



# St. Andrew ♦ Holy Cross

**17<sup>th</sup> February 2019 – The Third Sunday before Lent**

**Vicar – Rev. Jane Richards**

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**Curate – Rev. Shirley Pearce**

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**Welcome to our Worship this morning.**

## **The Collect**

**Eternal God,**

**whose Son went among the crowds**

**and brought healing with his touch:**

**help us to show his love,**

**in your Church as we gather together,**

**and by our lives as they are transformed**

**into the image of Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **First Reading – 1 Corinthians 15. 12 -20 (Church Bible page 1156)**

But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

## **Gospel Reading – Luke 6. 17 - 26 (Church Bible page 1033)**

He went down with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of his disciples was there and a great number of people from all over Judea, from Jerusalem, and from the coastal region around Tyre and Sidon, who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those troubled by impure spirits were cured, and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all.

Looking at his disciples, he said:

‘Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

Blessed are you when people hate you,

when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man.

‘Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven.

For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

‘But woe to you who are rich, for you have already received your comfort.

Woe to you who are well fed now, for you will go hungry.

Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep.

Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you,

for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

### **Post Communion Prayer**

**Merciful Father,**

**who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life,**

**that those who come to him should never hunger:**

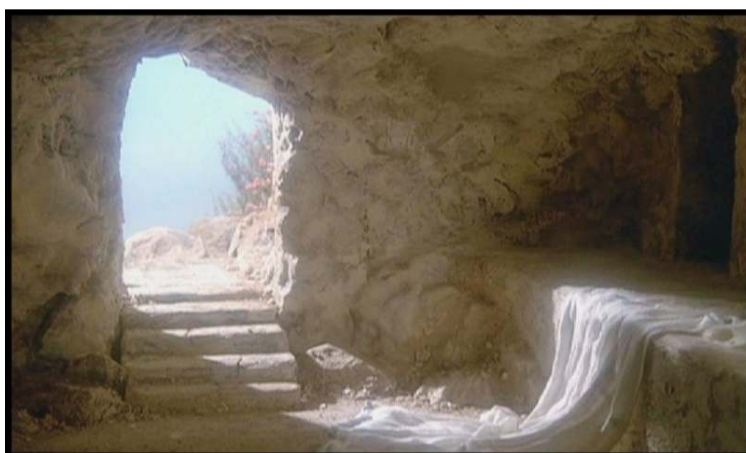
**draw us to the Lord in faith and love,**

**that we may eat and drink with him**

**at his table in the kingdom,**

**where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.**

**Amen**



## Curate's Contemplations. - 17<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Good news travels fast, doesn't it? In a world where becoming sick held small hope for healing, the ministry of Jesus to those who were sick, lepers or paralysed was extremely good news; no wonder people were travelling from far and wide to see this man. The crowds nearly mobbed him, as even touching him meant healing.

But I wonder how well they listened to Jesus' words? Many of the people who sought him out were poor, often hungry, oppressed in mind and spirit. If this man of God had power, as he so evidently did, what more could he do? The Zealots among them were very keen to enlist anyone in their endeavours to attack their Roman overlords.

Knowing what Jesus did for us, we have a better understanding of what his words meant. But what, do you think, those poor people who heard 'blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the Kingdom of God' made of what Jesus said? And if you were rich and well-fed, how unwelcome were Jesus' words to you?

Our world today encourages people to believe in themselves, to strive, to achieve, to gain success. Jesus words warn us that if we trust in ourselves we will be humbled, but if we depend on God, there we find such blessings, we will leap for joy! This is our good news!

**Rev. Shirley**



## **Please Pray for....**

**MakeLunch** during the February half term, please pray for the children, their families and all the team, leaders and helpers.

Please continue to pray for any of our church family who you know who are struggling with health problems of any description.

## **Prayer**

If you have a particular need for prayer, please approach a member of the prayer ministry team who will be pleased to help you. If you prefer to write down your prayer request, cards are available in the entrance lobby in St Andrew's and on the welcome table in Holy Cross. Place your completed card in the box: these prayers are offered during daily Morning Prayer. For urgent prayer requests please contact Richard (01268 520688) or David and Marion (01268 523565).

## **Women's World Day of Prayer**

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 10:00am St Gabriel's Church, Pitsea - an invitation to unite in prayer and worship with a focus on the inclusivity of God's invitation to all. All welcome not just women !

## **Pastoral Group Prayer meeting**

This meeting is held after Wednesday morning Holy Communion on the last Wednesday of each month, this month on the 27<sup>th</sup> February.

This is an open prayer meeting and everyone is welcome to join.

## **Lent Course**

### **The nature and character of God: an exploration of the Trinity**

A 4 week course on Wednesday evenings at St Andrews – 7:30pm-9:30pm, run by Karen White, Father Michael Hall & Susan Shadrake.

