates is about trust in the power of God.

"One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

"Do not put the Lord your God to the test"

"Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."

It is the same temptation we face in most walks of life in many different ways, not to do these things but trust in ourselves. Lent can give us the excuse to get to grips with things we haven't for a while, and sort it out. Some times it is very handy to do that, but sometimes perhaps it is perpetuating that chance to do what we want to do anyway.

The key thing is to listen and be attentive to the guidance of God – we have that same spirit with us which drove Jesus into the desert, into the muddy waters of confusion and testing. We can trust God in times of certainty and times of uncertainty – what matters is that we keep listening and following where we think that may be leading up to, no matter how promising or not it appears.

Whatever you are doing or not for Lent, what is most important is that it helps us be attentive to that Spirit of God, the one who reaches out to us, if we don't and we simply listen to ourselves again, then it is likely all in vain.

The take away message here is the words of the psalm 95 used before the gospel:

"The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice. Harden not your hearts."

Hold onto that thought this Lent.

#### the **KEY**

#### **Transform Trade**

Many thanks to Charlotte for writing this piece about the work of Transform Trade. Supporters of Traidcraft may be particularly interested in this update.

By now I'm sure all of you have heard that Traidcraft plc, the fair trade pioneer has gone into administration. Bromley Parish has supported Traidcraft for many, many years, until recently having a Traidcraft stall at the back of church and selling the wonderful Traidcraft products, in particular at Easter, Christmas and in Fairtrade Fortnight. I know many of us are desperately sad to see one of the founders of the Fairtrade movement close its doors.

Traidcraft was founded over 40 years ago by Richard Adams who had a radical vision, deeply rooted in his Christian faith, of a world in which trade was fair and just. He believed people living in poverty in developing countries didn't need or want charity, they needed justice. And one of the ways to bring about greater justice and to show respect and love for others was through trading with communities of producers fairly – treating growers, artisans and makers as partners and equals, rather than exploiting their labour and natural resources for excessive profit.

Whilst Traidcraft will no longer exist, its legacy lives on. It created and set up the charity <u>Transform Trade</u> (previously named Traidcraft Exchange) who is picking up the baton. Transform Trade's mission is to transform the trading system so that everyone benefits. In response to Traidcraft's closure, Transform Trade launched a Producer Fund to support the producers and workers most affected. This fund will act quickly to put power back into producers' hands so they can face an uncertain future with confidence.

100% of donations to the Producer Fund will be used to support producers in countries in South Asia and East Africa. The fund will invest direct in producer groups, supporting the most marginalised artisans, growers and makers. Grants may fund things like equipment, training, product development and finding new markets. All activities will be led by the need of producers themselves. Transform Trade will support and advise, connecting producers to other businesses and service providers who can help their plans succeed. Crucially, the Fund will also support

#### **Transform Trade**

March 2023

campaigners and producer groups around the world to advocate for a fairer trading system that makes it easier to run an ethical business in the fundamentally unfair market place. Please do get involved and support the Fund <a href="https://www.transform-trade.org/producer">https://www.transform-trade.org/producer</a>

Transform Trade has also been working hard with other brilliant Fairtrade businesses, online retailers and Fairtraders to ensure that you can still buy your favourite Fairtrade products. Please see this list that some Fairtraders have kindly compiled which shares where you can buy your Fairtrade products <a href="https://www.neast.org.uk/">https://www.neast.org.uk/</a> fairtrade/wiki/doku.php?id=start

At Bromley Parish church, we'd love to organise a Big Brew to support the work of Transform Trade. Watch out for more details in the notices at church of when this will be happening and please do come forward and contact Charlotte Timson if you would like to help with the organising on <a href="mailto:charlottetimson@yahoo.co.uk">charlottetimson@yahoo.co.uk</a>.

by Charlotte Timson, CEO of Transform Trade

Please use this space to pass messages on to the Church community – whether it is a prayer request, a thank you, a craft idea, a recipe...

