



The Meon Bridge Benefice  
Corhampton & Meonstoke, Droxford  
and Exton with Preshaw

<http://www.bridgechurches.org.uk/>

Four Beautiful Churches - Three Parishes – One in Christ

## Lent 2019 – Please Take One

**Ash Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

7.00 pm Imposition of Ashes  
and Holy Communion  
at Corhampton Church

*This is a Benefice Service*

### LENT COURSES

‘Life Attitudes: A Five-session Course on the Beatitudes for Lent’

Matthew 5: 3-10

- 1 Living Well
- 2 Living Openly
- 3 Living Purposefully
- 4 Living Lovingly
- 5 Living Differently

Also available ‘Mark by Tom Wright for 6 weeks’

## **‘Life Attitudes: a 5-week course on the Beatitudes’**

This course will be offered on **Monday** evenings from **6 pm to 7.30 pm** in **Exton Church** on the following dates:

Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> March

Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> March

Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> March

Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> April

Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> April. For details contact the Rev'd Samantha Martell.

The same course will run on **Tuesday** mornings from **10.30 am to noon** at Freeland Cottage, High Street, Meonstoke on the following dates:

Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> March

Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> March

Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> March

Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April

Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> April. For details contact Pauline Quarendon.

You are welcome to attend individual sessions in either place, but please let the organiser know.

A modified version of this course will run on **10 am Thursday** mornings as part of our usual service of Holy Communion at **Droxford** with the option of staying for a discussion about the theme over coffee ending by noon on the following dates:

Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> March

Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> March

Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> March

Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> March

Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> April. For details contact the Rector.

The Course booklet will be available to purchase (£6) or to borrow. If you wish to order your own:

‘Life Attitudes: a 5-week course on the Beatitudes’

Robert Warren and Sue Mayfield, Church House Publishing; Reprint edition (30 Sept. 2010) ISBN-10: 071514233X

### **'Mark by Tom Wright for 6 Weeks'**

If you are interested in taking an overview of a whole Gospel and perhaps joining a group that offers the possibility of becoming an on-going group meeting in a house, then this course is for you.

This course takes place on **Wednesday** evenings from **7 pm to 9 pm** at Lone Barn Farm, Corhampton on the following dates:

Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> March

Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> March

Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> March

Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> April

Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> April. For details contact Paul Buxton (877335).

### **LENT LUNCHES**

Sunday 10th March, 12 Noon to 1.30 pm in Droxford Village Hall

Thursday 28th March at 12.30 pm in St. Andrew's Church  
Meonstoke

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 12 noon to 2 pm at 'Reflections', Exton.

With thanks to the organisers and  
proceeds to Bishop Christopher's Lent Appeal.

## **LENTEN PRAYERS**

Holy God,  
holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
have mercy upon us.

We come to you in brokenness to find healing  
In weakness to find courage;  
In penitence to find a new beginning  
In uncertainty to find the next step  
In loneliness to find companionship  
In longing to find our life's work  
In lent to find Easter  
In the name and strength of Christ. Amen.

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you hate nothing that you have made  
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:  
create and make in us new and contrite hearts  
that we, worthily lamenting our sins  
and acknowledging our wretchedness,  
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,  
perfect remission and forgiveness;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen

Holy God, our lives are laid open before you:  
rescue us from the chaos of sin  
and through the death of your Son  
bring us healing and make us whole  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **LENT COURSE PRAYER**

Holy God,  
holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
have mercy upon us.

Almighty God  
Thank you that you meet us where we are  
And beckon us into your kingdom.  
As we journey together  
May we encounter Christ Jesus,  
Be empowered to live like him,  
And understand more fully what it means to be blessed.  
Amen.

