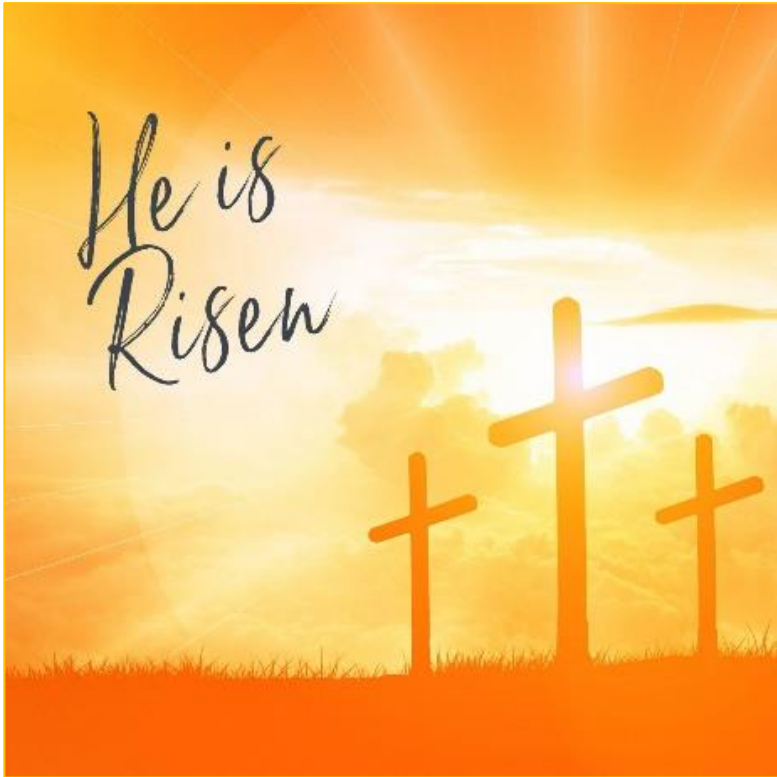


St Martin's Church Alfreton



Parish Magazine March 2024

50p

Weekly Service Times

Sunday 9.30 am Sung Holy Eucharist

Who's Who

Priest in charge

Father Mark Taylor 01773 833280

Associate Priest

Revd Julian Penfold 01773 833242

Associate Priest

Revd Imogen Black 01773 603793

Churchwarden

Linda Mills 07767 363811

PCC Secretary

Vacant

Treasurer

Eddie Booth 07585 757808

Assistant Treasurer

Kay Booth 01773 833129

Tower Captain

Chris Idle 07759 245338

Safeguarding Officer

Father Mark Taylor 01773 833280

If a child or adult is in immediate danger, or requires immediate medical attention, dial 999.

To report a safeguarding concern about a child or an adult and for concerns about a member of the clergy or an officer or employee of the diocese, please contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team on 01332 388678.

Magazine Editor

Ailsa Cooling ailsa.cooling@derby.anglican.org

For Baptisms, Reading of Banns, Weddings and Funerals, please contact Father Mark

From the Vicarage.....

As I write this article, we are approaching the start of Lent. Lent traditionally has been seen as a time of self-examination, self-discipline and fasting. It took its form from the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness following His baptism. As part of that preparation and self-denial, we have traditions of giving things up for a season and abstinence. In more recent times we have been encouraged to take something up that is of spiritual benefit to ourselves or general benefit to others instead. One of the things we have perhaps lost sight of is it was also a season of spiritual generosity and almsgiving.

This Lent is a prime opportunity to set time aside to realign our spiritual lives. If we are going to be effective disciples, we need our lives to be rooted in Jesus. We have to learn not just to listen to Jesus' words but live them out.

However, we use these coming weeks perhaps we could discipline ourselves to spend a few minutes each day to reflect on our spiritual journeys and our relationship with God, to offer ourselves to Him that we might become more like Him.

