

## St. Aidan's Church March 2024

Wigan South Bible passage for 2024:

*Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth! Worship the Lord with gladness. Come before him, singing with joy. Psalm 100:1-2 (NLT)*

### **Living the Psalms**

During the coming year there is going to be a series "Living the Psalms" in Church Wigan. The aim is to allow the Psalms to shape our discipleship and teach us to pray. The series will be introduced at 'The Well' this Sunday evening, March 3<sup>rd</sup> - 7pm St Mark's Newtown by Rvd Peter Whittington. Over the year there will be a range of activities including a series of free sessions, "Exploring the Psalms" that will investigate the Book of Psalms and the different types of Psalms. Each will take place on a Saturday morning at St. Francis of Assisi Church. the first in April, so more details will be given nearer the time. On Good Friday for the 'Three Hours at the Cross' Rvd Whittingham will be leading reflections "Psalms from the Cross". (see advert on the end page)  
You are welcome to attend any of these.

There is much going on in Lent - Please look at the Church of England Website ([churchofengland.org](http://churchofengland.org)) to access daily reflections during Lent.

Watch and Pray invites us to seek God in both familiar and unfamiliar places this Lent: in darkness and in quiet; in movement and migration; in the healing and transforming work of the Spirit; in the weeping of Holy Week and in the joy of Easter morning.



Our award-winning Church of England campaign app for both iOS and Android – including daily audio – is now available to download. Anyone who has the Church of England's #FollowTheStar app already installed will automatically get the Lent update.

### **Services in March**

The following services take place at St. Aidan's Church unless stated otherwise:

March 3<sup>rd</sup> 10am Holy Communion,      Wednesday March 6<sup>th</sup> 10 am Holy Communion

March 10<sup>th</sup> Mothering Sunday. We will be keeping the normal monthly services - 10.30am Sta's4all in school,    4pm a traditional Evening Prayer in Church.

Both services will follow the theme of Mothering Sunday and a small token will be given to each mother at each event. You are welcome to attend either of these services.

March 17<sup>th</sup> 10am Morning Worship.      Wednesday March 20<sup>th</sup> 10am Holy Communion

March 24<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday    10am Beacon Service.    4pm Holy Communion

March 28<sup>th</sup> - Maundy Thursday there is a joint Parish Holy Communion Service at 7pm at Holy Trinity, Downall Green.

March 29<sup>th</sup> - Good Friday 10am a Reflective service

March 31<sup>st</sup> Easter Sunday Family Holy Communion which will include an Easter Egg hunt, a name the Rabbit competition (prize an Easter Egg) as well as our act of Holy Communion.

### **DRINK DEEPLY! - Praying for refreshing in the church & community**

From 04 -22 March

Get a daily devotions sheet by emailing [prayer@churchwigan.org](mailto:prayer@churchwigan.org)

Join online prayer: Mon - Fri, 9 00, from 04 - 22 March at Church Wigan Facebook page

There will be prayers on Zoom Thursday 07, 14 & 21 March, 07 30 - 20.15 email

[prayer@churchwigan.org](mailto:prayer@churchwigan.org) for the link

In person night of prayer - Fri 22 March, 19.30 - 21.30, St Anne's, Beech Hill, WN6 7TA

### **Tuesday Morning Study Course - Be Still**

This course explores the simple, transformative practice of a daily quiet time with God. There are five sessions each including

- a video with teaching from Brian Heasley and friends
- a group discussion guide with questions to work through
- a practical challenge to develop our daily quiet time

There are sessions on Encounter, Scripture, Wonder, Hiddenness and Mission. The course will start on Tuesday 5th March 2024 at 10.15 for 10.30 and each session will last for 1 hour 30 minutes. Venue : 18 St Mary's Avenue, Billinge Contact Philip and Margaret for more details on 01744 895751. All are welcome.

**Other Information:** There is a great need for people to come forward to be a part of the Body of Christ at St. Aidan's. It is His ministry to which we are volunteers -

### **Verger for Funerals**

We still urgently need extra help with our funerals and are looking for at least two people to share in the work as funeral verger. Barbara will continue to co-ordinate the details and will give full training to willing helpers who can attend funerals to act as verger on the day. We do not know until shortly in advance when a funeral will take place and one person cannot be available each day of the year. This is too great a commitment for one person but a team can take turns to cover a time period. This is a very special job in supporting those who are grieving and may be in shock, it is not something that everybody can do, but is God calling and equipping you? Please contact Barbara (894694), Peter (732890) or Helen (894111) if you feel that you could help.

### **Church Cleaners**

A small group meet every other Thursday morning from 10am - 11am to keep our church clean. Because of ill health the group size is depleted and they urgently need one or two people to help in this role. It is an important job, making the church a comfortable place for worshipful services. Could you give an hour every other week? If so please ring Jean Breeze on 01942 519618 for more information, or let Helen Steele know that you are interested.

### **Easter Egg Appeal**

Councillor Sue Murphy has launched an Easter Egg appeal to provide a little joy into the lives of children of families living in this area who are finding it difficult to manage at this difficult time. It operates in a similar way to the Toy appeal that we had in December. We are acting as a reception place for donations. If you are able to help you can drop off Easter Eggs at Church when it is open for any services or for activities such as Pantry. Please make your donations by March 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **Prayer for the Parish**



Please pray for Tracey-Ann Napier, Young Janie, Jeanette Caine, Judith Burns, Lorraine Webb and young Kai Pritchard and those you know who need God's healing touch. And we remember the bereaved who are feeling the pain of separation from their loved ones at this festival time.

## **Living the Psalms Psalms from the Cross**

**Good Friday 29th March  
Three Hours at the Cross 12-3pm  
All Saints Church, Wigan**

**12-2pm Reflections on the echoes of the Psalms  
in the words of Jesus on the Cross.**

Please feel able join us for any part or all of the time of reflection.

**2-3pm Choral Good Friday Liturgy**