Diary for week commencing

Sunday 9th March – The First Sunday of Lent

Morning Prayer 8.00am. 10.00am Sung Communion

Monday

Tuesday 12.30pm Lent Lunch

> Lent Course – 'Leaving and Returning' 2.00pm

Messy Church planning meeting 4.00pm

Wednesday 12.00pm Funeral Arden Richards (RIP)

10.00am Mid-week Holy Communion Thursday

> 10.45am Cake and Coffee 6.15pm **Choir Practice**

7.30pm **Bell Ringing Practice**

Friday

Saturday

Sunday 16th March - 2nd Sunday of Lent

8.00am Said Communion 10.00am **Sung Communion**

6.00pm Evensong

Refreshment Rota; Margaret Smith and Jan Watkins





CHURCH OFFICE

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Sunday 9th March 2025 The First Sunday of Lent

8.00am **Morning Prayer**

Readings: Deuteronomy 26.1-11

Romans 10.8b-13

Luke 4.1-13

10.00am **Sung Communion**

Deuteronomy 26.1-11 Readings:

Read by: Mark Preddy

Romans 10.8b-13

Read by: Barbara Perkins

Luke 4.1-13

Hymns: Be thou my Guardian

Forty Days

O God you search me

This is your God

O Jesus I have promised

Refreshment Rota:

Jo Hunt and Joy Kenward

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

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Please pray for...

Those who are caught up in conflict and war and acts of terrorism All those that are ill, who mourn and who are concerned about their futures.

Readings

Deuteronomy 26.1-11: Part of the Law given by Moses to the Israelites, as they approached the Promised Land, relating to harvest offerings. The offering was to be a basket of the choicest fruits - an acknowledgement that God is the giver of all good gifts - and a prayer of remembrance of how God had delivered, protected and brought them into a new land.

Romans 10.8b-13: Paul reminds us that if we confess with our lips that Jesus is Lord and believe that God raised him from the dead we shall be saved. It is by faith that we are put right with God. Paul encourages us to speak about God and his Son Jesus Christ. He reminds us that God richly blesses all and holds no distinction between class and colour.

Luke 4.1-13: The temptations of Jesus in the wilderness is at the start of Jesus's earthly ministry. He responds to Satan's taunts by using the words from Deuteronomy (8:16; 6:16; 6:13). These quotes reflect the 40-year history of the Israelites' disobedience to God in the wilderness. Jesus remains faithful to his calling. When Satan realises this he leaves Jesus alone.

Collections for Lent

There will be a bucket in Church from Sunday 9th March until Easter Day for any Lenten donations towards our on-going support for Somewhere to Go.

Church Sunday Lunch at the Summerhouse

Sunday, 30th March. It is essential this month to sign up on the list on the communications table by Sunday 23rd March.

Tuesday Lent Lunch 11th March 12.30pm – please sign up.

Tuesday: Lent Course: Our Lent Course begins on Tuesday,11th March at 2pm. Please note there will be no evening Lent course this year The theme for this year's course is 'Leaving and Returning' and is based

around the story of 'The Prodigal Son' in Luke 15:11-32.

Messy Church at St Martin's School on 27 March

Please note there will be a planning meeting on **Tuesday, 11 March** at 4.00pm. If anyone is interested in helping, please have a word with Yvonne or Jill

Men's Fellowship

The next meeting of the Men's Fellowship will be on **Thursday 20th March** at **7.30pm** at the Lamb when we shall be having a Social Night – so bring along a friend

Film Night

The next Free Community Film Night will be on **Saturday 22nd March** when we will watch the British classic – **Local Hero.** Doors open at 5.15pm and show starts at 5.45pm. This is the last film night until September. Please speak to Paul Elliott if you have any film suggestions for next season. **Flower Festival celebrating marriage 16th – 18th May.** Grace is preparing

Flower Festival celebrating marriage 16th – 18th May. Grace is preparing display boards of weddings at our church and would be grateful of any well labelled copies of wedding photos and certificates.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Electoral Roll

This year we need to make a new Electoral Roll. Even if you are on the existing Electoral Roll you still have to fill in a form to be added to the new 2025 Electoral Roll. Application Forms for the Electoral Roll are available on the Communications Table. All forms need to be completed and returned by 23rd March 2025.

Please talk to Church Wardens, Paul or Jill for further details or if you have any questions.

900th Anniversary Concert: Music Through the Ages by Bristol Ensemble

On **Saturday 29th March** at **7pm**, there will be a concert in church given by the Bristol Ensemble celebrating 900 years of St Martin's Church with a musical journey through the ages. Tickets £15 are available in church. Please book early to avoid disappointment