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** from Parish Pump*

Diary for March

Lent Groups continue throughout March

“Be drawn” – 1st and 15th March – this takes place on the 1st and 15th March before the 10.30am and 4.30pm services when John Paul Flintoff is offering to draw people’s portraits. These will be c 10 minute sessions and the finished results will be displayed in church during Holy Week and Easter. Everyone is welcome to take part but to avoid disappointment please book in through Ayla – ayla@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

Sunday 1st – Lent 1

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 10.30am Parish Eucharist and Children’s Groups
- 4.30pm Choral Evensong followed by sherry with the choir
- 9.00pm Contemplative Prayer
- 9.30pm Compline



- Mon 2nd 10 – 11.30am Toddler Group in the Crypt Room
- 7.30pm *The 21 Group* with guest Ambassador Roderick Abbot ‘Trade negotiations with the EU’

- Tue 3rd 12.15-1.15pm “Inside Out” Women’s Prayer Group in the Chapel

- Wed 4th 10.15am Holy Communion
- 1.00pm Lunchtime Recital

- Thu 5th 10.00am Holy Hamsters in church
- 12.30pm Holy Communion with Prayers for Healing
- 7.30pm Hampstead Players’ auditions for their summer production - *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* - in the church

- 7.45pm Community Choir
- Sat 7th 9.30am ABG Trustees meeting
- 10.30am Gardening Morning



Sunday 8th – Lent 2

- 8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Parish Eucharist and Children's Groups
4.30pm Choral Evensong
followed by 20s-30s drinks at The Horseshoe
and auditions for '*A Midsummer Night's Dream*' in church after Evensong
9.00pm Contemplative Prayer
9.30pm Compline

Mon 9th 10- - 11.30am Toddler Group in the Crypt Room

Tue 10th 12.15-1.15pm "Inside Out" Women's Prayer Group

Wed 11th 10.15am Holy Communion

1 – 3pm Knit and Natter

Thu 12th 10.00am Holy Hamsters in church

12.30pm Holy Communion with Prayers for

Healing

7.45pm Community Choir

Sat 14th 10.00am Voluntary Rate preparation day – see page 6



Sunday 15th – Lent 3

- 8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Parish Eucharist and Children's Groups
followed by "*The Generation Game*" – see page 17
4.30pm Choral Evensong
9.00pm Contemplative Prayer
9.30pm Compline

Mon 16th 10 – 11.30am Toddler Group in the Crypt Room

Tue 17th 12.15-1.15pm "Inside Out" Women's Prayer Group in the Chapel

Wed 18th 10.15am Holy Communion

1.00pm Lunchtime Literary Hour "*Glitter and Ash*"

3.00pm Service at Spring Grove

Thu 19th – Joseph of Nazareth

10.00am Holy Hamsters in church
12.30pm Holy Communion with Prayers for Healing
7.45pm Community Choir

Sat 21st 7.30pm Finchley Choral Society concert – see page 24

Sunday 22nd – Lent 4 / Mothering Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am All Age Eucharist & Admission to Communion
3.00pm Tea Service at Henderson Court
4.30pm Choral Evensong
9.00pm Contemplative Prayer
9.30pm Compline

Mon 24th 10 – 11.30am Toddler Group in the Crypt Room

Tue 25th – The Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary

12.15-1.15pm “Inside Out” Women’s Prayer

Wed 26th 10.15am Holy Communion

Thu 27th 10.00am Holy Hamsters in church

12.30pm Holy Communion with Prayers for Healing

7.45pm Community Choir

Fri 28th 7.30pm *Stabat Mater* and other works – a Junior Choir concert

Sat 28th 10.00am Church cleaning

7.30pm Hampstead Chamber Choir Concert – page 25



SPRING AHEAD and don't forget to clocks go forward an hour tonight

Sunday 29th – Lent 5 / Passion Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Parish Eucharist and Children’s Groups
6.00pm St John Passion – see page 20

Mon 30th 10 – 11.30am Toddler Group in the Crypt Room

Foodbanks: we are happy to accept food, nappies etc at any time – our volunteers make regular trips to CARIS Haringey and the Chalk Farm foodbank.

The Vicar writes

There are various sources of the saying “There’s no such thing as bad weather, only the wrong sort of clothes”. I first heard it from Billy Connolly, but it is also credited to Alfred Wainwright, and more generally to all of Scandinavia. It came to mind when writing a comment on the phrase about being “clothed” with the love of God in Colossians 3, and again when in the face of Storm Dennis as he made landfall on the Lizard in the middle of February. I was pleased our preparations had included good boots and a “big coat”.

