

O Lord, hear my prayer

March
2019

Ps 88:13 Early each morning I pray to You

Ps 4:1 Lord, be kind to me and hear my prayer

Ps 141:2 May my prayers to You be like incense

Ps 143:1 O Lord hear my prayer

Ps 42:8 At night You give me a song as my prayer

The Greatest Showman Lent 2019

The Bible starts with God creating the world and seeing that all he created was good. Then man came along and because of the sins of Adam and Eve, earth became a fallen world full of sin and in need of redemption. But we need to remember that God still finds His world delightful.

When first man spread across the plains and savannahs of Africa, they too saw that the world was good. But our world is full of challenges, pain and insecurities and sometimes it is hard to keep hold of that image.

God's book, 'The Bible', is very realistic about the tragic limits of human beings, Peter is just one example. Again, it is worth remembering – from God's point of view there is still so much about the world that should fill us with hope, faith and love. The stuff of which dreams are made of.

As I said in the last Jottings our Lent study is The Greatest Showman which has become the most popular film in the UK cinema in 2018. Its tale of Phineas T Barnum and his circus is set in a world hungry for hope and fun. It is a highly fictionalised version of Barnum's life but still manages to offer an echo of God's original delight in His world and His desire to for us to celebrate His creation.

The film may seem a curious subject for Lent study especially as the great Lent themes are the longing for justice and mercy, reflection on sin and most of all the call for repentance and looking forward to the great joy of Easter.

When Barnum loses sight of what has made him a success, he begins to stray from the path he set himself, the path of faithfulness to his family and friends, But the film/story is not about mindless pleasure or happiness but about a deep and lasting joy. This is closer to the joy we find in the Christian faith; the joy shaped through the cross and God's truth rather than the fleeting happiness of the world.

Most of all 'The Greatest showman', asks what does hope and love look like in our broken world? It frames that question through the eyes of those considered outsiders, either because of poverty, class, disability, ethnicity and visual stereotyping. Jesus' story speaks powerfully into this as He lived on the edge of what would be considered respectable and died a common criminal.

But Barnum is a flawed character not dissimilar to Peter and it is actually the members of the circus who have the power to transform the world around them. I hope you will see that this story reveals Christian themes of hope and dreams, family and community, respectability and resistance, betrayal and redemption but most of all it is about love

Shalom Judith

Future Events:

Friday 1st March 11.30am David Bloodworth's funeral

Wednesday 6th March 7.00pm Church Council meeting

Wednesday 6th March Lent Course starts 12-30am after coffee morning.

Wednesday 13th March

20th March

27th March

3rd April

10th April

We will start at 12-30 and will finish at 2-30 approx. Do come and join us even if you do not want to do the Lent Course please come and enjoy the film.

World Day of Prayer Friday 8th March 6-30pm (weather permitting)

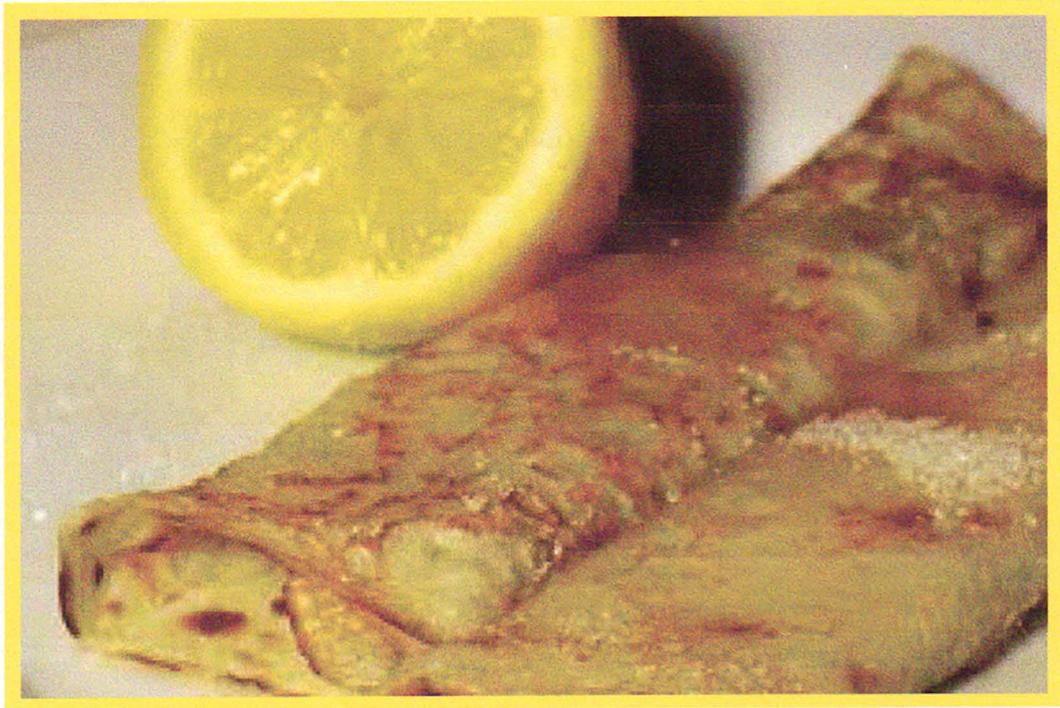
Childrens Fun Club 3rd Friday in the month