Bromley & Sheppard's Colleges
BR1 1PG opposite the Swan & Mitre

Come and hear classics by Bach, Beethoven, Mozart, Schumann and Chopin

played live in the Chapel by Michael Keen

> 3.00pm Saturday March 18<sup>th</sup>

> > with collection in aid of



working with street children in Kenya

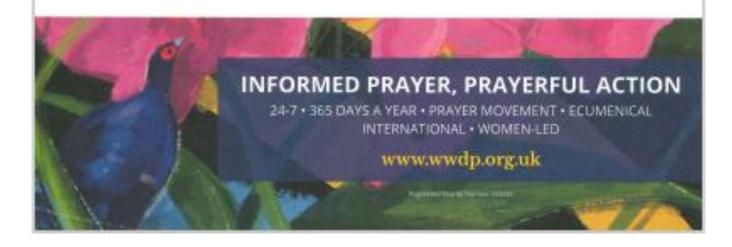






# 10.30 a.m. Bromley Parish Church St Peter and St Paul

Church Road, Bromley BR2 0EG All welcome





# WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (A WOMEN LED, GLOBAL, ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT)



#### Press Release



#### "I HAVE HEARD ABOUT YOUR FAITH"

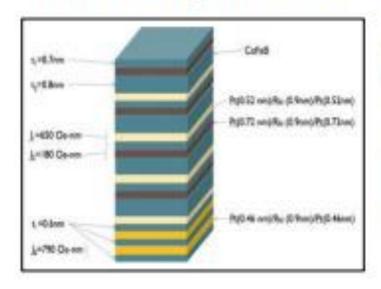
Our sisters in Taiwan are sending us blessings with the service they have prepared for World Day of Prayer 2023. Taiwan is an island rich in natural resources and culturally diverse. The women of Taiwan share the issues faced geographically, politically and socially and also their hopes for the future. Let us join with them as we give thanks for the beautiful island and people of Taiwan and encourage one another in our faith just as Apostle Paul did in his letters.

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee is based in New York and there are national committees in each participating country. Regional conferences meet to consider the service and then local groups make their plans. Finally, at a church near you on Friday March 3 2023 people will gather to celebrate the service prepared by the women of Taiwan.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world --- through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later.

For further information and resources, together with details of services in your area, see the WDP website; wwdp.org.uk

## The St John's Lent Lecture 2023



# God and Science

One big question and six wrong answers

## Professor Russell Cowburn FRS

Professor of Experimental Physics, University of Cambridge

Professor Cowburn is a physicist with research interests in nanotechnology and its application to magnetism, electronics, optics and healthcare. He has published 160 scientific papers, had 65 patents granted, has founded three start-up companies and is the inventor of the anti-counterfeiting technology 'Laser Surface Authentication'. He is a frequent invited speaker at international scientific conferences, and in 2010, at the age of 38, was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. He went on to win the Royal Society Paterson Medal in 2016. His current research tries to find ways of using nanotechnology to detect early stage kidney cancer. He is a fellow of Darwin College, Cambridge, and Professor of Experimental Physics at the Cavendish Laboratory of the University of Cambridge.

Russell is married to Rebecca and lives in Cambridgeshire. He is a committed Christian and serves on the leadership team of an Anglican church in the Diocese of Ely.



