



From your Link up Churches

Churches Together for March

This month will see the anniversary of the first lockdown last year. None of us then imagined that we would still be facing similar restrictions a year later. One thing this pandemic has taught us is that the future is far from predictable!

This loss of control over our lives has been hard and particularly over the recent winter months. We can be encouraged that there are signs of hope, but at the same time we all recognise that we still have a long way to go. Although pandemics are not new in world history, this latest one has taken us in the 21st-century by surprise and of course it is on a scale far greater than any in the past.

It's at times like these that the Christian faith offers us some tried and tested traditions that can help us get through. One such is the season of Lent which we are observing during March. The Sundays in March take us on a journey towards the events of Holy Week when, we believe, God himself in the person of Jesus entered into all the difficult and painful things we experience in this earthly life. Lent reminds us that God is here, suffering alongside us in this pandemic and indeed, all the hardships of life. At the same time we have the hope of life after death because of what happened at Easter, with the surprising conclusion to this Lenten journey.

Here are some suggested Bible readings for the 4 Sundays in March, with a question that you might like to think about as we move towards Easter:

March 7th 3rd Sunday of Lent

Exodus 20:1-17 The 10 Commandments

I wonder whether you think these commandments are still relevant for us today?



March 14th 4th Sunday of Lent - Mothering Sunday

John 3:14-21 Just as mothers make huge sacrifices for their children, so this passage talks about God giving up everything to rescue us.

I wonder how you have experienced sacrificial love in your life and how you have managed to pass that on?



March 21st 5th Sunday of Lent

John 12: 20-33 Jesus tries to tell people what the cross is all about.

I wonder what the planting of a seed, which is the image Jesus uses here, can teach us about life in general and God's love in particular?



March 28th Palm Sunday

Mark 11:1-10 Jesus comes into Jerusalem on a donkey

I wonder what surprised people most about the way Jesus went about being a king?



Assemblies for Lambourne school



We have had the privilege of being part of the lockdown curriculum for Lambourne school this term, hosting zoom assemblies into family homes every Monday morning. We've been encouraged by the story of David going through hard times but looking forward to the hope of better things to come. Our theme song has been 'bad times won't last' - maybe if you have children at the school, they can teach you the actions? The ups and downs of David's life, including his victory over Goliath and then being on

the run from King Saul, are the prelude to exploring what sort of king Jesus is, who of course came from David's family line

Assuring you of our prayers for the village community

Roger and Martyn