For the Future:

18th April Passover Meal 6-30 pm

19th April Good Friday service 10-30 We will give away hot cross buns as usual and serve free coffee too.

**OLD MEETING
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
BEDWORTH**



**PANCAKE
MORNING**

**Monday 4th March
10.00 - 12.30**

Delicious home-made pancakes
served with tea or coffee £3.50

ALL WELCOME

5 March - SHROVE TUESDAY: Pancake Day

Ever wonder why we eat pancakes just before Lent? The tradition dates back to Anglo-Saxon times, when Christians spent Lent in repentance and severe fasting.

So on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, the church bell would summon them to confession, where they would be 'shriven', or absolved from their sins, which gives us *Shrove* Tuesday. At home, they would then eat up their last eggs and fat, and making a pancake was the easiest way to do this. For the next 47 days, they pretty well starved themselves.

Pancakes feature in cookery books as far back as 1439, and today's pancake races are in remembrance of a panicked woman back in 1445 in Olney, Buckinghamshire. She was making pancakes when she heard the shriving bell calling her to confession. Afraid she'd be late, she ran to the church in a panic, still in her apron, and still holding the pan.

Flipping pancakes is also centuries old. A poem from Pasquil's Palin in 1619 runs: "And every man and maide doe take their turne, And tosse their Pancakes up for feare they burne."

Some people have noted that the ingredients of pancakes can be used to highlight four significant things about this time of year: eggs stand for creation, flour is the staff of life, salt keeps things wholesome, and milk stands for purity.

Shrove Tuesday is always 47 days before Easter Sunday and falls between 3rd February and 9th March.

31 March - Mothering Sunday : 4th Sunday in Lent

There is an old Jewish saying: *God could not be everywhere, and therefore He made mothers.*

Mother Church, Mother Earth, Mother of the Gods - our human mothers - all of them have been part of the celebration of 'Mothering Sunday' - as the fourth Sunday in Lent is affectionately known. It has been celebrated in the UK since at least the 16th century.

In Roman times, great festivals were held every Spring to honour Cybele, Mother of all the Gods. Other pagan festivals in honour of Mother Earth were also celebrated. With the arrival of Christianity, the festival became one honouring Mother Church.

During the Middle Ages, young people apprenticed to craftsmen or working as 'live-in' servants were allowed only one holiday a year on which to visit their families - which is how 'Mothering Sunday' got its name. This special day became a day of family rejoicing, and the Lenten fast was broken. In some places the day was called Simnel Day, because of the sweet cakes called simnel cakes traditionally eaten on that day. In recent years the holiday has changed and in many ways now resembles the American Mothers' Day, with families going out to Sunday lunch and generally making a fuss of their mother on the day.



