



EWELL PARISH NEWS

The monthly newspaper of St Mary the Virgin Ewell

No. 530

March 2017

60p



Sharing the Love of Christ, the Light of the World, with the people of Ewell

NO NONSENSE NOW!

- 1 No other gods
- 2 No graven images
- 3,4,5 Absolute respect for:
God's Name
The Sabbath Day
Your parents
- 6 No murdering
- 7 No committing adultery
- 8 No stealing
- 9 No telling lies
- 10 No covetous eyes

WHY?

We have a duty towards God and a duty towards our neighbours.

CONTENTS

The Vicar writes2, 3 & 4
Lent Group.....4



Suggested prayers.....5
Fun Day Wednesday.....5
The Jesus Way.....6
Board Games afternoon.....6
Mayhem!.....6
March Organ Recital.....6
From the Parish Registers...6
Holly.....7



Christingle service.....7
Celebrating marriage.....7
Ewell St Mary's Morris Men..8
Children's pages.....9 & 10
Easyfundraising.....11
Calendar for March.....12
Coffee Mornings.....12
Grand Draw-can you help? 12

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The Vicar writes

If you read this at the start of March, as Lent begins, you may have already decided how you are going to keep Lent this year. But in case you haven't, a few thoughts that may help. Lent is a season of preparation for Easter. We try to keep a good Lent so that we may celebrate Easter the better. Giving things up for Lent is, at heart, a joyful task. We celebrate that we are not totally beholden to our desire, but that we can choose to say no, that we can, in a very small way, deny ourselves.

As well as giving something up, or fasting, many people use the forty days between Ash Wednesday and Easter for study, prayer, or acts of service. For study this year, can I recommend the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent book "Dethroning Mammon": either to read individually or as part of our Lent group, of which more below. Each of us should be able to find some time for prayer, even if it is literally a few minutes a day to hold the concerns of the world and those we love up to God and perhaps say the "Our Father". Acts of service can also be planned, such as volunteering for a local good cause, or it can simply be a case of trying to be more aware of how we can help our neighbour day by day.

Finally, our Lent project is an opportunity to support charitable work during the season. We are joining the Bishop of Guildford's Lent Challenge, raising money which will be divided 50% among various local community projects in Surrey, and 50% to a pure water plant in Nigeria. The advantage of joining the diocesan project is that, as well as collecting cash gifts as we usually do, it makes it easier for people to give online, or to set-up sponsored activities on the JustGiving website. You can collect a leaflet from church, or follow the instructions on the Bishop of Guildford's Lent Challenge JustGiving page: www.justgiving.com/dioceseofguildford.



A NEW YEAR FOR ST MARY'S

In January, a church-wide meeting open to all discussed some of our plans for the coming year, and for

St Mary the Virgin EWELL PARISH CHURCH 020 8393 2643

Website: www.stmarysewell.com

CLERGY

Vicar: The Reverend Russell Dewhurst MPhys BTh LLM
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Honorary Assistant Priest: The Reverend Dr Patrick Miller
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READER

Mrs Wendy Varney 020 8393 5212

CHURCHWARDENS

Mrs Valerie Wood 020 8393 5991

Mrs Kathie Burgess 020 8786 8475

Pastoral Assistant

Mrs Wendy Paxman 020 8224 2851

SUNDAY AT ST MARY'S

0800 HOLY COMMUNION

0930 SUNG EUCHARIST

The Sunday School meets in conjunction with this service.

There is coffee in the church hall between the 9.30 and 11 o'clock services on Sunday mornings, to which all are welcome, and especially newcomers and visitors.

1100 SERVICE varies by Sunday in the month

The usual pattern is our all-age Praise@11 on the first Sunday; Choral Mattins on the second Sunday; Toddle Up, a short and very informal service for toddlers and their families on the third Sunday; and Morning Prayer with Holy Baptism on the fourth Sunday. The pattern changes on special occasions: see the calendar on the back page for details of this month.

1730 Once a month CHORAL EVENSONG

Just like a cathedral Evensong in our own parish church. See the calendar on the back page for details.

Occasionally there are variations from this pattern; details are given in this paper, on the Notice Board or on the Weekly Notes available on Sundays.

ON WEEKDAYS

Morning prayer is *usually* said at 9 am Mondays-Thursdays, in church. See the Weekly Notes or phone ahead to make sure. The Eucharist is celebrated on Tuesdays at 10 am, at the Side Chapel.

