

Readings next Sunday, Lent 3, Year C
Isaiah 55.1–9, 1 Corinthians 10.1–13, Luke 13.1–9

Notices

We welcome with great joy Jasper Seckel who will be baptised at our service this morning. Please remember Jasper & his parents in your prayers.

Fr Paul is running the London Marathon on 28 April 2019 for The Lord Mayor's Appeal. This year's appeal is for mental health & The Samaritans. If you wish to donate Paul has set up a Just Giving page, details of which can be found on our Facebook page. There is also a link on our Instagram page.

A new church electoral roll has to be prepared in 2019 in each parish. There is a notice in the narthex about the construction of a new electoral roll, giving the crucial dates for application and preparation. **Preparation has to be completed by 23 March and the new roll comes into effect and is displayed from 24 March. Everyone who is currently on the existing roll needs to re-apply.** Forms are available at the back of the church.

Looking ahead

Sat	23 Mar	7.30pm	Godwine Choir Concert details to follow
Sat	30 Mar	2pm	Holy Matrimony Graham & Emma



Today 17th March St Patrick's Day

"The Breastplate," Patrick's poem of faith and trust in God:

"Christ be within me, Christ behind me,
Christ before me, Christ beside me,
Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ inquired, Christ in danger, Christ in hearts of
all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend
and stranger."

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17th March, Lent 2

Celebrant: Bishop Stephen Platten

Preacher: Edward Bunting

Setting: Missa in Honorem Reginae pacis - Flor Peters

Hymn: 239 Lord of All Hopefulness

Genesis 15.1 - 12, 17 – 18

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord God what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the Lord came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness. Then he said to him, 'I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.' But he said, 'O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?' He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down,

a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.'

Psalm 27

Refrain: The Lord is my light and my salvation

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

When the wicked, even my enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell. **R**

Though a host encamp against me, my heart shall not be afraid,
and though there rise up war against me, yet will I put my trust in him.
One thing have I asked of the Lord and that alone I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
To behold the fair beauty of the Lord and to seek his will in his temple. **R**

For in the day of trouble he shall hide me in his shelter;
in the secret place of his dwelling shall he hide me and set me high upon a rock.
And now shall he lift up my head above my enemies round about me; **R**

Therefore will I offer in his dwelling an oblation with great gladness;
I will sing and make music to the Lord .Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call;
have mercy upon me and answer me .My heart tells of your word,
'Seek my face.' Your face, Lord, will I seek. **R**

Hide not your face from me, nor cast your servant away in displeasure.
You have been my helper; leave me not, neither forsake me,
O God of my salvation. Though my father and my mother forsake me,
the Lord will take me up .**R**

Philippians 3.17 - 4.1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Luke 13. 31 – 35

Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord."

For your prayers:

Those who are ill: Desmond Day, Tracey Llewellyn, Joy Wilson, Tim Phillips, Meredith Chesterman, Alison Hird

Those who have died recently: Bishop John Habgood, Jacqueline Jikiemi, Wendy Brown, Carlo Fazzi

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time especially: Donald Watson

Offertory hymn: 52 O Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness

Anthem: Maria Wiegenlied - Reger

Thanksgiving hymn: 420 O Jesus I have Promised