

SUNDAY 21st FEBRUARY

8.00am Service SUSPENDED
9.30am Holy Communion (Mother Cate/Ordinand Dave)
11.30am Service SUSPENDED
6.00pm Service SUSPENDED
The 9.30am service will also be live-streamed.

MONDAY 22nd FEBRUARY

Lenten Reflection (John Wallace)
This is available on our Facebook page and attached as a flyer

TUESDAY 23rd FEBRUARY Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c. 155

7.30pm Service SUSPENDED

WEDNESDAY 24th FEBRUARY

THURSDAY 25th FEBRUARY

10.00am Holy Communion (Mother Cate)

FRIDAY 26th FEBRUARY

SATURDAY 27th FEBRUARY George Herbert, Priest, Poet, 1633

9.00am Service SUSPENDED

SUNDAY 28th FEBRUARY

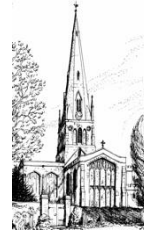
8.00am Service SUSPENDED
9.30am Holy Communion (Mother Cate/Bill Webb)
11.30am Service SUSPENDED
6.00pm Service SUSPENDED
The 9.30am service will also be live-streamed.

We would like to politely request that you turn off your mobile phones or switch them to flight-safe mode. This is to reduce interference on the hearing loop and the live stream. Setting phones to silent unfortunately doesn't prevent the interference.

Lent 1

Lent 2

All Saints Parish Church, Leighton Buzzard
Within the Ouzel Valley Team Ministry
Web address: www.allsaintslb.org.uk
Facebook: All Saints', Leighton Buzzard
 Parish e-mail: parish@allsaintslb.org.uk Tel. No: 01525 381418
Sunday 21st February 2021
The First Sunday of Lent



We warmly welcome all visitors and newcomers to our church. If any of you are from other denominations and are accustomed to receiving Communion in your own church you are welcome to here. For the hard of hearing the church is equipped with a loop system. Switch to T please. Gluten free wafers are available by prior arrangement. The news sheet is for you to retain and use for reference and prayer

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Today's services

9.30am Holy Communion (Mother Cate/Ordinand Dave)

Readings: RCL: Year B: Page: 450

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.

Readings: I Peter 3: 18-22
Gospel: Mark 1: 9-15
Preacher: Ordinand Dave
Intercessions: Ordinand Dave

During this time please observe a period of quiet reflection, as we receive Communion

IN YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE REMEMBER

Sick: Marie Brooker, Ava Palmer, Jim Mifflin, Marjorie Bewick, Ian Hogg, Valerie Jackson

RIP: Fee Lear, Neil Honour

Year's Mind: Pamela Gilbert, Ivy Wood, Margaret Marsh, Dorothy Collor, Bryn Gittins, Lilian Cowley, Janet Garfield, Madge Vincent, Florence Walsh, Maud Mills, Elsie Bates, Peggy King, Irene Scott, Tom Skevington, Ivy Francis

In our Team: Pray for Crombie House, its staff and all involved in mental health

In the World: Pray for Amnesty International

In the Diocese: Pray for the Archdeacon of St. Albans

In the Wider Church: Pray for the Roman Catholic Church

Lent at All Saints 2021

This year our theme for Lent is "Inside Out" and we will be looking at the connections between our inner and outer lives.

Using books and resources

There are lots of good Lent books with reflections to guide you through the season, do look on line or ask for more advice and guidance. You can also download apps for your phone such as the Church of England Daily Prayer and Reflections for Daily Prayer. We will also be posting something everyday on our Facebook page.

All Saints Lent Book 2021

This year we are reading "Thy Will be Done" by Stephen Cherry, looking at the Lord's Prayer. If you would still like one, the parsh office has a few extra copies at the price of £8.00. Although we can't gather for Lent groups in person we are offering informal online discussion groups which you can drop into as little or as often as you like. The dates and link are as below, however if you would prefer a different time or would like more sessions please contact John Wallace on 07768 941389, as John and Margaret will host additional sessions at dates and times to suit anyone interested in participating.

8pm on Thursdays the 25th February; 10th March and 24th March.