Fr Mark



Holy Week and Easter Services

*Please join as we journey with our
Lord in His suffering and death
and in the joy of His resurrection*

Maundy Thursday

7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper and the Watch. A joint service at St Thomas' Somercotes.

Good Friday

10am Walk of witness from St Martin's to the town centre for an outdoor service of witness.

2pm Meditation and veneration of the Cross.

Holy Saturday

7.30pm Easter Vigil. A joint service at St Thomas' Somercotes.

Easter Day

9:30am Holy Eucharist with the blessing of the Easter Garden.





Resources for Lent 2024

The Church of England's Lent theme for 2024 is **Watch and Pray: Wisdom and hope for Lent and life.**

Watch and Pray invites us to seek God in both familiar and unfamiliar places this Lent: in darkness and in quiet; in movement and migration; in the healing and transforming work of the Spirit; in the weeping of Holy Week and in the joy of Easter morning.

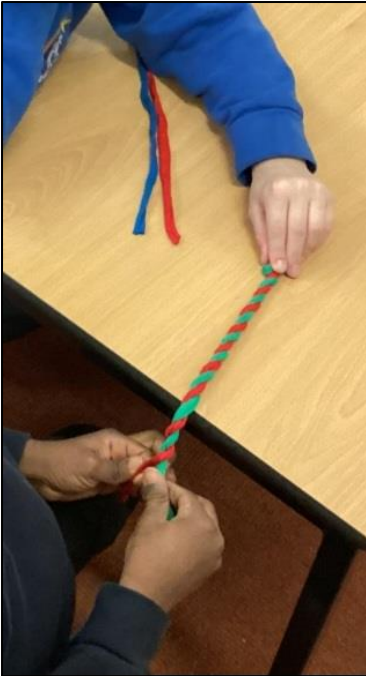
This Lent we are encouraged to wait expectantly for God to meet us and sustain us through the storms and trials we all face.

'Watch and Pray challenges us to seek God in both familiar and unfamiliar places: in darkness and in quiet; in movement and migration; in the healing and transforming work of the Spirit; in the weeping of Holy Week and in the joy of Easter morning.'

Archbishops Justin Welby and Stephen Cottrell

Croft Infants Go Wild

In January the Y2 children at Croft Infant School had a visit from Wild Roots Creative, a social enterprise that provides opportunities for people to experience arts, crafts, and culture in a natural space.



The visit was organised by Alfreton Heritage Centre. In the morning Wild Roots Creative taught the children how to twist and make their own bracelet out of recycled t-shirt material! This was inspired by the rope making factory that used to be in Alfreton.

The children enjoying making their bracelets from recycled material.





Watching a weaving demonstration.

Thank you to Mrs Fletcher-Newbold for sending the photographs of the children's craft activities and a huge thank you to the children's parents for allowing us to use their photographs in our magazine.



The children helping each other to weave their baskets.

Spirituality

Spirituality is probably one of the most overworked and misunderstood words in present day religious vocabulary.

In the context of our life and mission in the Diocese of Derby we are particularly concerned with Christian Spirituality which is deeply embedded in the life and history of the Church.

In these days many people are taking their own journey into God far more seriously. There is a real thirst within the Church as well as in the world for the things of God.

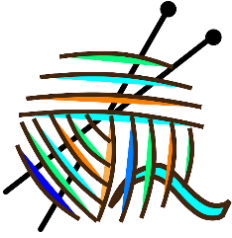
To try to address this, our Christian Spirituality Group tries to provide people who can accompany others on this journey as listeners and spiritual directors. We also provide courses, quiet days and retreats. Details of all these things will appear from time to time on this website and in other places.

We hope that we will be able to offer something to assist those who feel themselves to be beginners on the journey as well those who are ready to take a further step on a journey maybe started many years ago.

