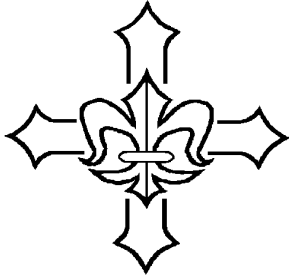


Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Godmanchester

Weekly Newsletter



Sunday 10th February 2008

Lent 1

Holy Communion

President: David Busk Preacher: Jerry Craddock

Sung Eucharist

President & Preacher: Jerry Craddock

Reader	John Watson
Reading	Genesis Ch 2 vv 15-17, Ch 3 vv 1-7
Gospel	Mathew Ch 4 vv 1-11

Intercessions	Jim Heeley
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Hymns	393, 382, 333, 420
Communion	83, 358ii

Grass Roots

David Busk

Sung Evensong

Pat Saunders

Hymns	64, 70ii, 241ii
Psalm	50: 1-7, 14-15

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.

Street Prayer Mission: Sweetings Road, Devana Close, Parcell Walk, Middlemiss
and Miller Close

Charity of the month: Corrymeela

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

Japanese Choir Visit

Homestay hosts urgently needed. A choir from the leading Anglican university in Japan, Rikkyo University, will be visiting Godmanchester this month. They arrive on Monday 25th February from Cambridge. On Tuesday 26th at 7.30pm they will sing a traditional choral Evensong at church, in Japanese, followed by an informal concert of Japanese songs. On Wednesday 27th they will sing at St Anne's School at 9.15am. We need people who can put up and look after Japanese students (preferably two per family, or more if you are willing) for two nights, Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th February. Please contact me soon if you can help. David (436400).

Lent Groups

It is planned to use the USPG Lent course 2008 for this year. This focuses on the theme of 'Love your neighbour' in Matthew's Gospel and on the work of USPG in Bangladesh. There will be two meetings a week for five weeks: Thursday evenings in the Quaker centre at 8pm and Friday afternoons at 1.30pm in the vicarage. The dates will be as follows: Thursdays 14th, 21st, and 28th February and 6th and 13th March.; Fridays 15th, 22nd and 29th February and 7th and 14th March. The subject matter will be the same so you can mix your times if you need to. If you have any queries please contact David Busk.

Lent Appeal

In children's church the children were each given a tube of smarties, kindly donated by Sainsbury's in Huntingdon. We asked that (once they had eaten and shared their tube) during Lent they do small jobs, or be kind and considerate, for a small donation from family and friends. The donations can be collected in their empty tube and then from Good Friday onwards until 6th April, the children are asked to hand back their tube.

The money collected will go to Addenbrookes Hospital to help research into pancreatic cancer. If any children missed out on this, I have some spare tubes for them so they can also take part in the Lent appeal. Please contact Deborah Watts (374991).

Bronze Award

Last year the youth group lead the all age worship in an environment service when we asked everyone to fill in a questionnaire for the "Don't be a Derek" campaign, run by Tearfund, to make us more aware of our carbon footprint. The judging was this month and I am delighted to announce we have been awarded a BRONZE award for our efforts. Well done everyone. Simon Prince, environment lead.

St Anne's School

The school has recently taken part in the preliminary round of the Rotary Young Musician Competition, held at The Huntingdon Regional College on Saturday 2nd February. The school performed very well with the following going forward to the area semi-final, at Moulton, on Saturday 9th March: Eleanor Owers, The Brass Quartet, The Chorale, The Recorder Ensemble and The Choir. Congratulations go to all of the pupils and staff at the school, to the parents for their support and in particular to the head, Anthea Kenna.

Wives' Group

Tuesday 12th February at 8pm in the church hall - Alexandra Weyman will give a talk on Taoist Tai Chi and how it can benefit health and relaxation. Entry £2 including refreshments. New members are always welcome.

Men's Social Group

The next Men's Social Group event will be on Wednesday 13th February, when we will be attending a Public Open Night at the Cambridge University Institute of Astronomy, Madingley Road, Cambridge.

We plan to leave School Hill car park at 6.30pm. Details from Andrew Fawcett (458383).

