



The Ship

St Jude's Church, Englefield Green Newsletter

Anglicans and Methodists working together

Number 105

March 2019

Recital

by students from
Royal Holloway
Saturday 2nd March

4.00pm

St Jude's Church

Admission free

Refreshments provided

Donations welcome

Annual Meetings

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Vestry Meeting (at which the Churchwardens are elected (currently Diana Bendall and Claudia Tubb) and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place at approx 11.15am service on Sunday 14th April. This is where we receive the new Electoral Roll and the Annual Report and Accounts and elect members of the Church Council.

We also have an opportunity to say thank you to those who work so hard to keep our church clean and running and those who arrange flowers, look after the gardens round the church and so many other jobs.

Electoral Roll

The Church Electoral Roll (nothing to do with with the local authority register of electors) is renewed every six years and 2019 sees such a renewal take place. It is up to individuals to ensure that they are on the new list (if they wish). Forms in church.



Sunday 10th March

(and on the second Sunday of
each month) in St Jude's Church
at 4.00pm
Children should be

King of the World?

Last week I had the pleasure of going to the British Museum to see the exhibition called 'I am Ashurbanipal, King of the World, King of Assyria', who ruled from 668 to 627 BC. I must admit I had very little idea of what to expect, having very little previous knowledge of who Ashurbanipal was, nor quite knowing where Assyria was geographically. Fortunately, I went with a friend who was able to fill in some of my vast lacunae of historical and geographical ignorance.

Ashurbanipal was not modest about being king of the world but given that his kingdom encompassed parts of Egypt, Israel and Palestine all the way down to the Persian gulf, including some of the greatest of the world's ancient cities (Babylon, Thebes, Nimrod and Ninevah), much of the then known world, maybe he had some justification. He also described himself as Warrior, Scholar, Empire builder, King Slayer, Lion Hunter and Librarian.

Dominating the exhibition were vast gypsum panels, mostly brought back to the British museum by archaeologists in the 19th century, showing important events in Ashurbanipal's life. Most of these panels depicting his successes as a great and powerful king. Killing lions was a kingly sport, demonstrating power over the wildest of beasts, even if these beasts were caged animals. Of course even more kingly, was slaying vast numbers of one's enemies and increasing the size of one's kingdom.

Until fairly recently, Assyrian kings were regarded as rather blood thirsty and cruel, but more recently historians have been able to uncover a different side to them. Ashurbanipal lived a cultured life in the royal capital at Nineveh which was built on a lavish scale. His dwelling there was the 'Palace Without Rival', which was built 'to be an object of wonder for all the people'. The royal gardens at Nineveh were also spectacular. They were irrigated by canals which stretched over 50km into the mountains so that the king could grow the plants collected from across the empire.

In his palace Ashurbanipal collected together a vast and wide ranging library, famous in the ancient world for centuries after his death, consisting of both of paper and clay 'books'. He was also a person of religious zeal. He rebuilt or adorned most of the major shrines of Assyria and Babylonia, paying particular attention to the Ishtar Temple at Nineveh.

The end of Ashurbanipal's life is shrouded in mystery; one account suggests that he burnt himself in his own palace when Nineveh was besieged by its enemies. Although this is probably not true, there is evidence, still visible after all these years, that the clay tablets in his library have been through a fire, as many of them are blackened. Although the fire destroyed all the paper books, ironically it helped the clay tablets to survive, as they were hardened in the process.

The fall of Nineveh was depicted by a wall onto which was projected a scene of destruction with billowing smoke and rubble, seemingly the end of the exhibition. However, on turning the corner there was one final section, which provided even more sobering food for thought, displaying as it did current pictures of the ancient site of Nineveh, which occupies the centre of the modern city of Mosul, until very recently occupied by Daesh forces. The occupation and fighting, has resulted in all the archaeological evidence above ground being destroyed and there were heart breaking video interviews with local archaeologists, one of whom prayed that God willing, they could restore the ruins and reopen their museums. I would certainly join her in that prayer, but add to it my own, that from this we might all learn to understand the futility of conflict and seek the peace that comes freely to us through our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Diana Bendall

Women's World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. This year's service is called Come – Everything is Ready. The programme is written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Slovenia for WDP 2019. The service will be held at St Jude's Church on

How to contact us

Email: enquiries@stjudeschurch.info

Telephone: 01784 434133 (24 hr answerphone)

In addition to service times, the Church is also open on Saturday afternoons from 2.00–4.00pm.

