



The Lion and The Dragon

A Monthly News Sheet for St. Mark's, Basford and St Margaret's, Wolstanton

www.stmarksbasford.co.uk and www.stmargaretswolstanton.org

March 2023



EGGS AND BACON!

Beloved,
So we have entered Lent – *(Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.)*

We have 40 days (that's if we don't count the Sundays – so it's actually 46!) to fast and pray. You may have given something up, you may have taken something on?

I hope to see you all at some of the extra worship across this Holy Season:

Stations of the cross – a meditative service, walking and praying the way of the Cross.

Rosary – a quiet period of meditative prayer which uses beads to touch and repetition to pray alongside Mary so you can concentrate your mind, on the mind of Christ.

Lent Course – come and explore the Bible and discover something of the women in it.

You may wish to come and see me for some spiritual direction or even *Confession*?

The Sacrament of *Reconciliation* can be both a formal service or a more informal conversation.

It is not about being embarrassed with your Vicar, but a chance to meet Christ and taste a glimpse of heaven! My advice would be – ALL May, NONE Must, SOME Should.

Of course Lent is a very solemn and penitential season and has that feeling to it, a time for self-examination and study, but in the middle of our Lenten journey we have a little relief from the Rigour of it – Mothering Sunday and then the great and often overlooked feast of the Annunciation (there will be a Eucharist at 12noon in St Mark's).

A reminder of that young girl, called to be the mother of God's Son, terrified by an angel took God's message and said 'Yes' and changed the world, changing our lives forever.

When it comes to the church building and the liturgy we use, you will notice a few differences – we start to see purple, we are bare of flowers and decoration, items disappear, statues and crosses are covered, banners are turned around, we stop singing the Gloria and we don't say the A-Word! So when I talk about 'Eggs-and-Bacon', I'm not making a reference to breakfast collections for Open Door, but speaking of Heaven's song that we have buried and we shall sing of again at Eastertide.

Thankyou for the generous donations towards my Lent appeal that have already come in, and if you get bored of buying chicken's eggs and prefer to buy chocolate

mini ones, then don't forget they are the Vicar's favourite!

Clergy: Fr Tommy Merry ☎ 01782 624450 ✉ frtommymerry@gmail.com; Rev'd Pat Dunn ☎ 01782 846417.

St Mark's Churchwardens: Diane Downward ☎ 01782 621424; Nick Atkins ☎ 01782 632213.

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St Mark's Parish Administrator and Reader: Julie Atkins ☎ 01782 632213 ✉ jouls1506@gmail.com

St Mark's Reader: Janet Pazio ☎ 07594135691; **Safeguarding Coordinator:** Jill Ayres ☎ 07792 549356.

*For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel:
In returning and rest you shall be saved; in
quietness and in trust shall be your strength.*
(Isaiah 30.15)

May you have a Holy Lent, (Don't get to Easter,
without having 'lived' Lent!)

Blessings, In Christ

Your Shepherd, Fr Tommy

Worship Services during March

(St Mark's, Basford (B), St Margaret's, Wolstanton (W))

1 st	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) (B)
5 th	2 nd of Lent	9.30am	Holy Communion (B)
		11.15am	Mass (W)
6 th	Monday	11.00am	Stations of the cross (B)
8 th	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) (B)
10 th	Friday	11.00am	Rosary (W)
12 th	3 rd of Lent	9.30am	Holy Communion (B)
		11.15am	Mass (W)
13 th	Monday	2.00pm	Rosary (B)
14 th	Tuesday	12.00pm	Stations of the cross (W)
15 th	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) (B)
19 th	Mothering Sunday	9.30am	Family worship (B)
		11.15am	Mass (W)
20 th	Monday	11.00am	Stations of the cross (B)
22 nd	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) (B)
25 th	Saturday	12.00pm	Holy Communion (B)
26 th	Passiontide	9.30am	Holy Communion (B)
		11.15am	Mass (W)
1 st	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) (B)

Lent, Holy Week and Easter:

Please make sure you have your copy of the Lent, Holy Week and Easter booklet to guide you through the various services and activities in both churches.

Lent Course + Compline:

Come and join us for our Lent course this year, as we learn more about the bible and the women in it. We will meet each **Thursday evening at 7pm** in St marks church, in the lady chapel.

Diary Dates for March

1 st	Wednesday	6.30pm	Servers training (B)
2 nd	Thursday	7.00pm	Lent course + compline (B)
9 th	Thursday	7.00pm	Lent course + compline (B)
16 th	Thursday	7.00pm	Lent course + compline (B)
20 th	Monday	7.00pm	Baptism prep evening (B)
21 st	Tuesday	7.00pm	PCC meeting (B)
23 rd	Thursday	7.00pm	Lent course + compline (B)
25 th	Saturday	10.00am	Christian aid walk
26 th	Sunday	11.15am	APCM (W)

Early April Dates

4 th	Tuesday	7.00pm	Lent Film
17 th	Monday	10.00am	Ministry team meeting (B)
17 th	Monday	7.00pm	Baptism Prep (B)
17 th	Monday	10.00am	Ministry meeting
22 nd	Saturday	1.00pm	Soup and Bingo (B)
25 th	Tuesday	6.30pm	HC + PCC meeting (B)
29 th	Saturday	1.00pm	Makers Market (B)



Christian Aid walk:

A date for your diaries. The annual CA sponsored walk around Tittesworth Reservoir will be held on **Saturday, 25th March** this year. It would be good for us to engage enthusiastically with this once more as we've lost considerable momentum. As the concept of door-to-door collecting becomes increasingly less attractive, this sponsored walk is an ideal way of swelling CA's coffers. We know what good they do! More details and sponsorship forms will be available from the beginning of March.

Chrim Eucharist:

A date for your diaries: The Chrim service at Lichfield Cathedral will take place on **6th April, Maundy Thursday, at 11am.**

Clock change:

Don't forget our clocks go forward on Saturday Evening 25th March.

