



**St Laurence**

South Hinksey

**St John  
the Evangelist**

New Hinksey



## **Sexagesima 12 February 2023**

*Welcome to Church!*

*Our readings and prayers this morning can be found  
over the page and in the orders of service.*

*Please join us for refreshments and a chat after the service.*

### **HYMNS:**

436 - Praise My Soul

295 - Let All Mortal Flesh

294 - Just As I Am

391 - King Of Glory

*Today Fr Richard Smail is presiding, Fr Thomas Fink-Jensen is  
deaconing, and Fr James Finnemore is our preacher this morning.  
If you are new: welcome! Do please introduce yourself after the service  
and/or fill in one of our contact cards and we will get in touch with you.*

**The Parish of South with New Hinksey**

**[www.hinkseychurch.org](http://www.hinkseychurch.org)**

## COLLECT

O Lord God, who seest that we do not put our trust in any thing that we do: Mercifully grant that by thy power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

## EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 11:19-31

*A reading from the second epistle of St Paul to the Corinthians.*

For you gladly bear with fools, being wise yourselves! For you bear it if someone makes slaves of you, or devours you, or takes advantage of you, or puts on airs, or strikes you in the face. To my shame, I must say, we were too weak for that!

But whatever anyone else dares to boast of—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast of that. Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they offspring of Abraham? So am I. Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman—with far greater labours, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death.

Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; for a night and a day I was adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant?

If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed for ever, knows that I am not lying.

*This is the Word of the Lord.*  
**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL

Luke 8:4-15

*The Lord be with you.*  
**And with thy spirit.**

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

**Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

When a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to him, Jesus said in a parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold." As he said these things, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that 'seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand'. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root;

they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.

*This is the gospel of the Lord*  
**Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

#### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

O God our creator, by whose gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of thy Church: may we who have been nourished at thy table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### **HEALTHY CHURCHES SURVEY**

Curious about the results of the Healthy Churches Survey we did in Advent 2022? Fr Gary Ecclestone has been guiding us in this process, and he will give and explain the results in a Zoom meeting on Wednesday 15 February at 7.45pm. Do let Fr Thomas know if you'd like to join that night. You can do so from home, or alternatively join Fr Thomas at the Vicarage on a big screen following the Wednesday 7pm mass that night.

## NOTICES

St John's **heating** is broken. Do use one of the fleeces/blankets available, or sit in the warm Lady Chapel!

We have a new **coffee machine** which was generously donated to church! Do stay after Mass to try it out..

Next Sunday (19 February) we will have a **shared lunch** together at St John's after the 10.45 service, just before Lent is about to begin. Do sign up what you might be able to bring or help with.

On Shrove Tuesday 21 February **Bishop Paul Thomas**, our new Bishop of Oswestry will be visiting the parish. The program hasn't been completely confirmed yet, but we're hoping to have a 11.30am Mass at St Laurence, 3pm chance to make confessions at St John's, 4pm tea at the Vicarage, and 5pm Evening Prayer at St John's. Do join in for any part of the day that you can.

**Ash Wednesday** (22 Feb) will mark the beginning of Lent. Please come to any of the following: 8.30am Morning Prayer with Litany at St John's, or either of our masses with imposition of ashes: 10am at St Laurence, or 7pm at St John's.

## ALPHA COURSE 2023

Would you like to know more about the Christian faith, especially the so-called 'basics'? Would you enjoy a free meal, good fellowship, and discussion? Or do you know someone else who does - perhaps especially someone who doesn't go to church yet? Then do please prayerfully consider the Alpha Course we are running & pick up a flyer!

-Upcoming Alpha Course dates: 21 February, 7 March, 14 March.  
-Timing: 7.30pm-9.30pm with a meal, presentation, and time for discussion.  
-Venue: The Vicarage, 33 Vicarage Road, Oxford, OX1 4RD.  
-More information from Fr Thomas: 01865 807875 / [revthomasfj@gmail.com](mailto:revthomasfj@gmail.com).

## LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

Lent is almost upon us again. Whether the Christian faith or the Lenten discipline is new or old hat for you by now, it is a season in which we are called to draw closer to God especially by fasting, prayer, and almsgiving (Mat 6).

We furthermore offer the following:  
-Confession on **Shrove Tuesday (21/2) between 3-4pm** at St John's. Do have a word with the clergy about this practice if you like, and feel free to arrange a more convenient time if needed.

-**Sundays 5pm**: Sung Evening Prayer or Stations of the Cross at St John's.

-**Wednesdays 6pm**: Lent Course with Fr Richard on 'Faith and Poetry' in St John's vestry, leading into the 7pm mass. First session 1 March, last on 29 March.

-**Thursdays 11am-noon**: Holy Hour at St John's with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and opportunity to pray.

## SERVICES AT ST JOHN'S THIS WEEK

- Mon-Thu 8.30am Morning Prayer
- Wednesday Mass at 7pm
- Sunday - *Quinquagesima* - 10.45am

## NEXT SERVICES AT ST LAURENCE

Sun 19/2 - *Quinquagesima* - 9.15am  
Wed 22/2 - *Ash Wednesday* - 10am  
Sun 5/3 - *Lent II* - 9.15am