

Diary Dates

March

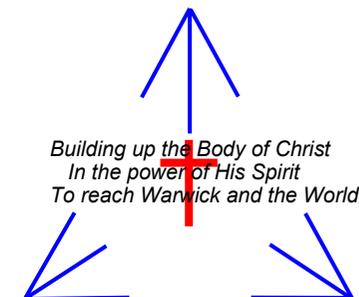
- 18 - Monthly Prayer, 7.30pm, Church
- 21 - PCC, 7pm, Church
- 30 - HOTS, 10am Market Square
- 30 - Seniors, 7pm, Hall

April

- 4 - Leadership, 2.30pm
- 6 - Prayer Breakfast, 7.30am, Chase Meadow
- 8 - Finance, 7.30pm
- 11 - Worship, 7.30pm, 19 Horsepool Hollow
- 13 - HOTS, 10am Market Square
- 15 - Monthly Prayer, 7.30pm, Church
- 15 - TANGO, 10.30am, Church
- 19 - Good Friday Procession of Witness and service, 12noon, Market Place
- 26 - Make Lunch, 12noon, Church and Hall
- 27 - HOTS, 10am Market Square
- 27 - Seniors, 7pm, Hall
- 28 - APCM, 12noon, Church

**St Paul's Church,
By The Racecourse,
Friars Street,
Warwick,
CV34 6HA**

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**17th March 2019
2nd Sunday of Lent**

Rev Jonathan Hearn

Today's 10am Service - Holy Communion

If you are a newcomer to our Church, or a visitor to the area, please introduce yourself to one of the welcomers, or to the clergy. There will be a Sunday Club for children during this service.

Communicant members of any Christian Church are welcome to take communion with us. If you do not wish to receive communion but would like to receive God's blessing, simply hold a book when you come to the altar rail.

This week - 17th March	Next Week - 24th March
10am Holy Communion 7.30pm In His Presence	10am Whole Life Worship 6pm Evensong 7.30pm In His Presence

Readings	
17th March Genesis 15: 1-18 Luke 13: 31-end	24th March 10am Ephesians 1: 15-23 6pm Psalm 85 Genesis 3: 8-15 Galatians 4: 1-5

In His Presence
In His Presence is a time of quiet reflection, of seeking God and entering into His presence - sometimes through scripture, sometimes through prayer, sometimes through worship - a time just to be with Him.

St Paul's Church, Warwick

Remembering the Persecuted Church - Yemen

Yemen is eighth in Open Doors' list of most dangerous countries for Christians. Currently it is in the midst of a civil war with significant involvement from Saudi Arabia which has contributed to it being gripped by the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

Yemen is a strongly Islamic nation, (99.1 per cent of the population are Muslim of which 65 per cent are Sunni and 35 per cent are Shia) and all Yemenis are considered Muslims. Leaving Islam is forbidden and Muslims who decide to follow Jesus could face the death penalty. Before the civil war broke out, most of the Christians in Yemen were expatriates, but many have left to escape the violence. Most of the Christians left in Yemen now are Yemeni Christians, and despite all the difficulties there has been a growth in numbers. This means more local advice and support is available for new Christians than before, though it is difficult to know exactly how many there are – maybe just a few thousand.

The reason for not knowing how many there are is that Christians in Yemen must keep their faith completely secret. It is seen as a huge source of shame for a family member to leave Islam. Believers from Muslim backgrounds run the risk of honour killing or physical violence if their families or communities discover their faith. Women also face the prospect of being forced to marry a Muslim.

To make matters worse the war has allowed Islamic extremist groups to expand their operations in certain areas, and as it continues, Christians also miss out when emergency aid is distributed. It is mostly distributed through Islamic organisations and local mosques, who allegedly discriminate against those who are not considered to be pious Muslims.

We pray: Lord Jesus, have mercy on our persecuted brothers and sisters in Yemen. Bring an end to the war and famine, and provide for those believers who miss out on relief aid because of their faith. Protect and strengthen Christians who are threatened and under pressure from their families and communities. Help them to keep shining as lights in the darkness. And share in a prayer from a Yemeni Believer: "Lord, help us as we are tired of this senseless war, the blood and the anxiety the people live under. Instead, we pray for the Kingdom of God to be established in Yemen."



Source Open Doors and The Voice of the Persecuted Church.

Getting to know the Holy Spirit

Keeping in step with the Holy Spirit is the subject of Deeper, an event hosted by Derek Burnside.

The person and work of the Holy Spirit is one of the most crucial and one of the most potentially divisive doctrines of the Christian faith.

Derek, principal of Capernwray Hall Bible School

since 2017, will introduce some of the scripture's core teaching on the third person in the Trinity. He will also explore his "baptism", his "filling" and his "fruit".

Deeper takes place at 7.30pm on 19th, 20th and 21st March at Castle Hill Baptist Church. All welcome.

Faith in Education

A reminder of the Lent lectures, Faith in Education at St Mary's Church.

They are part of Choral Evensong, and feature such speakers as Richard Nicholson, headmaster of King's High School (tonight), Andy Perry, headmaster of Myton School (March 31st) and Matt Western MP for Warwick and Leamington (April 7th). All welcome.

TLG 20th anniversary

Don't forget to book tickets for the Transforming Lives for Good 20th anniversary celebration.

It takes place at Kingsgate Church in Peterborough on Saturday, May 11th between 10.30am and 3.30pm.