The link for all three meetings is:

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88148558864>

Meeting ID: 881 4855 8864

Special Services for Lent and Holy Week

We will still be marking Holy Week with special services and will share details of these in the coming weeks.

A Prayer for Lent

Holy God,
Our lives are laid open before you:
Rescue us from the chaos of sin
And through the death of your Son
Bring us healing and make us whole
In Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

NOTICES:

CIVIC SERVICE: 28th February at 3pm. This will be live-streamed at 3pm on the All Saints Leighton Buzzard YouTube Channel.

PARTNERS IN MISSION - 40 Days of Giving - During Lent this year, the Partners in Mission Committee ask you to join our endeavour to provide food contributions for needy families locally. You will be aware that the economic effect of the pandemic has hit some much harder than others, and there are around 60 families receiving help in our town, with approximately 15 food parcels being distributed every day. Specific items required include: tinned meat, vegetables, and fruit; coffee; tea bags; toiletries; paper goods (toilet rolls etc.); pet food. They will be distributed for us via the Leighton Linslade Helpers and the Homeless Centre. The team will collect these items from you, at the end of Lent, or sooner if you prefer. Please contact James Legg who will organise someone to collect from you at an agreed time (Email: jatlegg@gmail.com, Telephone: 07535 973212). You may include in your collection as many or as few items as you wish from the list. Every item will be gratefully received. Any monetary donations will also be accepted and the organisations will supplement fresh food from these donations to add to the parcels. Please, please get involved with this venture.

THE TRUSTEES OF THE LEIGHTON BUZZARD ALMSHOUSES (charity no. 1118085) invite applications from individuals who would like to be considered for appointment as a resident to one of the almshouses in North Street. The dwelling consists of a one-bedroom house, suitable for a couple or for individual occupancy. An application pack can be obtained by emailing or writing to the relevant address below. Applications should be returned no later than 5 March 2021. The Clerk to the Trustees, C/o The Parish Office, All Saints Church, Church Square, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1AE. Email: lbuacharities@gmail.com

After Church Coffee

Time: 11am-12pm on Sundays

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/875602910?pwd=a055WW5WRldlSlQ3UnU3cWdkZ0pzd09>

Or call in on the phone: 0203 481 5240
Meeting ID: 875 602 910
Passcode: 000000

REFLECTION – INTO THE WILDERNESS, LENT I

The Gospel for the First Sunday in Lent gives us a brilliant introduction to our Lenten theme of 'Inside Out'. The contrast between the two events that are described is stark. We read of the intense spiritual experience of Jesus's baptism with the vision of the descending dove and the voice from heaven which validates Jesus's identity as the beloved Son of God. But after this, there is no time for reflection, no time for Jesus to share this experience with anyone else, because we read: 'And immediately the Spirit drove him out into the wilderness... .. and he was tempted by Satan.' This immediacy is a feature of Mark's Gospel as he uses the word which is translated 'immediately' or 'straightaway' over thirty times. But here that immediacy is so challenging both for Jesus and for us as he is plunged into his wilderness solitude and we are impelled into our Lenten journey.

I'm sure that these contrasting experiences of Jesus resonate with us. One moment we can feel close to God, the next we feel distant, as if in a 'dry and thirsty land where there is no water'. This was how the writer of Psalm 42 felt. He writes about his desire for God, like a deep thirst. He misses the presence of God and people mock him as God seems absent from him. He remembers a great time of closeness with God, a time of rejoicing as he led a great procession to house of God. But now things are so different. His spiritual life has been turned 'Inside Out.' He says to himself in despair: 'Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?' Yet he clung on to the hope that he would again be able to praise God, that his despair would end.

This Lent has begun like none other in history. Our usual freedoms have been restricted for many months. Our opportunities for celebration, even at Christmas, were curtailed and it seems as though we have been in the wilderness for many months, almost a perpetual Lent. Yet we need to look at Lent through different eyes, if possible ignoring the pandemic, and use it to reframe our relationship with God. Like the Psalmist, let us remember with thankfulness our past times of spiritual heights, our 'inside' experiences and follow Jesus into his 'outside' wilderness experience but always remembering the confidence of the Psalmist in his 'outside' experience. 'Hope in God: for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.'