

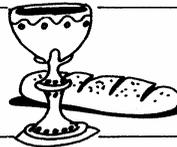


Christ Church Mount Pellon

in the power of the Spirit...



March



2007

Price 35p

*a loving, nurturing fellowship which,
in the power of the Spirit,
awakens all people to the love of Jesus
and spreads the Gospel through words and actions.*

www.christchurchpellon.org.uk

Church Address: Church Lane, Mount Pellon, Halifax, HX2 0EF

Christ Church

Regular events

Sunday Club

Children are welcome at all our services! There is always a crèche available for younger children at every 10.45 service, and age-appropriate groups at all 10.45 services except Parade Sundays and holiday times. Just turn up for a fun morning discovering more about God's love for you. For more details contact Liz Dingsdale (**834439**).

House Groups

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 7.30 p.m. alternate weeks

Get together with others to explore fellowship, faith and prayer to help you in your daily discipleship. For more details and dates contact Karen Hellewell (**365027**)

Uniformed Groups

Mondays 6.00 – 7.00 p.m. Rainbows (for ages 5 - 7)

Contact: Jane Webster **380950**

Mondays 6.30 – 8.00 p.m. Brownies (for ages 7 - 10)

Contact: Tracey Jagger **248365**

Mondays 7.30 – 9.00 p.m. Guides (for ages 10 - 15)

Contact: Ann Cockerill **363892**

Wednesdays 7.30 – 9.00 p.m. Rangers (for ages 14+)

(alternate) Contact: Pam Robinson **345258**

Lunchbox

A monthly chance to worship together, followed by a chance to chat over lunch. Mondays, 11.45 a.m. For dates and more details contact Pam Higgs (**320554**)

Chatterbox

Our parent & toddler group meets every **Monday & Wednesday, 1.00 – 3.00 p.m.** – all are welcome! Just turn up for a chance to have a coffee and a chat while the children play, do craft, sing and have a story and lots of fun! For more details, contact John (**365027**).

From the Vicar

The Book and the Butterfly

The Book

Lent is a time when traditionally Christians have given up something to show their devotion to Jesus, and discipline themselves, following the pattern of Jesus who suffered for forty days and night in the wilderness, tempted by the devil. If you can't see the benefits of giving something up in today's world, can't see the point of really struggling with something - then I'll come to that in a minute.

First I want to suggest an alternative - or better, something to go alongside giving something up. Why not take on something extra? I know you're too busy. So am I. But it might just be worth it.

Why not try reading a book to help you think about the true meaning of Easter? Later on you'll find some suggestions that would be worth your while looking at. Or come to the Lent course on a Thursday evening at the Highroadwell URC?

If you give God a chance this Lent, then he'll take it - and you'll find it the most fruitful Lent you can remember.

Now back to giving things up. Here is a story that illustrates why trying to make sure things are comfortable and easy is a big mistake:

The Butterfly

A man found a cocoon of a butterfly. One day a small opening appeared. He sat and watched the butterfly for several hours as it struggled to force its body through that little hole. Then it seemed to stop making any progress.

It appeared as if it had got as far as it could, and it could go no further. So the man decided to help the butterfly. He took a pair of

scissors and carefully snipped off the remaining bit of the cocoon. The butterfly then emerged easily. But it had a swollen body and small, shrivelled wings.

The man continued to watch the butterfly because he expected that, at any moment, the wings would enlarge and expand to be able to support the body, which would contract in time. Neither happened! In fact, the butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and shrivelled wings. It never was able to fly.

What the man, in his kindness and haste, did not understand was that the restricting cocoon and the struggle required for the butterfly to get through the tiny opening were God's way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its wings so that it would be ready for flight once it achieved its freedom from the cocoon.

Sometimes struggles are exactly what we need in our lives. If God allowed us to go through our lives without any obstacles, it would cripple us.

I asked for Strength.....And God gave me Difficulties to make me strong.

I asked for Wisdom.....And God gave me Problems to solve.

I asked for Prosperity.....And God gave me Brain and Brawn to work.

I asked for Courage..... And God gave me Danger to overcome.

I asked for Favours..... And God gave me Opportunities.

I received nothing I wanted...I received everything I needed!

John Hellewell

Parish Noticeboard for March



10.30 a.m.

6.30 p.m.

