

**40bags in 40 days**—declutter parts of our life during the 40 days

**Rosary Prayers** —7pm Wednesdays from 21st, before Mass

**Lent Retreat**—Saturday 3rd March from 9.30— 3.30pm here. There will be focused meditation and reflection as well as much silence. A simple lunch will be provided. Please sign up in church. Cost £5

**Stations of the Cross**—Sunday 18th February and 25th March at 5 pm in the chapel

**For our Prayers**— for the PCC and the Joint Council meeting this week; Ofelia, John, Maurice, Rev. Jane , Gale, Yaa, Estelle, John Q, Floret, Trish, Cleo, Marguerite and Ruth **For those who have died recently** including Bob Lewis, Renel Smith **and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time** including Alfred Turner, Joyce Bennett and Cedric Dean



**Services during the week 4 February 2017**

**Monday** 8.30am Said Mass 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  
7.00pm Prayers  
7.30pm Said Mass in Trinity Chapel  
**Thursday** 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel  
6pm Evening Prayer in Trinity Chapel  
**Friday** 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel  
10am My Move  
2.30pm Tea and Chat  
**Saturday** 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel  
**Sunday 11** 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel  
**Last before Lent** 9.30am Sung Mass with Sunday School

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# St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

*Confidently sharing the love of Christ*

**Sunday 4th February 2018**

**Second before Lent**

**HYMNS TODAY** - 10, 387, 52 and 627

**President** Mo Christine **Preacher** Fr Laurence

*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. Large Print Service books available.*

In the text appointed for today, Wisdom is personified as female, and in her humanity finds all knowledge, insight, and truth. Wisdom is also portrayed as delighting God and in human beings. verses 22-31, is a striking passage that describes the indispensable role of Wisdom in creation, and the infusing of Wisdom throughout the created order. Wisdom, she proclaims, was created at the beginning of Yahweh's work, "the first of his acts long ago" (verse 22).

**1st Reading— Proverbs 8:1, 22-31**

*Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice? The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth— when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.*

**Our Second reading** : Colossians 1:15-20 -- offers its own Christological images test, laying out a myriad of ways to describe and understand Christ. These images might be drawn into 2 groups— firstly Christ is described as the “image” of God and as the “fullness” of God. Secondly— “fullness” refers to fullness in the sense of completeness, totality, as in “everything God is or does was present in Christ.”

### **2nd Reading— Colossians 1: 15-20**

*He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.*

**Our Gospel reading today** is John 1: 1-14. The Prologue to John’s Gospel is John’s birth story of Jesus. The themes we have come to know for Christmas preaching are certainly present in how John begins his gospel. John’s description of Jesus in the Prologue is poetic, even lyrical speech. It is an echo of or response to God’s love song, which is Christ. John sings that Jesus is the Word of God become flesh, who from all eternity was with God, and actually is God. While we think of “word” as something written or printed, John’s description of Jesus as logos means first of all something said. Reread John 1:1-14 aloud, substituting speech for word, and hear the difference it makes. In Luke’s Christmas story, angels bring the good news of great joy. In John, Jesus has been singing love and bringing life from the beginning.

What does it mean for us that Jesus is the *word made flesh*? Genesis tells us that God said, "Let there be . . ." and there was. God spoke day and night, heaven and earth, land and sea, plants and animals, and humanity into being. Jesus is that utterance. Jesus is God’s eternal speech, which existed before anything else and called everything into being. More than this, Jesus is the Word of God as it has been read and preached ever since this time! The Christ who comes to us not only tells who God is; Jesus speaks God's power into our lives. How do we respond to this? What voice do we hear? How do we share the word that has come to us?

### **Our Community Life Together /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.

#### **New program for St Paul’s**

There are regular public events and talks at St Paul’s Cathedral. The new Spring Program is available downstairs; their website is also regularly updated.

#### **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 between 10– 1pm on Wednesdays. We are still asked to bring in a can a week. We have also been asked to consider if we could choose one type of food. We have been asked if we might be the ‘**tinned fish**’ church! Having said this any non perishable; easily edible food would be very welcome at this point!

#### **Ambassadors for Christ**

We are looking forward to hearing more stories this year in the 2 minute slot. Once again we are looking for people to share some of their experiences outside of Sunday morning. We invite you to reflect on how you spend your week, and how this informs your faith. We are looking for volunteers to share during the coming month.

#### **News from LIFC—Exploring Scriptures of World Faiths**

New 6 week course started on Wednesday January 10th at 2.00pm looking at the origins, use and interpretation of world scriptures. There course runs for 90 minutes for 6 Wednesday afternoons.

#### **Ash Wednesday and Lent**

**Ash Wednesday** this year is the 14th February. On that day there will be a Said Mass at 8.30am, then a Sung Mass at 7.30pm. Ash Wednesday is a ‘Holy Day of Obligation’ - that means it is a day we should come to church and pray together! If you can’t make a service here, look at what time services are on near where you work. There will be resources available from next Sunday to support our Lenten journey.

Lenten activities will include: