

St. Augustine of Canterbury, Highgate



CHURCH NEWS

February 2018

The Vicar's Letter

Dear friends,

I am fortunate enough to have in my vicarage a fine room to use as a study or office. There are plenty of book shelves installed by one of my predecessors. It is spacious and a good space in which to work, to meet people, and so on. Yet every so often I have to tidy it up and that is a challenge. Though I think I am pretty efficient administratively I am not good with paper, and I find piles of it appear as if from nowhere on my desk! The spring clean of my study is on the way!

Lent begins this month with Ash Wednesday on February 14th. This is a season for a tidy up or, to put it another way, a spring clean of the soul. We clean up everything else, why not the soul? Why not a spiritual tidy up? How? One way is fasting. Fasting allows us to let go of our dependence on certain things (food, TV shows, internet, etc) so we can be filled by the Lord as we rely on him. It's a practice I grapple with and it's this challenge that makes it worthwhile to do in Lent.

Another is penitence. Do any of us get it right all the time? I doubt it.

Acknowledging our failures and seeking to move on into new life, making amends if necessary and possible, can be invaluable. Formal Confession with a priest can aid this.

Besides giving up, why not take something on? It might be a spiritual practice. For example, there is the 'Bible in One Year' available through an app. If you save some money through fasting, could it go to a good cause? If we make space through a spiritual de-clutter, what will take its place?

With my best wishes and prayers for a fruitful Lent.

Fr. Peter

The Vicar's Notices

LENT

Lent begins on Wednesday February 14th, Ash Wednesday, with Mass at 10am and 7.30pm. There will be Stations of the Cross on Saturdays in Lent at 11.15am from February 17th, and Evening Prayer and Benediction on Sundays at 6pm from February 18th. The Lent course will be on four Monday evenings downstairs in church at 8pm preceded by a light supper at 7.15pm, on February 19, 26, and March 12, 19. We will be looking at parables that Jesus told.

If anyone would like to make their Confession, or would like to consider it, please speak to me.

Calendar for February 2018

- 6 Mass at 12 noon
- 2nd Sunday before Lent
Parish Mass at 10am
Study group meets in the Vicarage at 8pm
- 7 Mass at 10am
- 10 Mass at 12 noon
- 11 Sunday next before Lent
Parish Mass at 10am
- 14 Ash Wednesday
Mass at 10am and 7.30pm
- 16 Stations of the Cross at 11.15am
- 17 Mass at 12 noon
- 18 First Sunday of Lent
Parish Mass at 10am
Evening Prayer and Benediction at 6pm
- 19 Lent course at 8pm with light supper
at 7.15pm
- 21 Mass at 10am
- 24 Stations of the Cross at 11.15am
Mass at 12 noon
- 25 Second Sunday of Lent
Parish Mass at 10am
Evening Prayer and Benediction at 6pm
- 26 Lent course at 8pm with light supper
at 7.15pm
- 28 Mass at 10am

Bible readings for the Parish Mass

- 4 Second Sunday before Lent
 Proverbs 8.1, 22-31
 Colossian 1.15-20
 John 1.1-14
- 11 Sunday next before Lent
 2 Kings 2.1-12
 2 Corinthians 4.3-6
 Mark 9.2-9
- 18 First Sunday of Lent
 Genesis 9.8-17
 1 Peter 3.18-22
 Mark 1.9-15
- 25 Second Sunday of Lent
 Genesis 17.1-7, 15, 16
 Romans 4.13-25
 Mark 8.31-38

Looking ahead

March

- 4 Evening Prayer and Benediction at 6pm
- 11 Evening Prayer and Benediction at 6pm
- 12 Lent group at 8pm preceded by light supper from 7,15pm
- 18 Evening Prayer and Benediction at 6pm
- 19 Lent group at 8pm preceded by light supper from 7,15pm
- 25 Evening Prayer and Benediction at 6pm
- 26 Monday in Holy Week Mass at 10am
- 27 Tuesday in Holy Week Mass at 7.30pm
- 28 Wednesday in Holy Week Mass at 10am
- 29 Maundy Thursday Liturgy of the Lord's Supper at 8pm and Watch of Prayer until midnight
- 30 Good Friday United Walk of Witness at 10.30am, Stations of the Cross at 1pm and Liturgy of Good Friday at 2pm
- 31 Holy Saturday Easter Vigil at 8pm

April

- 1 Easter Day
- 29 Annual Church Meeting

May

- 13 Sunday of the Ascension
- 20 Pentecost
- 27 Trinity Sunday

Church contacts

VICAR

The Revd. Peter Vannozzi 020 8341 6372

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CHURCHWARDENS

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The following may be contacted through the church phone number and email address:

020 8341 2564

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Emma Cardoso	Sunday School
Sergio Cardoso	Treasurer
Mary Maclean	Electoral Roll
John Morley	PCC Secretary
Toby Nangle	Gift Aid
Carol Noble	Rotas
Natalie Sodeau	Safeguarding
Richard Winder	Servers

**Enquiries with regard to baptism, weddings and banns of marriage
should be made to Fr. Peter**

A festival for February
St. Anskar
February 3rd

A native of Picardy, Anskar was a monk of Corbie near Amiens who, after the conversion of the King of Denmark to Christianity, went to Schleswig and attempted to start a Christian school there. He was expelled by the locals but went on to Sweden, where he is reputed to have built the first Christian church. In 832 he was consecrated Bishop of Hamburg and sixteen years later became Archbishop of Bremen. He returned to Denmark to convert the King of Jutland. He preached widely throughout Scandinavia and was much-loved for his work with the poor and in mitigating the slave trade. He is the patron saint of Denmark. He died in the year 865.

God of grace and might,
who sent your servant Anskar
to spread the gospel to the Nordic peoples:
raise up, we pray, in our generation
of your good news
and heralds of your kingdom
that the world may come to know
immeasurable riches of our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.