



# Church Matters...

**28th February 2021  
2nd Sunday of Lent**

## Welcome

Welcome to this week's Church Matters, although we are not able to congregate at this time we do hope you will enjoy taking part in our service online.

## Today's Service

**Mark 8 31-end**

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**Collect**

Almighty God,  
you show to those who are in error the  
light of your truth, that they may return  
to the way of righteousness: grant to all  
those who are admitted into the  
fellowship of Christ's religion,  
that they may reject those things  
that are contrary to their profession,  
and follow all such things as are  
agreeable to the same; through our  
Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and  
reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

# Notice Board

**National Lockdown and Church Attendance** - We are currently awaiting further guidance from the Church of England following the announcement regarding the easing of lockdown. We are still having services entirely by zoom during National Lockdown restrictions. This will mean that although we will continue to lead services from either church or home as has been the practice over the last few months, it will not be possible for any worshippers to join us in the flesh in the churches.

We are also making plans for our services over Easter and these plans will be finalised once we have further guidance, we look forward to sharing this information with you.

**Praying for those with Covid** - If you are worried about a friend or relation who has Covid 19 at the moment please do email me so that we can get together a group of people to pray for them. Amazing things happen when we ask the Lord to intervene in moments of great anguish and there will be many of us who are suffering in this way at the moment. We can help bring our fears and concerns about those we love before our Father. Alex

**Electoral Roll** - If you are not currently on the Electoral Roll please do contact Beccy by 10<sup>th</sup> March and she will send you an application form.

**Private Prayer** - Church opening times have been revised and will be open between 10am and 2pm as follows:

St Mary's, Easton - Wednesdays  
St John's, Itchen Abbas - Fridays  
St Swithun's, Martyr Worthy - Sundays  
St Mary's, Avington - Every day by arrangement  
*please contact Dan at Ivy Cottage or on 07500 860949*

## For Your Prayers

We pray for the family and friends of Ro Marriott and especially for his granddaughter Kelly Maltby and her mother following his sad death. We also pray for the family of Richard Olden following his death, he was a regular member of Cameo and will be greatly missed. Please Lord support those in our Parish, or who are known to us, who are ill and suffering at the moment - may they know your comfort at this time.

Gracious God,  
as we remember before you the thousands who have died,  
surround us and all who mourn with your strong compassion.  
Be gentle with us in our grief, protect us from despair,  
and give us grace to persevere and face the future with hope  
in Jesus Christ our risen Lord.

**Amen**

God of heaven and earth, in these times of isolation,  
apart from loved ones, distant from friends,  
away from neighbours, thank you that there is nothing  
in all of creation, not even coronavirus,  
that is able to separate us from your love.

And may your love that never fails continue to be shared  
through the kindness of strangers, looking out for each other,  
for neighbours near and far, all recognising our shared vulnerability,  
each of us grateful for every breath, and willing everyone to know  
the gift of a full and healthy life.

Keep us all in your care.

**Amen**

We pray for the lonely, anxious and confused people of our Parish,  
please Lord guide us to be the support that they need at this time.

**We may may not be able to gather as we normally do, but we're  
still here if you need prayerful or practical support.**

## Useful Information

### Contacts:

#### Rector

Revd Alex Pease

rector@itchenvalleychurches.org  
01962 779845

#### LLM

Mr Gerry Stacey

gstacey@easynet.co.uk  
01962 620263

**Parish Book-keeping** - Janet Denyer, The Parish Office, St John's Church, Avington Lane, Itchen Abbas, Winchester, SO21 1BJ; accounts@itchenvalleychurches.org

**The Hub and the Parish Office** at St John's, Itchen Abbas. Office hours are generally 9am-1pm, weekdays; 01962 779845. Please call or email to make an appointment. At this time Beccy is working from home.

**Church Matters** - If you would like a notice to be put in Church Matters please send by email to Beccy Clark at admin@itchenvalleychurches.org by 1pm the previous Wednesday. If you wish to receive Church Matters weekly by email then please contact Beccy. You can also download it from the website [www.itchenvalleychurches.org](http://www.itchenvalleychurches.org)

## Services

### Today

10am Parish Communion by Zoom  
Led and Sermon by Revd. Alex Pease

### Sunday 7th March

10am Family Worship via Zoom

### Diary Dates

Sunday 28th February 11.15am Easton ADCM by Zoom  
Monday 1st March 6pm Itchen Abbas ADCM by Zoom  
Saturday 6th March 10.30am Martyr Worthy ADCM by Zoom  
Monday 8th March 7pm Avington ADCM by Zoom  
**Thursday 25th March 7pm APCM via Zoom**

[www.itchenvalleychurches.org](http://www.itchenvalleychurches.org)

to receive regular updates from the Parish please follow us by  
registering on the homepage