

COLLECT

Almighty God,
you show to those who are in error the
light of your truth,
that they may return to the way of
righteousness:
grant to all those who are admitted
into the fellowship of Christ's religion,
that they may reject those things
that are contrary to their profession,
and follow all such things as are
agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Genesis 17:1-7. 15-16

A reading from the book of Genesis.

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you." God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

PSALM Psalm 22:23-end

R *Be not far from me, O Lord.*

Praise the Lord, you that fear him;
O seed of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, O seed of Israel.
For he has not despised nor abhorred
the suffering of the poor;
neither has he hidden his face from
them;
but when they cried to him he heard
them. **R**



Be not far from me, O Lord.

From you comes my praise in the great
congregation;
I will perform my vows
in the presence of those that fear you.
The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek the Lord shall praise
him;
their hearts shall live for ever. **R**

All the ends of the earth
shall remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations shall
bow before him.
For the kingdom is the Lord's
and he rules over the nations. **R**

How can those who sleep in the earth
bow down in worship,
or those who go down to the dust kneel
before him?
He has saved my life for himself;
my descendants shall serve him;
this shall be told of the Lord for
generations to come.
They shall come and make known his
salvation,
to a people yet unborn,
declaring that he, the Lord, has done it. **R**

SECOND READING Romans 4:13-end

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") – Abraham believed in the presence of the God who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of

Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

GOSPEL Mark 8:31-end

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

POST COMMUNION

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of
ourselves to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all
adversities which may happen to the
body,
and from all evil thoughts which may
assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

SIGNPOST

the weekly newsletter of
St George's, Tuffley with St Margaret's, Whaddon
Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering,
'Growing God's Kingdom'

Welcome to all

Diary Dates from 25th February to 3rd March

Sun 25	LENT 2		
Crossroads available			
	9.00am	St M's	Parish Communion
	10.30am	St G's	Parish Communion Crucifer: Jayne Readers: Joceline/Derek Intercessions: Susan Coffee: Sylvia/Dot
Mon 26	5.00pm	Zoom	Evening Prayer
	7.30pm	LC	Lent Group 2
Tue 27	10.30am	SH	Coffee Pot
	10.00am	St G's	Parish Communion
	5.00pm	LC	Evening Prayer
Wed 28	8.15am	Zoom	Morning Prayer
	2.00pm	LC	Lent Group 2
Thu 29	10.30am	St M's	Parish Communion
	2.00pm	SH	Arts and Crafts Group
Fri 1	World Day of Prayer		
Sat 2	10.00am	St G's	Church Cleaning
	11.30am	EM	Litter Pick
	12.30pm	MH	Child's Party
Sun 3	LENT 3		
	10.30am	St G's	Parish Communion Crucifer: Dot Readers: Stuart / Lynne Intercessions: Sylvia C Coffee: Stella / Linda

St G's = St George's, St M's = St Margaret's,
MH = Main Hall, SH = Small Hall,
SL = Softley Lounge, LC = Lady Chapel.

Regular users of St George's Centre have been omitted from the diary to ensure more room for news etc in Signpost. But there is a full listing of users at the back of church and in the centre.

Church in Tuffley Choir: This year, we are hugely excited to be running a Church in Tuffley Choir to sing on Good Friday at English Martyrs. Everyone is welcome regardless of if you can read music or whether you've sung in a choir before! The first rehearsal was at St Barnabas last Thursday at 7.30pm. Choir practices will then alternate usually between Tuesdays and Thursdays with the occasional Friday to allow the most amount of people to come. No need to bring anything with you and if you can't make the first rehearsal, come along to the second on 1st March at 7.00pm! If you have any questions or you need help with travel, please get in touch with Ellie Todd onelizabeth.todd94@outlook.com.

We are part of the Church in Tuffley



Intercessions

We pray for:

Laura, Angela, Margaret, Mark, Johanna, James, Peter, Hans, George, Jenny.

Birthdays

Glenice Boots 1st

In Memoriam:

Lyn Gibbons, John Rich, Marlene Mellor RIP

Anniversaries of Death:

Tony Eagles.

Hymns at St George's: 625, 658, 195, 104.

Lent Groups: This year we will be using videos filmed in the Holy Land, which will help us to reflect on Jesus' life and ministry and what it means to be followers of Jesus today. The sessions will be on Mondays from 7.30pm until 9.00pm from 19th February and Wednesdays from 2.00 until 3.30pm from 21st February in St George's Lady Chapel.

Confirmation: Bishop Rachel will be leading a Confirmation Service at St Margaret's on Sunday 28th April. If you would like to be Confirmed or if you would like to know more about this, please do talk to Rachel or Laine about this (see longer article in February's Crossroads).

100 Club our next draw will take place on Sunday 3rd March 2024. Numbers in the draw are £1.00 each, per month or £12.00 per number for the entire year, you can pay your dues to your collector or Darrell as soon as you like. If you would like to join our 100 Club, please see, or contact Darrell. Thank you

Explore Easter starting 11th March: We are hoping to welcome 600 children into church again over the week of 11th March. If you have any time to give that week it would be most appreciated. A sign-up sheet will appear at the back of church by 3rd March.

Foodbank: Keep bringing items for the Foodbank on a Sunday. Collection point is the tray at the back of the Church. The Foodbank are in **URGENT NEED OF LONG-LIFE FRUIT JUICE & MILK, DEODORANT, TINNED VEG (peas, carrots, sweetcorn) TINNED FISH.** Thank you.

CONTACTING US:

Vicar: Rev'd Rachel Beck 01452 520851

Email: revrachelbeck@gmail.com 07753 389865

Ordinand: Laine Lewis

Email: ordinandstgstm@gmail.com

Reader: Jonathan MacKechnie-Jarvis 01452 502174

Safeguarding:

St George's: Lynne McEwan Berry 07788 414614

Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser:

Email: safeguarding@glosdioc.org.uk

Website: www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk

Facebook/Twitter/Instagram: @TuffleyStG

Administrator: Glenda Stevens 01452 307456

There is an answer phone in use outside of office hours

Email: stgeorgeschurch1@gmail.com

Church email messages are monitored outside of office hours.

The Administration office is open on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday mornings until 11.30am.