

SUNDAY 9 March – Lent 1

8.30am BCP Holy Communion

No 10am – it is the week of the Cambridge Half-Marathon. We will be supporting the runners and selling refreshments. If you would like to join us you are very welcome.

COLLECT

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.

READINGS (in pew bibles)

Romans 10: 8b-13, pp. 170-171

Gospel Luke 4: 1-13, p. 65

PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

Almighty and ever living God,
you invite us deeper into your world, your people, your Lent.

May this time be one of outward focus;
seeking you in those we often ignore.
Help us live a Lent focused on freedom, generosity and encounter.

Give us hearts hungry to serve you
and those who need what we have to give.

Amen.

Author Unknown

NEXT WEEK

8.30am BCP Holy Communion

10am Experience and Explore

6.30pm BCP Evening Prayer

CONTACTS

CHURCH WEBSITE www.trumpington.church

Vicar – Revd Mandy Maxwell 01223 845047

stmarystmichael55@gmail.com

Churchwardens

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Organist – Geoff Symon organist@trumpington.church

Choir Leader – Alan Howard choir@trumpington.church

Parish Safeguarding Officer – Sheila Betts 07889 706625

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CHURCH OFFICE – OPENING TIMES

9am-1pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

Emma's email address is: admin@trumpington.church

If you want to put a note in the pewsheet, please contact Emma in the office, no later than 9am Wednesday if the note is intended for the forthcoming Sunday. Thank you.

Emma will not be in the office Tuesday & Wednesday

CHURCH NOTICES

GIVING

If you would like to make a donation in support of the life and ministry of our church, you can:

- Leave a cash donation in the plate provided
- Make a contactless donation using the GoodBox
- Use a yellow envelope. If you pay tax we can claim the Gift Aid, but only if you fill out your details.
- Please speak to Edmund about making a regular electronic gift and the best way to do this.

Everything helps – thank you!

BIBLE STUDY

Please contact Mandy if you would like to join a group on either Tuesday evening online or Wednesday evening in person.

CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

This year we have to draw up a completely new church electoral roll. Even if your name is already on the roll, you need to fill in a new form to be included on the new one.

All baptised members of the congregation over the age of 16 are invited to apply to join the roll. Application forms are available in church on the Churchwardens' pew. Please post completed forms through the Bakehouse letterbox or give to one of the Churchwardens.

Anyone whose name has been on the electoral roll for a minimum of 6 months can stand for election to the Parochial Church Council (PCC), which, together with the Vicar and Churchwardens, makes decisions about how the church is run. If you are interested in joining the PCC, but have not been on the electoral roll for long enough, it may be possible to become a co-opted member. Please speak to the Vicar or Churchwardens if you are interested in joining the PCC.

CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY

Saturday 22 March 10am-12.30pm. If you would like to help with general churchyard maintenance. Please come along with appropriate clothes, footwear and gloves. If you have favourite tools do bring them with you (trowel, forks, rake, secateurs etc).

There are lots of jobs to do. Any assistance much appreciated – coffee and refreshments provided mid-morning!

