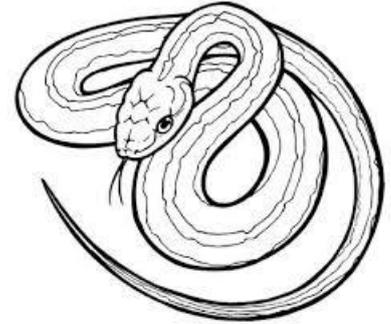


# Welcome to St David's on 12 March 2017

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

**President & Preacher** Christopher Durrant  
**Readers** Gabrielle Kirby, Richard Johnson  
**Prayers** Mollie Curry  
**6pm Evening Prayer**



**Hymns today: 389, 386, 434, 644**

*Next Week Family Service Led By Bill Pattinson*

**Collect:** Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord

**Genesis 12.1-4:** The Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

**Romans 4.1-17:** What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. So also David speaks of the blessedness of those to whom God reckons righteousness irrespective of works: 'Blessed are those whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the one against whom the Lord will not reckon sin.' Is this blessedness, then, pronounced only on the circumcised, or also on the uncircumcised? We say, 'Faith was reckoned to Abraham as righteousness.' How then was it reckoned to him? Was it before or after he had been circumcised? It was not after, but before he was circumcised. He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. The purpose was to make him the ancestor of all who believe without being circumcised and who thus have righteousness reckoned to them, and likewise the ancestor of the circumcised who are not only circumcised but who also follow the example of the faith that our ancestor Abraham had before he was circumcised. For 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')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

**Post Communion Prayer:** 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

**Prayers:** Ron Coleman, Pat Coward, John Coates, Helena, Kate, Patrick. Please remember in your prayers all people in our country who are fearful because of Brexit or budget announcements; may those who say they will benefit from political reorganisation act with compassion towards those who feel harmed or isolated by the same. May God teach us this Lent to be a community of hospitality rather than ideology

*We commend to the Peace of God:* Mary Sly

**Thursday Little Lent Course:** Christopher will facilitate a gentle time together reflecting upon Psalm 23 using guided questions. Come to share your thoughts and feelings over coffee. St David's Church Lady Chapel 11:45-12:15 March 16, (23rd is Lunch Club), 30, April 6. As part of your Lenten discipline, why not come to for the 10:30 Eucharist too?

*John 3.1-17:* There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

#### NOTICES:

**Next TraidCraft Stall: 19 March**

**Next Edibles Stall 26 March**

**Next Charitable Collection: 14 May for Christian Aid**

*Holy Week Services:* please pick-up our separate Holy Week flyer

*SPRING TERM Bible Study Group:* "The Gospel of Matthew". Thursday evenings (8-9:15pm), on 16, 30 March & 6 April at Iris' house

*Silent Prayer Group* with optional coffee/tea & conversation afterwards: alternate Tuesday & Thursday evenings (19:30 - 20:30), to be held Thursdays 23 March, 4, 20 April in the Lady Chapel. "Our hearts remain restless, until they find their rest in thee" St Augustine

*A three-choir concert at St David's* 7pm Saturday 25 March in aid of our Transformation Project and Hospiscare. Wyndham Singers, a local well respected choir with wide repertoire; The Rhythm of Life Choir based at The RD&E hospital, funky, fun and full of life; the Four Strops, a Barber Shop quartet. Tickets £10 each or £15 for two to include a drink. Available at Exeter Visitor Centre Dix's Field or see Sue Holden, Emma White or Cathy Knowles after the 9:30 am service on Sundays. Any donations of draw prizes will be gratefully received!

*London Marathon:* Gillian Mitchell is hoping to raise £1500 for the charity SENSE (National Deaf, Blind, Rubella Association). Susan Mitchell has made some greetings cards for a £1 donation. Or consider sponsorship through just-giving.com Gillian Mitchell Virgin London Marathon. Thank you for your support

*HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE 2018:* The launch event for the parish pilgrimage to the Holy Land will be on Monday 20 March in the Parish Room 7:30-9pm. Please come to hear more about the Holy Land, and full details about the pilgrimage. The Revd Alistair Wheeler (tour co-leader) will also be worshipping at St David's on the morning of Sunday 12 March to meet you. Look out for glossy colour brochures available in the church soon...!

*The Reredos At St David's:* Martin Horrell will present a talk about our beautiful reredos in the Mint Church, Fore Street 14:30 on Monday 20 March. Non-members of the Devonshire Association: admission £3

*Save the Date:* Our St David's Summer Fete will be held on Saturday 25 June

*TraidCraft Easter Eggs:* Please order your TraidCraft Easter Eggs from Richard Featherstone today

*St David's Women's Group* 27 April 6:30-9pm. Singalonga Mama Mia! Tickets available today £6 from Mollie. Mary K, Ann Watts and Hilary Todd

*Gift Aid:* If you usually give via Gift Aid envelopes, please collect these from the Geoff Crocket. As part of your Lenten observance, perhaps consider changing your method of giving: use the Parish Giving Scheme. [www.pishgivingscheme.org.uk/](http://www.pishgivingscheme.org.uk/)

*Exeter University Choral Society* will be performing Brahms' Requiem at St David's on Friday 24 March 19:30-21:00. Tickets £10 [www.facebook.com/events/694488987396032/](http://www.facebook.com/events/694488987396032/)

*Lunch Club:* Please sign up for our next tasty and popular lunch club at Exeter College at 12 noon on Thursday 23 March. Speak to Sue Wilson

**PLEASE TAKE THIS SERVICE SHEET AWAY WITH YOU**

**Christopher Durrant (day off Tuesday): @CurateDurrant**  
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