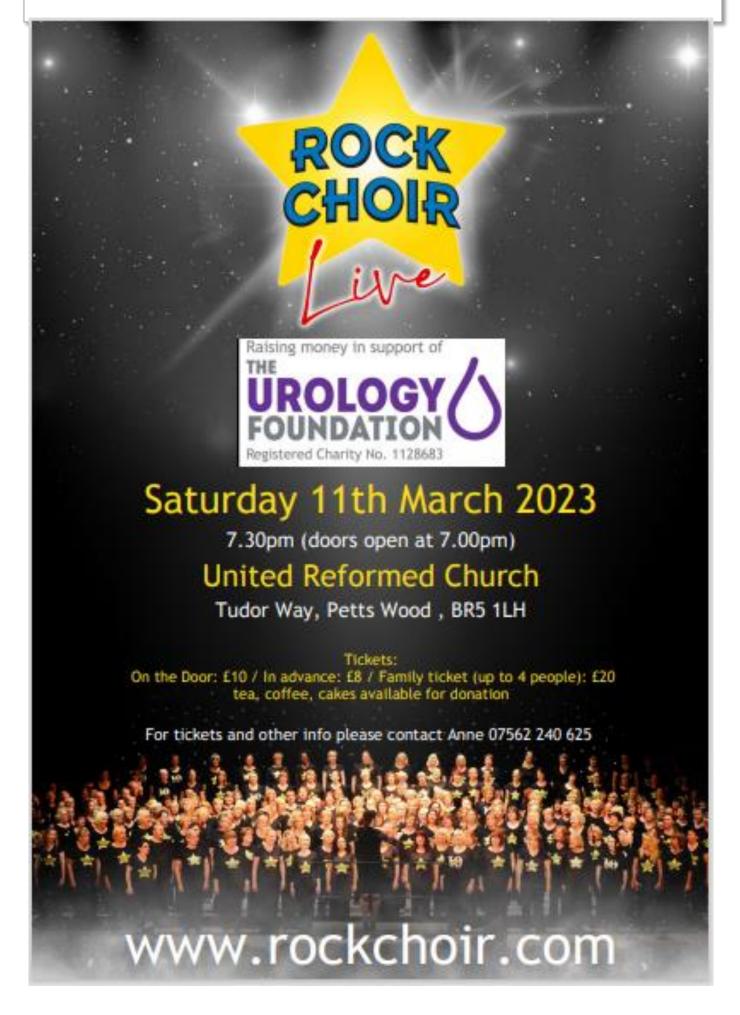
Sunday 26th March 7.30pm Admission free St John's Church, Park Road, Bromley BR1 3HJ



St John the Evangelist Bromley

www.saintjohnsbromley.com







#### Saint's Day

March 2023

26<sup>th</sup> March: Harriet Monsell – compassion and humour

The daughters of baronets don't usually choose to work with prostitutes and orphans, but Harriet Monsell was no ordinary woman.

She was born in 1811 into one of Ireland's oldest families. Her father, Sir Edward O'Brien, was 4<sup>th</sup> Baronet of Dromoland, and represented his county Clare in Parliament. Harriet married Charles Monsell, an Anglican clergyman connected with the Oxford Movement, and they moved to Derry, where his father was Archdeacon. But Charles developed tuberculosis, and soon he and Harriet were sent to the milder climate of Naples.

When Charles died in 1850, Harriet moved to England and continued her connection with the Oxford Movement. She also began working among former prostitutes and unwed mothers. Soon Harriet, along with two other women, decided to profess religious vows, and dedicate their lives to caring for the poor and needy. Inspired by John the Baptist's call to penitence, in 1852 they took the name of the Community of St John Baptist, of which Harriet became the Mother Superior.

They were one of the first Anglican religious orders since the Reformation, and because much of their work was in the Berkshire town of Clewer, they were often called the 'Clewer Sisters'.

Within five years their work had gone from caring for about 30 marginalised women to dedicating a building that would house about 80 such women. Mother Harriet guided the work with endless energy and extensive correspondence. The work grew to include 40 institutions, ranging from mission houses to orphanages, schools and hospitals.

Mother Harriet was much loved for her "strength of character, firmness of faith, an infectious sense of humour, a gift for listening, and a magnetism which none could resist," according to one admirer. She had to retire in 1875 for health reasons, but maintained an interest in the work until her death on Easter Sunday March 1883.

Saint's Day plus Picture Parable, Puzzle, Mouse Makes, Bible Bite, Poems and Prayers and other articles are courtesy of Parish Pump unless stated otherwise.

