

Sunday

in the Parish of Honley with Brockholes

5 March 2017 | The First Sunday of Lent



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Leeds

Welcome If you are a newcomer or visitor, we welcome you and want you to feel at home. Please introduce yourself and join us for refreshments after the 9.30 and 11 a.m. services.

THIS week we are much looking forward to Thursday's *Water of Life* conference at the University of Huddersfield. It promises to be a rich day of science and theology, and I commend it to you. Especial thanks should go to Richard Ashley, who has worked hard to bring the conference together.

It is appropriate that the conference is taking place in Lent, because Lent is traditionally a time of reflection and study as well as of prayer. In both churches there is now a modest bookstall. A number of helpful resources can be found on-line – transcripts of sermons, articles, and essays of different kinds. Some 'blog posts make edifying reading. If you do not find reading congenial, you might prefer some audio resources. Perhaps chief among these are the recordings of the Bible read by David Suchet, which were apparently recorded between performances of *Poirot*.

Lent is therefore a good reminder that, in the words of a booklet written by John Stott, *Your Mind Matters*. False religions discourage people from intellectual enquiry. True Christianity encourages it. To quote the great twentieth-century Congregationalist preacher Martyn Lloyd-Jones, 'Faith...is primarily thinking; and the whole trouble with the man of little faith is that he does not think. He allows circumstances to bludgeon him...'. *Water of Life* will help. Our Lent course on the *Book of Common Prayer*, which begins this evening, will help. Of course, you may find you have to give something up in order to make space to think. Lent is a good time to do that, too.

Today's Worship

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (1662) – St Mary's
9.30 a.m. ALL AGE MORNING PRAYER – St Mary's
11.00 a.m. ALL AGE HOLY COMMUNION – St George's
6.30 p.m. Lent Course – Parish Rooms

Readings at 9.30 and 11 a.m.

Psalm 32 (p. 560) *11 a.m. only*
Matthew 4.1-11 (p. 967)

Hymns at 9.30 a.m.

121, 182, 114, 131, 595

Hymns at 11.00 a.m.

121, 702, 759, 585

The Collect of Lent 1

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 witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

DIARY

Monday 6th March	7.00 p.m.	Deanery Synod – St Michael’s Emley
Tuesday 7th March		
Wednesday 8th March	9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer (1662) – St Mary’s
<i>Edward King, Bishop of Lincoln, 1910</i>	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion – St Mary’s
<i>Felix, Bishop, Apostle to the East Angles, 647</i>	5.00 p.m.	PRAYER GATHERING – Parish Rooms
<i>Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy, Priest, Poët, 1929</i>		
Thursday 9th March	9.00 a.m.	Let’s Play – Parish Rooms
	10.00 a.m.	WATER OF LIFE conference – University of Huddersfield
Friday 10th March		
Saturday 11th March		
Sunday 12th March	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (1662) – St Mary’s
<i>The Second Sunday of Lent</i>	9.30 a.m.	HOLY COMMUNION with INFANT BAPTISM – St Mary’s
	11.00 a.m.	HOLY COMMUNION – St George’s
	6.30 p.m.	Lent Course – Parish Rooms

PRAYERS

1. Among the sick and the housebound, we pray for <deleted from on-line edition>
2. Our Parish Growth Prayer – please use this in your daily prayers:

Father, you have called us to be disciples of your Son in Honley and Brockholes. May your word be spoken and heard in our parish, and accepted by many with lasting joy. Give us the gift of growth: growth in discipleship, and growth in the number of disciples, to the praise of your glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

NOTICES

1. Two dates for your diaries! Jenny Lockwood is organising a Picnic Concert at St Mary’s. It will be in the evening of Saturday 6th May. And there will be a Lent Lunch on Thursday 30th March at 12 noon in St Mary’s. Tickets (£5) must be bought in advance from Gillian Greaves.
2. The Annual Meeting of Parishioners and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place in St Mary’s on Saturday 22nd April at 10.00 a.m.
3. Monday evening’s Deanery Synod meeting at St Michael’s Emley is a joint Deanery meeting with Huddersfield and Kirkburton, as well as Almondbury. It is an open meeting to which everyone is welcome. The speaker is our diocesan bishop, Nick Baines, who will be talking about the diocese and the diocesan vision.
4. As a Lent Course this year, I propose an introduction to the 1662 *Book of Common Prayer* as a book which helps us to pray and to think about God. It will be suitable for people who know nothing at all about the *Prayer Book* (as well as those who are familiar with it), and I promise it will not be boring. We shall meet at 6.30 p.m. on Sunday evenings in Lent. Everyone is welcome!