

# St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

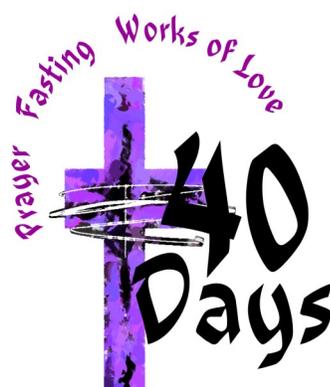
*Confidently sharing the love of Christ*

## **Readings and Notice Sheet** **Sunday 21st February 2021** **First Sunday of Lent**

*As we continue in lockdown we find ways to worship in many different ways. There are lots of options, but this service sheet provides prayers and readings for Sunday, along with notices for the coming week.*

### **The Collect**

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,  
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:  
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to  
your Spirit;  
and, as you know our weakness,  
so may we know your power to save;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**



### **Reading from the book of Genesis**

*Our First reading from a story of covenant. Reading Genesis 9 on its own terms raises the question of humanity's partnership with God in caring for and conserving the earth. What is our role? This text doesn't provide specifics. Perhaps the Iron Age writers and their readers could not have imagined the state of the world in our times, nor would they have believed it. The covenant is striking in its inclusivity. The welfare of the earth is a matter for all of humanity.*

### **Genesis 9: 8-17**

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant

that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.’ God said to Noah, ‘This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.’

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### ***Our Second reading from the letter first letter to the Peter***

*As is the case with much of the New Testament, when reading First Peter we find ourselves reading other people’s mail.*

*First Peter is a letter addressed to the “exiles of the dispersion.” It is not clear to what extent the audience is suffering -- persecutions, physical or psychological, ongoing or sporadic. However, it is apparent that the audience is identified as outsiders of some sort. The writer sets out to affirm their identity as God’s people and to provide guidance for how to live during difficult times.*

#### **1 Peter 3: 18-end**

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### ***The Gospel is today taken from Mark***

*Mark 1: 9-15 comprises three episodes: Jesus’ baptism (Mark 1:9-11), his temptation (1:12-13), and his inaugural preaching (1:14-15). There is, however, a certain drama in the brevity itself. In a few swift strokes of the pen Mark sets*

*the stage for all that is to come. Our attention is focused precisely on the man Jesus and the message he brings. This clearing away of extraneous detail, this forcing our attention on Jesus is just what Lent can be about for believers who are too absorbed in their own projects to focus for themselves. Mark's opening verses invite us to re-focus in Lent. As an invitation to re-focus our attention, these verses echo Jesus' own message, "repent and believe in the gospel." We might translate these familiar words "re-focus and trust the good news." Mark leaves us in no doubt about the good news that Jesus calls upon his hearers to trust. What might God be calling to us to refocus and trust in this Lent? (reflection is an exert from Sarah Henrich, Professor Emeritus of New Testament Luther Seminary St. Paul, MN)*

### **Mark 1: 9-15**

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

This is the Gospel of our Lord  
**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

***Take some time to reflect on the readings set for today—what might they be saying to you? What might they be saying to us as a community?***

### **Intercessions**

We pray to the Lord for courage to give up other things and to give ourselves to him this Lent.

Holy God who draws us into our Lenten journey;  
Give your Church the courage to give up her preoccupation with herself  
and to give more time to your mission in the world.  
We pray for Bishops Sarah and Pete and all who inspire us.  
Help us to be a community which serves you and each other.

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

As we travel in the wilderness with Jesus this Lent,

God meet us in the silence;

give us strength and hear our prayer.

Give your world the courage to give up war, bitterness and hatred, and to seek peace.

We pray for the call for a ceasefire to respond to the pandemic;  
may our hearts be open to the possibility of peace. (allow brief silence)

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

As we remember that God calls us all with Jesus to that place between comfort and the struggles of this world.

Lord, meet us in the silence, give us strength and hear our prayer.

Give us the courage to give up quarrels, strife and jealousy in our families, neighbourhoods and communities.

We continue to pray for an end to the pandemic,  
to all those most affected by its harshness.

(allow brief silence)

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

May our journey with the risen Jesus, bring peace and direction as we live with one another. Lord, meet us in the silence, give us strength and hear our prayer. Give us the courage to give up our selfishness as we live for others, and to give time, care and comfort to the sick. We pray especially for Jean-Anne, Isobel, Peter, Pearl, Yvonne, Rute, Ron, Evelyn, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth....

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

May the wounded hands of Jesus bring his healing touch, and the light of his presence fill their rooms. Lord, meet us in the silence, give us strength and hear our prayer. Give us the courage to give up our fear of death and to rejoice with those who have died in faith. We remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries fall at this time including Sidney Hinks (Priest), Charles Dodd (Priest) and Doris Paterson.

*(Allow a moment to reflect)*

Rest Eternal, Grant unto them O Lord

**And may light perpetual shine upon them.**

May they rest in peace

**And rise in Glory**

*You may want to take some time to offer your own prayers to God*

Lord God,

you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;

and nourished our faith,

increase our hope,

and strengthen our love:

teach us always to live by every word

that proceeds from out of your mouth;

this we ask as we pray in the words you taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give  
us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the Kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen**

## **Notices**

### **Response to National Lockdown January 2021**

As you St Anne's PCC reflected not only on what might be legal; but the plea from our community leaders to stay home as much as possible; and also the feedback from members of our congregation who work in frontline services.

