

St John the Baptist Anglican Church

Newsletter March 2017

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A note from Stan...

Lent is that time of preparation for the festivals of Holy Week and Easter. It is a time to repent our sins, which were the cause of Christ's death, and learn the discipline of life so that we may resist temptation whenever it comes.

On Ash Wednesday, some of the congregation went through the ritual of having an ash cross marked on their foreheads. This act symbolises the public display of mourning noted in the Old Testament by the people of Jerusalem who were attempting to redeem themselves after a plague of locusts destroyed their crops. The prophet Joel told the people, "Rend your hearts, not your clothes...return to the Lord your God for he is gracious and merciful..."

So... a time of penitence – contrition, atonement, regret maybe and repentance. Maybe a time to test our discipline and give up something in our lives for a few days? And a time to reflect on the symbolism... what is the point of sack cloth and ashes? Am I really remorseful at the sins I have committed? Can I ask for forgiveness? Am I worthy of forgiveness?

Absolutely! Joel goes on to say that our Father is, "...abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing." So, let's take some time in Lent to look critically at our lives. Tell God we are sorry, because our Father is loving and quick to forgive.

Kindly,

Stan Pilbrow

With thanks for notes from The Canterbury Preacher's Companion 2017, Michael Counsell, (Canterbury Press, Norwich), 2016



AGM

Please note that the AGM of the Church of St John the Baptist is at 10.15am on the 26th March.

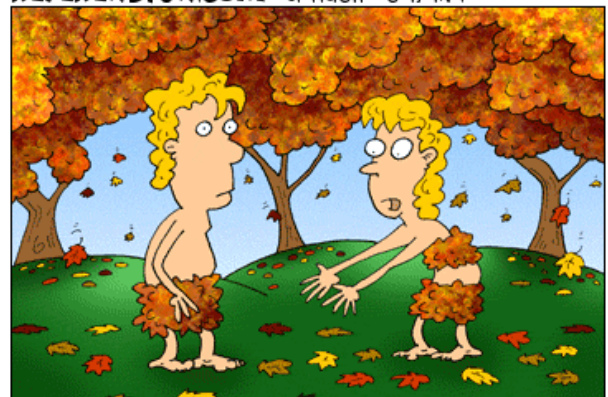
WOMEN'S EVENING FELLOWSHIP

St John's Evening Women's Fellowship meets again on Tuesday, 14th March at 7.30pm in the St Jude's Room! We have a stellar speaker this time! Our vicar, Stan, is going to talk to us about his experiences in the army (or whatever he chooses to talk about!). This should be a most interesting evening followed by our usual delicious supper. All welcome – especially new members. Contact me at 489 5830 (or text me on 021489582) for further info, Rosemary Saunders.

PALM CROSSES

ADVANCE NOTICE: On Friday, 7th April, at 10am we will be making Palm Crosses. Please join us and afterwards we will have coffee/tea and hot cross buns.

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10-06-2006

WILL YOU PLEASE PICK UP ALL YOUR CLOTHES?

In and around St John

Sunday Services: 8am, 9.30am, Eucharist.

5pm (study/discussion group). All welcome, come as and when able.

Sunday School: 4th Sunday of the month at 9.30am

Evening Women's Fellowship: 7.30pm 2nd Tuesday of the month

Men's Supper & Bible Group: 7.30-9pm twice a month on a Wednesday. Check the weekly service sheet for each venue.

Craft Group: Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesday 1.30pm in the St Jude's Room

Next Garage Sale: 29th April

Hall Users

Rowe Dance - ballet classes for 3-8 year olds on Monday 2.45-4.30pm, Wednesday 3.45-5.30pm and Thursday 3.30-4.30pm in term time.

Rowe Dance - dancing for adults, Friday 10-11am.

Rowe Dance - Personal tuition by arrangement.

Joy Russ Dance - Monday 8.30-9.30pm.

Positive Balance Yoga - Mon, Tues 6-8.30pm, Thurs 5.45-8.15pm in term time.

Weight Watchers - meet in St Jude's Room weekly, Tuesday 5.30-7.30pm.

Positive Balance Yoga - Mon, Tues, Thurs evenings, 5.45pm - 7pm or 7pm - 8.15pm in term time.

Jumping Beans - Wednesday 9am-1pm in term time.

Scottish Country Dance - Wednesday 7.30pm - 10pm throughout the year.

Northcote Steps - meet in the St Jude's Room, Friday 7-10pm throughout the year.

Soccer for Tots - Sat 9am - 1pm during term time

Northern Performing Arts - Saturday 4-8pm.

English Folk Dance - 2nd Friday of each month, 7-10pm

Early English Dance - 4th Friday of each month, 7.30 - 10pm

AlAnon family support group - 3-5pm first Sun of each month.