Fabric News

Dates for the 'late winter clear up' are Saturday 16th February and Saturday 23rd February, between 9 a.m. and 12 noon. Jobs being undertaken include trimming suckers from trees and removal of ivy from trees, gravestones, walls, etc. Clearing remainder of leaves, etc. All are welcome at any time on these Saturday mornings. Bring a pair of secateurs and gardening gloves if you have them. Don't worry if you haven't done this before. All help will be gratefully received and guidance offered if necessary. A hot drink and eats will be available during the morning. Any queries ring Malcolm (395814).

Flower Guild

The Flower Guild AGM will be held in the church hall on Saturday, 23rd February, at 10am. The minutes of last years meeting are available to be read on our notice board at the back of the north aisle of the church. I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting. Jean Miller (437488).

Winter Luncheon

Tickets for the Winter Luncheon, on Sunday 24th February, are available from Val Pithey (454851).

Lent Concert

On Saturday 8th 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 the Fauré Requiem as the main item in the programme. It will be conducted by our Organist and Choirmaster, Ken Diffey, with Paul Bryan (organ), Caroline Dyson (mezzo-soprano) and Tony Burnley (Baritone). The Hemingford Ladies' Choir is also contributing three items to the programme. Tickets at £6 (£5 for senior citizens) will be on sale after the 9.45am

service from 17th February, or are available from Ken Diffey at 1 The Maltings (458846).

Eco-congregation Scheme

In September I circulated the information from the eco-congregation scheme to different committees within the church in order to get feedback about what we do well and what we could do better in order to reduce our carbon footprint and manage our resources efficiently. I would now like to collect this feedback in order to prepare a report for the Parish Council. If you need more information you'll find it at <http://www.ecocongregation.org/>. Simon Prince, environment lead. E-mail me at janie.prince@surefish.co.uk

Use of Church Hall

If you, or your group, are regular evening users of the facilities in the hall during the week, or weekends, please ensure that you give notice if your routine for use is changed on any evening; especially where there is a need for cancellation or change, whether last minute or otherwise. Notification should be to either Jacqueline Barringer, for Rocking Horse Nursery (458638), or Barbara Thirlwall who keeps the Hall Diary (457018).

Bird Boxes

The youth group has now put up four new bird boxes in the churchyard. We would love everyone to notice whether or not they are in use by our feathered friends. Do let us know if you see any small birds investigating them.

Newsletter Compiler

Jim Heeley is the Newsletter compiler throughout February and March. Contact jskc@btinternet.com (412264). Please have all contributions in by 6.30pm on Thursday.

DIARY

Sunday 10th February Lent 1

- 08:00 *Holy Communion*
- 09:45 *Sung Eucharist*
- 11:30 *Grassroots*
- 18:30 *Sung Evensong*
No Youth Group (half term)

Monday 11th February

- 13:30 *No Stepping Stones (Half Term)*
- 20:00 *Worship Group (10 East Chadley Lane)*

Tuesday 12th February

- 20:00 *Wives' Club (Church Hall)*

Wednesday 13th February

- 10:30 *Holy Communion (Oak Tree Court)*
- 15:30 *Pastoral Team Meeting (Vicarage)*
- 18:30 *Men's Social Group (School Hill)*

Thursday 14th February

- 09:45 *Holy Communion*
- 10:00 *St Mary's 0-5s (Comrades Club)*
- 20:00 *Evening Lent Group (Quaker Centre)*

Friday 15th February

- 13:30 *Afternoon Lent Group (Vicarage)*
- 19:30 *Choir Practice (Church Hall)*
- 20:00 *Fauré Requiem Rehearsal*

Saturday 16th February

- 09:00 *Late Winter Clear Up (Church Grounds)*
Choir Directors Training Day (St Mary's, Ely)

Sunday 17th February Lent 2

- 08:00 *Holy Communion*
- 09:45 *Sung Eucharist*
- 18:30 *Sung Evensong*
No Youth Group (half term)

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

Visit the church website at www.stmarysgodmanchester.org