One thing is certain, none of us have arrived and all are in need of the support, prayer and assistance of our brothers and sisters in Christ. The Christian Spirituality Group is there as one way of enabling this to happen within our Diocese.

Revd Richard Reade
Chair of Diocesan Spirituality Group
01629 581233 | richardreade@btinternet.com

Knit and Natter



Come along to St Martin's to knit, sew, craft, crochet or just to natter! Share your skills or learn a new one.

We will meet on Wednesday 6th March 10am – 12pm to enjoy a cuppa and a biscuit – donations please.
Everyone welcome.

Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 6th March – Knit and Natter in church 10am – 12pm

Sunday 10th March – Mothering Sunday Service 9.30am

Wednesday 12th June – Archdeacon's Visitation

Saturday 13th – Sunday 14th July – Flower Festival, this year's theme is The Natural World

Sunday 14th July 3pm – Songs of Praise

Saturday 7th September – Cream Tea 2pm – 4pm

Sunday 29th September – Harvest Festival 9.30am

Sunday 6th October – Pet Service 2pm

Sunday 10th November – Remembrance Sunday

Saturday 7th – Monday 9th December – Christmas Tree Festival

Sunday 8th December – Carol Service 3pm

Raising Money for Guide Dogs



At Croft Infant School the Y2 children have been learning about charities in their RE lessons. They decided to raise money for Guide Dogs, in the form of a cake sale!

They visited the local secondary school – David Nieper Academy,

to use their food room to make a range of different things including flapjack, cupcakes, rice and cornflake crispy cakes. That afternoon they invited all of the parents of Croft Infant School to attend their cake sale where they raised over £300 for Guide Dogs! (Final amount to be confirmed!!). The children were delighted that they had been able to raise money for such a worthwhile charity.



Shrove Tuesday

Year 2 have also learned about Shrove Tuesday and how Christians traditionally used up ingredients such as flour, eggs and milk in preparation for the 40 days of Lent running up to Easter.



Weighing the flour for pancakes.

The children drew and labelled their own pancake design with a topping, before following instructions to make their own pancakes!



Adding eggs and whisking the pancake batter.



Thank you to the children at Croft for sharing their wonderful lessons and to their parents for allowing us to use their photograph.

From the Registers

Baptism

January

28th

Elizabeth Mary Greatorex

Please remember the souls of the following in your prayers in March

Joan Waite, Beryl Finney, Dorothea Haigh, John Haliday, Norman Holmes, Nancy Luke, Marie Lindop, Edna Stoppard, Joe Niurnaitis, Bob Vierling, Cyril Watson, Lucy Burnham, Ellen Brown, Freya, Reginald Wright, Ellen Hall, Gwen Froggatt, Mary Hutchins, Tony Naylor, Elizabeth Ann Dennis, John Cleaver, Elsie Codd

Information for the Magazine

Please contact Ailsa by email at ailsa.cooling@derby.anglican.org no later than **15th March 2024** to put your contribution into the April 2024 magazine.

Dates for Your 2025 Diary

Saturday 22nd February – Snowdrop Tea
Saturday 12th – Sunday 13th July – Flower Festival
Saturday 6th September – Cream Tea
Sunday 5th October – Pet Service
Saturday 13th – Monday 15th December – Christmas Tree Festival

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Date	Reader	Intercessions	Sidesperson	Chalice
3 rd March	Linda	Kay	Brian	Louise
10 th March	Anne W	Celebrant	Anne H	Kay
17 th March	Kay	Linda	Anne W	Linda
24 th March <i>Palm Sunday</i>	Linda	Anne W	Giles	Anne
31 st March <i>Easter Day</i>	Anne W	Kay	Andrew	Louise
7 th April	Kay	Celebrant	Marlene	Kay
14 th April	Linda	Anne W	Ann H	Linda
21 st April	Anne W	Linda	Anne W	Anne
28 th April	Kay	Celebrant	Giles	Louise
5 th May	Linda	Kay	Andrew	Kay