

## Ephesians 2.1-10

In one of his homilies, St John Chrysostom speaks of two forms of dying: the death of the body, and spiritual death. The first of these two is a normal and natural event, a consequence of the Fall. The latter is something which is a consequence of deliberate choice which arises through our sins, by which we reject God and his love towards us. The saint argues that to save someone from this spiritual death is a far greater thing than simply to raise the body from death. St Paul tells us that God's mercy is so strong that he has not stopped at saving us from spiritual death through Jesus Christ, but also that he promises to raise our bodies too, and then to seat us in the heavenly places together with his Son. The power to do this is far beyond any earthly ability – even the greatest of human physicians is only able to resuscitate people in certain limited circumstances, and this has no effect on a person's soul. We cannot hope to claim God's powers for ourselves, but through his grace we have been promised a place with him in glory. Let us use our time wisely, always seeking to serve him through good works in response to this lavish and abundant love.

## Saints & Heroes

### Parish Priests

The calendar for this week is, except for the Feast of St Patrick on Saturday, distinctly sparse. As this part of The Society Pewsheets is designed to commemorate 'saints and heroes', this seems a particularly difficult one (perhaps even more so when we contemplate the gaps in the congregation after a heavy St Patrick's Day). An element of Mothering Sunday now mainly lost, was the notion that this was the day to visit the Diocesan mother Church, and make pilgrimage to the cathedral, but it should also reinforce the importance of the local church at which we gather, and by the worship of which we are united with the church universal. In the absence of lots of feast days to dilute your Lent too much, perhaps we could focus briefly on the hero that your parish priest is, or certainly is capable of being. Though Christmas is their 'busy time', anyone will be able to see just how hard clergy labour in Holy Week: and if you absolutely cannot offer material help, or make yourself present to respond to the call to Passiontide they are preparing to make, you can at least give them your appreciation and prayers. They all need them.



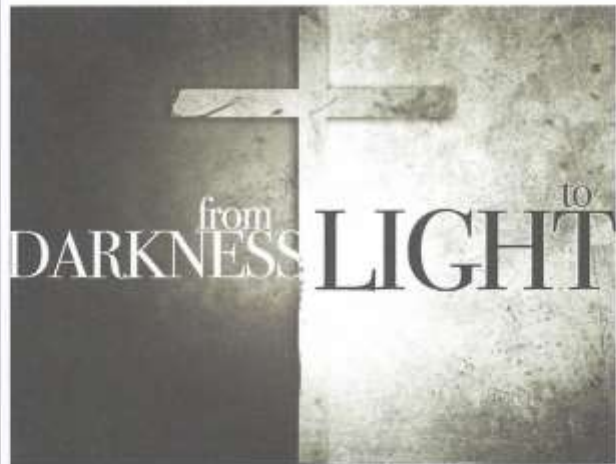
FORWARD IN FAITH

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11th March  
2018

Fourth Sunday  
of Lent  
(Mothering  
Sunday)

## Into the Light



The people of God have often experienced what it means to be exiled. Joseph's brothers follow him to Egypt and find shelter during a famine. Moses leads the people of God through the wilderness for forty years on their way back to the Promised Land. But even then, exile was still a reality for many during the Babylonian deportation, a punishment according to the prophets, for Israel's disloyalty to God's covenant. St Paul describes our lives without Christ as an exile from life as God envisaged it. Christ was lifted up on the cross like the serpent in the wilderness so that all who in this exile turn to him and seek shelter under his cross, may find their way back home to the heavenly homeland. We are created in Christ Jesus to live a good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live. Let us leave the self-inflicted exile of sin and darkness and lift our eyes to the one who has opened the bright doors of paradise for us.

### Prayers to Remember

O Lord God, our heavenly Father, regard, we pray, with your divine pity the pains of all your children; and grant that the passion of our Lord and his infinite love may make fruitful for good the tribulations of the innocent, the sufferings of the sick, and the sorrows of the bereaved; through him who suffered in our flesh and died for our sake, the same your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.