THE PARISH OFFICE

Administrator:

Mrs Lynne Yuille 020 8393 2643 (Office)

Office email: parishoffice@stmarysewell.com

St Mary's Church is in London Road, Ewell, and the Parish Office is in the Sacristy on the south side of the church.

The Office hours are normally 9.30-12.00 Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri, but please check before visiting as appointments are usually needed.

The postal address is:

St Mary's Ewell Parish Church, London Rd, Ewell, Surrey, KT17 2AY.

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St Mary's Toddler Groups

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For more information:
 Tel. 020 8393 4804

CAFE NESBOT

On Tuesdays in term time, students from NESBOT are serving simple lunches in our church hall (London Rd, opposite the church) between 12 and 2pm.

Soup, sandwiches, salad, and cakes, with tea, coffee, and soft drinks.

Everyone welcome!

the future. Many thanks to all who attended and contributed.

Half of the meeting looked at ideas and plans for the improvement of the church building, the better to serve our congregations and those who use the church at other times.

Firstly, the PCC is looking at ways to improve the toilet facilities in church. All the possible solutions have pros and cons, but we are in dialogue with the church architect and hope to make some progress. Secondly, we have also recently begun investigating how we can improve the car parking provision at church: parking is increasingly a problem, especially for weekday services and activities, for those who come to St Mary's. Many supportive remarks were made in the meeting about both these projects, encouraging the PCC to redouble our efforts to find solutions. I do believe that the lack of both of these facilities is a real restriction on the growth of our church and the welcome we can offer to all.

Other improvements to the building, which are likely to happen on a shorter timescale, were also discussed. The parish office is the 'first impression' for many who come to St Mary's, as well as an important working environment that forms our administrative hub. It is in sore need of redecoration, which we hope will take place in the next few months. The sound and vision system has been used several times most weeks since November, in services and by schools especially. There are further additions to the system which are needed if it is to be visible when the church is full, as it is, for example, at our frequent school services and assemblies as well as at major festivals. We also considered how we could improve refreshment facilities in church.

We are very fortunate that we have been able to allocate a significant portion of the one-off donation received from Golden Hours Fellowship last year and from legacies, towards important projects. We were able to make this allocation thanks to the generous response to our giving campaign last year, which has helped us to cover a greater proportion of our regular costs from regular giving. Nevertheless, all that I have mentioned above would certainly exceed the money the PCC has been able to allocate to projects, so we will continue to explore possibilities and see what can be done in the most cost effective way as well as investigating grant-making opportunities.

NEW SECURITY SYSTEM

Last year the PCC decided we need to urgently review church security. In dialogue with our insurers we looked at how we use keys to facilitate the very broad base of volunteer work and church use that goes on every week and the risks associated with the current system. We also considered the advice from National Churchwatch especially recommending that all churches should be fitted with CCTV. Plans were drawn up, and no objections being received to the public notice, the Consistory Court has now granted us permission to proceed.

Keyholders at St Mary's will be contacted during the next month as we transfer over to an electronic fob system for entry to the church via the parish room. This has many benefits, and in particular will enable us to handle lost keys much more securely, as they can be wiped from the system if they go missing. *Continued on p4*

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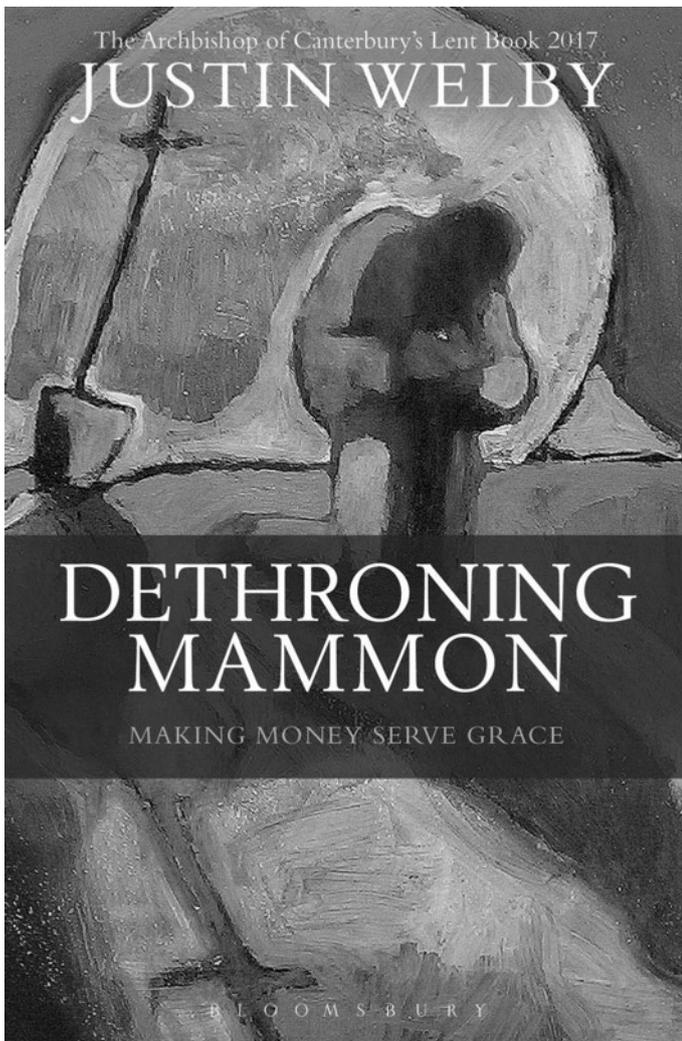
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The Vicar Writes continued from p3

