

# Outlook

*"We implore you  
on Christ's behalf:*

2 Corinthians 5:20b

*Be reconciled to  
God."*

We're now well into Lent and so perhaps it's time to ask, "How's it going?"

It's true that you won't find the word 'Lent' in the Bible, but at the heart of Lent is a desire to be right with God, and so making use of this season to bring our lives back into the way of the Lord is surely a good thing.

In our reading from Luke's Gospel today we're going to hear Jesus make the same plea twice. In both Luke 13:3 & 13:5 he says, *"unless you repent, you too will all perish."*

It might be that this Lent is passing you by, or perhaps the focus of Lent has become giving up something like TV soaps or chocolate - but as we listen to the voice of Jesus we can't help but see that there's something very profound at stake; our very souls. Fasting, reflection, Bible study and prayer in themselves can't save us, but Lent provides us with an invitation to a season of these things so that we can see Jesus and his way more clearly.

So how is your lent going? Let's pray that we all see Jesus more clearly, love him more dearly, and follow him more nearly as time goes by.

## Collect for 23rd March

*Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*



## Bible Readings for Sunday 16th March: 3rd Sunday of Lent

### Luke 13:1-9 (NIVUK)

<sup>1</sup> Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup> Jesus answered, 'Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? <sup>3</sup> I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. <sup>4</sup> Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them – do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup> I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.'

<sup>6</sup> Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig-tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. <sup>7</sup> So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, "For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig-tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?"

<sup>8</sup> "'Sir," the man replied, "leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig round it and fertilise it. <sup>9</sup> If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.'"

### Isaiah 55:1-9 (NIVUK)

<sup>1</sup> 'Come, all you who are thirsty,  
come to the waters;  
and you who have no money,  
come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk  
without money and without cost.  
<sup>2</sup> Why spend money on what is not  
bread,  
and your labour on what does not  
satisfy?  
Listen, listen to me, and eat what is  
good,  
and you will delight in the richest  
of fare.  
<sup>3</sup> Give ear and come to me;  
listen, that you may live.  
I will make an everlasting covenant

with you,  
my faithful love promised to David.  
<sup>4</sup> See, I have made him a witness to  
the peoples,  
a ruler and commander of the  
peoples.  
<sup>5</sup> Surely you will summon nations you  
know not,  
and nations you do not know will  
come running to you,  
because of the Lord your God,  
the Holy One of Israel,  
for he has endowed you with  
splendour.'  
<sup>6</sup> Seek the Lord while he may be  
found;  
call on him while he is near.

7 Let the wicked forsake their ways  
and the unrighteous their thoughts.  
Let them turn to the Lord, and he will  
have mercy on them,  
and to our God, for he will freely  
pardon.

8 'For my thoughts are not your  
thoughts,

neither are your ways my ways,'  
declares the Lord.

9 'As the heavens are higher than the  
earth,  
so are my ways higher than your  
ways  
and my thoughts than your  
thoughts.

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## Churches Together Football Team

The CTiE team is now 3 games into their



new season - and sitting at  
the top of their league  
having played 3 and won 3!  
A new top-fan has emerged  
in the shape of Nick Brown,

and it's truly wonderful to see men from  
our church making good connections

with a dozen or more local men who would otherwise have no connections with  
the local church. Please pray for Joseph who manages the team and all  
connected with this important ministry with local men. If you'd like to cheer  
them on, or even play with them, speak to Joseph.



## Coming Up this Easter... and a question about Easter Saturday



It's time to put these events in your diary. If you can help serve at any of  
them, please speak to Sue.

### Communion for Holy Week

○ 9:15am Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday in Holy Week (15th-17th April)

### Agapé (Passover) Supper on Maundy Thursday

○ 7:00pm Maundy Thursday (17th April)

### Reflections at the Cross

○ 2:00pm Good Friday (18th April) (All Saints' will be open from 12noon for  
quiet prayer)

### (Easter Saturday... a question: shall we run a families' event like last year?

○ If you'd like to help run a families' event, speak to Ian/Sue **ASAP.**)

## Baptisms (& Reaffirmations) on Easter Sunday



We will be holding some full-immersion baptisms on Easter Sunday. If you've not been baptised before and would like to be (or if you'd like to reaffirm your baptism in the baptistry), please speak to Ian.

## Electoral Roll: Just 2 Weeks to Fill in the NEW Form



Every 6 years the electoral roll is cleared and has to be restarted. If you haven't filled a new form in within the past month, you must do so now.

Forms can be found on the noticeboard in All Saints' or [on our website](#). Completed forms need to be put in the white postbox in All Saints', or handed to Dot in person or via [dottydotchadwick@gmail.com](mailto:dottydotchadwick@gmail.com) The deadline is Sunday 6th April.

## Compline for Lent: Thursdays at 6:30pm



Mark R will be leading Compline for Lent at 6:30pm on each Thursday in Lent. Services will be held in the Lady Chapel and everyone is warmly invited to attend.

## Opportunities to Serve



**Thank you** to everyone who serves in so many ways in the life of the parish. We'd love to find some new people to help in the following ways on Sundays. If you're interested, please speak to Sue about:

- **Serving refreshments** between Sunday services, and;
- **Welcoming people** at the door to the 11 o'clock service.

## Paid Cleaner/House Keeper for St Francis'



We need to appoint a new cleaner / house keeper for the St Francis' Hall on Nightingale Ave. Initially the post will be for just 1 or 2 hours per week, but is likely to become 3 hours per week in the near future once we get more hirers in. Please speak to Dot or Sue for more information.

## Keep in Touch



**Vicar:** [ian@eastleighparish.com](mailto:ian@eastleighparish.com) 07809 668 118  
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