*Scottish Book of Common Prayer (1929)*

# The Parish of Hawley

Registered Charity no. 1130589

[www.parishofhawley.org.uk](http://www.parishofhawley.org.uk)

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## **FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

### **(Mothering Sunday)**

*Welcome to our services today*

9.15am Sung Mass at All Saints'

11am Sung Mass at Holy Trinity

**NO** Evensong, Stations and Benediction at Holy Trinity

## **WEEKDAY MASS**

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Feria in Lent**

7.30pm at Holy Trinity

*(7pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament)*

*(6.30pm Stations of the Cross)*

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> St Patrick, Bishop**

6.30pm at Holy Trinity *(Walsingham Cell - all welcome)*

## **NEXT SUNDAY - LENT 5**

9.15am Sung Mass at All Saints'

11am Sung Mass at Holy Trinity

6pm Evensong, Stations and Benediction at Holy Trinity

***Response to today's Psalm:*** O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not.

***Gospel Acclamation:***

**People: Glory and praise to you, glory and praise to you, O Christ. (x2)**

Cantor: God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son; everyone who believes in him has eternal life.

**People: Glory and praise to you, glory and praise to you, O Christ. (x2)**

*(The response is repeated after the Gospel reading.)*

**MOTHERING SUNDAY POSIES** - everyone in church receives a posy of spring flowers today as a sign of Mother Church's love for them. You are welcome to take it home for yourself or give it to someone, to place it on a grave or at the feet of Our Lady. We're grateful to those who have prepared these flowers for us.

**ALL GREEK FROM NOW ON** - a reminder that in Lent the Kyries will be sung in their original Greek to a different musical setting from usual.

**THE COST OF LIVING** - thanks to all who have reviewed their giving, it will help us cover the increased expenses. Still considering it? Please give it some thought and if you require further information speak with our Hon. Treasurer John Chapman or the Churchwardens. Keith Blanchard – Churchwarden.

**INTERREGNUM UPDATE 5** - The HGPPC met with Paul Davies (Archdeacon of Surrey) on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February. The legal process will start on 21<sup>st</sup> March with a new incumbent, hopefully, being appointed by the end of May. Mike Gunston (vice-chair HGPPC)

## **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING - SUNDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> APRIL, 3.30 PM IN TRINITY HALL**

nominations are invited for membership of the Parochial Church Council. Forms are available in both churches and should be received by a Churchwarden, Sidesperson or PCC Secretary, Cathy Mansell, by **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April**. Nominations are also invited for the Churchwarden posts. Please see Keith Blanchard in Holy Trinity or Jim Rapley at All Saints' if you would like to know more. The papers for the meeting will be available on line following the PCC meeting on **18<sup>th</sup> April**.

**EASTER FLOWERS** - donations towards the cost can be give to Joan Dimmick at All Saints' and Diane Brown at Holy Trinity.

**CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL** needs updating before the APCM on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April. The official revision begun on 4<sup>th</sup> March and ends on 27<sup>th</sup> March. Application forms available from Corinne Chapman our Electoral Roll Officer. If your name is already on the Roll, do nothing, if not Corinne can advise on your eligibility. (If your name is already on the Roll and any of your contact details have changed please advise Corinne.)

**CHRISM MASS - Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March**, 11am Guildford Cathedral. Sign up sheets are in the porch. The cost is £5, under 18's go free. Money should be given to either Rita Davies or Pauline Scott at HT and Joan Dimmick at AS thank you. The coach will leave AS at 9.25am and HT at 9.35am.

## **LENT THIS YEAR -**

**Wednesdays** at Holy Trinity, 6.30pm Stations of the Cross: 7pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: 7.30pm Mass.

**Fridays** at Holy Trinity, 12.30pm Lenten Lunch (Bread and Vegetarian Soup). If anyone would like to make some soup please see Rita Davies. A collection (optional) will be taken for our Lenten charity.

**Sundays** at Holy Trinity, 6pm Evensong, Stations of the Cross and Benediction.

**Lent Charity** this year will be ACS (Additional Curates Society). There is a collecting box at the back of both churches for donations. Gift Aid forms are also available.

**'Lent Calendar'** you can also find a daily Lent Calendar on the parish website as an additional encouragement to observing Lent.

*Please take the opportunity to make at least one of these part of your Lenten devotion.*