It can be read in the Bible in Jn 1:29-34,Mt3:13-17,Lk3:21-4:13,MK1:9-12

### A short story from the Bible

People came to John to be baptised-washed in the river Jordan-to say sorry for what they had done wrong. Then Jesus came...

Please baptise me.



No, it should be the other way round.

No, this is the right way now to complete God's plan



Jesus in the river Jordan

The Holy Spirit filled Jesus and God spoke. This is my precious son.



Jesusthen went into the desert for 40 days.



He didn't eat or drink, and at the end was very hungry



The Devil came to test him.

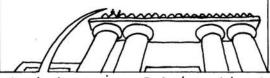
Show me you <u>are</u> God's Son by turning this stone into bread.



The Bible says You need more than T bread to keep you



The Devil took him to the highest roof of the temple in Jerusalem.



Why don't you jump? God would make sure His angels would catch you

The Bible says' Don't try to manipulate God.



The Deviltook Jesus to where he could see the whole world.



Go away! Only God is to be worshipped

Just worship me

Then angels came to care for Jesus



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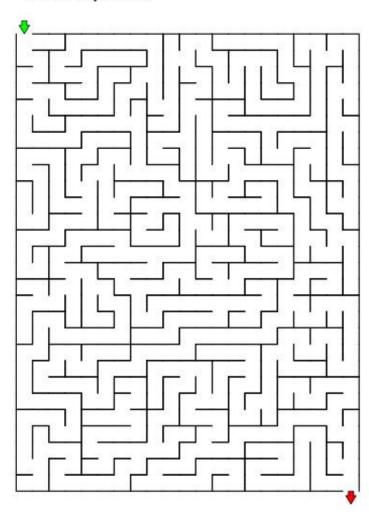
baptise eat sorry bread angels desert worship Jordan

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#### Sudoku:

Insert numbers 1-9 in every row, column and 3x3 box.

© 2011 KrazyDad.com



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#### Across

- 1 These letters come between Romans and Galatians (11)
- 9 'You will not me to the grave' (Psalm 16:10) (7)
- 10 King of Moab to whom the Israelites were subject for 18 years (Judges 3:14) (5)
- 11 Town possessing mineral spring (3)
- 13 Mede (anag.) (4)
- 16 High-fidelity (abbrev.) (4)
- 17 He succeeded his father Rehoboam as king of Judah (1 Kings 14:31) (6)
- 18 A son of Simeon (Genesis 46:10) (4)
- 20 Controversial religious book of the 1970s,
- The of God Incarnate (4)
- 21 'He has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you and hear' (Acts 2:33) (3,3)
- 22 'You me together in my mother's womb' (Psalm 139:13) (4)
- 23 Edit (anag.) (4)
- 25 'Who has believed our message and to whom has the — of the Lord been revealed?' (Isaiah 53:1) (3)
- 28 Abraham's brother (Genesis 22:23) (5)
- 29 'When Mordecai learned of that had been
- —, he tore his clothes' (Esther 4:1) (3,4)
- 30 Sympathetic (Proverbs 11:16) (4-7)

#### Down

2 'That was why his parents said, "He is — —;

- ask him" (John 9:23) (2,3)
- 3 Integrated Services Digital Network (1,1,1,1)
- 4 'Saul has slain his thousands, and David his — of thousands' (1 Samuel 18:7) (4)
- 5 Concept (John 8:14) (4)
- 6 'Do we, then, the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law' (Romans 3:31) (7)
- 7 Industrious (2 Timothy 2:6) (11)
- 8 'I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be — in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you (Ephesians 1:18) (11)
- 12 'Out of the same mouth come and cursing' (James 3:10) (6)
- 14 This was how many of the Jewish leaders described Jesus (John 10:20) (3)
- 15 Vitality (Job 20:11) (6)
- 19 He urged David to kill Saul at Hakilah (1 Samuel 26:8) (7)
- 20 'So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul with the church and taught great numbers of people' (Acts 11:26) (3)
- 24 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord — — ' (Deuteronomy 6:4) (2,3)
- 25 Parched (Matthew 12:43) (4)
- 26 'In the image of God he created him; and female he created them' (Genesis 1:27) (4)
- 27 Disparagement (Psalm 15:3) (4)

WHO

IS MY

MOTHER?