There is a significant amount of lone working at church, whether that is from people doing things at church and leaving alone, often late at night, or clergy or others meeting people who may be unknown to us in the church. I am personally very glad that security CCTV will help all such lone workers to feel safe and assured. Note that we are not introducing CCTV into the main part of church, but at the entrances (e.g. as already exists at the office door) and rooms which people frequently use alone. Once the system has been fully commissioned, a strict policy will be introduced that (save for necessary maintenance purposes) CCTV recordings will not be accessed except following a serious incident, when they would only be viewed by at least two of the Vicar and churchwardens, and all such access will be recorded.

Please do feel free to ask me or the churchwardens if you have any questions about the new system.

LENT GROUP



We are trying something different for this year's Lent group. The group will be based around the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent book, "Dethroning mammon", in which Justin Welby looks at the subject of money and materialism. "Designed for study in the weeks of Lent

leading up to Easter, Dethroning Mammon reflects on the impact of our own attitudes, and of the pressures that surround us, on how we handle the power of money, called Mammon in this book."

The Lent group is open to all, and will meet on Wednesdays from 8 March to 5 April in the parish room at the back of church. Doors open at 7.30pm, from when refreshments will be served, and we will start at 8pm and finish by 9pm. Each week will focus on a different chapter of the book (starting with chapter 1 on 8 March), and we will spend a good amount of time in each session looking at the Bible passage which each chapter is based on. Most of the time will be spent in discussion together.

You can buy a printed copy of "Dethroning Mammon" from booksellers, and an edition for Kindle is also available.

IN CHURCH IN MARCH

We begin Lent on Ash Wednesday, 1 March, with services at 12 noon (said Holy Communion) and 8pm (Sung Eucharist). The beginning of Lent is also marked at our all-age service Praise@11, on Sunday 5 March at 11am. This is of course in addition to our Sunday services at 8am and 9:30am which take place every week.

On Saturday 11 March, the year's programme of recitals begins with an organ recital by Jonathan Holmes at 7:30pm (£7 on the door, or £1 for under 16s). On Sunday 12 March, there is Choral Mattins at 11:15am, and our all-age All-in service at 5pm, followed by Club Sandwich at 5:45pm (for 7-11s).

Services on Sunday 19 March include Toddle Up! at 11am and Choral Evensong at 5:30pm. Our bereavement café, open to all who want to talk about their experiences of bereavement is on Tuesday 21 March in the hall 2:45pm-3:45pm.

Sunday 26 March is Mothering Sunday, and our traditional all-age service, Praise@11, takes place at 11am where we celebrate and give thanks for mothers.

I'm always conscious that this section "In church this month" only scratches the surface of what happens at St Mary's each week. Children's activities every week include Sunday children's hour, three toddler groups, and Fun Day Wednesdays. In the hall each week, there is a Wednesday coffee morning, great lunches and company at Café NESCOL on Tuesdays, and many other activities. Choirs and other groups also meet and weekday services take place. Have a look on our website, or through the pages of the EPN, or please phone to find out more.