## **THE BEATITUDES**

(Matthew 5: 3-10)

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they  
will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

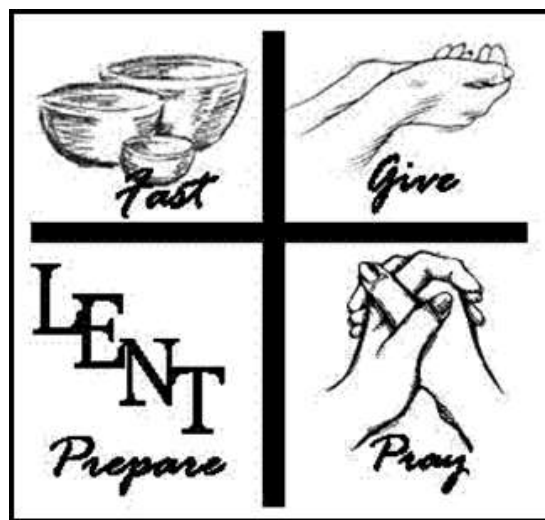
Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

## STONES INTO BREAD

The Fountain thirsts, the Bread is hungry here  
The Light is dark, the Word without a voice.  
When darkness speaks it seems so light and clear.  
Now He must dare, with us, to make a choice.  
In a distended belly's cruel curve  
He feels the famine of the ones who lose  
He starves for those whom we have forced to starve  
He chooses now for those who cannot choose.  
He is the staff and sustenance of life  
He lives for all from one Sustaining Word  
His love still breaks and pierces like a knife  
The stony ground of hearts that never shared,  
God gives through Him what Satan never could;  
The broken bread that is our only food.

© Malcolm Guite

<http://audioboo.fm/boos/683043-the-first-temptation>



## **SOME SUGGESTED LENT READING**

Why not read the Bible in Lent – or part of it at least?

During 2019 the Gospel readings at the main Sunday service usually come from the **Gospel according to St Luke**.

Why not read **LUKE in LENT**? A couple of chapters per day will keep you going for nearly a fortnight. After that you could read Luke's sequel, **The Acts of the Apostles**.

The best modern translations are the New Revised Standard Version (Anglicized) or the New International Version.

If you would rather read less but go deeper, why not study the Gospel with the help of Tom Wright (see above for Mark) and **'Luke for Everyone: Bible Study Guide'** (NT for Everyone: Bible Study Guide), SPCK (2011), ISBN-10: 0281065055 is a good introduction.

Or, The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2019 is:

**'Reconciliation'**, Muthuraj Swamy, SPCK, ISBN-10: 0281080089

## **PILGRIMAGE TO OUR MOTHER CHURCH**

On the eve of Mothering Sunday, the Rector and Curate will lead a short pilgrimage along the shore in Portsmouth to our cathedral in time for Evening Prayer as countless pilgrims would have done down the centuries. A free minibus is available. If you are considering joining us, please make yourself known to Samantha or Tony so suitable routes can be planned with the group in mind.

Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> March, estimated departure at around 2.00 pm

Bring a snack tea to eat on the lawns before we go into the Cathedral.

Estimated time of return 7.00 pm.

## BISHOP'S LENT APPEAL 2019



The focus of the Lent Appeal this year will be **Mental Health**, and the support of people, especially children and young people, with mental health difficulties. The main recipient will be an initiative that is spearheaded by four young members of the royal family.

### **'Heads Together'**

is a national coalition of charities that is supported by HRH the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and HRH the Duke and Duchess of Sussex. These include **Contact**, working particularly with the military community, and **Mind**, with experience in this field for over 70 years. The Bishop will also support local charities working in our area among people, especially children and young people, facing mental health challenges.

The 2019 Lent Appeal will also support local charities working in our area among people, especially children and young people, facing mental health challenges. As in previous years the Bishop will welcome suggestions of such small, or larger, local charitable groups.

The Bishop hopes that by making mental health the focus of this year's appeal, it will also prompt our church communities to be more accessible and welcoming to those facing mental health problems.

Please give generously – your donation will make a real difference to the work of **Heads Together**, and to local charities and local groups working to support adults and especially children and young people with mental health difficulties.

The gift aid envelopes and leaflets are available in church and at Lent from Ash Wednesday, 6 March.