Readings at 9.30am Communion

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| 3rd March (Sunday next before Lent – Quinquagesima) | Psalm 99 2 Corinthians 3.12–4.2 Luke 9. 28–36 |
| 10th March (Lent 1) | Deuteronomy 26. 1–11 Psalm 91. 1–11 Romans 10.8b–13 Luke 4. 1–13 |
| 17th March (Lent 2) | Genesis 15.1–12, 17–18 Psalm 27 Philippians 3. 17–4.1 Luke 13.31–end |
| 24th March (Annunciation of BVM Lent 3) | Isaiah 7. 10–14 Psalm 40 5–11 Hebrews 10. 4–10 Luke 1.26–38 |
| 31st March Lent 4 – Mothering Sunday) | 1 Samuel 1. 20–end 34. 11–20 Colossians 3.12–17 Luke 2.33–35 |

Organ Voluntaries in March

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| 3 March | 9.30am | Scherzo in G flat (Percy Whitlock) |
| 6 March | 8.00pm | O Mensch, bewein dein Sünde gross BWV 622 (J.S. Bach) |
| 10 March | 9.30am | Prelude in C minor BWV 546 (J.S. Bach) |
| 10 March | 6.30pm | Meditation on Brother James' Air (Harold Darke) |
| 17 March | 9.30am | Ciacona in A minor (Dietrich Buxtehude) |
| 24 March | 9.30am | Moto ostinato, from Sunday Music (Petr Eben) |
| 31st March | 9.30am | Toccatà in C BWV 564 (J.S. Bach) |

From the Registers

Funerals:

(4th February) Walter Matthews; (7th) Helen Matthews;
(14th) Hugues Simon.

The Village Centre (01784 471110)

The Village Centre has now been open for nine years and it continues to grow from strength to strength. The building is now booked, virtually every day, for regular events and provides a real variety of activities such as exercise and slimming classes, karaoke, a dementia support group, pre-school French lessons and of course ballet and dance. For full details please see our website:

www.villagecentre.org.uk.

The 'Friends of the Village Centre' scheme is progressing well, but if you would like to be involved in supporting us financially please give Ali, the manager a call. We are always looking for more volunteers, so if you have at least two hours a week to spare let us know.

The Monsell Room

The Monsell Room (attached to St Jude's Church) is available for meetings, training sessions, seminars and presentations on most weekdays, and can also be hired for gatherings after baptisms, weddings or funerals in the church.

It can seat up to about thirty people sitting or fifty standing, and has wheelchair access, disabled toilet, a pantry for hot drinks, and limited parking. Audio-visual equipment is also available. For details of availability and charges please contact monsellroom@stjudeschurch.info.

Christian Unity Service — 3rd March

This will take place on Sunday 3rd March at 6.00pm in the Chapel of Royal Holloway University of London College. The Preacher is The Rt Revd Andrew Watson, Bishop of Guildford. (There will be no Taizé Service at St Jude's on this evening to enable those who wish to do so to attend this service at the College).

Ash Wednesday — 6th March

There will services of Holy Communion at 10.00am and 8.00pm at St Jude's. Both services will include the imposition of ashes.

Lent Groups

The Wednesday evening Lent Group begins on 13th March at 7.30pm in the Monsell Room at St Jude's. We will be discussing the York Course 'Daring to See God Now' (written by Bishop Nick Baines).

The Thursday afternoon Group begins on 7th March at 3.00pm at the home of Mrs Margaret Taylor. We will be discussing 'The Mystery of God' the 2019 Lent Course from Churches together in Britain and Ireland.

For further information please see Roy Gouriet.

Diary for March

- 1 Friday 2.00pm Women's World Day of Prayer service — all welcome
- 2 Saturday 4.00pm Recital by students from Royal Holloway — Refreshments provided — Free admission — donations welcome
- 3 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm NO Taizé service in St Jude's Church
- 6 Ash Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion (said) 8.00pm Sung Eucharist (both with imposition of ashes)
- 10 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 4.00pm Messy Church 6.30pm Evensong and Sermon
- 11 Monday 8.00pm Church Council meets
- 13 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion (said)
- 17 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist
- 20 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion (said)
- 24 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist
- 27 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion (said)
- 31 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 11.15am Informal All-age service 12.15pm Lunch