

THE PARISH OF ABBOTS LANGLEY

St Lawrence the Martyr, Abbots Langley
with the Church of the Ascension, Bedmond



10th March 2019

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

TODAY

8.00 am Holy Communion in St Lawrence
President & Preacher: The Revd Brian Hibberd
Reader: Mike Jefford

9.30 am Second Sunday Communion Service in St Lawrence
President & Preacher: The Revd Peter Waddell
Hymns: Jesus is the name we honour - 125 - 53
- 335 - 467

11.15 am Holy Communion at Bedmond
President & Preacher: The Revd Jos Perris
Hymns: 145 - 466 - 39 - 188
Reader: Martin Tanner
followed by a congregational meeting

6.30 pm Evening Prayer in St Lawrence
Leader: The Revd Peter Waddell

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Holy Communion said in St Lawrence
12.00 noon Wednesday
Morning Prayer said in St Lawrence
9.30 am Monday to Friday
Evening Prayer said in St Lawrence
5.15 pm Monday to Wednesday
Quiet Reflection in St Lawrence
11.15 am Wednesday
Early Prayer in St Lawrence
8.15 am Thursday

WELCOME

Welcome to everyone at our worship today especially to visitors and newcomers - please introduce yourself if you are new or a visitor.

If you usually receive **Communion** in your own church, please do so here. If not, you are welcome to come to the altar rail for a **Blessing**, and if you carry a book with you the priest will know not to offer you the bread and wine.

The 9.30 am service is **recorded live** on 'www.thesunday.org' each week. No members of the congregation will be seen on camera.



Please tell a sidesperson before the service if you would like a **gluten-free wafer**.

A **T-loop** is provided for hearing aid users.



For our younger members in St Lawrence:



Seekers for children of primary school age (start in church), not 2nd Sunday each month;
Creche in the Breakspear Room;
Quiet Corner in church

Please join us for **coffee, tea or juice and biscuits** in the church hall after the 9.30 am service.

A **collection** is taken at each main service. If you are a UK tax payer, please complete a gift aid envelope.

This money is fundamental to the life of the church: its ministry, mission and charitable giving.

As we receive no income from the Government or any other external body, we are reliant on the generosity of the community and our fundraising endeavours to ensure that the important work of the parish continues.

Many regular members of the congregation give by direct debit and so put nothing in the bag as it passes by.

*If you would like to set up a regular direct debit, please ask for a **Parish Giving Scheme** pack.*

THE PRAYERS AND BIBLE READINGS

Bibles are available in the book rack by the door where you entered.

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.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40.28-31

Bible page 679

These words were first spoken, we think, to exiles from Jerusalem. Forced to leave their homes and deported to Babylon, they would have been a battered and dispirited lot. Israel's glory days, it might have seemed, were decisively over. But Isaiah's great promise is that spiritual renewal is possible: the nation can be reborn in all sorts of ways—if they will but wait on their God in prayer.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 6.10-19

Bible page 192

This passage is among the most famous of Paul's writings, where he explores the Christian life using the imagery of the Roman soldier—which would have been very familiar to both him and his first readers. Its use for us today is not least in thinking of prayer (and indeed discipleship as a whole) as something akin to military service: involving discipline and quite possible fierce opposition—but with the promise of victory assured.

GOSPEL

Luke 11.1-4,9-13

Bible page 69

This is Luke's version of the Lord's Prayer—Matthew's is slightly different, as is the one that has become the standard version in world Christianity. Clearly, though, we're dealing with variants of a common underlying prayer, which Jesus may have taught on many occasions. In Luke 11, Jesus follows it up with the instruction to persist in prayer, and to do so in a spirit of expectancy.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER: Lord God you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love; teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR OUR PRAYERS

GIVE THANKS FOR

- » the opportunity Lent gives us to grow in holiness
- » the freedom we have to confess our faith openly

PRAY FOR

- » grace to withstand temptation
- » deeper commitment to praying, giving and fasting
- » all those working to make the world a fairer place for all
- » the CTAL Lent Course on Prayer
- » those who live in Breakspeare Court, Burbridge Road, Cardiff Way
- » those who worship at the Methodist Church, especially at this time without a minister

THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR IN NEED

- » Stan Johnson : Karen Clark : Ada : Paul Maxted : Andrew Cummings : Brian McIntosh : Sandra Smalley : Ben : Sean Brosnan : Vanessa

RIP

- » Winifred Shirran (Northcotts) : Peter Holland : Sheila Whitton

NEXT SUNDAY

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Theme this week: Prayer as Adoration

17th March 2019

8.00 am Holy Communion in St Lawrence
President & Preacher: The Revd Peter Waddell

9.30 am Parish Communion with Seekers and Creche in St Lawrence
President: The Revd Peter Waddell
Preacher: The Revd Brian Hibberd

11.15 am Holy Communion in Bedmond
President & Preacher: The Revd Brian Hibberd

12.30 pm Sunday Lunch Club in the hall

12.45 pm Christening for Zachary Zarahiah

6.30 pm Choral Evensong in St Lawrence
Leader: The Revd Peter Waddell

THE COMING WEEK

Monday 11th

- 11.30 am CTAL Lent group in the Tin Church
- 2.15 pm Tiny Tots in the Breakspeare Room
- 7.30 pm Bell ringing in St Lawrence tower
- 8.00 pm Worship Committee meets at 72 The Crescent

