

COLLECT

Almighty God,
Whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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.**

POST COMMUNION

Merciful Lord,
grant your people the grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Readings for 4th MAR 2018

FIRST READING

Exodus 20 v 1-17

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1 v 18-25

GOSPEL

John 2 v 13-22

Readings for 11th March

Mothering Sunday

Exodus 2 v 1-10

2 Corinthians 1 v 3-7

John 19: 25-27

04/03/18 3rd Sunday of lent

Stewardship

This Sunday is our Stewardship Sunday. We were only able to pay 90% of our Parish Share last year and this year we have an allocation of £59,554. Please think and pray hard about the level of your giving. It is vital that we recognise that as Christians our giving to the church community of which we are a part is an essential part of our weekly or monthly expenditure.

Mothering Sunday and Thirty Minute Church

Our 10am service on **March 11th** will be a special family communion for Mothering Sunday. Thirty Minute Church will be the following Sunday on **March 18th**.

Prayer and Praise for Northampton – Monday March 5th 7pm -9pm at St Benedict's.

Come and join other Churches in Northampton, of many different denominations in worshipping together and praying for our town.

Annual Church Meeting 22

April 11.30 am

Please prepare reports and let Norman Critchlow have these for the Annual church meeting

Lent course

Our Lent course continues with sessions at 7.30 pm looking at the Psalms. Each

session works as a standalone so you are welcome if you can only attend one or two.

Weds 7th March Sts Francis & Therese -Anger

Thurs 15th March TRMC -Prophecy

Weds 21st March ACBC -Justice

Lent – a time for growth

Here is something to do for each day of Lent. The theme is growth – in different ways.

Monday 5th March

Commit to an evening without TV or screens. Can you read, play a game, talk to someone or make something? Why not visit a neighbour?

Tuesday 6th March

Read the whole book of Ruth –it's not very long –and pray for all those who are leaving their homes because of conflict or hunger

Wednesday 7th March

Give someone in your family (especially a child) at least half an hour when you are sitting and listening - or better still, making something together (it can be on the phone!)

Thursday 8th March

International Women's Day –pray for women who keep small gardens to feed their families in the developing world

Friday 9th March

Leave something out of your

usual Saturday shopping and give to a charity which supports women's work

Saturday 10th March

Find some daffodil bulbs and plant them in a tub or garden

Sunday 11th March

We have a range of activities for different ages –could you invite Someone to café, or youth group, or toddler time?



Flower Festival

St Benedict's flower festival in May is on Friday evening 11th May, all day Saturday 12th May and the afternoon of Sunday 13th May. The theme is peace. We will be looking for people to help steward church make cakes and serve refreshments. Please see Chris Hunt for more details.

Obsolete notes and coins

Now that the old £1 coin and paper £5 and £10 notes have been withdrawn from circulation, we are collecting them in aid of the church porch fund. So far customers and staff of the Drovers Return Café have donated £20 in coins. If you, your friends or family have any of these coins or notes somewhere at home or work, please consider donating them to the porch fund. They can be put in the collection plate or given to Marion Angus or Anne England for banking.