



Benefice of Christ Church and St Mary's, Frome
Diocese of Bath and Wells

Third Sunday of Lent
Sunday 23rd March 2025

9.00am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's

10.30am Parish Eucharist at Christ Church

Next Week: 8.00am BCP Holy Communion at Christ Church

10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's

Prayers:

Sick: Judy Kirkham, Suzanne, Arthur, David Fielden, Koji Saki, Shirley, Jude, Yvonne Stewart

Years Mind for March:

David Plaskitt, Lily Harrill, Sheila Margaret Ball, Nora Mitchell, Garth Burrows, June Lamb, Carole Tassell, Elizabeth John, Gordon Jones-Williams, Jonathan Burgess, Julie Bunce, Noreen Spall, Marlene Veale

Contact Details:

Revd Liz: 01373 473249/07305 623160

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Parish Office and Hall Bookings -Tues and Thurs 1-4pm

Tel: 07557 751 795 admin@christchurch-stmarys-frome.co.uk

Parish Office - St John's Parish Office, The Cottage, 1 Church Steps, BA11 1PL



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.

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;

let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways

and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Psalm 63 1-9 – Christ Church

O God, thou art my God : early will I seek thee.

My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh also longeth after thee : in a barren and dry land where no water is.

Thus have I looked for thee in holiness : that I might behold thy power and glory.

For thy loving-kindness is better than the life itself : my lips shall praise thee.

As long as I live will I magnify thee on this manner : and lift up my hands in thy Name.

My soul shall be satisfied, even as it were with marrow and fatness : when my mouth praiseth thee with joyful lips.

Have I not remembered thee in my bed : and thought upon thee when I was waking?

Because thou hast been my helper : therefore under the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.

My soul hangeth upon thee : thy right hand hath upholden me.

Psalm 63 1-9 – St Mary's

My God, I look to you with longing eyes;
My soul is parched and thirsting for your face;
My flesh is faint, consumed by fears and sighs,
A desert land, bereft of life and grace.
I yearn and look towards the sacred height,
To see the glorious vision of your might.

Your love and grace refresh me and revive;
My lips will praise you time and time again.
And so I bless you, while I am alive,
Lift up my hands to sing your holy name.
My soul enjoys the marrow and the cream;
My lips ring out their praise and joyful theme.

Upon my bed I ponder in the night,
As I recall your presence is near by.
For you have been my helper and my light;
Beneath your wings I make my ringing cry.
My soul clings onto you with every breath;
Your right hand holds me up, in life and death.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink.

For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, 'The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.' We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.'

Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on

it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down." ' "

Post Communion

Merciful Lord, grant your people 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.

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**Diary**

- Mon 24<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm Lent Group at 28 Spring Road
- Tues 25<sup>th</sup> 3.00pm Bereavement Journey Catchup at The George
- Wed 26<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Holy Communion at St Mary's
- 11.00am Funeral for Charles Coke at Christ Church
- 3.00pm Holy Communion at Greenhill Grange
- 7.00pm Lent Group at St. Mary's
- Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> *Revd Liz's Rest Day*
- Fri 28<sup>th</sup> 4.00pm Scallop Shells Junior Choir at Christ Church
- Sat 29<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Christ Church APCM in Christ Church

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Somerset Aid for Ukraine have requested candles to be recycled in Ukraine

Any candles, pre-lit, scented, colours... all are gratefully received and will be made into new candles.

Candles may be dropped off at Trinity - labelled FOR UKRAINE - any weekday morning 9.30am to 12.30pm or email the office office@holytrinityfrome.com to arrange for someone to collect from you.

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## **Blister Packs**

Now that *Boots* in Frome are providing a recycling box for empty blister packs we will no longer be collecting these in Christ Church and St Mary's.

The collecting bags in both our churches will be removed on Mothering Sunday (30 March), but please do start now to take your packs to *Boots*.

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Christ Church Annual Meeting is on Saturday 29th March and St. Mary's is on Saturday 5th April. Both start at 10am and will be held in church. At these meetings we elect churchwardens and members of the PCC for the coming year. Both churches are looking for people to join the PCCs for the next important and exciting chapter in our church life. If you would like more information, speak to Revd. Liz, and churchwardens or any member of the PCC.

Christ Church will also be looking to appoint a someone to join the finance team as treasurer. After 18 years, Richard is stepping down. If you have relevant skills and experience, please speak to Revd. Liz.

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We are seeking to grow our relationship with Christ Church School. They would like more Open the Book, people to go in and hear readers and they would also love a weekly lunchtime activity involving craft and bible stories. If you would like to know more, please ask Revd Liz.

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Next Sunday is a fifth Sunday. There will be an 8am Holy Communion at Christ Church and 10.30 Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's.