Tuesday 12th

- 10.15 am Tuesday Coffee in the Breakspeare Rm
- 7.00 pm Youth Club meets in the church hall
- 7.30 pm CTAL Lent group in the Baptist Church

Wednesday 13th

- 11.00 am Mothers' Union meets in the Breakspeare Room
- 11.15 am Quiet Reflection in the Corpus Christi Chapel
- 12.00 noon Corporate Communion for the MU
- 2.00 pm CTAL Lent group in the Breakspeare Room
- 3.30 pm Messy Church in the Methodist Church
- 5.30 pm Wedding rehearsal in St Lawrence

Thursday 14th

- 2.00 pm Wedding of Craig Watson and Gemma Mephram
- 7.30 pm CTAL Lent group in St Paul's Vicarage
- 7.30 pm CTAL Lent group in the Methodise hall

Friday 15th

- 10.00 am Craft Morning in the Tin Church
- 10.30 am CTAL Lent group in St Saviour's Rooms
- 10.00 am AHAL Coffee in the Henderson Hub, Abbots Langley High Street
- 2.00 pm Craft & Conversation in the Breakspeare Room
- 6.15 pm Youth Choir practice in the Breakspeare Room

Saturday 16th

- 10.00 am 'Keep Bedmond Beautiful' meets at the Tin Church

AVAILABILITY

Peter's day off is Thursday

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

I Chronicles 29.10-13; Revelation 5.11-14;
Luke 2.46-55

NOTICES

► Churches Together has arranged for **LENT GROUPS** to take place on each day of the week. It's not too late to join in - please sign up to a day and time which suits you - sign up sheets are at the back of both churches.

► **CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL** - it is renewed every six years and this is one of the renewal years. If you are a regular worshipper (at least monthly) at any service in either church please take a form, complete it and return it to the Church Office by 8th April. There are also packs to join **PLANNED GIVING** (if you are not already a member) as your membership of the Electoral Roll has financial implications for the amount we pay to the Diocese.

► Congratulations to our **BELL RINGERS** who were runners up in a striking competition hosted at St Lawrence on Saturday 2nd March. They just missed out being overall winners by one point. Bushey were the overall winners.

► **ABBOTS LANGLEY PLAYERS'** production of 'The Actress' runs from Wednesday 13th to Saturday 16th March in the Henderson Hub; 7.45 pm nightly with a Saturday matinee at 2.30 pm. Synopsis of the play: 'the star's flower-filled dressing room is the setting for this comedy on the final and emotional show before her retirement to Switzerland with her elderly fiancé. Relations past and present and professional colleagues come in and out bringing advice, best wishes and brandy and perhaps unsettling feelings.' Tickets are £10 each from 0844 804 5354.

► Possible **THEATRE TRIPS** - to see **Motown, the Musical** (July/Aug, Milton Keynes) and/or **The Girl on the Train** (Sept, Wycombe Swan) - please sign the list to register interest for either/both.

► The new **HOME GROUP** had a good start last month but is not meeting in March or April to encourage members to join the CTAL Lent groups. Therefore, the next meeting of the

MESSY CHURCH

This week! Wednesday 13th March in the Methodist church and hall from 3.30 to 6.00 pm for children and parents/carers: stories, activities and fun, finishing with supper.

FRIENDS OF ST LAWRENCE

Some dates for your diary: the next event is the **Puzzle and Toy Fair** on Saturday 27th April from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm in the church hall; please look out all the jigsaws and toys (in good condition) that you no longer need as others might like to buy them; then on Saturday 11th May, a **Safari Supper**; hosts are still needed so if you can provide a main course for between six and ten guests in your house please contact Sue Coultrup.

Home Group will be Thursday 2nd May in the Breakspear Room at 8.00 pm; new members will be welcome then.

► **CHORAL EVENSONG** will be sung by the choir in St Lawrence next Sunday, 17th March, at 6.30 pm. This is a centuries old service; the rhythm of speech and music works together to create a slowing of heart rate and breathing, and a quietening of the mind. In many churches and cathedrals all over the country, congregation numbers are growing at Choral Evensong. Why not give it a try?

► **OUTLOOK** (Church magazine) is available for March - please take a copy (40p). We hope you will continue your subscription (£4.80) into 2019 - please pay your deliverer or via the office.

CONTACT NUMBERS

Vicar:	The Revd Dr Peter Waddell 01923 263013
Email:	vicar@abbotslangley.org.uk
Assistant Priest:	The Revd Angela Milton 01923 519453
Assistant Priest:	The Revd Guy Buckler via the Church Office
Assistant Priest:	The Revd Brian Hibberd via the Church Office
Reader:	Mrs Sally Sanderson 01923 265963
Church Office:	01923 261795
Open:	9.30 am to 1.00 pm daily
Email:	adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk

If anyone needs the ministry of a priest at any time, day or night, please contact Peter directly.

