

St Mary's & St Luke's Weekly Information Sheet

Sunday 5th March 2023 – Second Sunday of Lent

This sheet is also available online at www.stmaryswistaston.blog

*Worship & Prayer in church & online for Sunday and the coming week
Holy communion will be distributed at Communion Rail with 'Priest intinction'*

In Church Worship

Sunday 5th March 2023 – Second Sunday of Lent

9am at St Luke's – a Service of Morning Prayer

**10.40am at St Mary's – a Service of Holy Communion
with Junior Church**

Genesis 12.1-4a & John 3.1-17

All readings are taken from New International Version – UK edition

**Every Wednesday - Holy Communion at St Mary's at 10am
Followed by refreshments**

Next Sunday 12th March 2023 – Third Sunday of Lent

9am at St Luke's – a Service of Holy Communion

10.40am at St Mary's – a Service of All Age Worship

Exodus 17.1-7 & John 4.5-42

Online Worship

The 10:40am service is streamed from St Mary's each Sunday

[YouTube.com/StMarysWistaston1](https://www.youtube.com/StMarysWistaston1) & Facebook: bit.ly/facebookstmarys

You can also join in by phone: just before 10:40am Call: 0203 051 2874
Meeting ID: 838 7878 9259 Participant ID (if asked): # Passcode: 567119

Morning Prayer

on Zoom bit.ly/930mp, 9:30am on Monday & Thursday



To view/download this Weekly Sheet and Sunday Service Sheets then simply scan the QR code to the left with your smartphone camera or go to this address.

bit.ly/stmarysresources

We are doing this to try to save paper and printing costs and so reducing the amount of waste we have each week.

First Reading: Genesis 12.1-4a

A reading from the Book of Genesis

The LORD had said to Abram, 'Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you.

'I will make you into a great nation,
and I will bless you;
I will make your name great,
and you will be a blessing.
I will bless those who bless you,
and whoever curses you I will curse;
and all peoples on earth
will be blessed through you.'

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran.

This the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Collect

Almighty God,

you show to those who are in error
the light of your truth, that they may
return to the way of righteousness:
grant to all those who are admitted
into the fellowship of Christ's religion,
that they may reject those things that
are contrary to their profession, and
follow all such things as are
agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Post Communion

Almighty God,

you see that we have no power of
ourselves to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly
in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all
adversities which may happen
to the body,
and from all evil thoughts which
may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Gospel Reading: John 3.1-17

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you O Lord.

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.'

Jesus replied, 'Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.

'How can someone be born when they are old?' Nicodemus asked. 'Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!'

Jesus answered, 'Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, "You must be born again." The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.'

'How can this be?' Nicodemus asked.

'You are Israel's teacher,' said Jesus, 'and do you not understand these things? Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven – the Son of Man.¹ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.'

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

News & Information

stmaryswistaston.blog & stmaryswistaston.org.uk

Resources to help us draw closer to God this Lent

- **Lent Groups** Tuesdays at the Rectory, 7:30pm & Fridays at St Luke's, 10am from 3rd March.
- **Dust & Glory:** booklets in church, free App (Android & iOS) and/or email reflections available here: bit.ly/DustandGlory
- **Bible Society Lent Encounter:** a completely free resource to accompany you on your journey through the season of Lent: bit.ly/biblesocietylent
- **The Bible Study meetings** on 7th and 21st March
The Prayer Group meeting date is TBC
both meet at 56 Bowness Road, thanks Jenny Varty 01270 567618.
- **Morning Prayer on Zoom:** Mondays and Thursdays at 9:30am, enter this link into any browser: bit.ly/930mp

There will be Lent Lunches on the following dates: 15 March, selection of soups & 29 March, Ploughman's Lunch at 12 noon priced at £4.50. Thanks, Chris.

Bell Tower and Church Open Day on Saturday 18th March. Access will be available between 10am until noon, and 2 to 3-30 in the afternoon. There will be an opportunity to ascend into the ringing room. Competent bell ringers will explain the art of campanology and give demonstrations. Potential or lapsed bell ringers are very welcome. Refreshments will be available. If you would like to help on the day in church please let Revd Mike know.

Ladies Afternoon Group: Last Thursday we had a great afternoon with Maggie Shaw who brought some of her postcard collection for us to look at. It was a fabulous social occasion and evoked lots of discussion and memories. Lovely to see you all.

We will next meet at our Lent Service at St Mary's Church at 2 pm on 23rd March followed by tea/coffee and biscuits in the hall afterwards. Looking forward to seeing you all. Frances

Thanks to those who have volunteered to clean at St Mary's, however, we need some more people to join in. It can be done at any time the church is free, towards the end of the week preferred. There is a cleaning kit and vacuums available and a key safe so as you can clean at a time that suits you. For safety, please do it in pairs, there's a rota in St Mary's porch.

Scout's Easter Bingo at St Mary's Church Hall Saturday 18th March at 6pm- please come and support the South West Cheshire World Scout Jamboree fundraiser event -more details to follow.

Prayer for Ukraine Blog: bit.ly/weprayforukraine