

Parish of Findon, Clapham & Patching

Walking together in the Way of Christ and sharing His love with others

Sunday 20th March 2022

The Third Sunday of Lent

8.00am Traditional Communion at Findon Church

9.30am Eucharist at Findon Church

392 Let us, with a Gladsome Mind;

67 Be still, for the Presence of the Lord; **82** Bread of Heaven, on Thee we Feed; **156** Faithful Shepherd, Feed Me

10.00am Eucharist at Clapham Church

8.00pm Compline Zoom Service



Banns 2:

Nicholas Isaacson and Jennifer Wilson

Collect for the Third Sunday of Lent



Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Bible reading: Luke 13: 1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Reflection on the Reading:

The fig tree is highly symbolic for the people of Israel. Many times in the Old Testament it is used to signify a life of peace and prosperity, with the image of someone sitting under his own vine and fig tree. The fig tree is also a symbol of the covenant between God and Israel.

Fig trees are valuable because they crop twice a year, taking three years to establish and fruit.

The parable told by Jesus today is about being given a second chance. The landowner, frustrated at the lack of fruit, would dig the tree out and replant but the gardener urges one more year, with extra care. You and I are like the tree, along with all who do not repent and turn back to Jesus, the gardener; when we do, we too will bear fruit.

Other readings for today: **Isa. 55: 1-9**; Ps. 63: 1-9; 1 Cor. 10: 1-13

* The highlighted text indicates the chosen reading for our church services.

Post Communion prayer:

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

DIARY AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Monday 21st

Luke 4: 24-30

Tuesday 22nd

10.00am – Holy Communion at Findon Church

7.45 – 9.15pm - Bellringing Practice at Findon Church

Dan. 2: 20-23; Ps. 25: 3-10; Matt. 18: 21-end

Wednesday 23rd

9.00am – Morning Prayer at Findon Church

Matt. 5: 17-19

Thursday 24th

2.15pm – Lent Course at The Rectory – all welcome

Luke 11: 14-23

Friday 25th – The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9.00am – Morning Prayer at Findon Church

Luke 1: 26-38

Saturday 26th

10.30am – Marriage Preparation Morning at Findon Church

Luke 18: 9-14

Sunday 27th – the Fourth Sunday of Lent (Mothering Sunday)

8.00am – Traditional Communion at Patching Church

9.30am – Eucharist at Findon Church

3.30pm – Afternoon Tea in Findon Church

8.00pm – Compline Zoom Service

Exod. 2: 1-10; Ps. 34: 11-20

Please remember in your prayers:

- Our children and young people; staff from our schools and preschool; our work with children and young people.
- Those in The Chase, Rectory Lane and Lee Farm.
- The sick and those who care for them including: Julie Brooks; Teresa Street; Emilia; Colin and Stella Hastings; Anne De Campenhout; Jeanne Hastings; Chris Drakeford; Kath Bullen; David Burt (Priest); Peter Rogers; Roy Hogan
- RIP: Dave Mackrell
- On their anniversary: **25th** Seth Evans; **25th** Joan Merricks

NOTICES

Donations for Ukraine: The Lamb Pub in Rustington is a local collection point for donations to Ukraine. Things needed are warm hats and gloves, batteries, first aid items (particularly plasters and bandages).

Also, Barnabas Fund is calling for donations of tinned food (that can be opened without a can opener), cup-a-soup packets and energy bars; blankets; good quality winter clothes, particularly coats. Please leave donations at the Rectory.

Our Bishops are encouraging us as the Church to sign up to support Ukranian refugees. See www.sanctuaryfoundation.org.uk for more details.

Dog beds: Dorothy Barber would like old duvets NOT FEATHERS; these can be left in Rectory porch or delivered to her in Holmcroft Gardens.

Lent Course - 'Comfort ye my People' – at the Rectory

The 3rd session of the Lent Course is on Thurs 24th March at 2.15pm. All welcome.

Mothering Sunday – 27th March – 3.30pm

Come and say thank you for your Mum at our Afternoon Tea in Findon Church

Light Lunch @ 1pm - Tues 29th March, Findon Village Hall, £5. Everyone welcome.

The Rowland Singers Easter Concerts – 7.30pm

Thurs 31st March at St Symphorian's Church, Durrington and Sat. 2nd April at Emmanuel URC, Worthing. Mozart's Requiem and Rutter's Magnificat.

Tickets £12 – For details phone 01903 238792 or www.rowlandsingers.co.uk

Advance Notice! – Easter Lilies

If you would like to donate a lily in memory of a loved one, please take a slip from the back of the Church. There will be a list in church in their honour which can be viewed from **Easter Sunday 17 - 24 April 2022.**

APCM: To be held at 10.30am on **Sun 8th May in Findon Church.** All welcome.

Could people responsible for submitting reports for the APCM please send these to the Parish Office **as soon as possible.** The deadline is Mon. 11th April to allow time for the final APCM report to be completed. Thank you very much.

Your Church Needs YOU! We need volunteers for the following:

Church Warden | Sidespersons | PCC members

If you or someone you know would be interested in any of these, please speak to Helena or Colin.

Save the dates!

Sun. 10th April: Bacon butties and meet the donkey at 9am at Findon Rectory, then walk through village to church for Palm Sunday worship.

8th - 11th June - Chichester Cathedral Festival of Flowers.

Sat. 11th June, Concert in Findon Church by the Brighton Male Voice Choir at 7pm



Please use our donation code if you have a smart phone!

All money donated goes to the Parish for the upkeep of our Churches.

Website: www.findon-clapham-patching-churches.com

Facebook: Parish of Findon, Clapham & Patching

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