



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

News

Sunday April 7th 2019, and Fifth Sunday of Lent

My Lent reading this year has included a World Vision book published a few years ago written by Cameron Semmens, an Australian poet. The book is called 'Give a man a fish' and through a series of poems Cameron reflects on discipleship, generosity and how Jesus prompts us to make a difference and be the difference in the world today. The book is interspersed with brief poems in the form of questions, which act as points of introduction, reflection and challenge. I thought I'd share two of the poems because they mirror some of the issues raised in the Lectionary reading for this Sunday (John 12: 1-8). The story of Martha and the lavish use of perfume invites us to consider what it means to care, and how to use our resources for the good of others.

Questionnaire 1

Is believing in Jesus easier than following him?

Jesus said to his believing followers

'The poor will always be with you'

Was he conceding there'll always be poverty in the world?

Or was he implying that his followers should

always be working amongst the poor?

Or was Jesus trying to say both things at once?

Is believing in Jesus easier than following him?

Questionnaire 2

Do you care?

Or do you just care

if people notice your carelessness?

How do you care when you don't?

Does anyone care if you fake it?

Is fake care better than no care?

Now it's over to you. Maybe you could share your thoughts with your neighbour, your friends or the person sitting next to you in Church this morning.

Rev Michael Hunt

Collect for Fifth Sunday of Lent

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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**

Post Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen**

PRAYER POINTS:

- For Mercy Ships
- For Emma Welland and Chris Bennett married this week at St Mary's.
- For Elena Ancell being baptised today, and her family.
- For all those affected by drug addiction, including the families of addicts.
- For our clergy and the St Mary's church family as we journey through Lent together.
- For our country and its government, as it faces many difficult decisions.
- For our police, working hard to keep our streets safe.
- For new life and hope, as we move into the beautiful season of spring.

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

John Hardy, Joy Woodward, 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:

Lisa and Russell Squire, 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, Annie and Bill and Marge Philips.

WE REMEMBER WITH THANKSGIVING THE LIVES OF:

Bill Moses and Valerie Dickinson

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

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NEWS & NOTICES.

LENT COURSE: The last session is on 9th April. Let Revd Michael Hunt know if you would like to come, at midahunt@googlemail.com

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES: There will be night prayer every evening during holy week at 8pm (7.30pm on Maundy Thursday and followed by a prayer vigil). For full details of our Good Friday and Easter services please see the separate leaflet.

CTR WALK OF WITNESS: On Good Friday there will be a short act of Worship at St Mary's at 10am, followed by the Walk of Witness which will leave at 10.30am. The walk will process to Elim Church for the CTR Act of Witness at 11am.

THE LAST HOUR: At 2pm on Good Friday, there will be a meditative service.

GOOD FRIDAY: The 8 o'clock life group will be hosting a coffee and hot cross bun morning 10.45am to 12 noon in the Chapter House.

APRIL 21ST EASTER SUNDAY: 'We meet with other local churches in the Whiteleaf Cross car park at 6.00 am for a short 'sunrise service' that starts at 6.10 am above Whiteleaf Cross. This is followed by a bacon sandwich and hot drink.' Rev Tomkins.

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

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

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON EVENSONG: This has now finished for the time being.

CHURCH CLEANING: Please can anyone help with cleaning the church once a month? Also, we need help with volunteers to join our grass cutting rota. Please contact the Office if you can help.

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 office. Bring own drinks, snacks.

PHOTO REQUEST: If anyone has any electronic photos of Dan and Paula at Church events during their time here please can you let the Office have a copy. Thanks!

JOB VACANCY: Could it be you or someone you know? Wycombe Homeless Connection is seeking a full-time Support Team Manager to lead its team of Advocacy and Support Workers in the fight against homelessness. Please visit the website for details: www.wyhoc.org.uk/support-team-manager.

THANK YOU: to those who supported the Easter Card sale in aid of Helen House. The £90 raised will enable a child to have two and a half hours with a play therapist. Thank you also to those who continue to donate their small change. The 'penny fund' now stands at £6,300.

Sunday 7th April, Passion Sunday and Fifth Sunday of Lent

Readings: Isaiah 43: 16-21

- 8.00am** Holy Communion at St Mary's
9.30am Parish Communion followed by coffee
11.15am TGIS with baptism.
3.00pm Open Door, an Easter tea in the Chapter House
6.00pm Evensong at St Peter's, Ilmer (NB Summer Time)

What's on in the week beginning Monday 8th April

- Mon 8th** **3.00pm** Bereavement Drop-in in the Chapter House
Tues 9th **7.30pm** Lent Course in the Chapter House
Weds 10th **9.00am** Wednesday Prayers in St Mary's
10.30am Holy Communion followed by coffee
Thurs 11th **10.30am** Coffee in the Chapter House
Fri 12th **NB** **No Praise and Play or Puppet Club**

Sunday 14th April, Palm Sunday

Readings: Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-end, Luke 19: 28-40

- 8.00am** Holy Communion at St Mary's
9.30am Parish Communion followed by coffee
11.15am TGIS
6.00pm United Service at PR Baptist Church

CAR PARKING: Please be aware that the Council are now introducing car parking charges on Sundays. Payment is by card only.

SITUATIONS VACANT: Please look at the 'situations vacant' notice on the noticeboard. We would love to hear from you if you feel you can volunteer for anything. Please contact the Office if you can help.

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