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Meets every Wednesday 3.30-4.30 in term time in the Church Hall. Craft, activities and games set out for children to dip in and out of. Drinks and snacks available. For children aged around 5-11 but older and younger are welcome! Parents/carers please stay and have a drink and a chat. £1 per session - no need to book. Any questions contact Fran Siddle on 07944-761629 or francesiddle@yahoo.co.uk.

SUGGESTED PRAYERS

Father, help us to cheer the suffering by our sympathy, and the drooping by our hopefulness, and to strengthen in all the wholesome sense of worth and the joy of life. Save us from the deadly poison of class-pride. If anyone needs us, make us ready to yield our help ungrudgingly.

Walter Rauschenbusch

Give me, O Thou Father of Compassion, such a tenderness of heart that I may be deeply affected with all the miseries and calamities of my brethren, and diligently keep them in love. O that this mind may be in us all, which was in the Lord Jesus, that we may love as brethren, be pitiful and courteous, and endeavour heartily and vigorously to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, and the God of Grace, Mercy and Peace be with us all.

Thomas à Kempis

Grant us, O Lord God, that we may love one another unfeignedly; for where Love is, there art Thou, and where brethren do glorify Thee with one accord, there dost Thou pour out Thy blessing upon them. Love us, therefore, O Lord, and shed thy love into our hearts, that we may love Thee, and our brethren, as all children in Thee, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Anonymous (1578)

O God, who wouldst fold heaven and earth in single peace, let the design of Thy great love lighten on the waste of our wraths and sorrows and give peace to thy Church, peace among nations, peace in our dwellings, and peace in our hearts through Thy Son, Jesus Christ.

Memorial Occasions

O Lord, support us all the day long of this troublous life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life over and our work done. Then, Lord, in Thy mercy, grant us safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last: through Jesus Christ our Lord.

John Henry Newman

THE JESUS WAY

In early morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a deserted place, and there he prayed. *Mark 1.35*

When you seek Me with all your heart, I will be found by you, says The Lord. *Jeremiah 29.13*

Try to be at peace with everyone, and try to live a holy life, because no one will see the Lord without it. *Hebrews 12.14*

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge. *Proverbs 1.7*

Your Father knows your needs before you ask Him. *Matthew 6.8*

I know that your goodness and love will be with me all my life, and your house will be my home as long as I live. *Psalms 23.4*

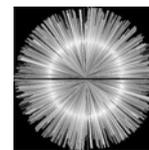


BOARD GAMES AFTERNOON

The annual board games afternoon was held in the church hall on Saturday, January 28. The popularity of this event grows each year and in spite of the cold weather 35 players both young and not-so-young spent the afternoon participating in a wide range of games, mainly supplied by our Vicar, Russell. Tea and a selection of home-made cakes were provided by the Social Committee.



SAVE THE DATE!



MAYHEM!

Dinner & entertainment

Saturday, 6 May, St. Mary's Church Hall

6:30 for 7:00 p.m.

Tickets £10 on sale from mid March, after services
and from the Parish Office

ORGAN RECITAL

Jonathan Holmes

St Mary's Church, 11 March at 7.30 pm

Programme:

Toccata by Marcel Lanquetuit

Selection of Marches by John Philip Sousa,
"Variations on America" by Charles Ives

Flight of the Bumble Bee by Rimsky Korsakov

Pictures at an Exhibition by Mussorgsky
arr. Jean Guillou

Prelude and Fugue in C major BWV 547
by J S Bach

Second Symphony Marcel Dupré

Tickets £7.00, under 16s £1.

Contact Arthur on 020 8337 2160,
llamedos@outlook.com. You can also buy
tickets on the door.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

HOLY BAPTISM

At the font we were marked with the Cross on our brow, of our grace and our calling the sign.
(AMR 541)

22 January Joshua William Hobday
Verity Elizabeth FitzGibbon

FUNERALS

I will come again and take you to myself
(St. John 14:3)

6 February Betty Hilda Spong, aged 88
Shirley Patricia Glazebrook, aged 81

HOLLY

“Heigh-ho! Sing heigh-ho! Unto the green holly;
Most friendship is feigning, most loving mere folly.
Then Heigh-ho! the holly. This life has been most jolly.”

Some cheerful lines taken from the play ‘As You Like It’. I am sure the holly is as popular today as it was in Shakespeare’s time. Whose houses are not decorated with holly at Christmas? And who doesn’t sing “the holly and the ivy”? Let’s delve a little more deeply into the background and history of this plant.

