

## Welcome

Week beginning Sunday 9th March  
1st Sunday of Lent

Dear Friends,

Last week James reflected on the season of Lent and how we can use the season to help us on our journey with God and to draw closer to God. The thing is, there are so many things to reflect on in Lent; our lives are a complex mix of different relationships, interactions and feelings. Where do we begin?

The Old Testament lesson set for the First Sunday of Lent this year is from Deuteronomy 26: 1 - 11. It instructs the Hebrews to take of the first fruits of the harvest and use it as an offering to God. This offering is not simply made for its own sake. The offering is to be presented to the priest who is then to recite a remembrance of all the great things God has done for his people; how they were delivered out of Egypt and saved by God's mighty hand. The priest's words also call to bind the blessings the people daily receive from God's generous hand; "he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey" (It's interesting to see how, over the centuries, this phrase; "a land flowing with milk and honey", has made its way from the pages of scripture into common usage as a metaphor for a place of abundance and good things)

Maybe this could be an invitation for us to pause and, like those Hebrews, take the time to be thankful for all that is good in our lives; for the good things happening around us now and every day. It may also be an invitation to reflect on how God has been active in our lives in the past and to pause to take the time to thank God for those moments. In the order of service for Ash Wednesday, the priest states: "I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy word." I would like to add the word "joyful" to that statement. I wish you all a holy and joy-filled Lent as we reflect on God's love and goodness.

With best wishes to you all  
*Reverend Philip Elliott*

## Readings

Deuteronomy 26. 1-11 Luke 4. 1-13

## Collect

Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### St Andrew's ,Preston

#### Churchyard Clear-up

**10am Saturday 22nd March**

(postponed to 29th if weather is poor)

Everyone welcome!

There will be refreshments, including  
bacon butties!

#### Choir for Easter Sunday

The choir is forming again to sing during  
the Easter morning Service

We are always open to new members so,  
please join us for Choir practices leading  
up to the service, each Wednesday from  
12th March 5-6pm in the Church Rooms.  
If you have any queries or would like more  
information, please speak to Jules Burton  
or Ginny Croad

### Precious Memories

**2pm Sunday 6th April**

St Mary's Church,  
St Mary Street, Weymouth

Gathering together to remember  
children who have been lost and  
children who were longed for.

There will be music, readings,  
candles to light and time for reflection.  
(approx. 1 hour, refreshments to follow)

For more information contact  
Elizabeth on 01305 833981

### Dorset Male Voice Choir Concert

**7pm for 7.30pm Saturday 15th March**

St Nicholas Church, DT3 5DN

Tickets £10 (under 16 free)

Inc. tea/coffee/squash Cash Bar

For Weldmar Hospice/St Nicholas Repair  
Fund. Tickets from

*Susana Malik 07944 617553*

*susanamalik@yahoo.com*

(or on the door but numbers are limited)

Find our more  
salisbury.anglican.org



### New Electoral Roll

A new electoral roll is  
being prepared, if you  
care about your commu-  
nity, and the work of your

church within it, then being on the  
electoral roll ensures your voice is heard.  
It doesn't cost anything, you don't have to  
attend worship (though you would be  
very, very welcome!) So do sign up, and  
encourage friends and neighbours to do so  
too. Your church is the church for every-  
one in your community.

Forms will be available in church or from  
The Team Office, 4 Church Road, Preston,  
Weymouth. DT3 6BU  
weymouth.ridgeway.team.office@gmail.com

### An Evening With Darron Garnett

**The Voice Of Cool Swing**

**Friday 4th April 7pm for 7.30pm**

St Andrew's Church Rooms,  
Preston. DT3 6BU

For St Andrew's Church Lychgate repair  
Tickets £10 from The Team Office

01305 837147

weymouth.ridgeway.team.office@gmail.com  
or ticketsource.co.uk