CAIN

ISAAC

JESUS

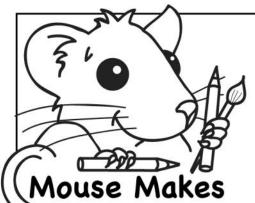
JACOB

TIMOTHY

**JOSEPH** 

SAMUEL

JOHN



**ELIZABETH** 

HANNAH

RACHEL

**REBEKAH** 

EVE

MARY

SARAH

**EUNICE** 

#### **BIBLE MOTHERS**

Who had two sons called Cain and Abel?

Genesis 4:1-2

Who was 90 years old when she had her son Isaac?

Genesis 17:19

Whose prayers for a child were answered by God?

1 Samuel 1:20

Who was Ruth's Mother-in-Law?

Ruth 1:1-5

Eunice was Timothy's mother, but who was her mother?

2 Timothy 1:5

Who saved her baby by putting him in a basket in the river?

Exodus 6:20

Look up the Bible verses and find out who the Bible mothers are. Matt 1:16 2 Tim 1:5 1Kings 1:11 Н 1 Sam 1:20 Ε Gen 34:1 R Gen 30:22

> How many other words can you make from:

# M MOTHERING SUNDAY



Look up the Bible verses then find the answers and the names below in the word search

> REBEKAH **ELIZABETH EUNICE** RUTH MARY RACHEL LEAH ZIPLAH MOTHER

> > MUM

Α

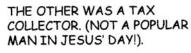


The
Tale of the
TWO MEN
SAYING
THEIR
PRAYERS























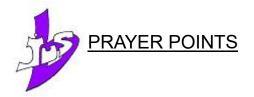
IT WAS THE TAX COLLECTOR, NOT THE PHARISEE, WHOSE PRAYERS WERE HEARD!



EVEN RAISE HIS HEAD

JESUS EXPLAINED -'DON'T BE PROUD WHEN YOU PRAY - INSTEAD BE HUMBLE'.





Please hold the following in your prayers this month.

- 1. Please give thanks for our Bromley Little Theatre show which we have sold all our tickets for. Pray that we can use this event to promote our work and gain new supporters
- 2. Give thanks for a very successful half term but please pray as we start to plan and prepare activities for the Easter break at the beginning of next month
- 3. March will be a very busy time for us as a number of staff will be on annual leave and there will not be a time this month when we will have a full team, especially in our youth team. Please pray that we can continue to deliver a high-quality service to our young people.
- 4. Continue to pray for us as an organisation as we faced an uncertain time for the future of JusB due to a lack of funding.

www.jusb.co.uk



# A reflection on The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:1-18)

Our Father in heaven, please help us. We, your children, learn slowly.

So often we say nothing when your name is mis-used.
Often our lives do not reflect your ways,
Mostly we do what we want on earth,
And this can make heaven unimaginable.

We expect so much more than we actually need each day.

Sometimes we think we don't need forgiveness,

Sometimes we think we are unforgivable,

And we forget that other people make these same errors of thinking.

When it comes to temptation, we find our own ways,

We are confused about what is and is not evil, We are confused about deliverance, We are confused...

And here is the wonder, the grace and the mystery, That you know us completely, Our failings, our secrets,

And still love us forever and ever, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

#### A prayer for Lent

Dear Father in Heaven

In this month, when Lent begins, we remember Jesus' experience in the wilderness. The world today can seem like a wilderness. So many difficult, incomprehensible things going on. It is tempting to turn away in horror or denial, tempting to look out for ourselves, tempting to take the easy path, to pay attention to whatever the culture dangles before our eyes.

Lord, please help us. We need your word to guide us. We need your Holy Spirit to fill and strengthen us. Help us to give our attention and our worship only to you. Lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil.