Our holly (*ilex aquifolium*) is a native tree seldom attaining a height of 15 metres, and is found all over the country. It grows best in moist, shady situations where it can form dense thickets. Holly will take to any soil type or level of acidity. Furthermore, it is what’s called a ‘pioneer species’, which means it will readily re-colonise recently-felled areas and make it easier for other plants to follow. It is very slow-growing in the early stages; however, once established it can live for 500 years.

Holly is best known for its red berries. They appear in October or November and it is advisable for humans to leave them alone as they are an emetic. Birds are able to withstand this toxicity. Once the first frosts have occurred, the berries soften and frequently fall to the ground, where they are eaten by browsing herbivores such as deer; birds such as blackbirds and thrushes devour the berries voraciously. The mistle thrush will, in hard winters, vigorously defend ‘its’ holly tree against all avian comers.

Thickets of holly provide welcome shelter for birds and animals in winter. Rodents forage in the deep leaf litter. Such is their palatability, that farmers would grind holly leaves for food for their livestock. Spines only appear on the young leaves; as the tree ages it tends to produce smooth leaves. The holly blue butterfly lays its eggs and its caterpillars feed on holly.

Holly timber is popular due to its hardness. For instance, it is used in making walking sticks as well as chessmen (the white ones). Black chess pieces are of ebony.

Holly has always been a source of fascination for people. Apart from the colour and attraction of its dark green leaves and red berries in the depth of winter, the spines are reminiscent of Jesus’ crown of thorns and the berries are associated with drops of his red blood. An old Celtic belief was that the Holly King ruled the world from summer to the winter solstice, when he was replaced by the Oak King. It was considered bad luck to chop down a whole holly tree and one would always be left when hedges were trimmed – even as late as 1861 according to one story

Finally, I should add a footnote to my recent article about the slow-worm. It seems the largest slow-worms in this country are to be found on Ailsa Craig, the island in the Firth of Clyde. Why that should be, I do not know.

Timothy Tomkins

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

Sunday 29 January was Candlemas, when we remembered Mary and Joseph bringing Jesus to the Temple in thanksgiving. At 11am, our all-age Praise@11 took the form of a Christingle service, as candles are so much part of this festival.



SPECIAL SERVICE CELEBRATING MARRIAGE 12 FEBRUARY

This year 120 people attended our service of "celebrating marriage". Many couples who had been married at St Mary's - in recent years and further back - attended. The readings were on the Wedding at Cana and on love and we had popular wedding hymns and music. Afterwards light refreshments and glasses of fizz were served at the back of church. The food, drink, and good company were enjoyed so much that people were still chatting an hour after the service had finished.



EWELL ST MARY'S MORRIS MEN

In just a couple of years the Ewell St Mary's Morris Men will be celebrating their 40th Anniversary. What an amazing feat, considering that it all started pretty much by chance.

When the Ewell Village Fair was being planned in 1979 it was decided that there would be an 'Olde English' theme to the day. In the vestry after an early morning service The Reverend Peter Hogben and church member John



Wharton were discussing the plans and they came to the conclusion that a troupe of morris dancers would greatly add to the proceedings; but where could such outlandish entertainers be found. Ah! Well, it seemed that John had a friend, Vic, who had danced with Stafford Morris Men, and if Peter Hogben could deliver the local men then perchance Vic could teach them how to dance. Perhaps the men-folk of the Young Wives' Group might be roped in for this one-off spot of entertainment.

The wives thought it would all be a bit of a laugh and issued the necessary instructions for their men to report for practice - not realising they were saying goodbye to a life-time of DIY, odd-jobs about the house and weekend shopping when the 'morris season' comes around. For the truth was that the lads got bitten by the bug and soon decided to form a 'proper' Morris side and with the help of nearby Thames Valley Morris Men they learned the intricacies of the dance and eventually "qualified" by dancing into The Morris Ring (The international association of Morris Men) at Harthill, Notts in 1986.

Two of the original members - Peter Collins and Nigel Bird - are still involved. Friendships have been formed by men from many walks of life, all bound together by the social and, we have to say, slightly eccentric urge to dance in public and keep alive one of the traditions of old England.

Apart from summer mid-week dance-outs out at the many excellent Surrey pubs which the lads regard as homes from home, various tours are an absolute fix-

ture in their calendar each year: dancing on the top of Box Hill at dawn to greet the rising of the sun followed by breakfast back at Ewell in The Wheat-sheaf; the St George's Day festivities in the City of

London; a trip to The Continent where they have had tomatoes thrown at them at a Boulogne Market place, have terrorised the burgers of Bruges with a cycle tour and even impeded a major cycle race in West Flanders!

