



Come together for Lent

Once again, the Churches in Crowthorne are offering a variety of opportunities for preparation during Lent. The topics will be:

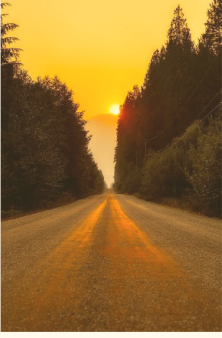
- “Finding a Voice: A Lent course based on The King’s Speech”
- “The Joy of the Gospel – walking through Lent with Pope Francis”
- “On the Way – Lent Course – Following Jesus in today’s world”
- “Life Balance”

There will also be the Christian Meditation group on Monday morning, “Stations of the Cross” services on Fridays at noon, and the excellent series of Lent Talks on Tuesday evenings at Finchampstead.

So, have a look at the programme and join in.

<p>Finding a Voice: A Lent course based on The King’s Speech</p> <p>Taking the film, 'The Kings Speech' as a starting point, the course explores the ways in which fear holds us back and examines how we, like Bertie, can face and overcome our fears and begin to find our authentic voice. The course is based around five weekly group sessions entitled</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The stuff of nightmares and the power of friendship 2. Chasing the dream or fulfilling the calling 3. Pressing forward and breaking through 4. Poisonous words and profane responses 5. Faith in our voice <p>We hope that as we follow this course we will be better able to 'find our voice' in sharing our faith, not necessarily with words! headings are suggested as follows, but as we work together we may find a different challenge!</p>	<p>Day: Monday</p> <p>Time: 2pm-3:30pm</p> <p>Venue and host ; Jenni McKeever , 47 Wiltshire Avenue Crowthorne , 01344 771379</p> <p>Leader ; Nina Preston</p> <p>Each session includes extracts from the film, group discussion questions, exercises and meditations. related Bible passages for individual reading each week, and possibilities for a follow up session,</p>
<p>The Joy of the Gospel: Walking through Lent with Pope Francis</p> <p>For Pope Francis, the way to recover a missionary spirit in the Church is to rediscover the joy of the Gospel, to experience a personal encounter with Jesus, through reflecting on his words and actions. This resource aims to help groups to reflect on some of the major themes of ‘The Joy of the Gospel’ in relation to the Gospel stories we receive on the Sundays of Lent.</p>	<p>Day: Tuesday</p> <p>Dates: Feb 20th, 27th, Mar 6th, 13th 20th</p> <p>Time: 2pm-3:30pm</p> <p>Leader and Host: Angela Greenwood</p> <p>Location: 66, Frensham Road Crowthorne 01344 774254</p>



 <p>On the Way – Lent Course <i>Following Jesus in today's world</i></p> <p><i>Themes for the 5 weeks:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Way of Life • Character • Commitment • Influence • Growth <p>Refreshments – Bible teaching – testimony - group discussion</p> <p><i>Tuesdays in St Sebastian's Church, 7.30 for 7.45 pm 20th February – 20th March 2018</i></p> <p>Please contact St Sebastian's Parish Office if you would like to take part Tel: 01344 761050 or email: office@stsebastians.org.uk</p>	<p>Day: Tuesday Dates: 20th Feb – 20th March Time: 7:30pm for 7:45pm Location: St Sebastian's Contact: Parish Office 01344 761050</p>
<p>'Life Balance'</p> <p>Life can be stressful. It doesn't matter what age we are, whether we're working or retired, in good health or not so well, surrounded by family or living alone, it seems there are always people or situations that are making demands of us and we find ourselves longing for a bit of 'me time.'</p> <p>This Lent study offers just that: time where we can rediscover ourselves, time to encounter a God who longs to refresh us spiritually, time to get our lives back in balance.</p> <p>Each week we will look at various Old and New Testament passages and there will be questions to prompt discussion. There will be time for quiet contemplation as we listen to a song or short piece of music and some ideas for practical action.</p>	<p>Day: Wednesday Dates: Feb 21st, 28th, Mar 7th, 14th, 21st Time: 2pm-3:30pm Leader: Rev Sharon Gardner Host: Marjorie Mitchell 33, Lea Croft Crowthorne 01344 773869</p> <p>If you can't make all the sessions, do come along to those you can. Though they are linked, it is not necessary to attend each one to still gain something from them.</p>



Christian Meditation

Day: Monday

Dates: 19th February – 23rd March

Time: 11am-12 noon

Leader: Gilly Withers

Location: Holy Ghost Parish Rooms

Contact: Angela Greenwood 01344 774254

Stations of the Cross

Day: Friday

Dates: 23rd February – 23rd March

Time: 12 noon

Leader: Various

Location: Holy Ghost Church. Timing is not precise; usually lasts for 30 minutes.

Agape Meal at the Methodist Church

26th March 7pm-9pm

Bring and share meal

Tea/Coffee/Soft drinks will be available

Short service with feedback from the groups

Groups to collect numbers by 23rd March and provide to Marjorie Mitchell

You are invited to contact the host for any of the groups you would like to attend.

If you have problems, please contact:

Ken Perrett

Email: ken@theperretts.net

Tel: 01344 773808

Just turn up for the other events, i.e.

- Christian Meditation
- Lent talks
- Stations of the Cross



PARISH OF FINCHAMPSTEAD AND CALIFORNIA

LENT LECTURES

POINTS OF NO RETURN

Our lectures this year are taking an in-depth look at the events of Jesus' final days before his arrest and crucifixion, as recorded in Mark's Gospel.

In one way or another each of these events marks a **POINT OF NO RETURN**, while remaining an integral part of the narrative of Jesus' journey towards the cross.

Three of our Bishops (Steven, Andrew and Alan) and Archdeacon Olivia are joining Canons Julie and John to act as guides through this introduction to the Passion story. They will each be using a separate section of chapters 11, 12 & 14 of Mark's Gospel as the starting point for their lecture, but the way they approach or interpret the event, and the style of their lecture or alternative presentational approach, has been left entirely to them. So I'm sure we can look forward, not simply to high quality, but also to a wide variety of lecture content and style.

Topics and speakers and dates (every Tuesday evening in Lent and Holy Week) are as follows:

20 February - **LEADERSHIP** (Mark 11:1-11): **Rt Revd Andrew Proud**, *Bishop of Reading* (since 2011; formerly Bishop of Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa; last Lent Lecture 2012.)

27 February - **AUTHORITY** (Mark 11:12-33): **Ven Olivia Graham**, *Archdeacon of Berkshire* (since 2013; before ordination worked extensively in Africa on relief and development programmes; last Lent Lecture 2015.)

6 March - **CONTROVERSY** (Mark 12:1-44): **Canon Julie Ramsbottom**, *Rector of Finchampstead and California* (since 2011; formerly Rector of Kintbury and surrounding parishes in West Berkshire.)

13 March - **ANOINTING** (Mark 14:1-11): **Rt Revd Alan Wilson**, *Bishop of Buckingham* (since 2003; formerly Rector of Sandhurst.)

20 March - **EATING and DRINKING** (Mark 14:12-26): **Rt Revd Dr Steven Croft**, *Bishop of Oxford* (since 2016; formerly Bishop of Sheffield; sits in the House of Lords.)

27 March - **PRAYING** (Mark 14:27-42): **Canon John Edwards**, *Associate Priest of Finchampstead and California* (since 2001; frequent Lent lecturer.)

After the experiments of recent years the lectures will revert to their previous format with refreshments at 7.45 for a prompt start at 8, and finish by 9.30.

For further information please contact the Parish office on 0118 973 0133 (Monday to Friday 10am to 12noon) or office@stjames.finchampstead.co.uk.