Lent, beginning this year on February 26, is a good time to check out the clothes God invites us to wear. In Colossians 3. 12 - 17 the list includes “compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience”. “Above all”, says Paul, “clothe yourselves with love”. Our being prepared to live the Christian life means the conscious choosing and using behaviours and values which will make all the difference to the lives of our communities and work places.

Paul goes on to offer some disciplines to enable these values and actions to have theological and missiological heft. “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts” mines deep into the “shalom”, the making of peace between God and humanity which finds its fulfilment in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. “Peace” here is not a general sense of wellbeing, but the active reconciliation and peace making which Christ’s forgiveness brings.

“Let the word of God dwell in you richly” is an invitation to soak up all we have inherited in Scripture, and all teaching and reflection inspired by the Holy Spirit in the life of the church. Paul’s encouragement is to

“teach and admonish one another”: a reminder that the truth of God is not restricted to the office of specific people in the church, but is to be found as we discover it together. This is perhaps found most profoundly in worship, and Paul’s final discipline is worship, singing “psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.”

This Lent sees many opportunities to reflect on, to practice, and to develop these disciplines. The first four Sundays of March offer a time of silence from 9 – 9.30 pm, followed by Compline, the ancient night prayer of the church. On Thursday lunchtimes at 12.30 pm there is a new time for our established simple service of Holy Communion with Prayer for Healing: weekly during Lent. Lent groups, looking at the Eucharist, are happening at times we hope will suit all. And every day offers the chance to put on the clothes of patience, humility, service and love.

The saying about the wrong sort of clothes only goes so far. Storm Denis brought devastation which would overwhelm even the soundest of outfits. As Lent moves into Passiontide and Holy Week we will reflect on the love which is stronger than death, notably as we hear the passion narrative in the glorious music of Bach, and more simply in the profundity of the Good Friday liturgy.

Here on The Lizard, as I write, there is a plaque on the church gate which quotes the psalmist: “Mightier than the waves of the sea; the Lord on high is mighty.” (Psalm 93. 4). This Lent and Passiontide I pray that we will know the disciplines through which we prepare for the challenges of the Christian life, and that we will know the presence of God, even in the mightiest of storms, through Christ, the love and power of God.

Jeremy Fletcher

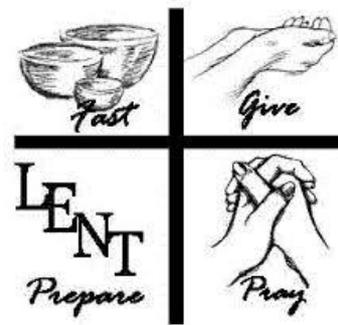
March

Since we've already had both March winds and April showers I won't repeat any doggerel about the weather.

From a parish magazine editor's point of view it feels very tidy when March falls neatly into Lent. It doesn't always work out so well. But this year we can be totally Lenten without any inconvenient celebration being required of us.

What is Lent?

A few of us got together to consider how we could address this question in a brief and catchy display – not easy to reduce one of the most profound seasons of the liturgical year to a handful of sound bites. What would your “buzz words” be? Have a look for our display and see how we did.



We mark Lent, as always, with renewed attempts to study – Lent Groups; to pray – Contemplative Prayer & Compline on Sundays, Prayers for Healing on Thursdays, Praying the Stations, in your own time or with a group; with continuing Inside Out Prayers on Tuesdays at 12.15; with music – as well as our own Lenten music which Peter Foggitt writes about further on in this issue we have the Finchley Choral Society on 21st singing a Rheinberger Mass, and Hampstead Chamber Choir on 28th anticipate the Passion with JS Bach's *Easter Cantata* and Tarik O'Regan's *Triptych*. And finally we have our own **St John Passion** on Sunday 29th

Of course Lent wouldn't be Lent without the **Voluntary Rate**. This important contribution to our fund-raising is anticipated/dreaded by everyone who takes part depending on how much you enjoy spending a morning stuffing envelopes. Around 4,500 letters are sent to each household and business in the parish inviting them to make a donation



to the upkeep of the building. The envelopes include information about our Vision for the future in the parish

and events for the year. When we started 35 years ago the addresses were written by hand, the information had to be obtained by going to the Town Hall to check lists and up to quite recently the letters all had to be delivered by hand too. How technology has improved in those 35 years! (though the decision to post the letters had more to do with the increase in home security which makes getting to people's letterboxes more and more difficult, than the inability to walk the streets – it certainly made me look at posties in a new light). For the same reason we don't send Christmas cards to the parish any more. But back to the Voluntary Rate – you'll have noticed the reference to "stuffing envelopes" - that's where YOU come in. The more people we get to help the quicker we get through it. Generally we finish about 2pm, having had a delicious lunch-break (food by Elizabeth Beesley, so that gives you some idea of the quality you can expect), and Lent or no Lent wine is usually available – as well as unlimited coffee. It's actually quite good fun – honestly it is. It's not taxing, you're with a group of like-minded people, maybe you'll get to chat to someone you haven't had time to talk to before, and you'll know you're contributing to our outreach as well as our funding.