Almost every event in the

village is supported by the morris men - everything from 'Ewell Yule' to the Herald of Spring. For thirty five years Boxing Day in Ewell Village has been celebrated with a tour of the village pubs, culminating in the performance of the traditional Mummings' Play in the yard of Upper Mill. Hundreds of onlookers turn out for this latter event and this year no less than £1444 was raised for The Mayor's Charity. And of course the root cause of this phenomenon has never been forgotten and the men dance each year at the Ewell Village Fair.

The fun goes on, but the very success and longevity of this group has slowly contributed to the odd worn hip and knee and Ewell St Mary's Morris Men would welcome a few new men. Age is no barrier - although a sense of humour might be an advantage.

Practice nights during the winter are Thursdays at 8:30pm at the 2nd Ewell Scout Hut at 106a West Street, Ewell, KT17 1XR.

A good idea of what the men get up to can be seen by visiting their website at www.ewellmorris.co.uk or their Facebook Group at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/887632641261549/>.

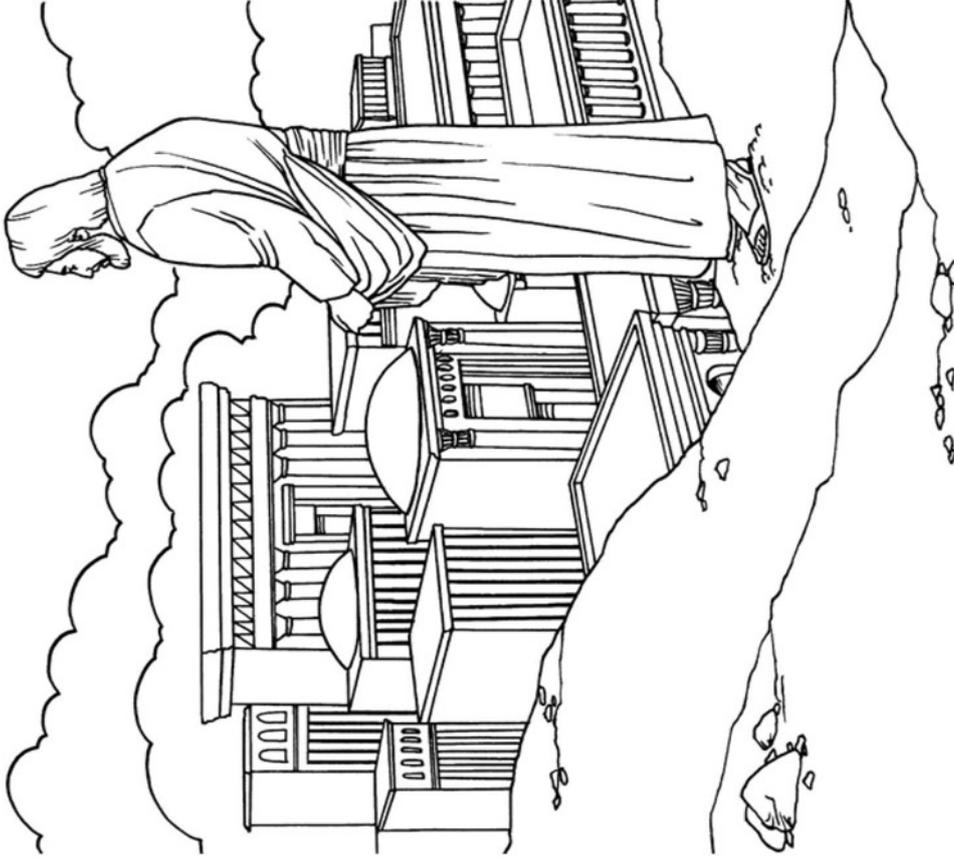
And of course they can always be contacted by email or phone: bagman@ewellmorris.co.uk / 020 8393 1997.

Alan Mead

Page 9 can be cut out if needed

Young Church Mag

05 March 2017, the first Sunday of Lent; Matthew 4:1-11



Jesus is tempted

Produced by the Diocese of Bath and Wells, Youth and Children's Parish's Team
05 March 2017

We have just begun the time called LENT
It is the time each year when we think about what it really means to be a follower of Jesus.

Fill in the 4 letters of LENT in the gaps to make 4 six-letter words.