Mar 4th 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

Acts 7.44 – 50; John 4.19 – 26

Reader Kath Sharman

Prayer Karen Helliwell

Sidespeople Eddie Beaton

Coffee Margaret, Eddie & Grace

Bread Trevor & Eileen Hesselden

Chalice June & Graeme

Romans 8.18 – 30

Rosemary Power—O'Mahony

Ann Cockerill

Mar 11th 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

Luke 10.1 – 20

Reader Ann Gardner

Prayer Ann Cockerill

Sidespeople Margaret Beaton

Coffee Fran & Susan

Acts 17.22 – 31; John 6.56 – 69

Sue Heptinstall

Sue Heptinstall

Mar 18th 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT: MOTHERING SUNDAY

Acts 2.42 – 47; John 10.1 – 10

Reader Karen Helliwell

Prayer Caroline Spencer

Sidespeople Ian Buckley

Coffee Rosemary & Jean

Bread

Chalice Graeme & David

James 5.13 – 20

John White

John White

10.30 a.m.

6.30 p.m.

Mar 25th 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Luke 5.1 – 11

Reader Brownies

Prayer Brownies

Sidespeople Michael Cockerill

Coffee Joyce, Margaret & Trevor

Hosea 1.1 – 9

Paul Newman

John Helliwell

Apr 1st PALM SUNDAY

Philippians 2.5 – 11; Luke 19.28 – 40

Reader Paul Newman

Prayer Iain Lawson

Sidespeople Douglas Drake

Coffee Margaret & Eddie

Bread

Chalice David & Christine

2 Corinthians 3.12 – 18

Dave Fawcett

David Ramanauskas

A Prayer before work

My God, you are always close to me. In obedience to you, I must now apply myself to outward things. Yet, as I do so, I pray that you will give me the grace of your presence. And to this end I ask that you will assist my work, receive its fruits as an offering to you, and all the while direct all my affections to you.



Brother Lawrence, Carmelite monastery 1611 – 1691

Love Life Live Lent - now str8 2 ur fone !

The season of Lent – a period of penitence in preparation for Easter - has been given an extra twist this year with a multi-media campaign backed by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, Dr Rowan Williams and Dr John Sentamu.

'Love Life Live Lent' gives inspiration for simple things that people can do to spread a little generosity and happiness in their community, and particularly aims to bring Lent alive for people who might not go to church. In a bold move, the campaign is being delivered through two colourful booklets, an interactive website, and a text message service.

The campaign website is: <http://www.livelent.net> and to register for the text service please text the word 'Lent' to 64343. You will begin receiving daily suggestions for actions from now through to Easter Monday, at a price of 10 pence a day. Actions include:



- * Give up your place to someone in a traffic jam or a queue
- * Have a TV-free day and do something you have meant to do for ages
- * Take part in an environmental clean up
- * Watch the news and pray about what you see
- * Leave a £1 coin in the shopping trolley or where someone will find it.

The actions may seem small, but can add up to something bigger when lots of people get involved, say the Archbishops of Canterbury and York in their joint introduction: "It's all too easy to feel we are powerless to make a difference. But the truth is, with God's help we can change the world a little bit each day. Each of us can be the change we want to see in the world... Together we can build better and more generous communities. Together we can lighten the load on our planet. We show God's love when we do these things," they say.

Love Life Live Lent is available as a full-colour booklet for just £1 from Christian bookshops. Find out more at: <http://www.cofe.anglican.org/news/pro607.html>

PARISH CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2007

Wednesday 28th February 7.30 p.m. PCC Meeting in The Barn

MARCH 2007

SUNDAY 4TH MARCH: SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

10.45 a.m. Family Communion

6.30 p.m. Celebration

Tuesday 6th March 10.30 a.m. Asquith Court Communion

SUNDAY 11TH MARCH: THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

8.30 a.m. Holy Communion

10.45 a.m. Morning Worship

6.30 p.m. Holy Communion

SUNDAY 18TH MARCH: FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (MOTHERING SUNDAY)

8.30 a.m. Holy Communion

10.45 a.m. Family Communion

6.30 p.m. Evening Worship

SUNDAY 25TH MARCH: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion

10.45 a.m. Parade Service

6.30 p.m. Evening Worship

APRIL 2007

SUNDAY 1ST APRIL: PALM SUNDAY

10.45 a.m. Family Communion

6.30 p.m. Evening Worship

Tuesday 3rd April

10.30 a.m. Asquith Court

Noel Richards unplugged

Noel Richards, Paul Oakley and the Celebration Band

playing a special one night worship session

on **Friday *March 23rd*** at **Christ Church**



Start 7.30 p.m.
Tickets cost £6.00



any profits will go towards Overgate Hospice and Martin House

telephone **01422 341436** for more information

about an excellent evening that should not be missed

The Toils and Tribulations of Being a Housewife ...