North Shore Stitchers - 3rd Sun each month 10am - 2pm

Plus occasional use by...

Northcote Residents Association

Northcote/Birkenhead Boat Owners Association

St Thomas, Syrian Church.

Readings for the month

March 5 Lent 1

Reading: Genesis 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7

Epistle: Romans 5: 12-19

Gospel: Matthew 4: 1-11

March 12 Lent 2

Reading: Genesis 12: 1-4a

Epistle: 4: 1-5, 13-17

Gospel: John 3: 1-17

March 19 Lent 3

Reading: Exodus 17: 1-7

Epistle: Romans 5: 1-11

Gospel: John 4: 5-42

March 26 Lent 4

Reading: 1 Samuel 16: 1-13

Epistle: Ephesians 5: 8-14

Gospel: John 9: 1-41

April 2 Lent 5

Reading: Ezekiel 37: 1-14

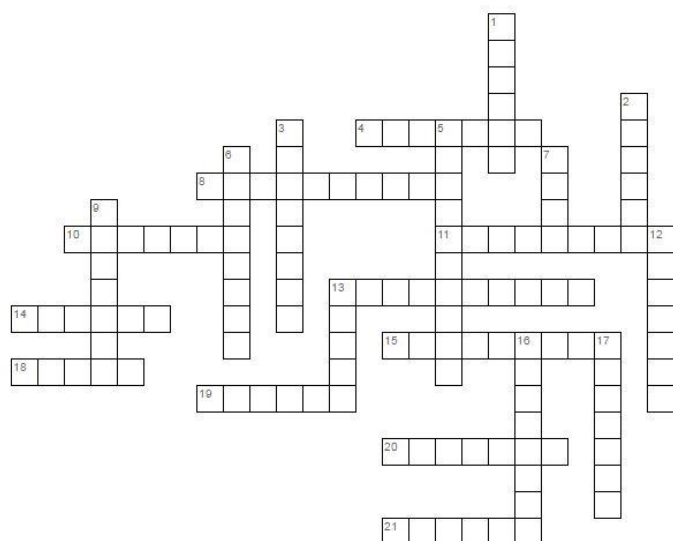
Epistle: Romans 8: 6-11

Gospel: John 11: 1-45

Your newsletter is prepared by Natalie. You can contact Natalie by emailing her at sjbanglican@gmail.com. The newsletter is published on the first Sunday of the month and the deadline for submissions is the previous Tuesday.

Beginning of the Gospels

Bible Translation is ESV

**Across**

- 4 Town close to where John the Baptist did his baptizing (John 1:28)
- 8 The father of Abiud (Matthew 1:13)
- 10 Joseph's original plan for Mary (Matthew 1:19)
- 11 Type of cloths Jesus was wrapped in (Luke 2:7)
- 13 Title of Mary's song of praise (near Luke 1:46)
- 14 John's name for Pharisees (Matthew 3:7)
- 15 The governor of Syria (Luke 2:2)
- 18 And the Word became ____ and dwelt among us (John 1:14)
- 19 The father of Jotham (Matthew 1:9)
- 20 Jesus increased in wisdom and in ____ (Luke 2:52)
- 21 The prophet who predicted John the Baptist's ministry (Mark 1:2)

Down

- 1 John the Baptist's main message (Matthew 3:2)
- 2 River where John the Baptist baptized (Mark 1:9)
- 3 Number of generations from Abraham to David (Matthew 1:17)
- 5 What John the Baptist states Jesus will baptize with (Mark 1:8)
- 6 The prophet who predicted Herod's murder of male children (Matthew 2:17-18)
- 7 Another name for Jesus used (John 1:1)
- 9 John came to bear ____ about the light. (John 1:2)
- 12 Name of angel sent to Mary (Luke 1:26)
- 13 A gift of the wise men. (Matthew 2:11)
- 16 Where Mary and Joseph settled to live (Matthew 2:23)
- 17 Mary's answer to the angel, 'Behold, I am the ____ of the Lord' (Luke 1:38)

Contacts**Vicar:**

Rev Stan Pilbrow 480 7568

Wardens

Vicar's Warden: Doug Dempster 418 1448

People's Warden: Pru Giles 489 1998

Pastoral Care:

Karen Perrett 418-3715

Synod Representatives

Rosemary Saunders 489 5830

Louise Collenette 441 3055

Hall Hire

Richard Lewis 419 9026

Recorder

Wendy McPherson 473 3448

Women's Fellowship

Rosemary Saunders 489 5830

Catering Committee

Barbara McIlroy 418 4117

Office Admin, Newsletter and Website

Natalie Roffey 0226074376

ANSWERS FROM LAST MONTH'S**CROSSWORD PUZZLE****Abraham**

Genesis 12, 13

