



#LIVE LENT

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

MERTON
PRIORY
CHRISTCHURCH
HOLY TRINITY
+ ST. JOHN'S +
TEAM
MINISTRY

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York write...

“The gospel is God’s rescue mission to bring us from darkness to light. This is the work of Jesus, the light of the world.

But Jesus is not the only one called the light of the world by this title. He himself turns to his followers and says, ‘You are the light of the world... so let your light shine.’

To witness is to let your light shine. A light shines simply by virtue of being a light. A follower of Jesus witnesses simply by virtue of being a Christian. We have been brought into his light, now he appoints us to bring his light to others. This is what witness is.

It is our prayer that [this Lent] helps and encourages you as you take hold of God’s gift of life and live it – to the full. God offers us this life for the sake of others. The light he gives us in Jesus Christ is not to be hidden but to shine – it’s a gift to be lived and shared. Indeed, the more we share it and let it shine, the brighter it burns.”

#LiveLent – Let Your Light Shine

is a fabulous resource from the Church of England. It takes you on a six week discipleship journey through the Gospel of John, exploring what it means to be a witness.

For each day from Ash Wednesday to Easter Day there is a short reading, a pause for reflection and prayer, and an idea for a simple action that will enable the light of Jesus to shine through our everyday lives.

Access **#LiveLent – Let Your Light Shine** in one of these ways:

- Hardcopy - £2.99 from one of our churches
- By Text – text Lent to 88802
- By email – signup at www.churchofengland.org/lent
- Follow the Church of England on Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram
- App for Android or iOS – see www.chpublishing.co.uk/apps/live-lent



Ash Wednesday is 14th February

A day for everyone to worship at the start of Lent.

8.00 - 9.00am Ashes to Go near Colliers Wood Tube Station.

The clergy will be there offering commuters and passers by the chance to receive ashes and prayer. An early morning reminder of our need for God.

9.45am Eucharist with hymns at St John the Divine, High Path, Merton.

Including the imposition of Ashes. Followed by refreshments.

7.30pm Sung Eucharist at Holy Trinity, South Wimbledon.

Including the imposition of Ashes.

Lent Groups

Get together with others for study, discussion, and prayer during Lent. This year our groups are following the **#LiveLent** Course from the Church of England. Over the five weeks, you will have the opportunity to explore with your group what the challenge to let your light shine might mean in the context of your daily life. Get in touch using the email / phone numbers listed below.

Wednesdays at 10.30am at St John the Divine, Merton

Dates: starts Wednesday 21st February for five weeks

Leader/Contact: Revd Alison Judge 020 8616 5794 revalisonjudge@gmail.com

Other information: Preceded by 9.45am Eucharist; followed by a Lent lunch.

Wednesdays at 8.00pm at a home in Griffith Road

Dates: Wednesday 21st February for five weeks

Leaders: Helen Ritson and Bianca Stroll

Host/Contact: Liz Holder liz@lizholder.co.uk 07762 629382

Other information: Please get in touch for details of the venue

Thursdays at 7.30pm at 100 Cavendish Road, SW19 2EZ

Dates: starts Thursday 15th February for five weeks (plus a social in Week six!)

Leader/Contact: Mike Brunt 07968 186395 mikebrunt@btopenworld.com

Host: Jane Savill

Fridays at 9.30am at Holy Trinity, South Wimbledon

Dates: starts Friday 23rd February for five weeks

Leaders: Kerry Porritt and Daisy Tate

Contact: Kerry Porritt kerry.porritt1@gmail.com 07801 490830.

Merton Priory Team Lent Services and Talks

Lent Talks: Let your light shine

Sunday Evenings at 7.00pm

at Holy Trinity, South Wimbledon

Members of our congregations talk about their story of faith and how it makes a difference in their lives.

Hearing others speak about their faith inspires us in our daily walk with God – so that the light of Christ will shine from our lives.

These talks take place within the context of worship, and there will be a chance to chat with the speakers after the service.

18th February Carl Chouler

25th February Joy Lyons

4th March Chester Clothier

11th March Belemo Alagoa

18th March Jonathan Hett

On **25 March** we have a Special Service drawing together insights and contributions from the groups that have met in our parish during Lent.

Lent Lunches

Each week of Lent there will be two Lent lunches – a chance to share a Lenten meal in fellowship with others. Contributions to the Bishop's Lent Appeal – see back page for details.



Wednesdays at 12.00pm at St John the Divine, High Path

From 21st February for five weeks.

This is preceded by the 9.45am Eucharist and a Lent Group (see left).

You are welcome at any or all of these.

Thursdays at 12.45pm at Holy Trinity, South Wimbledon

From 15th February for six weeks.

This is preceded by the 12.15pm Eucharist.

You are welcome to the Eucharist or lunch – and great if you can make both.



The Bishop of Southwark's Lent Call 2018

Supporting projects in the Diocese of Southwark,
the Holy Land and in our link Dioceses in Zimbabwe

Bishop Christopher writes:

“The monies raised through the Bishop Lent Call each year go to support work in other parts of the Anglican Communion and projects in our own Diocese. In 2017 we were able to give grants totalling over £80,000 to our Link Dioceses in Zimbabwe and to projects that work with people in our Diocese. As we spend time in prayer and contemplation this Lent, I hope that you will feel able to generously support the projects we have chosen this year in the Holy Land, locally in the Diocese of Southwark and our Link Dioceses in Zimbabwe.”

In 2018 the Bishop's Lent Call is supporting:

Projects in the Diocese of Southwark:

Bede House – *local projects in the areas of Learning Disabilities, Youth Work, Domestic Violence, and Community Engagement.*

Croydon APCMH – *Association of Pastoral Care in Mental Health, supporting those with mental health and emotional difficulties live a full life.*

The Spires Centre – *day centre offering supporting to homeless and vulnerably housed adults in Streatham.*

Projects in the Holy Land:

Al Ahli Arab Hospital – *a Christian hospital in the Gaza Strip, founded by a Church Mission Society missionary in the 1890s*

Al Shurooq School – *A school for the blind and visually impaired in Jerusalem*

Jeel Al Amal – *a school in the West Bank, for boy and girls, and with a boys boarding house catering to boys with behavioural difficulties*

Projects in Zimbabwe:

Supporting church schools in our four link dioceses. *Diocesan schools in much of the country offer the only hope of education to many people. But in a country that is very poor, they are hugely under resourced. Our contributions will make education accessible to more people.*

Details of these projects will be available on notices boards in churches and at <http://southwark.anglican.org/lentcall> - where it is also possible to make an online donation.