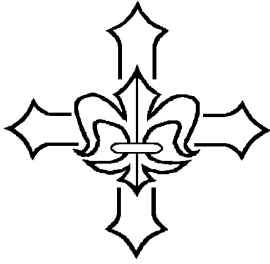


**Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Godmanchester**

*Weekly Newsletter*



**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2007**

*Lent 2*

**Holy Communion**      *President: David Busk    Preacher: Pat Saunders*

**Sung Eucharist**      *President: Jerry Craddock    Preacher: Pat Saunders*

Readers                  Joan Jackson & Arthur Denny  
Readings                Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18 & Philippians 3: 17- 4: 1  
Gospel                    Luke Ch 13 vv 31-end

Intercessions          Ann Tilley

Hymns                    373 (t Coe Fen), 461, 445, 457 (ii)  
Communion             63, 280

**Sung Evensong**      *President & Preacher: Paul Sibley*

Hymns                    377, 410, 245  
Psalm                    150

**Collect**

Almighty God,  
by the prayer and discipline of Lent  
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,  
and by following in his Way  
come to share in his glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Street Prayer Mission:** The Chestnuts, Oak Tree Court, Berry Lane, Offord Hill & Road

**Charity of the month:** The Smile Train

**Holy Communion.** All are welcome at the altar rail. If you are a communicant member of your own Church, you are welcome to receive the Sacrament here. Or if you would like to receive a Blessing, please come forward with a hymn book, kneel at the rail and bow your head.

## Notices

### ***Lent Appeal***

The PCC has decided to adopt this year's Diocesan Lent Appeal as our own. The appeal is for the Church Urban Fund, whose work is not limited to large cities and which supports many projects in this diocese, including some in Huntingdon. Despite its name, the Fund also acts to alleviate poverty in rural areas, and there are many such areas virtually on our doorstep where the Fund is at work. There are leaflets by the south door with more information.

### ***Lent Courses***

Lent courses are being held this year with the title of *The Return of the Prodigal Son*. They are based on the book of the same name by Henry Nouwen and will also make use of colour copies of the painting by Rembrandt depicting this moving parable of Jesus. There is a choice of afternoon or evening sessions, both on Wednesdays. The afternoon sessions will be in the Vicarage from 1.30pm and parents or guardians with young children will be welcome to bring their charges with them. We would aim to finish before 3.00pm. The evening sessions will be at 8.00pm in the Friends Meeting House (Quaker Centre) in Post Street, to finish by 9.30pm. The relevant Wednesdays are March 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. No need to sign up – just come along. It is not essential to have read the book beforehand, but it is highly recommended in its own right and is published by Darton, Longman and Todd.

### ***Lent Concert***

Next Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm, choirs and singers from the Huntingdon area will be combining in our church to give a concert of music for the season of Lent, with Eric Thiman's 'The Last Supper' as the main item in the programme. It will be conducted by Ken Diffey, with Paul Bryan (organ),

Caroline Jones (soprano) and Tony Burnley (Baritone). The Hemingford Ladies' Choir is also contributing two items to the programme. Tickets at £6 (£5 for senior citizens) will be available after the 9.45am service today, or during the week from Ken Diffey on 458846. This annual event is not only a significant contribution to our worship in Lent, but also a major source of income for our church funds. Please do try to support it if you can.

### ***Fairtrade News***

The Fairtrade Stall will be available after the 9.45 service today (4<sup>th</sup> March) and again on 11<sup>th</sup> March in the Parish Hall.

Please do support the Fairtrade Stall during Fairtrade Fortnight.

### ***Youth Group***

Youth Group this Sunday is a bible study on the theme of the Stormbreaker book and film. It will be held at the vicarage from 6.45pm until 8.30pm. Bring a Bible if you have one and the whiteboards will be there. We will also be thinking about what to do for the Mothering Sunday service, any ideas considered!

### ***Parish Annual Report***

A final reminder to those preparing group or activity reports for inclusion in the Parish Annual Report that the closing date for contributions is Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March please.

*Dai Morgan (417502)*

### ***Mother's Union***

The next meeting of the Mothers' Union will take place at the Queen Elizabeth School Hall on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 2.00pm. At this meeting Doris Bilton will lead a meditation for Lent. If you need a lift please contact Jean Morgan on 417502.

### ***Men's Social Group***

The AGM of the Men's Social Group will be held in the White Hart at 7.30pm on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March. Do come along and

help us to plan the programme for the coming year. Contacts: David Ferris (385070) or Peter Dawe (392188).