Monday - Wash Day

Lord, help me wash away all my selfishness and vanity, so I may serve you with perfect humility through the week ahead .

Tuesday - Ironing Day

Dear Lord, help me iron out all the wrinkles of prejudice I have collected though the years so that I may see the beauty in others.

Wednesday - Mending Day

O God, help me mend my ways so I will not set a bad example for others.

Thursday - Cleaning Day

Lord Jesus, help me to dust out all the many faults I have been hiding in the secret corners of my heart.



Friday - Shopping Day

O God, give me the grace to shop wisely so I may purchase eternal happiness for myself and all others in need of love.

Saturday - Cooking Day

Help me, my Saviour, to brew a big kettle of brotherly love and serve it with clean, sweet bread of human kindness.

Sunday - The Lords Day

O God, I have prepared my house for you. Please come into my heart so I may spend the day, and the rest of my life, in your presence.

MOTHERING SUNDAY

This year Mothering Sunday will be on 18th March, when we celebrate the special place of mothers in our world.

This is an ideal service to bring friends or relations to—a good introduction to church as we celebrate one of the good

occasions of life. As usual there will be a small gift of flowers for the ladies present.



UNWANTED MOBILE PHONES AND USED PRINTER INK CARTRIDGES

Kit Merrill collects these items on behalf of Christian Aid. When sent for recycling each phone adds £3.50 and each cartridge about £1.33 to Christian Aid funds. Please Help. Kit would also be pleased to receive any used large padded envelopes as he recycles these to send the phones and cartridges to Christian Aid

***Please bring your items to church,
or contact Kit directly on 01274 876141***

THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY

A Bi-centenary Remembrance

Sunday 25 March this year marks a very important date in British history. On this date in 1807 a Bill was enacted in the House of Commons in London that outlawed the transport of slaves in British ships anywhere on the high seas. It was an important legal milestone on the road that led to the final and total abolition of slavery in the British Empire 26 years later in 1833.



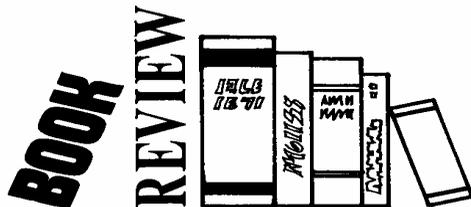
Origins of the British Slave Trade:

Britain and her empire became joined in the slave trade in the 16th century. This involved taking black African men and women from their homeland against their will and selling them to work on sugar plantations in the Caribbean and cotton plantations in America. Most of these slaves were stolen from their villages, often by their own chiefs, and then sold to the captains of British ships. The journeys to the West Indies and America were horrifying ordeals for the slaves. Herded like cattle in stifling conditions in the over-filled holds of the ships, they were subject to indescribable squalor and prey to typhoid, dysentery and other killing diseases. Not only were the many corpses dumped overboard like unwanted rubbish, but there was certified evidence that many captains dumped the sick overboard without waiting for them to die.

In this 21st century we may find these facts difficult to handle but the evidence for Britain's slave traffic is detailed and terrible. Two of our great national heroes, Sir Francis Drake and his cousin, Sir John Howard, have an honoured place in British history because they defeated Spanish attacks on Britain. But Drake and Howard were among the first British sea captains to carry slaves across the oceans and sell them as chattels. The arithmetic of this traffic is truly horrific. It has been calculated that in the two hundred years from 1600 to 1800, no fewer than twelve million black men, women and children were forcibly taken from Africa and sold as slaves. What cannot be computed is how many of these 12 million died at sea and were unceremoniously tossed overboard. Many merchants in Bristol, Liverpool and Glasgow grew very rich because they bought, owned and sold slaves.

The first legal action in Britain against the slave trade was taken in 1772. At that time many of those who owned plantations in the Caribbean and America continued to live in Britain. They brought many slaves to work in their homes and estates and by the 1770s there were as many as 12,000 slaves employed by these plantation owners in England and Scotland. In the famous Somerset Case, heard before Lord Mansfield, the Lord Chief Justice, in London in 1772, it was ruled that owning and employing slaves in Britain was illegal. Lord Mansfield delivered a landmark verdict. 'Let justice be done though the heavens may fall.' This ruling put an end to the employment of slaves in Britain but not in her colonies. That legal and humanitarian battle was yet to come.





