

This week's diary

Sunday 5th	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
8.00am	Eucharist
9.15am	Choir Practice
10.00am	Sung Eucharist, with Spectrum on Sunday
3.00pm	Showing of the film "Chocolat"
Monday 6th	<i>No services today</i>
5.00pm	Beaver Scouts
6.30pm	Cub Scouts
Tuesday 7th	PERPETUA, FELICITY & THEIR COMPANIONS
7.00pm	Scouts
7.15pm	Eucharist
8.00pm	PCC Meeting
Wednesday 8th	EDWARD KING, BISHOP OF LINCOLN
5.30pm	Eucharist
7.00pm	Youth Group
Thursday 9th	10.00am Eucharist 7.45pm Lent Group
Friday 10th	8.30am Eucharist 4.00pm Messy Church 6.30pm Evening Prayer
Saturday 11th	9.30am Eucharist
Sunday 12th	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
8.00am	Eucharist
9.15am	Choir Practice
10.00am	Sung Eucharist, with Spectrum on Sunday



THE ORBIT

WELCOME to St. Edmund's

Sunday 5th March 2017

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Today's Services

8.00am Eucharist

10.00am Sung Eucharist

Prelude: Ave Maria – J.S.Bach/C.Gounod

Setting: A.Batten

Anthem: God is our hope and strength – J.S.Bach

*Hymns: 332 (omit *), R29, 445, R40, R5*

Postlude: Prelude and Fugue No 8 – J.S.Bach

Please join us for refreshments

after the 10am Eucharist in the Hall

Vicar: Father Michael Miller
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**Please take this home with you
for your reference and prayers this week**

orbit@saintedmundschurch.org.uk

Today's Readings

Genesis 2.15-17;3.1-7; Romans 5.12-19; Matthew 4.1-11

On this first Sunday of Lent the readings tell us that our often weak faith cannot match God's tireless commitment to give grace and to bless abundantly, speaking as they do of a holy-and-forgiving God and his wayward and weak human creatures.

In Genesis 2 and 3, the sad tale is recounted of the failure of Adam and Eve to be God's agents on earth. Through this story the Bible helps us to understand that the tangle of human sinfulness goes back to our very roots. As, like Adam and Eve in the Genesis story, we imagine we can be independent from God, so we drift further from the peace for which we are made.

Romans contrasts that disobedience to God of which Adam is the Biblical symbol, with the obedience of Christ. An apt summary of the passage might be: 'Christ got us out of the mess 'Adam' got us into.' Paul uses the language of 'justification' –the faithful obedience of Christ frees humans from the cycle of sin and selfishness exemplified by Adam, and opens the way of new life in the power of the resurrection.

The account of the temptation of Jesus by the devil in the wilderness in Matthew's gospel continues this theme, introduced in Romans, of Jesus' ability to obey God without hesitation and self-interest. In each refusal of the temptations that come his way Jesus shows that there are no short cuts to spiritual wisdom and maturity, just patient discipleship in the steps of the Master.

For your prayers this week...

The sick: Amy Austin, Julie Bent, Suzanne Cooper, Barbara Fairclough, Bernard Fairclough, Kay Fletcher, Ollie Gardiner, Betty Glass, Iris Golding, Darren Hale, Margaret Messenger, Suzanne Nicholls, John Peters, Joan Rix, Ros Shirran, Charlie Shirran, Fred Webb, Allan Whalley, Julie Windsor, Rachel Windsor, Nora Wood

Recently departed: Fr. Reg Ames, Quamari Barnes, Alex Young

Anniversaries of death: John Marriott, Gwen Collins, Cynthia Provins, Audrey Parsonson

Notices

PCC There is a PCC meeting this Tuesday at 8.00pm, preceded by Holy Eucharist at 7.15pm to which all are welcome.

LENT COURSE This year's Lent Course – starting on Thursday at 7.45pm - is entitled *Christ and the Chocolaterie* and will be based around the film *Chocolat*. There will be a full showing of the film this afternoon at 3pm in the Hall. Clips will be shown during the course but it is helpful to see the whole thing.

MESSY CHURCH There will be a Messy Church this Friday from 4pm - 6pm. If you know any families living locally, they are welcome to join in with crafts, activities and simple worship after school. A cooked tea is also provided. Details from Carol Diggins.

LENT ENVELOPES are available at the back of the Church for your Lent Savings.

CONFESSIONS DURING LENT Fr Michael is available during Lent to hear confessions and there will be set times during Holy Week. If you wish to make an appointment please speak to him.

HEALING EUCHARIST The first Thursday in the month 10am Eucharist will be a Healing Eucharist. Prayer with the Laying on of Hands and Anointing with Holy Oil are offered to anyone who wishes to receive them. Healing comes in many forms. Sometimes we are given the strength to deal with difficult situations we find ourselves in or help to cope with life in general and at other times there can be physical healing.

SAINSBURY'S VOUCHERS 2nd Northwood Scout Group are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers. Please place them in the box in the foyer.

GARDENING DAY This is on Saturday April 8th – apologies for the incorrect date in last week's Orbit.