We also reviewed the guidance from the Church of England. This was reviewed at our PCC meeting on the 11th February and agreed that while progress is being made we are not in a position to re-open for in person services until the current lockdown is lifted. Instead we will continue to offer services online via Zoom, as well as other ways to connect with each.

We continue to be committed to the 'Stay at Home' message and the need to stop the spread of the virus. We acknowledge and share the sadness many are feeling at not being able to meet together as we would usually do at the moment. We are committed to praying for an end to the pandemic, and look forward to better times ahead.

We will not be opening the Church at all, but if you need someone to speak to, or prayer with, please contact Mo C either by email or phone and she can arrange to see you safely in person; or talk with you over the phone or Zoom.

***St Anne's and St Andrew's will remain closed to all groups.***

***The Nursery may be open and is following the Early Years Guidance.***

***The building will remain closed.***



### ***Prayer Window***

We are once again creating window of prayers in the rotunda at the front of the church. If you would like to contribute a prayer, either drop in through the letter box at the church or vicarage—postcard size or smaller is best. *(current prayers are on heart shapes, but any shape is fine)* **OR** email you prayer request to Mo C and she will ensure that it is added to the window.

### **Confirmation Classes**

All being well Bishop Pete will join us on Sunday 18th April for a service of confirmation. If you would be interested in being confirmed at this time please speak with Mo C. Classes or conversations for Adults and Young people are on offer starting in late February. In the first instance these will take place on Zoom.

### **St Anne's PCC**

The PCC met on Thursday 11th February. We spoke about ongoing matters relating to lock down, parishes finances and mission. We have also begun to think about some of the things we might be able to do in the Summer months. We also started to plan for our annual general meeting. You will have also noticed that to keep the Sunday morning service time at 9.30am for the foreseeable future. We were grateful for the input we received for this conversation. Please pray for the PCC in their ongoing work in leading the parish. Our PCC includes our wardens Alice, Rhona and Richard; as well Maggie, Lindsay, Michael, Simon, Tim and Bob.



## **Keeping a Holy Lent 2021**

*Lent begins on the 17th February and will continue to our celebration of Easter on 4th April. During Lent our faith is focused through prayer, charity and fasting.*

### **Stations of the Cross on Zoom**

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 which lasts around 30 minutes. This will take place on **4pm Sunday 21st February , 7pm Thursday 11th and 25th March**

**Lent**

### **Lent Reflection—Meditation on 40 bags in 40 days**

We are each invited to declutter our lives of things, issues or concerns during the 40—one small bag each day!

### **Lent Study—7pm Monday Evenings in Lent on Zoom**

The sessions will include input, reflection and discussion. This year we will explore five themes outlined in the Bishop of London's Lent Book *Rooted in Love*. Each session will last around 45mins to an hour. Study will take place on 22nd February, 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd March.

**Check out our Lent Page on our Website!**

### **News from Laurence's Larder and Sufra**

**Laurence's Larder will remain open on a Thursday for a takeaway -**

though they are currently not cooking on site—food is being distributed.

Donations can be left in the green box by Mo C's front door, or at the Larder on a Thursday Morning. Please see their website : <https://www.laurenceslarder.org.uk>

[www.laurenceslarder.org.uk](https://www.laurenceslarder.org.uk)

**We are also sharing our food donations with Sufra.** You can read all about what they are doing during this period on their website <https://www.sufra-nwlondon.org.uk/> **We have some wonderful volunteers from St Anne's supporting both Laurence's Larder and Sufra.**

**If you need assistance getting to an appointment, or you need things dropped off, we have some drivers who are willing to help.**

### **Daily Hope 24hour phonenumber**

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044.**



**For our prayers** Jean-Anne, Isobel, Peter, Pearl, Yvonne, Rute, Ron, Evelyn, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth;. We remember those who have died and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time including Sidney Hinks (Priest), Charles Dodd (Priest) and Doris Paterson.

**Services this coming week starting 21st February 2021**

Monday 22nd **2pm**—Christian Contemplation on Zoom

**7pm**—Lent Study—session 1 on Zoom

Tuesday 23rd **8.30am** Morning Prayer on Zoom

Thursday 24th **8.30am** Morning Prayer on Zoom

Friday 25th **10am** Coffee and Chat on Zoom

**Sunday 28th February 2021—Lent 2**

**8.30am** —Morning Prayer on Zoom

**9am**—Thought for the Day on Facebook

**9.30am** — Morning Service on Zoom

**5pm**—Service for the day on Zoom

# LENT BOOKS

SEVEN DEADLY SINS



SLOTH



GREED



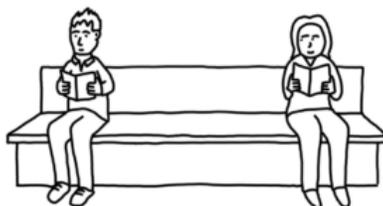
ENVY



GLUTTONY



PRIDE



LUST



WRATH