### ***Celebrating the Big Eight O***

Joan Jackson would like to invite everyone to join her and her family in the Church Hall after the 9.45am Eucharist on 18<sup>th</sup> March for a glass of wine and a piece of cake. Joan will also be hosting an 'Open House' at her home 106 High Street, Brampton between 2.30pm and 4.30pm on 20<sup>th</sup> March. There is room for 3-4 cars on the drive, and also in the lay-by on the opposite side of the road so parking should not be difficult. I look forward to welcoming you.

### ***Preparation of New Electoral Roll***

The date for the next preparation of church electoral rolls has been moved forward a year from 2008 to 2007 by the General Synod. The date that governs the timetable for the preparation of the new roll is that of the annual parochial church meeting. This year, our annual meeting will be held on 15<sup>th</sup> April. The notice for the preparation of the electoral roll is affixed to a notice board in the south porch. Under the rules, the new electoral roll must be completed not less than 15 days, nor more than 28 days, before the annual meeting. You are, therefore, invited to have your name included on the Church Electoral Roll by completing the application form enclosed and placing it in the electoral roll box on the table at the south door, returning it to the Parish Office, or to the Churchwardens. May I thank you in anticipation of early completion of your application form. *Trevor Weedon.. PCC Secretary.*

### ***Church Forums***

There is a new addition to the Church website. We now have our very own forums - sometimes known as a bulletin board. We are running the latest version of 'Invision Power Board', one of the market leaders in commercial forum software. It's a powerful

system, with a great deal built in to make the forum experience as safe and pleasant as possible. Do please consider joining the forums if you have access to the website. If you have any problems with the registration process, or there are questions you would like answering about the forums, do feel free to contact me.

[www.stmarysgodmanchester.org/forums/index.php](http://www.stmarysgodmanchester.org/forums/index.php)  
Paul Sibley(380754)  
[paul.sibley@stmarysgodmanchester.org](mailto:paul.sibley@stmarysgodmanchester.org)

### ***How is it done? Who would know?***

We are thinking of trying to compile a useful fact file about church events, to be kept in the Parish Office, probably in a large ring binder. If you know key details about a church activity in which you have often been involved, e.g.

Preparing Christingles

Putting up the Christmas tree

Organising breakfast on Easter morning

Making bouquets for Mothering Sunday

- to name but a very few! Please jot them down for others to share. Entries could include the most recent key contact(s), where to order materials and quantities, where equipment is stored, key deadlines in preparing the event, hints for any publicity etc etc. Please let Jules Shelley have your contributions, either via the pigeon-hole, or email: [christopher.shelley1@ntlworld.com](mailto:christopher.shelley1@ntlworld.com)

### ***Parking Space***

A man, driving through town to a meeting, was having no luck in finding a parking space for his car. Realising he would be late he called out to the Lord. "Find me a space and I will give up chocolate, booze and cigarettes for Lent and attend Church each Sunday". Just then he saw a space ahead. "Don't worry Lord, I've found one myself".

### ***Newsletter Compiler***

Jim Heeley is the current Newsletter compiler on [jaskc@btinternet.com](mailto:jaskc@btinternet.com) (412264). All contributions please by 18.30 on the Thursday.

## ***DIARY***

### ***Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March          Lent 2***

- 08:00          Holy Communion*
- 09:45          Sung Eucharist (Children's Church and Vestry Group)*
- 18:30          Sung Evensong (Lent Sermon Series 2)*
- 18:45          Youth Group – Stormbreaker Bible study (Vicarage)*

### ***Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March***

- 13:30          Stepping Stones (Baptist Church Centre)*

### ***Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March***

- 14:00          Mothers' Union*
- 19:30          Men's Social Group AGM (The White Hart)*

### ***Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March***

- 09:30          Lent Course – youngsters welcome (Vicarage)*
- 20:00          Lent Course (Quaker Centre)*

### ***Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March***

- 09:30          St Mary's 0-5s (Comrades Club)*
- 09:45          Holy Communion*

### ***Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March***

- 19:30          Choir Practice (No concert rehearsal)*

### ***Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March***

- 19:30          Lent Concert (Rehearsal 13:45 for 14:00 start)*

### ***Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March          Lent 3***

- 08:00          Holy Communion*
- 09:45          Sung Eucharist (Children's Church and Vestry Group)*
- 11:30          Grassroots and Baptism*
- 18:30          Sung Evensong*
- 18:45          Youth Group – prepare for Mothering Sunday (Church Hall)*

**Coffee** is served in the Church Hall after the morning Eucharist. Everyone is welcome

*Visit the church website at [www.stmarysgodmanchester.org](http://www.stmarysgodmanchester.org)*