The Eight Words Of Jesus – insights from John’s gospel

By Michael Sadgrove, SPCK, £5.99

The meditations here help us to engage with the evangelist for whom words and signs are linked and who speaks of 'the Word made flesh'. As we explore the significance of each of these eight sayings within the passion story and within John's Gospel itself, we find ourselves surprised by their power to speak to our own times. In allowing these words to touch and challenge us, we may discover faith affirmed and day-to-day life transformed.

God On The Inside - A fresh look at the Holy Spirit.

By Nigel Wright , Bible Reading Fellowship, £7.99

The first Christians knew it was by the Spirit that they first believed and experienced God's love poured into their hearts. Since then, the third person of the Trinity has often been overlooked, even neglected. Yet in the last 30 years there has been an explosion of interest in the Holy Spirit. God on the Inside takes a fresh look at the Spirit in the Old and New Testaments, considering his role in the life of individual believers and the future of the worldwide church.

Making Holy Dreams Come True - prayer book with a world view.

by Garth Hewitt, SPCK, £12.99

An imaginatively illustrated book of seasonal prayers, daily prayers and prayers for special occasions. The prayers in this book relate particularly to the work of the Amos Trust, which has projects in four parts of the world: in South Africa with street children; in Nicaragua with education among poor communities; in

Israel/Palestine supporting peace and reconciliation projects, and in India working with a Dalit community (those formerly called untouchable).

This is an invigorating volume that grapples with the reality of day to day life, whilst reflecting the hope of the gospel. It will help people think through how they live and talk with God.

Pray Now - accompaniment to private and family prayers.

By Church of Scotland, St Andrew Press, £4.99

Pray Now is an annual best seller, popular across the denominations. It combines fresh, modern language with the traditional values of prayer and Scripture study. The layout and design follows the successful series style, but with a new format, including a CD. This year's edition focuses on landscapes.

If I Had A Face Like Yours – the non-surgical face-lift!

By Glyn Barrett, New Wine Ministries, £5.99

With an irresistible mixture of wicked humour and wise words, Glyn Barrett will have you riveted all the way. Whether it's recalling hilarious true stories or giving revealing insights into God's Word, Glyn's passion for life shines through - as does his passion to see every young person discover God's immense and exciting plan for their life. In this book Glyn reveals that if your Christianity is real, alive and authentic, then it should show on your face! For those who need an injection of encouragement he imparts seven truths that will give you a welcome 'face lift'!

MAGAZINE DEADLINE

The Parish Magazine is distributed on the last Sunday of each month. The copy deadline for the April magazine is **Sunday, 12th March 2007**

New Electoral Roll



Every six years the Church of England scraps its membership list – the Electoral Roll – and begins from

scratch. This year is the year! So, if you consider yourself to be a member of Christ Church, then you need to fill in a new form so that your name will be entered on the new roll, and so that you will be entitled to vote at the annual church meetings. You need to do this as soon as possible, and in any event by the end of March. For more details or to get a form if you haven't been given one, phone John on 365027.

LENT COURSE

On Thursdays during Lent, beginning on March 1st, we are holding a churches together Lent course at Highroad Well URC starting at 7.30pm. The course material this year is called '**Life Attitudes**' and takes a look at the Beatitudes for today. It is material written by Robert Warren and Sue Mayfield, and is excellent! Do try and come along to as many sessions as you can make.

THANK YOU

My family and I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who expressed their sympathy, following the sad loss of my dad (Morris Child). The cards, letters, phone calls and personal contact were very much appreciated and helped enormously at this very sad time.

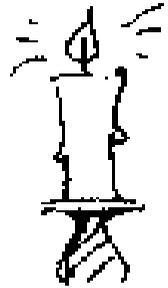
Ann Gardner



From the Registers...

