



St Editha's Amington
following **Jesus** together



'Then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory, and he will send out the angels and gather his chosen from the four winds.'

Mark 13.26-27 (REV)

Sunday 10 March 2019 (Lent 1)

Jesus is... coming back

Mark: Seeing Jesus

10:30 Holy Communion

Readings: Deuteronomy 26.1-11 & Mark 13.14-37

Leader: Ray Skarratt

President & Preacher: Revd Ben Green

18:30 Evening Prayer

Readings: Deuteronomy 26.1-11 & Mark 13.14-37

Leader: Revd Ben Green, Preacher: Steve Robins



Prayer of the Week

Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may be witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lent

Lent began last week on Ash Wednesday... but what is Lent all about? Why do we say it's 40 days long when there are 46 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter Day? Do we all have to stop eating chocolate? And why is this box purple?

Jesus' Temptations

After his baptism, Jesus was 'driven' into the desert by the Holy Spirit, where he fasted completely – i.e. he ate *nothing* – for 40 days and nights (Matt 4.2 & Lk 4.2). During that time he was being tempted by the devil (Mk 1.13), which you can read about in Matt 4.3-11 or Lk 4.3-13.

I don't recommend going without food for so long, but I am inspired by Jesus' example of facing temptation *and not giving in*; temptation itself isn't bad: it's up to us to make good choices when faced with it.

The Lenten Fast

Since the early days of the church Christians have observed a fast for 40 days leading up to Easter (not counting Sunday, which is a feast day). The purpose of the fast is to make a renewed effort each year to resist the temptations that we all struggle with. By training ourselves to resist a physical, or bodily temptation, we are more able to resist spiritual, or moral temptations.

What Lent is *not* about is losing the extra weight we put on at Christmas!

Giving Something Up

The question for us today is this: is there a particular attitude or thing we do which is not godly, and that we struggle to resist? For example, many of us struggle with anger, bitterness, or a cynical attitude, etc.

If you want to change that cycle of behaviour, try using Lent. Choose something you eat or drink a lot of, and decide to give it up entirely, or significantly reduce how much you have. Then, whenever you feel the pang of hunger or desire to have it, pray about the behaviour you want to change. Say sorry to God, and ask him to give you strength to resist.

Why Purple?

As for why purple is the colour of Lent... you tell me!

Ben

Noticeboard

Every evening during Holy Week there will be a service as we travel through Jesus' final days together.



Kitchenette Appeal

As at the end of February we have raised £4,263.46 towards the cost of the kitchenette. Thank you to everyone who has donated so far!

It would be great if we could make it to £5,000 – if you can make a new donation, please use the yellow envelopes and write ‘kitchenette’ – and if you pay tax, please fill it in so we can claim an extra 25% on your gift.

If you have any questions or concerns about the kitchenette, **please speak to Ben as soon as possible**, because the designs can still be tweaked – please don't leave it until it is too late!

Make Space for Prayer

Ask God to bless those who live in...

- Tamworth Road, Bridge Street, The Riddings and Arden Close.

Give thanks for...

- Those who work behind the scenes to make church happen.
- Reader ministry, and all those who were relicensed in the cathedral yesterday (including our very own Ray).

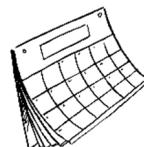
Pray for...

- All who are unwell, especially: Janet Wyatt, Pauline Woodward, Christine Gough, Don and Rosemary Baxter, Julia Pinner, Jean Austin, Rita Harris, and all those who are on the monthly prayer list.
- The family and friends of the late Graham Walker (funeral in church on 15 March at 12.00), Margaret Edmunds (funeral in church on 19 March at 10.30), and Tony Pearson & Cilla Blount's baby Anthony.
- Strength to grow closer to Jesus during Lent and to resist temptation.

This Week

**If you would like to try a home group during Lent,
please call the home group leader beforehand**

- Mo 11/03 19:30 Wholeness and Healing Service (Church)
19:45 Post Alpha Group (57 Sharpe Street)
- Tu 12/03 19:30 Home Group (322 Tamworth Road – 310664)
19:30 Home Group (71 Ridgewood Rise – 63082)
19:45 Home Group (19 Fairview Close – 704344)
- Th 14/03 09:15 St Editha's Amington Ark (Church – 312215)
19:00 Band Practice (Church)
- Fr 15/03 09:30 Friday Prayers (Church)
12:00 Funeral of Graham Walker (Church)
- Sa 16/03 10:00 Prayer Team Meeting (Church)
- Su 17/03 08:30 Holy Communion (Church)
10:30 Morning Service (Church)
18:30 Evening Prayer (Church)



Rotas

Cleaners (15/03): Carol & David Chadwick

Flowers (17/03): No Flowers in Lent

Sidespeople (17/03):

- 08:30 Warden
10:30 Ann Birbeck
18:30 Janet Hine

Refreshments (17/03):

- 10:30 Maureen & Richard Young



Coming Up

We 20/03 14:00 Standing Committee (71 Ridgewood Rise)

We 27/03 19:15 PCC (venue to be confirmed)

Th 18/04 tbc Maundy Supper (OSH) – **watch this space**