S	C			P	L			T	Y
H	A							E	R
								L	E
								S	R

How many days did Jesus stay in the desert?
Colour the squares with the numbers 6, 8 and 10

6	10	8	6
10	4	0	8
6	10	8	6

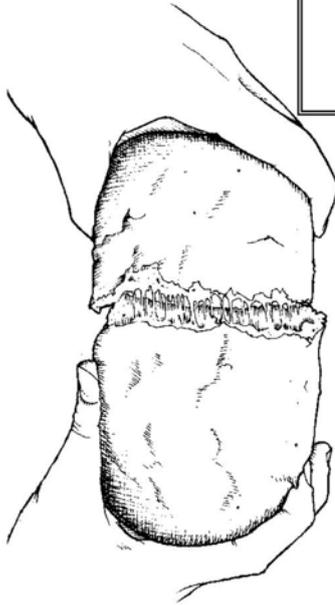
What number is left?

Lent is a time for giving up something valuable so we can remember how great a blessing it is.
Lent is a time for taking up something valuable so we can remember to bring some blessing to others

Produced by the Diocese of Bath and Wells, Youth and Children's Parish's Team
05 March 2017

Test 1
 Turn these stones into bread
 Matthew 4:3

Jesus is put to the test!



The devil did not give up!
He tempted Jesus for a second time

Test 2
 If you are God's Son, throw yourself down
 Matthew 4:6

Cross out the letters which rhyme with "day" to read what Jesus replied

ADAAO NAOAT
 APAUAT AAGAOADA
 ATAO
 AATHAE ATAEAASAT



Test 3
 I will give you the world if you worship me
 Matthew 4:9

Then Jesus was tested for a third time!

Use the code cracker to find what Jesus said

Z1	M14
Y2	L15
X3	K16
W4	J17
V5	I18
U6	H19
T7	G20
S8	F21
R9	E22
Q10	D23
P11	C24
O12	B25
N13	A26

_ _ _ _ _
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 2 12 6 14 6 8 7 4 12 9 8 19 18 11
 _ _ _ _ _
 20 12 23 26 15 12 13 22



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There are links on the church website to help you

So far 35 people have signed up and have raised £842 for St Mary's

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21-23, KINGSTON ROAD, EWELL

020 8393 1077



Calendar for March

- W 1 ASH WEDNESDAY**
1200 Holy Communion with imposition of ashes
2000 Sung Eucharist with imposition of ashes
- T 2** 1400 Meeting of Pro Musica Committee
- S 5 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist
1100 Praise@11
- M 6** 2000 Meeting of Fair Committee
- T 7** 1000 Holy Communion (said) at the Side Chapel
- W 8** 2000-2100 Lent Group in the Parish Room
(refreshments from 19.30)
- S 11** 1930 Organ Recital - Jonathan Holmes
- S 12 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist
1115 Choral Mattins
1700 All-In Service
1745 Club Sandwich Young Youth Group
- T 14** 1000 Holy Communion (said) at the Side Chapel
- W 15** 2000-2100 Lent Group in the Parish Room
(refreshments from 19.30)
- T 16** 1000 Holy Communion to The Old House
- S 19 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist
1100 Toddle Up!
1730 Choral Evensong
- M 20** 2000 Meeting of Finance Committee
- T 21** 1000 Holy Communion (said) at the Side Chapel
- W 22** 2000-2100 Lent Group in the Parish Room
(refreshments from 19.30)
- S 26 FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - Mothering Sunday**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist
1100 Praise@11 Mothering Sunday
- T 28** 1000 Holy Communion (said) at the Side Chapel
- W 29** 2000-2100 Lent Group in the Parish Room
(refreshments from 19.30)



COFFEE MORNINGS

**WE MEET EVERY WEDNESDAY
FROM 10.30 am – 12 noon**

DO COME AND JOIN US

- 8 March Pre-Raphaelite Painting
Adam Powell
- 5 April More from a Young Man at Sea
The Revd Dr Patrick Miller

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GRAND DRAW

Is there anyone out there who would be willing to shadow the present Grand Draw Organiser with a view to taking over running this event next year? It is a very important part of the Ewell Village Fair and raises a large amount of money. It is not an arduous undertaking and there are plenty of people willing to help on the day as well as others to assist in the weeks and months prior to the Fair. If you are interested please call Lyn Gadd on 0208 393 3885 or 07775 838648