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Thank you all so much

44.8kgs

The Nuneaton Foodbank gratefully acknowledges this wonderfully helpful donation of food from

Horeston Grange Church Centre

Thank you very much indeed for your gifts to support those in need in Nuneaton

2nd February 2019

David Stanier

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Chair of Nuneaton Foodbank Management Committee



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17th February 2019 Update and thanks

Dear Foodbank Supporters and Donors,

*Since the last update two weeks ago on 2nd February, we have distributed food to **152** people, (which has included **45** children).*

Our volunteers have 'signposted' the adults visiting our four centres to further help and support in order to begin to move them out of the crisis they are in.

LATEST DATA as at 17th February - some data is still unavailable, but will be reflected in the next update

Number of people fed since last update	Total Numbers fed from 1 st April 2018	Total Numbers fed since launch in 2013	Food donated since last update	Food distributed since last update	Difference in amount collected
152 which included 45 children	4158 which included 1484 children	24296 which included 8972 children	1469.4kgs (3210.7lbs: 28.7cwt: 1.43 tons)	1900.09kgs 4181.9lbs: 37.3cwt: 1.86 tons)	0.43 of a ton more distributed than donated

As you can see, we have had 1.43 tons of food generously donated over this period, but have distributed 1.86 tons - we have distributed 431.5kgs (0.43 of a ton) more than has been donated over the period.

This has meant that 3.29 tons of food has been processed by the warehouse team over two weeks, and we would like to thank all those volunteers involved in collecting, sorting, dating, stacking, and then preparing requisitions to go out from the warehouse.

We have been extremely grateful for all the donations we have received over this period, and we have distributed all of this, and 0.43 of a ton more than this. We could not have done this without your help and support.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATES

We all would like to thank everyone who donates to the foodbank - Churches - Schools - local businesses and organisations, and individual donors, who regularly donate food to help those in need locally.

We are always very pleased to receive individual and corporate cash donations, which help us to purchase bread and spread and other items, such as baby milk, nappies etc which we add to food parcels as needed.

SHOPPING LIST OF ITEMS WE NEED URGENTLY

We know that people like to know what we are particularly in need of when they are thinking of donating food, **and at the moment we would be really grateful for:-**

Steamed Puddings; Fruit Juice; Small packs of Instant Mash; Large packs of Instant Mash

As always, any donations at all are very warmly welcomed, but the above items are particularly needed.



Quotes

With Lent in mind...

There is no higher priority in the believer's life than to delight himself in the love of Christ. *Maurice Roberts*

Of all the things that will surprise us in the Resurrection morning, this I believe, will surprise us most: that we did not love Christ more before we died. *J C Ryle*

God fits our souls here to possess a glorious body after; and He will fit the body for a glorious soul. *R Sibbes*

God never made a promise that was too good to be true. *D L Moody*

Man's way leads to a hopeless end - God's way leads to an endless hope. *Anon*

Jesus can be contacted 24 hours a day: just go on on-line via your knee-mail. *Anon*

God often calls on us, but most of the time we are not at home. *John Tauler, 14th century mystic*

Your real religion is whatever it is that you are most interested in. *Anon*

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For St David and St Patrick – great saints of Great Britain

And He watched over me before I knew Him and before I learned sense or even distinguished between good and evil. *St Patrick*

I arise today through God's strength to pilot me;
God's might to uphold me,
God's wisdom to guide me,
God's ear to hear me,
God's word to speak for me,
God's hand to guard me,
God's way to lie before me,
God's shield to protect me afar and anear, alone or in a multitude."
St Patrick

For daily I expect to be murdered or betrayed or reduced to slavery if the occasion arises. But I fear nothing, because of the promises of Heaven; for I have cast myself into the hands of Almighty God, who reigns everywhere. As the prophet says: 'Cast your burden on the Lord and he will sustain you.' *St Patrick*