BAPTISMS

28th January Megan Poppy Bell
Kimberley Gaukroger
Isobel Gaukroger
Kyle Brisco



our congratulations to their families and friends



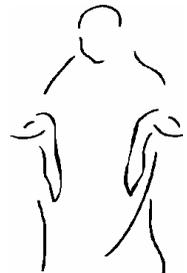
WEDDINGS

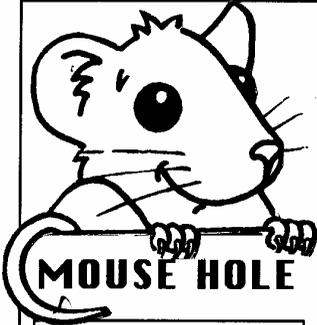
None this month

FUNERALS

Brenda Peckover

*our love, sympathy and prayers to
Brenda's family and friends*

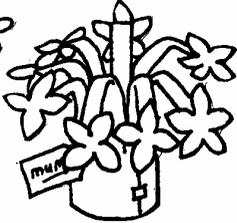




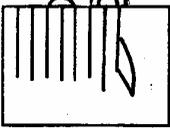
THANK YOU MUM
 Thank you Mum
 for all you do,
 For all your
 love and care,
 For helping me
 to tie my shoes,
 And brush and comb
 my hair.



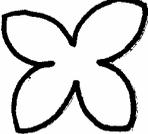
Flower Cards



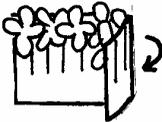
To make a 3D flower card, cut strips 1.5cm wide and about 12cm long, from an A4 size sheet of thin green card or thick paper.



Cut lots of large flowers from coloured paper and stick one onto the end of each strip.



Curly round with the flowers facing inwards and stick. Write a message on a tag and stick to the pot.



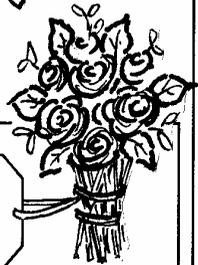
For cuddles when
 I'm frightened,
 For hugs when
 I am sad,
 For loving me
 when I am good,
 And *still* loving me
 when I am bad!



For teaching me
 about Jesus,
 Of how he loves
 me too,
 Thank you Mum
 for loving me,
 I LOVE YOU!

Look up the Bible verses on the tags to find out which flowers are for which mother.

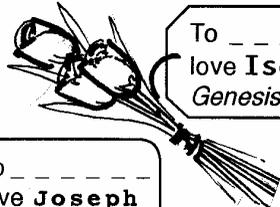
To _____
 love **Samuel**
 1 Samuel 1:20



To _____
 love **Isaac**
 Genesis 17:19



To _____
 love **Joseph**
 Genesis 30:24



Petitioning Downing Street on church buildings

Thanks to the initiative of a parishioner in Bristol diocese, an on-line petition is now available on the Downing Street website, encouraging the Government to provide more financial help for repair of Church of England church buildings.



The challenge of funding repairs to church buildings goes much wider than the CofE alone, and the Church's documents have made the case for all listed places of worship. However, this local initiative is broadly in line with the motion passed at last February's General Synod calling for greater government support, and with discussions currently taking place with government departments. The petition reads:

"We the undersigned petition the Prime Minister to arrange for the cost of repairs to C of E church buildings to be reimbursed to help preserve our archeological & historic heritage for the future.

"Churches are a valuable part of our heritage and a major tourist attraction, yet the funding of repairs is left to the parish in which the building is situated. Thus the cost of maintaining a national asset is left to the minority. This is grossly unfair and should be rectified."

And finally...



A Sunday school teacher asked her class: "Do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?"

"No," replied one lad. "How could he, with just two worms?"

CHURCH FLOWERS



- 7th January In loving memory of a dear father and grandfather, Leslie Hey, from Kathleen B, Derick, Anita and Nicholas.
- 11th February In loving memory of Brenda Whitely, love from Pauline and Elizabeth.
- 18th February In loving memory of Elaine, from Kath and Malcolm

Thank you to everyone who has contributed towards altar flowers. If anyone wishes to donate towards Easter Flowers, please contact June.

COMMUNICANTS AND COLLECTANTS

	Communicants	Loose	Stewardship	Total
7 th Jan	71	79.11	478.09	557.20
14 th Jan	16	60.70	700.70	761.40
21 st Jan	89	45.00	307.00	352.00
28 th Jan	25	136.43	358.50	494.93

Looking to the Future



Michael Noakes, our regional CPAS representative, will be leading a special day here at Christ Church to help us think about God's priorities for us as we move forward. It will be on Saturday 10th March, 9.30am onwards. If you care about the future direction of Christ Church, then it's important that you try and be there on the day. This is an opportunity for us to all work together to discern the direction and priorities God has for us. Put it in your diaries now, and begin to pray for it as well.



*I'd love to help dear - but I really must finish this sermon...
...my theme's the '200th Anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery!'*

John R Earnshaw

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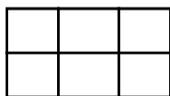
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