

Collect for the Third 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 forever. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

PRAYER POINTS:

- For ROPE.
- For all those suffering as a result of the terrible cyclone in Mozambique.
- For our Prime Minister, David Lidington and our Government as they seek to find a way forward in the Brexit negotiations.
- For the families and friends of those killed in the New Zealand shooting.
- For Holly Moore recently baptised at St Mary's, and her family.
- For the homeless and the hungry.
- For Michael and those attending the Lent course.

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE IN IMMEDIATE NEED OF HEALING AND PEACE:

John Hardy, Janet Rand, Mary Kent, Sue List, Tony Eccleston, Alan and Iris Austin, Oliver Baillie, Gladys Page, Suzie Aries, Michael Hopkins, Kelly May, Gordon & Kathleen Plumridge, Joyce Bapty, Richard Heaney, Alex Lake, Hazel Sullivan, Philip and Sally Jones, Shirley and Eric Watts and Barbara Higgins.

WE HAVE ALSO BEEN ASKED TO PRAY FOR:

Libby, Lisa and Russell Squire, Arabella Smith, Peter Covell, Ashleigh Nichas, Gideon, Mary Jefferies, Keith & Judy Brambleby, Barbara Platts, Tony Mead, Hazel Boon, Jorge, Peter Braithwaite, Michael George, Helena Oecken, Jean Moses and Annie.

WE REMEMBER WITH THANKSGIVING THE LIFE OF:

Bill Moses

parishoffice@stmarysrisborough.org.uk

Open: Mon & Tues: 9:30am -1.30pm, Weds & Thurs 9:30am -5.00pm

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St Mary's
with
St Peter's
PRINCES RISBOROUGH
& ILMER

News

Sunday 24th March 2019, Third Sunday of Lent

Dear Friends

I will always remember a conversation I had with a local man on the subject of hope and what we hope for in life. I had asked him, "So what do you hope for then?" and in response he said, "You know, I try not to have hope, as that way I won't be disappointed!" I wonder whether this is how many people think? Whether we've been disappointed one too many times or had dreams shattered, for a whole range of reasons we can feel that there's just too much uncertainty in this life, and so we give up on hope. Maybe you feel like this about Brexit?

When the prophet Isaiah wrote his words that form one of our readings for this Sunday (Isaiah 55: 1-9), the people of Israel were in a right state. They were a people in despair, living in exile as their land had been forcibly captured by the Babylonians, and so to a people lacking in hope Isaiah says, 'Come, all you who are thirsty... listen to me... and your soul will delight in the richest of fare'. After this, the Babylonian empire collapsed and God never gave up on his people, and at the heart of the Christian faith is the belief that God the Father sent his only Son Jesus to die for us on the cross. In that one act, hopelessness has been broken for all time because God has the power to turn any *hopeless end* into an *endless hope*! Isaiah reminds us that God has made an everlasting covenant with his people and he is unchanging. As he has blessed us in the past, so we can have courage and hope for the future!

David Williams, Rector

NEWS & NOTICES.

LENT COURSE: This continues on 26th March. Let Revd Michael Hunt know if you would still like to come, at midahunt@googlemail.com

MOTHERING SUNDAY: There will be a special service on the 31st March. If you can help with making posies, please contact the parish office.

GIVING AND TAX: If you would like to support the running of our church, please consider regular giving. Are you or your spouse a tax-payer? If so, the church could gain an **extra 25p per £1** if you agree to **"GiftAid"** your giving; you still pay the same, but the church reclaims the income tax from the Revenue. For you, the process is very simple. Please pick up one of the little blue "Giving" leaflets in church or speak to Michael Hoey (275 192).

GIVING ENVELOPES: The giving envelopes for April 2019-2020 are now ready for collection in church. Thank you. Carole.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER: Friday March 29th will be a National Day of prayer, to pray for our country. The Church will be open from 11am to 3pm.

BIBLE JOURNALING: On Fri 29th Mar from 12 -2 pm in Church. Come and experience the bible in a new way. Contact Sheila Hazel at s.hazell@yahoo.co.uk for more info.

APCM: The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be on April 23rd at 7.30pm in Church. All welcome.

PRCS: PRCS will be joining with Marlow Choral Society to sing the Messiah at All Saints Church High Wycombe on 6th April 2019 at 7 30 pm. Tickets available from PR Cook Shop, Art and Office and Library Information Centre.

BOOK LAUNCH: On Saturday 6th April at 7.30pm, Songs of Praise presenter, Pam Rhodes will be talking about her new book, Arthur's Garden at St Andrew's Bookshop, Great Missenden. This is a free event, all welcome. Refreshments.

CHAPTER HOUSE CLEANING: Could you spare a couple of hours every six weeks? The team who clean the Chapter House would very much welcome you! Contact Kaye Lillycrop, klillycrop@gmail.com

LIGHTHOUSE QUIZ: This is on Sat 27th April at 7.30pm in Church. Tables of eight, cost £5. Book your table now with Jamie via Church Office. Bring own drinks, snacks.

NEWSLETTER: Please remember that this newsletter is available on the website and that you can sign up for enews on the website as well.

ELECTORAL ROLL: Please fill in a form if you wish to be on the roll and have not already done so. Forms can be placed in the red box by the letter boxes.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON EVENSONG: Unfortunately this service is temporarily suspended due to illness but we hope it will be resumed soon.

Sunday 24th March, Third Sunday of Lent

Readings: Isaiah 55: 1-9, Luke 13: 1-9

- 8.00am** Holy Communion at St Mary's
9.30am Parish Communion followed by coffee
11.15am TGIS with breaking of bread

What's on in the week beginning Monday 25th March

- Tues 26th** **7.30pm** Lent Course in the Chapter House
Weds 27th **9.00am** Wednesday Prayers in St Mary's
10.30am Holy Communion followed by coffee
Thurs 28th **10.30am** Coffee in the Chapter House
Fri 29th **12-2pm** Bible Journaling in the Church
11-3pm National Day of Prayer in Church
2.00pm Praise and Play
7.00pm Puppet Club

Sunday 31st March, Mothering Sunday and Fourth Sunday of Lent

Readings: Exodus 2: 1-10, Luke 2: 33-35

- 8.00am** Holy Communion at St Mary's
9.30am Parish Communion followed by coffee
11.00am Mothering Sunday Family Service at St Peter's, Ilmer
11.15am TGIS for Mothering Sunday

ANSWER TO PRAYER: 'Following a long 6 months of tests and consolations and finally an operation on my right lung, I have now been given the all clear and discharged from further treatment. Thank you to all who have prayed. Our Heavenly Father has graciously heard and answered our prayers. Please will you now join me in thanking God for His love and care over this period.' **Stephen Upton.**

Rector: Revd. David Williams 346984

Associate Minister: Revd. Michael Hunt 344150;

Curate: Revd. Dan Beesley 345521;

Assistant Clergy: Revds. David & Nancy Wallace 290670;

Revds. Steve & Rose Williams 274225; Canon Nick Molony 273895;

Revd. Jenny Deverill 274269; **LLM:** Averil Stephenson 343649

Churchwardens: David Stephenson and Bryan Matthew