Salisbury 2020

Did you know Salisbury was celebrating its 800th anniversary? Not just the cathedral but the city too are commemorating the transfer of the cathedral from Old Sarum to Salisbury in 1220 "driven by the need to access fresh water, and desperate to escape bad weather, royal supervision and regular harassment by soldiers stationed at Old Sarum Castle" to quote their website. There's to be a major art exhibition as well as an Arts Festival and Flower Festival – details <https://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/salisbury2020>. And yes, a former vicar is involved!

Judy East



Do childhoods measure up?

Our new Good Childhood Report shows young people are becoming increasingly unhappy.

They're worried about their futures and feel ignored by people in power

[It's time the Government listened.....](#)

Young people are the future and their happiness is crucial – not just for their lives but for our society.



We want to make sure young people's voices are heard. That's why we're asking the Government to measure young people's well-being on a national level. Only by listening to young people can the

Government understand the issues they face and make the changes we need to see.

SIGN THE PETITION ON THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY WEBSITE

act.childrensociety.org.uk

Jasmin, Campaign Leader, The Children's Society

Spring Fair 2020

March is when the planning for the annual Spring Fair gets going in earnest. This year's fair is on Saturday 16th May - we do hope you will be there. As well as being our annual fund-raising event it provides an opportunity for us to engage with our neighbours and the wider community of Hampstead in a fun and thoughtful way, hopefully providing something for everyone.

Vanessa Fitzpatrick has very kindly offered to run the Raffle again this year; if you can offer a raffle prize please let Vanessa know – vfitzp@btinternet.com. There have been some wonderful prizes in the past; with your help this year will be no exception.

This year also sees the return of the Silent Auction, which was such a success in 2018. Silent auctions are auctions held without an auctioneer; people place their bids on sheets of paper instead. People can revisit bidding sheets to outbid fellow bidders before the auction closes! Unlike a raffle, where prizes are generally awarded on a potluck basis, a silent auction allows people to bid only on items that suit their needs. Are you able to support this fun event by donating a unique gift? We need a wide range of auction items which will appeal

to all ages and tastes. They don't need to be pricey – but the more distinctive the better. They may range from help with ironing, music lessons, or a day out in the country, to a painting or watercolour, tickets to a prestigious sporting event, or weekend away in a holiday home.

Please let Julia Fletcher know if you can help with prizes, or in any other way – julia@jffletcher.co.uk

Julia Fletcher

Have you given up meat for Lent? This might appeal to you

The Logical Vegetarian

You will find me drinking rum,
Like a sailor in a slum,
You will find me drinking beer like a Bavarian
You will find me drinking gin
In the lowest kind of inn
Because I am a rigid Vegetarian.

So I cleared the inn of wine,
And I tried to climb the sign,
And I tried to hail the constable as “Marion.”
But he said I couldn't speak,
And he bowled me to the Beak
Because I was a Happy Vegetarian.

Oh, I know a Doctor Gluck,
And his nose it had a hook,
And his attitudes were anything but Aryan;
So I gave him all the pork
That I had, upon a fork
Because I am myself a Vegetarian.

I am silent in the Club,
I am silent in the pub.,

and thanks to Barbara Alden we have

KNITTING A HAIKU

stories from stitches'
plain and pearl jewels, enchanting
bible to delight

Barbara Alden

What's happening in Junior Church this term?

On 1 February Maureen led a group of families from junior church to "Messy Cathedral" at St Paul's. 600 children from all over London had signed up to enjoy a range of special activities in a magnificent setting, including dressing up, watching actors tell the story of St Paul or Sir Christopher Wren, and taking part in craft/experiments run by a range of churches. The keen singers were able to rehearse with a cathedral cantor, and sing the anthem during the Eucharist. A group of children from Hampstead Parish Church was even chosen to hold the candles during the gospel reading.



Planning is proceeding apace for the Junior Church Lent fundraising activities. The charity this year is CARIS Camden Families, who intend to use the money to run days out for children living in

hostel accommodation. The main event is the “Generation Game” at the Moreland Hall, Hampstead Parochial School, on Sunday 15 March. Please come along to support this all-age event (there will be quiz, music and other interactive rounds and the ticket includes a light lunch).