Cost: None – (voluntary contributions towards refreshments)

Dates: Feb. 27th, Mar. 6th, 13th, 20th.

The various aspects of the Trinity will be explored through the film and book of 'the Shack'. It would therefore be helpful if all those who attend have read the book beforehand.

Speak to Karen if you require more information.

## What's on this week

Sunday	17 <sup>th</sup>	11:15am	Holy Communion at Holy Cross.
		2:00pm	<b>Open Church music at Holy Cross.</b>
		3:00pm	<b>Service at Mundy House – all welcome.</b>
		4:00pm	<b>Choral Evensong at Holy Cross.</b>
Monday	18 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am	Morning Prayer at St Andrew's.
		1:00pm	Home Group (Joyce and Tom Hancock).
		6:30pm	The Hobbies Club at St Andrew's.
		7:30pm	Evening Home Group (Peter White).
Tuesday	19 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am	Morning Prayer at St Andrew's.
		10:00am	Home Group (Cyril Phillips).
		2:00pm	Knit and Chat in St Andrew's.
		7:30pm	<b>PCC Meeting at Holy Cross.</b>
		7:45pm	Home Group (Barbara Bowhill).
Wednesday	20 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am	Holy Communion at Holy Cross.
Thursday	21 <sup>st</sup>	9:00am	Morning Prayer at St Andrew's.
		12:00noon	Community Lunch at St Andrew's.
Friday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	9:00am	Morning Prayer at St Andrew's.
Saturday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	9:00am	<b>CAP Prayer meeting at St Andrew's.</b>
		9:30am	Music Group Practice at St Andrew's.
Sunday	24 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am	Holy Communion at St Andrew's.
		11:15am	Holy Communion at Holy Cross.
		3:00pm	Music practice at Holy Cross.

**Please note that there will be Choral Evensong this afternoon at 4:00pm in Holy Cross with Open Church, musical interludes and refreshments from 2:00pm**

**MakeLunch during half term**  
**February 18<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**from 12 noon to 1:45pm**



## Dates for your diary:

**Summer Fete - Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June**

**St Andrew's Day/Christmas Fayre - Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November**

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**The News Sheet is available on-line at [www.standrewholycross.org](http://www.standrewholycross.org)**

Items for news and prayer to Jackie Stubberfield on 01268 288930 or [jmstubber@gmail.com](mailto:jmstubber@gmail.com) by Thursday afternoon, please.

Next Sunday's readings are – Genesis 2. 4b-9, 15-25, Luke 8. 22- 25.

### **MakeLunch on Songs of Praise**

It's a shocking truth that 3 million children are at risk of going hungry in the school holidays.

But there is hope. Through our TLG Make Lunch partner churches, we feed thousands upon thousands of children in need of vital support when schools close their doors.

We're so excited that BBC Songs of Praise has been to visit one of our lunch clubs in Newcastle upon Tyne. Tune in this Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February at 1:15pm to see the impact they're having. Or you can catch up afterwards on BBC iPlayer.

### **Youth Ministry Meeting - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm The Vicarage**

As you know we have not been able to offer specific ministry to our young people for the past few months and I know that this has been on the hearts of many of our church family. To this end Mark Tiddy, Bradwell Area Youth Advisor, is coming to meet with those who have been previously involved in this ministry and those who would like to be involved in the future so if you feel God may be calling you to serve him through working with young people then please do come along. All very welcome! **Rev. Jane**

### **New Electoral Roll**

In 2019 our Parish has to prepare a brand new Electoral Roll, which is a list of members of the church, aged 16 or over, who are baptised and have attended church on a regular basis over the preceding 6 months. Application forms are available, and the forms need to be returned to David Marshall by Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. If you have any queries, please contact David on 01268 523565.

### **Re:store**

Thanks to all those who have donated to **re:store**.

At the moment it especially needs the following:-

**All kinds of Milk UHT long life,  
dried, coffee mate etc.**

Sugar, Tea and /or Coffee,  
Washing liquid (for laundry)  
bottles or tablets

Biscuits,  
Savoury snacks,  
Tinned pies,  
All kinds of toiletries.

**Where will your journey take you in 2019?**  
**Bradwell Area Vocations Day**

Meadgate Church, The Orchards, Mascalls Way  
Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 7NS  
Saturday 23rd March 2019  
9:00am to 3:30 pm

Opportunity to attend two workshops

Ordained Ministry

Licensed Lay Ministers

Pastoral Assistants

Authorised Local Preacher

Evangelism Enablers

Lay Pioneer Ministry

Spiritual Support

Faith In The Workplace

Church Army

Chaplaincy

Course in Christian Studies

A Workshop for Young People

Also, there will be an opportunity to hear vocation stories.

**If anyone is interested in attending  
could they please contact Rev. Jane.**

