

DID YOU KNOW? - that you can now recycle used medicine blister packs. Put them into a sealable plastic bag and take them to the Superdrug store in St Stephen's Street if you are in the city, or put them in the box provided under the table in the Welcome Area when you come to church (don't forget to bag them, please).

CHARITY OF THE MONTH - if you would like to nominate a Christian charity to be considered for Charity of the Month next year, please see Marilyn E in church today.

EASTER WORKSHOP - for children aged 5-11, will be held on Saturday 12 April. Games, activities, crafts, drama, refreshments - not to be missed! To book a place contact eatonchildren@gmail.com.

LENT LUNCH - will be at Christ Church for the last time tomorrow before moving to our church hall. The lunches are free but donations are welcome for YANA, the Bishop's Lent Appeal and Tearfund Middle East Humanitarian Appeal. From next week onwards Jane Scott will be heading up the team providing lunches in St Andrew's Hall on 31st March, 7th April and 14th April. Please contact her if you could help with serving, cooking or washing up!



MUSICAL TEA - on Wednesday afternoon this week, 3 pm to 4.30 pm in church. Margaret Smith, her daughter Julia and their friend Karen Stangan have a variety of music designed to make a for a relaxing afternoon with refreshments in the interval. No tickets - no charge but donations welcomed for the Bishop's Lent Appeal. See you there!

GOOD QUALITY TOPSOIL - FREE! - Our volunteers have been removing many barrow-loads of molehills from the churchyard, and the result is a large pile of fine, weed-free topsoil behind the sexton's hut. Please come and help yourself and help your garden too. Much effort has been put in by the volunteers (and by the moles!) so let's put it to good use!
John T

Please send notices for this sheet direct to Margaret Smith, tel. 01603 453010, or email; margarethsmith@btinternet.com by 12 noon on Tuesdays.

CONTACT DETAILS

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News Sheet for 23 March 2025

Lent 3



'a church for all - a place for you'

Welcome, everyone!

A special welcome to visitors worshipping with us today! Whether you are worshipping in church or joining us via live-stream at home, may we know God's presence with us as we worship together.



Here are the details of our service today:

10.00 am Holy Communion led by James who is also preaching, concluding the series of sermons on the book of the prophet Joel
4. Fear God
Readings: Joel ch.3 (church Bibles p.863 OT)
Luke 3:7-18 (church Bibles p.57 NT)

Afterwards refreshments are served in the hall - do come and join with other members of the congregation!

CHARITY OF THE MONTH - Toybox

... is active in seven countries worldwide, working with local partners who understand the unique challenges facing "street children" (those for whom the street is their home and/or source of livelihood and who are not protected or supervised by responsible adults). Some children are not routinely registered at birth, so live without rights and protection on some of the most dangerous streets in the world. Through the Birth Registration process Toybox can provide them with their official identity, giving access to education, healthcare and employment. Please support Toybox towards its vision of a world with no street children.

Please use the blue envelopes and put your donations in the wall safe or the collection plate in church. Many thanks
David H

Foodbank collection is next week! Particular needs: long-life milk (UHT), pasta sauce, tinned meats, tinned vegetables and tinned fruit, custard and tea bags. Many thanks for your continued support.

PRAYER THIS WEEK

'Trust in him at all times, O people: pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us' (Psalm 62 v.8)

SUNDAY Pray for those in need of God's healing, especially for Robin G, George I and Jennie W (all receiving regular cancer treatment) and Jane C (in hospital). Pray for those recently bereaved including the families and friends of Joyce S, Jack H and Sonya T.

MONDAY Negotiations for a ceasefire between Russia and Ukraine need agreement on all sides and the situation is delicate. Pray that peace will prevail, that a permanent solution will be agreed and the process of rebuilding can begin. Pray too for the ongoing conflict in Gaza, especially for the safety of civilians sheltering in UN buildings, hospitals and other places which should provide safety against drone attacks. Pray that the hearts of Israeli and Hamas leaders will be softened.

TUESDAY *"Our work in Bangladesh through the local church is supporting communities to build a future filled with hope and opportunity. Pray for the income-generating activities - tea stalls, vegetable gardens, tailoring and fishing - making a big difference to vulnerable communities in Bangladesh."* (Tearfund Prayer Diary).

WEDNESDAY Give thanks for the large number of people joining the Lent Course sessions and pray for James as he leads both morning and evening sessions today. Pray too for the "Musical Tea" this afternoon - an opportunity for welcoming people who may not normally worship with us.

THURSDAY Today we pray for people living in Leng Crescent, Lindford Drive and Marston Lane, praying especially for new residents as they make friends. Pray that the church noticeboards will act as a means of inviting them to St Andrew's.

Pray for the Community Café today and all those enjoying the food and chat. Pray for the leaders and helpers as they welcome customers.

FRIDAY The Bishop's Lent Appeal this year is for YANA (You Are Not Alone), providing rural mental health support in East Anglia for those involved in agriculture and rural businesses who often work alone for most of the working day and can be affected by stress and depression. We live in a beautiful part of the country where agriculture is very important - pray for YANA which offers confidential support to those in need.

SATURDAY Tomorrow is Mothering Sunday when we will welcome many visitors to worship with us, especially the Scouts and their families. Pray for James as he leads and preaches, that God's Holy Spirit will encourage and challenge us all through the Bible passages.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WITH LONG-TERM HEALTH CONDITIONS INCLUDING:

Those in residential homes: Alison H, Yolanda S, Margaret P and Neil R, and for the staff who care for them

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK and NOTICES

Mon. 24th

12.30 pm Lent Lunch at Christ Church (see note)

Tues. 25th

10.00 am Toddler group meets in the Hall

12 noon Mothers' Union Prayers for Lady Day, in church - all welcome

Wed. 26th

10.30 am Lent Course Session 3, in church

3.00 pm "Musical Tea" in church (see note)

7.30 pm Lent Course Session 3, at the Vicarage

Thurs. 27th

10.00 am Midweek Holy Communion (BCP) led by James

10.30 am Community Café, Church Hall - all welcome!

Fri. 28th

10.00 am Ladies' Bible Study Group meets

Sat. 29th

British Summer Time begins - put your clocks forward by 1 hour!

Sun. 30th MOTHERING SUNDAY

10.00 am All-Age Service and Parade with Eaton Scouts. James will be preaching. A good opportunity to invite friends and neighbours!

PREPARATION OF NEW ELECTORAL ROLL - everyone on the current Electoral Roll, plus a number of new people, have been handed a form or given an online link via email. This requires completion and return in order to remain on the Roll. I'm grateful for all who have already done this! Please would you complete and return forms a.s.a.p. to the Electoral Roll pigeon-hole in the Welcome Area (to the left of the Church Information Desk) so that the new Roll can be prepared well ahead of the deadline date (4th May at the very latest). Thank you. Christine B

BIBLE NOTES - I have a couple of spare copies of Scripture Union Bible Notes for the next quarter (April to June), so if you would like to try them out, please have a word with me! Margaret Smith

DONATIONS GROUP - representatives from St Andrew's meet with members from Christ Church twice a year to choose the Charities of the Month. We would really like some more folk to join us! If you are interested in finding out more, please speak to David Hughes or me for more details. Marilyn E