Finally, Andrew Penny is kindly going to reprise his popular roving “Passion Play” on Palm Sunday (5 April). The play takes place in the Churchyard and Additional Burial Ground and children and adults take the main parts in a scratch performance. We even share a last supper of Matzos and grape juice.

Helen Evans and Jessica Mathur

THE PARISH CHURCH OF
ST JOHN-AT-HAMPSTEAD

Junior Church
presents the

GENERATION GAME

Sunday 15th March 2020 at 12.30 pm

Open to all age groups! Come and enjoy quiz, interactive and music rounds inspired by the long-running TV show, plus lunch. No need to organise a team - just come along and we will do the work

In aid of CARIS Camden Families

Tickets in advance (which will help us plan the catering) or on the day
£10 for adults £5 for children

(Or £25 for a family of 4, plus £5 for each additional child)

Tickets on sale at noon outside church each Sunday
or email vestry@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

Moreland Hall

Hampstead Parochial School
Holly Bush Vale NW3 6TX
by the Everyman cinema

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN-AT-HAMPSTEAD



St John J S Bach PASSION

Sunday 29th March 2020 at 6.00 pm

Directed by **Peter Foggitt**

Retiring collection for
The Bishop of London's Lent Appeal 2020
Wheels for Climate Change Emergencies

Church Row
London NW3 6UU
020 7794 5808

music.hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk
fom@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk



HAMPSTEAD CHAMBER CHOIR

DOMINIC BRENNAN MUSICAL DIRECTOR



EASTER CANTATA

CHRIST LAG IN TODES BANDEN

J.S. BACH

TRIPTYCH

T. O'REGAN

WITH

HAMPSTEAD CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Saturday March 28th 2020 7:30 p.m.

St. John at Hampstead Church Row NW3 6UU

Tickets £12 (£10 concession) online in advance, or £15 (and £12) at the door.

Under 16 free with an adult. Online bookings at

www.hampsteadchamberchoir.org

PAINTING: THE RESURRECTION (TRIPTYCH) 1887 MICHAEL ALEXANDROVICH VRUBEL

Septuagesima, Sexagesima, Quinquagesima

if you've been to Evensong recently and wondered why the three Sundays preceding Ash Wednesday (we're talking BCP here) take these names read on. (*I am indebted to the Catholic Herald for this clarification. Ed*)

“We plan for all sorts of important events, like vacations and birthday parties, well in advance. In general, the more significant an event we approach, the more time and effort we put into the preparation. You wouldn't call “wise” the retiree who has never given thought to retirement or the student who never studies except bare hours before an exam. Our great feasts in the Church are great occasions, and they, too, require preparation. For example, before Easter, the greatest feast of all, we have the longest and the most important season of preparation, Lent. Since Lent is itself important for us, we should also prepare for Lent before Lent.

“The three Sundays before Ash Wednesday are nicknamed in Latin Septuagesima, the “seventieth” day before Easter, Sexagesima (“sixtieth”), and Quinquagesima (“fiftieth”). The whole season of Lent is called Quadragesima, or, literally, “Fortieth”.

“Of course the attentive reader is now scratching her/his head and thinking, “The nicknames change by 10 each Sunday, but there are only 7 days in a week. So, how do we get from ‘70th’ Sunday to “60th” in a mere 7 days? Does $2+2=5$ after all?”

“Let's drill more deeply. Our forebears had reasons for the way they counted:

- Septuagesima Sunday is the 63rd day before Easter and thus falls within the 7th (septimus) decade or 10-day period, consisting of the 61st to 70th days before Easter;
- Sexagesima Sunday is the 56th day before Easter and falls in the 6th (sextus) decade, consisting of the 51st to 60th days before Easter; and

- Quinquagesima Sunday is the 49th day before Easter and falls in the 5th (quintus) decade, consisting of the 41st to 50th days before Easter.

“Meanwhile, the whole of the season of Lent is technically called Quadragesima (40th) even though there are more than 40 days from Ash Wednesday to Easter. (Hint: try counting the days of Lent excluding its Sundays and the Sacred Triduum, which technically is a separate sacred time.)”

