

Praying the Rosary as we consider the story of the Passion

On Wednesday evenings during Lent, starting on the 8th March we will say the from 7pm—7.25pm, prior to Mass.

40 bags in 40 days—allows us to reflect on what is necessary in our lives. The idea is to remove in a small way each day during Lent those things which distract us from faith and living a whole life. Start small— Allow what you choose to inform your prayer life— what does our clutter tell us about our relationship with God? How might God inform our living in the days ahead?



For our Prayers— Jeremy, Hildegard, John Q, Maggie and John, Huda, Jessie T, Frances, Trish, Cleo, Fred, Floret, Bob and Marguerite, Lois, and Ruth **For those who have died recently** including Chief John **and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time** including Reg Holder, George Shipman, Margaret Gayler, Charles

Lee, Anna White and Max O'Connell

Services during the week 12th March 2017

Monday	8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel
Tuesday	8.30am Said Mass in Trinity Chapel 6pm Evening Prayer in Trinity Chapel
Wednesday	8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel 7pm Rosary is Said 7.30pm Said Mass in Trinity Chapel
Thursday	8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel 6pm Evening Prayer in Trinity Chapel
Friday	8.30am Said Mass in Trinity Chapel 10am My Move 2.30pm Tea and Chat 6pm Evening Prayer in Trinity Chapel
Sunday 5th	8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel 9.30am Sung Mass with Sunday School

Parish contact details

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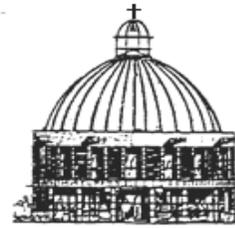
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St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

Sunday 12th March 2017

Lent 2

HYMNS TODAY - 19, 421, 772 and 334 (tune 1)

President Fr Laurence **Preacher** Mo Christine

Welcome to worship today—it is great to have you with us. We hope that you will feel welcome in our worship today. If you are new, please do say hello—we would love to get to know you. If you are unsure where to find something, or about what is going on, please do ask and we will be happy to help. Our worship style is quite formal- but we hope relaxed-as we come to worship God in our midst. Please do join us for coffee after the service.

Today in this short passage from Genesis God unsettles Abram and Sarai, both literally and figuratively. He calls them to be migrants and also to ministry—both daunting tasks with unknown outcomes—which require faith and trust in God.

1st Reading— Genesis 12: 1-4a

Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Our Second reading

When we step into Romans 4 we have to remember that we are coming to the final stages of an argument that has been unfolding since at least the middle of Romans 1. Paul has been articulating reasons for his strong conviction that Jews and Gentiles stand on equal ground before God. In Romans, Paul is not contrasting faith in general with

works in general. This is not an argument about believing versus doing. On the contrary, he is contrasting entrusting ourselves to the specific, saving narrative of Jesus, with defining ourselves by the Law that God gave to Israel. The question Paul this is addressing in this chapter then is do you need to become Jewish before becoming Christian?

2nd Reading— Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness. 'Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Our Gospel reading today is John 3: 1-17 we see unfolding John's version of the story of Jesus and Nicodemus. Nicodemus is one of those who "believed in his name because they saw the signs that he was doing". Nicodemus affirms that Jesus has come from God and that God is present in Jesus because of the signs that he does. He thinks that the miraculous is proof of God's presence. But Jesus is not flattered by this. He knows Nicodemus' motivations, even when we as readers still wonder about them. Seeing the signs is not enough. The kingdom of God cannot be detected with the physical eyes. It is rather a reality that can only be perceived through the eyes of the Spirit, after the person has been born "anew" or "from above." And this is now—not in some future time—When it comes to being born again, inherited status or previous knowledge are not important,

only one's acknowledgment of God's Spirit acting in history in unpredictable ways. Seeing God's work requires not only spiritual awareness but also imagination and humbleness.

Our Community Life Together and Dates for your Diary

Finance—St Anne's

Our current monthly target for congregational giving is **£2180**. At present our average congregational giving is £2000—this means we a little short each month. If you are new to St Anne's, or have not previously thought about it, please consider setting up a Standing Order to manage your giving. Forms and information are available in the entrance, or you can speak with Michael or a member of the PCC.

Laurence's Larder and Food Bank

The Larder is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 10am-1.30pm. Volunteers are also to help with preparation and Asylum Seekers between 10– 1pm on Wednesdays. We are still asked to bring in a can a week—and while everything is welcome we particularly need 'tinned fish'.

APCM

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place on be 26th March 2017. We will need to elect members of the Church Council, as well as appoint those who assist on a Sunday morning. It is also your chance to hear about the work of the parish in the past year. If you can, please do come. The meeting takes place after church, starting at 11am, and usually takes about 1 hour. **Nominations form are now available for those wishing to stand!**

LIFC News

Inter Faith Book Group - 21st March from 12.30—2pm will be reflecting on Helen Dunmore's Book—The Siege.

Silence for Peace Tuesday 21st March; 5-6pm in the Rotunda.

Lent Activities

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross is traditionally a series of meditations which follow through the story of the last hours of Jesus life. Using images and prayers. **Meditation on the stations: 2nd April at 5 pm**

Lent Retreat

This year on Saturday 1st April we will have a Quiet Day/ retreat at St Anne's. There will be focused meditation and reflection as well as much silence. We will start at 9.30—4pm. A simple lunch will be provided. Please sign up in church. Cost £5