



Church Matters...

Sunday 10 March 2024
Fourth Sunday of Lent

Welcome

We are so pleased to welcome you to our service. If you are new to the parish or worshipping with us for the first time, then please do make yourself known to the person leading the service.

Parish Diary

Friday 8 March

12pm - Lent Lunch - Lucy de Laszlo at Chilland House, MW SO21 1EB

Sunday 10 March - Mothering Sunday

8.30am - Holy Communion (said) - St John's, Itchen Abbas
with Revd Peter

coffee and teaching

10am - Mothering Sunday Family Worship - St John's, Itchen Abbas
with Revd Peter and organist John Dover

5.30pm - Viewing Jerusalem Webinar - [*details on page 4*](#)

5.30pm - UTX - St John's, Itchen Abbas

6pm - Evensong - St Swithun's, Martyr Worthy

Monday 11 March

9.30am – Little Rainbows - St John's, Itchen Abbas

Thursday 14 March

7pm - PCC Meeting - St John's, Itchen Abbas

Friday 15 March

12pm - Lent Lunch - Lucy Collis at Demelza, Easton SO21 1EF

Sunday 17 March

10am - Parish Communion - St Swithun's, Martyr Worthy

Collect

Merciful Lord,
absolve your people from their
offences,
that through your bountiful
goodness
we may all be delivered from the
chains of those sins
which by our frailty we have
committed;
grant this, heavenly Father,
for Jesus Christ's sake,
our blessed Lord and Saviour,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Psalm 67

May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
**that your way may be known
upon earth,
your saving power among all
nations.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

**Let the nations be glad and sing
for joy,
for you judge the peoples with
equity
and guide the nations upon earth.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

**The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, has blessed us.**

May God continue to bless us;
let all the ends of the earth revere him.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and
to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now, and
shall be for ever. Amen**

Daniel 6:10-13

Although Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he continued to go to his house, which had windows in its upper room open towards Jerusalem, and to get down on his knees three times a day to pray to his God and praise him, just as he had done previously. ¹¹ The conspirators came and found Daniel praying and seeking mercy before his God. ¹² Then they approached the king and said concerning the interdict, 'O king! Did you not sign an interdict, that anyone who prays to anyone, divine or human, within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions?' The king answered, 'The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked.' ¹³ Then they responded to the king, 'Daniel, one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the interdict you have signed, but he is saying his prayers three times a day.'

Luke 11:1-4, 9-13

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' ² He said to them, 'When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.'

⁹ 'So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹² Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

Notice Board

Lent Wednesdays – The Bible study group will not meet this coming week but will resume on Wednesday 20 March. Please join us as we continue to look a Psalm or Gospel passage over a cup of soup from 12.30-1.30pm.

Lent Lunches - These are held on Fridays from 12-2pm in various homes and take the form of an informal gathering, offering soup, bread and cheese. The fourth lunch will be on Friday 8 March, kindly hosted by Lucy de Laszlo at Chilland House, Martyr Worthy SO21 1EB. Everyone is welcome to this community-wide event. If you are able to make soup for any of the lunches or would like further information, please contact Judith Mezger - judemezger@gmail.com or 07854 831450.

Viewing Jerusalem through Jesus' eyes – I am leading three 'Walkway Books' Zoom seminars, designed to help us think through the complex issues to do with Jerusalem that lie at the heart of the current conflict in the Holy Land. These will continue on Sundays 10 and 17 March in the late afternoon. The second webinar this Sunday (10 March) will focus on 'Jerusalem in Faith' (looking at how the city has been viewed by Jews, Christians and Muslims), and will start at the earlier time of 5.30pm. Further details can be found here <https://itchenvaleychurches.org/2024/02/28/jesus-and-jerusalem-history-faith-and-conflict-webinars/>. **Revd Peter**

APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) - This will this year be held on Thursday 21 March at 7.30pm in St John's Church, Itchen Abbas. Drinks and nibbles will precede the meeting from 7pm. This is always a good time to catch up with friends and a rare opportunity to experience what it means to be in a single benefice and part of a large parish-wide family. Please put this date in your diaries as everyone is welcome to attend.

ADCM - Avington's meeting will be held at 9am on Friday 15 March at 5 Chandos Terrace. **Everyone is welcome to attend.**

For Your Prayers

for the situations in Ukraine and the Holy Land
for those who are ill or suffering at the moment
for our PCC as they meet this week
for mothers and the families in the Valley