Thank you, Father, for Jesus, who by his death and resurrection, opens the way to you. Help us to renew our trust in him and through him, to walk with you every day.

In his name,

Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

#### **Prayers and Poems**

March 2023

Nigel Beeton writes: This spring, perhaps more than most, we shall be watching out for signs that this nasty winter is behind us. There are many such signs, but perhaps while we are out and about we may come across some activity in a grassy field:

#### **March Hares**

The frosty sunlight glistens
From the ice upon the grass;
But they who stop and listen
Know winter, soon, will pass.

The icy grass is rustling!
Beneath the frozen dew
Someone is in there, bustling;
We only wonder – who?

They burst into a clearing
Dispelling winter cares!
A sight to set us cheering!
Two zany, mad, March hares!

They're chasing, leaping, bounding As round and round they race;
Those winter blues confounding –
Spring stares us in the face!

The cold and dark behind us
We watch those lepines, mad;
Their frolics just remind us –
It's time now to be glad!

By Nigel Beeton

#### Your will

Father, I wait thy daily will; Thou shalt divide my portion still; Grant me on earth what seems thee best,

Till death and heaven reveal the rest.

By Isaac Watts

#### **Diary Dates**

March 2023

#### Wednesday 1

12noon Midweek service

12.30pm Lychgate Lunch

12.45pm BPC Lent course

#### **Thursday 2**

7.30pm Choir practice

#### Friday 3

10.30am World Day of Prayer

#### Sunday 5

#### Second Sunday of Lent

8.30am Holy Communion (CW)

10.30am Parish Eucharist

#### **Tuesday 7**

11.00am Toddler Praise

7.30pm Bell ringing practice

8.00pm CTCB Lent course

#### Wednesday 8

12noon Midweek service

12.30pm -2.00pm Church open

12.45pm BPC Lent course

#### Thursday 9

2.15pm Fellowship

7.30pm Choir practice

#### Sunday 12 Third Sunday of Lent

9.00am Breakfast Church

10.30am Parish Eucharist

6.30pm Choral Evensong

#### Monday 13

12.30pm Bereavement Group

#### Tuesday 14

11am Toddler Praise

7.30pm Bell ringing practice

8.00pm CTCB Lent course

#### Wednesday 15

12noon Midweek service

12.30pm -2pm Church open

12.45pm Lent course

8.00pm PCC meeting

#### Thursday 16

7.30pm Choir Practice

#### Saturday 18

3.00pm Recital in support of Footsteps International – Bromley & Shepard's Colleges

#### Sunday 19 Mothering Sunday

8.30am Holy Communion (CW) 10.30am All age Worship with Communion

#### **Tuesday 21**

11.00am Toddler Praise

7.30pm Bell ringing practice

8.00pm CTCB Lent course

#### Wednesday 22

12noon Midweek service

12.30pm-2.00pm Church open

12.45pm Lent course

#### **Thursday 23**

2.15pm Fellowship

7.30 Choir practice

#### Friday 24

7.00pm Quarter peal

#### Sunday 26 Fifth Sunday of Lent

9.00am Breakfast Church 10.30am Parish Eucharist

7.30pm St. John's Lent Lecture –

St. John's, Park Road

#### **Tuesday 28**

11.00am Toddler Praise

7.30pm Bell ringing practice

8.00pm CTCB Lent Course

#### Wednesday 29

12noon Midweek service

12.30pm - 2.00pm Church open

12.45pm BPC Lent course

#### Thursday 30

7.30pm Choir practice

**Morning Prayer** is said daily at 8.00am in the Children's Chapel, everyone is welcome.

The Children's Chapel is open daily for prayer and Church is open for private prayer on Wednesdays between 12.30pm and 2pm, consecrated bread is available for those who wish to receive.

To join Sunday worship online please visit our website <a href="https://www.bromleyparishchurch.org">www.bromleyparishchurch.org</a> and follow the link on our homepage.

Updates to services and events are posted on our website www.bromleyparishchurch.org