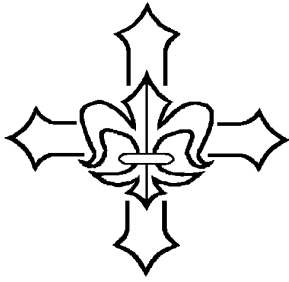


# Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Godmanchester

*Weekly Newsletter*



**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2008**

*Lent 2*

## **Holy Communion**

*President & Preacher: David Busk*

## **Sung Eucharist**

*President & Preacher: David Busk*

Readers

Christopher Vane Percy & Molly Jones

Readings

Genesis Ch 12 vv 1-4a & Romans Ch 4 vv 1-5, 13-17

Gospel

John Ch 3 vv 1-17

Intercessions

Peter Dawe

Hymns

148, 364 (t408), 378, 485

Communion

84, 434

## **Sung Evensong**

*Jerry Craddock*

Hymns

72, 382, 246ii

Psalm

135: 1-7, 19-21

## **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:** Riverside Flats and Bridge Place

**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

### *Baptism*

Ebony Sky Lavallin and Joshua Alan Hannibal will be welcomed through baptism into the family of our Church today at 11.30am. Please keep Ebony, Joshua, their family and friends in your prayers.

### *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 25<sup>th</sup> February from Cambridge. On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm they will sing a traditional choral Evensong at church, in Japanese, followed by an informal concert of Japanese songs. On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February. Please contact me soon if you can help. David (436400).

### *Lent Groups*

The Lent Groups will meet for the second time this week, but if you missed the start of the course last week, please do not put off coming along. The USPG Lent course 2008 is being used this year. This focuses on the theme of 'Love your neighbour' in Matthew's Gospel and on the work of USPG in Bangladesh. There are two meetings a week over the five weeks: Thursday evenings in the Quaker centre at 8pm and Friday afternoons at 1.30pm in the vicarage. The dates remaining are as follows: Thursdays 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup> February and 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> March.; Fridays 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> February and 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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).

### *James Gilbey*

There will be a short memorial service for the life of James Gilbey, in church, on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 1pm. Many of you will recall that James preceded Richard Bunn as Head Server of St Mary's the Virgin. The service will be followed by the interment of his ashes.

### *Fabric News*

Thank you to those who turned out yesterday to help with the 'late winter clear up'. There is another chance to continue the good work on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 the Saturday morning. 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, 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> February, are available from Val Pithey (454851).

### ***Lent Concert***

On Saturday 8<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 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, 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](mailto:janie.prince@surefish.co.uk)

### ***An (American?) Explanation of Life***

On the first day, God created the dog and said: 'Sit all day outside the house and bark at anyone who walks past or comes in. For this, I will give you a life span of twenty years.' The dog said: 'That's a long time to be barking. How about only ten years and I'll give you back the other ten?' So God agreed. On the second day, God created the monkey and said: 'Entertain, do tricks, and make them laugh. For this, I'll give you a twenty-year life span.' The monkey said: 'Monkey tricks for twenty years? That's a long time to perform. How about I give you back ten like the Dog did?' And God agreed. On the third day, God created the cow and said: 'You must go into the field with the farmer all day long and suffer under the sun, have calves and give milk to support the farmer's family. For this, I will give you a life span of sixty years.' The cow said: 'That's kind of a tough life. How about twenty and I'll give back the other forty?' And God agreed again. On the fourth day, God created man and said: 'Eat, sleep, play, marry and enjoy your life. For this, I'll give you twenty years.' But man said: 'Only twenty years? Could you possibly give me my twenty, the forty the cow gave back, the ten the monkey gave back, and the ten the dog gave back; that makes eighty, okay?' 'Okay,' said God, 'You asked for it.' So that is why for our first twenty years we eat, sleep, play and enjoy ourselves. For the next forty years we slave in the sun to support our family. For the next ten years we do monkey tricks to entertain the grandchildren and for the last ten years we sit on the front porch and bark at everyone.

### ***Newsletter Compiler***

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

## **DIARY**

### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February                      Lent 2**

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

### **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February**

13:30      *Stepping Stones (Baptist Church Centre)*  
19:30      *Fabric Committee Meeting (Vestry)*

### **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February**

19:30      *PCC Meeting (Church Hall)*

### **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February**

11:00      *Holy Communion (Woodley Court)*  
19:30      *Healing Group Meeting (Vicarage)*

### **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February**

09:45      *Holy Communion*  
10:00      *St Mary's 0-5s (Comrades Club)*  
19:30      *Prayer Group (32 The Chestnuts)*  
20:00      *Evening Lent Group (Quaker Centre)*

### **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

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

### **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**

09:00      *Late Winter Clear Up (Church Grounds)*

### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February                      Lent 3**

08:00      *Holy Communion*  
09:45      *Sung Eucharist*  
12:00      *Winter Luncheon (Church Hall)*  
18:30      *Sung Evensong*  
18:45      *Youth Group (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)