TLG is organising coaches from towns and cities across the UK. Coach tickets cost £11 if booked by May 11th.

Visit www.tlg.org.uk/twenty for details or to book your free place.

Barn dance

Put your dancing shoes on and come along to a Barn Dance for Christian Aid.

It takes place at St Nicholas Church, Warwick on Saturday, 6th April from 7.30pm until 10.15pm. Tickets cost £10 including supper and are available from Sally Claridge.

Foodbank

We have a collection box by the office for items to go towards our local Foodbank.

Please put any toiletries and/or dry, non-perishable food in the box.

If you need a voucher please collect one from the office between 9am and 12noon on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Warwick's Foodbank is open each Friday between 1pm and 3pm at Saltisford Church in Albert Street.

Suicide Bereavement Support Service Warwick

The Kaleidoscope Plus Group are facilitating a Suicide Bereavement Support Service, across the whole county of Warwickshire.

The service has been funded by Warwickshire County Council through the Public Health and Strategic Commissioning team.

The service provides a safe space for people who have been bereaved by suicide to come together and talk openly about their experiences.

Groups are facilitated by trained professionals who bring with them skills and knowledge around coping with grief, loss and bereavement.

If you have been bereaved by suicide, and would like to access the groups, please contact us on the number provided prior to attending

Held...

Mondays

First Monday of the Month

10am-12midday

Where...

Quakers Meeting House
39 High Street
Warwick
CV34 4AX

For more information

Call Gillian Reeves on 0121 565 5605

E: Gillian.Reeves@Kaleidoscopeplus.org.uk



Reminder: APCM report and electoral roll

As you know every April we are bound to produce our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) report. It details the work of the Church in the past year. This year the APCM takes place after the morning service on Sunday, April 28th. For those who are helping compile the booklet, please can you send

your report to Kate via email at stpauls.warwick@outlook.com by Monday March 25th at the latest. To vote at the APCM you **must** be on the electoral roll. If you are not already on it and would like to be, please complete the form - which is on the welcome table - and return it tomorrow, **18th March** at the latest.

A Bible verse for the year

*"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.
"See I am doing a new thing!
"Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
"I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." Isaiah 43:18-19.*

Volunteers needed!

We are still in need of volunteers to help before, during and after our Sunday services. Jobs include welcoming people, reading and making tea and coffee. If you can help please see Hazel or Jonathan.

Prayer Breakfast

Churches Together Warwick's next Prayer Breakfast is on Saturday, 6th April. Starting at 7.30am, it takes place at Chase Meadow. All welcome.

A Thought for the Week - Surrender to God

In the Word for Today there's a series over five days reflecting on this crucial aspect of true discipleship. We won't follow all five days but we might use them for a couple of weeks. "John Calvin defined surrender as: 'To have no other will, no other wisdom, and to follow the Lord wherever He leads'. To do this you will have to face your greatest fear: who will drive your life? When it comes to sliding out from behind the wheel and letting Jesus drive, we're not sure about that because it means we are no longer in control. If He's driving, you're not in charge of your wallet anymore, you're no longer in charge of your ego, you're not in charge of your mouth anymore. So here's the question: have you invited Jesus along for the ride, or is He driving?" Have you surrendered to God?



WARWICK METHODIST CHURCH
COMMUNITY CENTRE
BARRACK STREET
WARWICK, CV34 4TH

LENT REFLECTION & LUNCH

12noon—1pm

TUESDAYS

12th, 19th & 26th March

2nd, 9th & 16th April

To make Bread

Join us from

10.30am



FREE Ingredients & Lunch

ALL ARE WELCOME

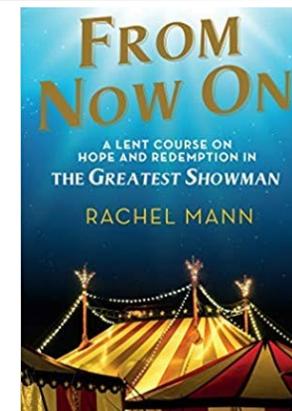
Prayer Time - Monday 18th March

Instead of a separate morning or day of prayer this Lent we are extending our normal monthly prayer time tomorrow evening. We'll begin as usual at 7.30pm, but will go on until 10pm. Dependent on numbers and inclination we may extend into a half night of prayer taking us up to midnight – however if you are able to come for the early part no one will be expected to stay longer than

they feel able to. Part of the time will be spent listening to God with opportunities to praise / listen to praise music, and to share. Please think, even pray about coming for the evening, and even if you don't do evenings, perhaps you might find time to pray at home – please do share with us anything you believe God shows you in your time of prayer.

Lent Study Group - From Now On

A reminder our Lent study group started here on Tuesday. The course, From Now On, is based around the film The Greatest Showman. Although we will be watching clips from the film each evening, it recommends if you haven't seen the film yet, it would be good if you did as it will help put each week in context. If you haven't already signed up please do so as we will need to order some more books.



Count your blessings

Christian Aid's booklet, Count Your Blessings is about putting faith into action through daily reflections and challenges. Rather than giving something up it invites you to think about your blessings and in gratitude to give something back to help those who have so little. All money raised will be sent to Christian Aid.

Lent study book

Pilgrim Journeys (40 days of reflections on the Beatitudes). This year we invite you to take a journey through Lent using this booklet produced by the Church of England. If you didn't pick up a copy last Sunday please do so. They are free but if you are able to make a contribution of £2.50 it would be very welcome.