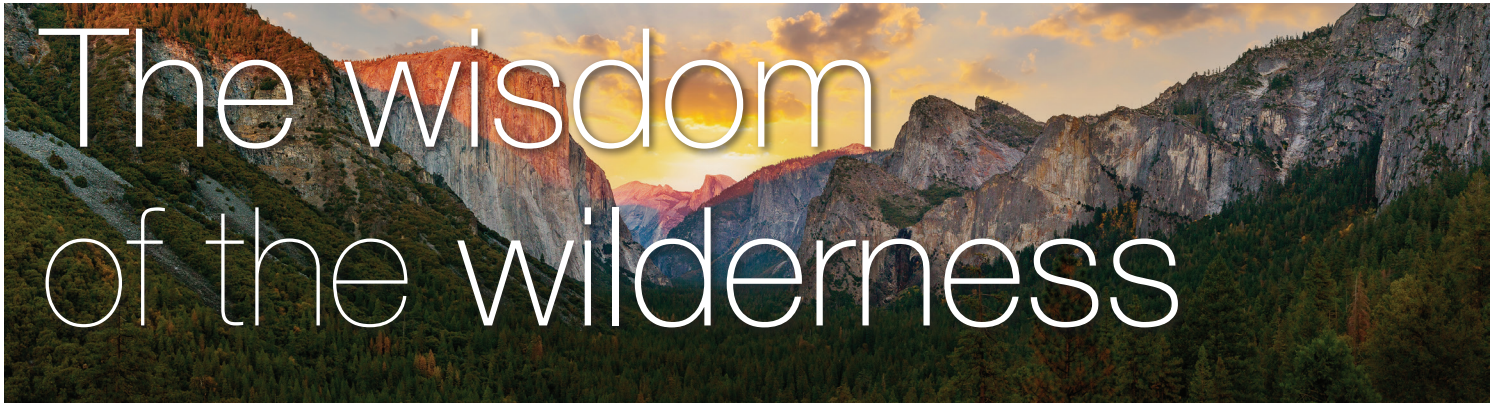
BOOK GROUP

2025 is the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth.

The Book Group is reading her final completed novel, *Persuasion*, to discuss when we meet again on **Thursday 3 April**. All welcome – no invitation needed!

For more information please email:

bookgroup@trumpington.church



Caroline Hodgson *reflects on* Deuteronomy 26:1-11 and Luke 4:1-13

Today's reading from Deuteronomy finds Moses, now an old man, addressing the Israelites. After forty nomadic years, finally the Promised Land is within sight. After scrabbling around in the desert for food and water, pitching tent and striking camp, worshipping at makeshift, portable altars – how desperate the people must be to cross over into the “land flowing with milk and honey” and to celebrate God’s “bounty”. At last they will be able to grow and harvest food and give thanks for it before a real, solid altar.

Perhaps it's unsurprising that the passage contains strong words of entitlement – “inheritance... possess... settle”. Over three thousand years of history have taught us, however, that when you “settle” and “possess” land, it generally involves displacing somebody, and that if you want to maintain your idyllic life, sooner or later you need to establish borders and build barriers. The people whom Moses is addressing would surely be horrified to know how history has unfolded.

The ordination of women

Part 1 – “called to bring my whole self”

by Ricarda Witcombe

Four Sunday Link writers share their insight into what the ordination of women means for them.

In 1995 I asked my vicar if I could train for lay ministry in the church. He said, “Why are you not thinking about being ordained?” I replied, “You know I’m divorced, a single mother – and a woman.”

Even though women had been ordained priest the year before, somehow it hadn’t occurred to me that the path they’d forged might be one I could walk, too. I’d also

assumed that my perceived failure in my marriage ruled out a priestly vocation. But the vicar pointed me to the director of ordinands, to start a journey of discernment.

I began to learn something I return to repeatedly – that I’m called to bring my whole self, including my imperfections, to my role as a priest, and to live out God’s grace in such a way that others can see that this grace is there for them, too.

Ricarda works as a healthcare chaplain in an acute NHS Trust, with a particular interest in maternity. She loves cooking, hiking and spending time with her blended family. 🍷

Today’s reading from Luke is also set in the wilderness, where Jesus has been “led by the Spirit”. This is wilderness as a place of challenges, but ultimately somewhere spiritually enriching. This Lent, can we learn the wisdom of the wilderness? Can we learn to live alongside others? And is there anything practical, however small, that we can do to alleviate the suffering of someone who’s yearning for a place to call home? 🍷

Lord God, we hold before you all those who are in need of shelter and stability. This Lent, we pray for compassion and generosity to work for the glory of your kingdom, our one and only true home. Amen.

Books of the Old Testament

Nahum

by Georgina Byrne

The book of Nahum is not an easy read. It is certainly short, with a breathless, rushing quality, but the subject matter and the violence of the language mean it’s seldom read aloud in church. The writer is Nahum, about whom we know only that he prophesied concerning the city of Nineveh. The jewel in the crown of the Assyrian Empire was about to be destroyed by God, and the whole empire would fall. By the

end of the seventh century BC the Babylonians were beginning to challenge the supremacy of the Assyrians, and Nineveh was indeed destroyed by 612 BC.

The real audience are the people of Judah, themselves humiliated and shamed by the Assyrians. The clue comes in 1:15, where the prophet assures them that they will never again be invaded and encourages them to celebrate their feasts. In the fierce anger directed at the Assyrians, the prophet is quietly assuring God’s people that salvation is near. 🍷

“Lent is a time of going very deeply into ourselves... What is it that stands between us and God? Between us and our brothers and sisters? Between us and life, the life of the Spirit? Whatever it is, let us relentlessly tear it out, without a moment’s hesitation.”

Catherine De Hueck Doherty (1896-1985), Catholic social activist