

Tea/Coffee in church after Mass. Please stay for our APCM immediately after Mass
12 noon PCC

March 12th 2023

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDELSHAM

LENT III Year A

This Week: Divine Office Psalter week 3

Mon: 9.30 Mass. (II Kings 5 v. 1-15; Luke 4 v.24-30)
Int: Those who Suffer from Leprosy.

Tues: 10.30-12.30 Coffee, Tea, Cake in Church
1.30 Exposition of Blessed Sacrament for silent prayer
2.30. Mass. Laying on of hands and anointing for healing.
(Dan 3 v25,34-43; Matt 18 v21-35). Int: The sick
7.30pm Deanery Pastoral Committee at Stowupland.

Wed: 9.30. Mass. (Deut 4 v.1, 5-9;Matt 5 v.17-19.)
Int: The Guild of All Souls (150 yrs old today)

Thurs: 9.30 Mass (Jer 7 v23-28; Luke 11 v14-23) Int: Ministry of Deliverance

Fri: **St. Patrick. Patron of Ireland (feast)**

9.30 Mass (Jer 1 v 1-9; Luke 10 v 1-12,17-20) Int: People of Ireland.

Sat: 10.00 1st Mass of Sunday Int: Mothers and Grandmothers
(I Samuel 16 v.1, 6-7,10-13. Eph.5 v.8-14. John 9 v.1-41)
4.00pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

Next Sunday: **LENT IV MOTHERING SUNDAY**

9.30 Parish Mass, Address and Blessing of Candles for our Mothers living or
departed. Readings as Saturday

Notices

1. Have you ordered your Easter Candles for the dead? List on Table. Last day for ordering 19th March.
2. Electrical work in Church begins 13th Mar. Next Fund Raiser for Friends of St Mary's Spud Bash: 25th March - 12.00 - 2.00pm in URC Chapel. Please give any draw prizes to Graham Baker.
3. Please bring Lent Offerings for Kagera to Mass of Last Supper 6th Apr at 7.30pm
4. List on Table for Watch in Gethsemane – MaundyThursday, 6th April 8.30 - 11.00pm
5. Today is the last day of giving for Emergency Appeal for Syria/Turkey

THEME: God's all-encompassing love and forgiveness

Entrance Hymn: **311** v. 1-4

PENITENTIAL RITE

Celebrant : Forgive us, Lord, when we do not allow your words and your closeness to turn our dryness and apathy to fervent hope. Lord have mercy.

People (sing) Kyrie Eleison (Ukrainian setting)

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, when we have not allowed you to show us how to worship the Father in Spirit and Truth. Christ have mercy. **People: Christe Eleison**

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, when we are indifferent to the spring of living water welling up to eternal life. Lord have mercy. **People: Kyrie Eleison**

Celebrant proclaims God's forgiveness

No Gloria in Lent

OPENING PRAYER: *Let us pray for confidence in the love of God and the strength to overcome all our weakness.* Father, you have taught us to overcome our sins by prayer, fasting and works of mercy. When we are discouraged by our weakness, give us confidence in your love.

LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading - Exodus 17 v.3-7 On their journey into the unknown, the suffering of the Hebrew people caused them to waver in their faith. Yet God provided for their needs by supplying the gift of water through their leader Moses.

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' the Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

Responsorial Psalm

® **O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.**

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us.

Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. ®

Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us, for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!

'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,

as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test;

when they tried me, though they saw my work.' ®

Second reading - Romans 5 v.1-2, 5-8 St. Paul rejoices in the love of God which proved itself when Christ died for sinners. That love has been poured into our hearts and is the ground of our hope.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. And this hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

Gospel Hymn: 311 v. 5 & 6

ALL Glory and praise to you, O Christ. Lord, you are really the saviour of the world; give me the living water, so that I may never get thirsty. Glory and praise to you, O Christ

Gospel - John 4 v. 5 - 42 God's presence in the midst of His people is seen in Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman as Jesus helps her to come through a process of transformation.

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans.

Jesus replied: 'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?'

Jesus replied: 'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.'

Jesus said: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know: for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.'

'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

Address Creed - Apostles Creed. (Page 8 of Hymn book)

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant : Only Jesus can satisfy our thirst for happiness. So we turn to Him in our prayer and ask for the gift of His life for all mankind.

Reader: Let us pray for people everywhere; that they may realise that God alone can quench the thirst in the human heart; for those who are lonely and rejected, doubting or fearful; that they may find in Christians people who are willing to listen to them.

In preparing for Easter may we turn away from the shallow satisfaction of materialism and turn instead to those things of God which bring lasting happiness.

Let us pray that we will always thirst for God and drink deeply from the well of life-giving spirit. We pray for all preparing for Baptism

Let us pray for Chris and Andrew elected as Church Wardens; for all nominated for the P.C.C. or Deanery Synod. May they be blessed with insight and compassion as they help the parish to come alive as the presence of Christ in this place.

Let us pray for the healing of the sick especially Jose Pereira, Marjorie Rousseau, Julie Gray, Jan Robinson, Lucy Muskett and all to be anointed at our healing service.

We pray for those who have died, that they may find light and eternal rest in God's Kingdom, especially Jim Baker, Beatrice Goodwin, Fr Donald Rae, Peter Warren, Herbert Knock, Malcolm Fisher, Lilian Freeman, Peggy Giraud-Saunders, Ethel Kent, Edith Farmborough, Josie Baker, Michael Smith, Cecil Hart, Frederick Charles, Gladys Tye, Mike Foreman, Alice Freeman, Iris Fulcher and all whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

Let us pray with Mary, that we may always be close to her son: **Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

SILENCE

All: Almighty God, we come to you with great confidence, certain that we will not thirst while you are in our midst. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory Hymn: 293 v.1 Offertory Prayers: Hymn 293 v. 2 to end

Sanctus - John Allen setting **Mystery of Faith** -John Allen setting

Blessed and praised be Jesus Christ, in the most Holy Sacrament. Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in excelsis.

Agnus Dei - John Allen setting Hymns at Holy Communion. Please join in: **477, 205**

Hymn at Ablutions: **37**

Post Communion Prayer Angelus Blessing

Recessional Hymn: **388**