**HORESTON GRANGE CHURCH PREACHERS, STEWARDS, READERS ETC
MARCH, APRIL MAY 2019**

DATE	SERVICE	PREACHER	STEWARDS	LEADER	READER 1	READER 2
3/3/19	MW	Anglican	Brian Cartwright, Judith Wilson, Jean Roper	Cath Taylor	Cath Taylor	Mary Howley
10/3/19	Communion	Eddie Reubens	Mary Howley, Sylvia Griffin, Alan Cook	Brian Cartwright	Judith Wilson	Betty Barsby
17/3/19	MW	Beverley Taylor	Diane & Eddie Reubens	Eddie Reubens	Wendy Cook	Christine Bloodworth
24/3/19	Communion	Rev A Smith	Max & Mary Healey	Judith Wilson	Kath Roper	Jean Roper
31/3/19	MW Mother's Day	Joint service at Atherstone	NO SERVICE AT HORESTON GRANGE			
7/4/19	MW	Rev A Smith	Brian Cartwright, Judith Wilson, Jean Roper	Brian Cartwright	Diane Reubens	Eddie Reubens
14/4/19	MW Palm Sunday	Rev Keith Salter	Mary Howley, Sylvia Griffin, Alan Cook	Judith Wilson	Cath Taylor	Wendy Cook
21/4/19	Communion Easter Day	Judith wilson	Eddie & Diane Reubens	Cath Taylor	Betty Barsby	Mary Howley
28/4/19	Communion Healing service?	B cartwright	Max & Mary Healey	Eddie Reubens	Eddie Reubens	Diane Reubens
5/5/19	MW	Anglican	Brian Cartwright, Judith Wilson, Jean Roper	Cath Taylor	Judith Wilson	Jean Roper
12/5/19	Communion	Eddie Reubens	Mary Howley, Sylvia Griffin, Alan Cook	Brian Cartwright	Mary Howley	Max Healey
19/5/19	Communion Anniversary Service **	Rev A Smith	Diane & Eddie Reubens	Eddie Reubens	Brian cartwright	Christine Bloodworth
26/5/19	MW	Rev Marcus Torchon	Max & Mary Healey	Judith Wilson	Kath Roper	Cath Taylor

**** This service will be followed by a bring and share meal**

19th April 2019 There will be a Passover Meal at 6-30pm on Maundy Thursday. Eddie will lead this service

Friday 20th April Good Friday service will be at 10-30 and lead by Brian. We will also give away Hot Cross Buns after the service and we will also serve coffee.

Smile Lines

Sign in church

The new curate had put some signs around the church. They read:
Keep your eyes on me preaching! Stop reading these signs!

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Query

If you can quote lines out of the Bible, are you well-versed in it?

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Grannie

After church, the mother asked her young son if he had enjoyed Sunday School. "Oh yes," he replied. "My new teacher is pretty cool – she is Jesus' grand-mother." Startled, his mother asked what made him think that. "Obvious, she never stops talking about Jesus," he replied.

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Adam & Eve

At Sunday School the children were learning how God created everything, including human beings. Little Josh was especially intent when the teacher told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs. Later in the week his mother noticed him lying down and looking scared. "Josh, what is the matter?"

Josh whispered "I have pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife."

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Mix-up

What do you get when you cross an atheist with a Jehovah's Witness?
Someone who knocks at your door for no apparent reason.

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Hair-cut

A minister, known for his lengthy sermons, noticed a man leave during the middle of his message. The man returned as the service concluded. Afterwards the minister asked the man where he had gone. "I went to get a hair-cut," was the reply. "But," protested the minister, "why didn't you do that before the service?" "Because," said the man, "I didn't need one then."

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Board meeting

"There will be a meeting of the Board immediately after the service," announced the minister one Sunday morning. So after the service, the Church Board gathered at the back of the church. To their surprise, there was a stranger in their midst. "My friend," said the minister, "didn't you understand that this is a meeting of the Board?"

"Yes indeed," said the visitor, "but after today's sermon, I'm just as bored as anyone else who has come along..."

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Happy

Never miss an opportunity to make others happy, even if you have to leave them alone in order to do it.

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Science

Protons have mass? I didn't even know they were Catholic.

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TV

The mind is like a television...when it goes blank, it's a good idea to turn off the sound.

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Unique

Always remember you're unique. Just like everyone else.

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Don't lie

If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.

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April newsletter deadline March28th.
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BREXIT??



I am stockpiling, just in case...



It was Lent, so they took it back