Judy East

Readings for March at the Parish Eucharist

Sunday 1st – Lent 1

Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7
Romans 5.12-19
Matthew 4.1-11

Sunday 15th – Lent 3

Exodus 17.1-7
Romans 5.1-11
John 4.5-42

Sunday 8th – Lent 2

Genesis 12.1-4a
Romans 4.1-5, 13-17
John 3.1-17

Sunday 22nd – Lent 4 / Mothering Sunday

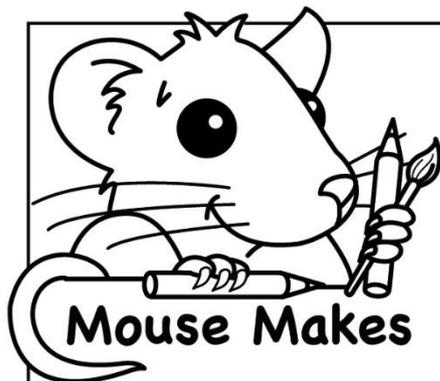
All Age Eucharist – readings tbc

Sunday 29th – Lent 5

Exodus 37.1-14
Romans 8.6-11
John 11.1-45



Isn't nature wonderful. A million years ago she didn't know we were going to wear spectacles yet look at the way she placed our ears.

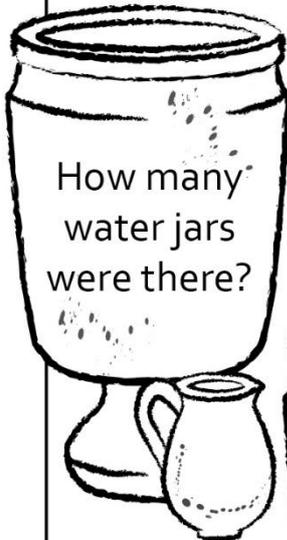


Jesus, his disciples and his mother Mary had been invited to a wedding. The wedding was to last a week, but too soon the wine had all been drunk.

READ *John 2:1-11* to find out what happened.



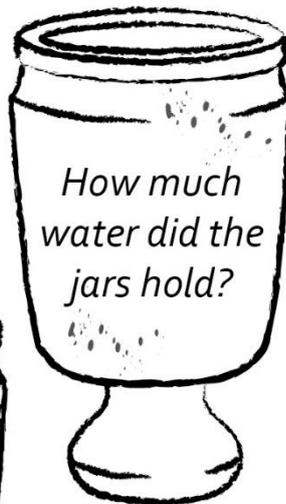
Where was the wedding?



How many water jars were there?



What were the water jars made of?



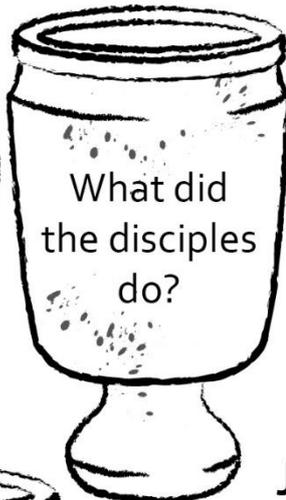
How much water did the jars hold?



What were the water jars for?

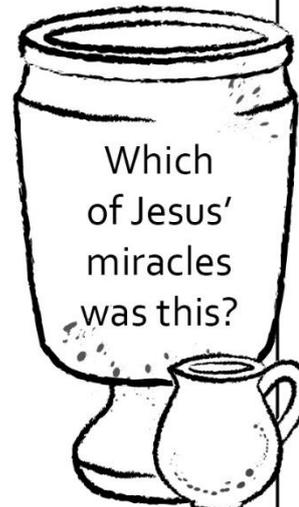


What did the steward tell the bridegroom?

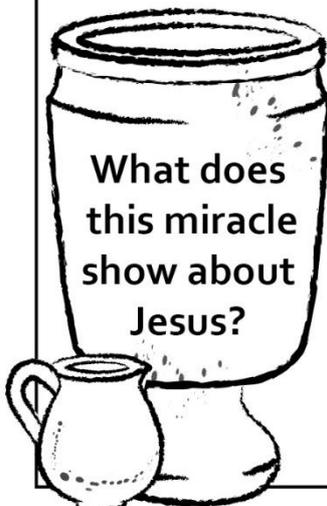


What did the disciples do?

What had happened to the water when it was taken out?



Which of Jesus' miracles was this?



What does this miracle show about Jesus?

J G A L I L E E W A W
 J A D I S C I P L E S A
 W S E R V A N T S O O D T T
 I T S S C A N A X U M D O E
 M O U I F I R S T T A I N R
 E P S X I T A T T U R N E D
 F I L L W I N E X T Y G E T

WEDDING • CANA • GALILEE • JESUS • MARY • DISCIPLES
SERVANTS • RAN • OUT • SIX • STONE • WATER • JARS
FILL • TOP • TASTE • TURNED • WINE • FIRST