

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Offertory Hymn: 368 (All my hope on God is founded t. Michael)**

**Choir Anthem: Lent Prose Verse 2**

**Communion Hymn: 471 (I to the hills will lift mine eyes t. St Mary)**

**Choir Anthem: Listen, sweet Dove (Ives)**

**Post Communion Prayer**

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.**

**Hymn: 548 (One more step along the world I go t.i Southcote)**

**Organ Voluntary: War March of the Priests (Mendelssohn)**

**Hope into Action** Prayer points for this week:

New applications and alterations to the **Electoral Roll by 29th March**, please, the current list and application forms are at the back of the church. If your name is not on the list please fill out a form and post it in the box behind the font, or give it to Catherine or Jim, or deliver it to Kathy at the Unity Centre (Monday and Thursday mornings).

**The Annual Parochial Meetings** will take place at the end of April; please email any reports from church groups to the Wardens by [16th or 22nd?] March so they can be published in advance together with the accounts.

## Parish of All Saints with St John, Stamford

### 8th March 2020

## Second Sunday of Lent

### Welcome to All Saints'

If you are a visitor or newcomer to All Saints' please make yourself known to one of the clergy after the service, and do fill in and return one of the pink 'Welcome' cards. Gluten free wafers are available, please speak to a church warden or sidesperson if you require one.

*Please take this Notice sheet home with you.*

#### Services today and Notices for the week

8.00am Holy Communion (Order 1, Said)

9.30am Parish Eucharist (Order 1, Sung)

5.00pm Choral Evensong

Responses: Plainsong; Psalm 22 (Matthew Camidge); Evening Canticles faux bourdon (Morley); Anthem: Drop, drop, slow tears (Gibbons, arr. David Blackwell); Hymns: We sing the praise of him who died (t. Bow Brickhill); O love, how deep, how broad, how high (t. Eisenach)

#### Monday 9th March

12.00noon Funeral of the late Philip Heath

#### Wednesday 11th March

7.30pm Lent Study Group at 32 Exeter Gardens

#### Thursday 12th March

10.00am Holy Communion (Said)

12.00noon Funeral of the late Shirley Ward

#### Friday 13th March

10.00am Funeral of the late Jenny Stimson

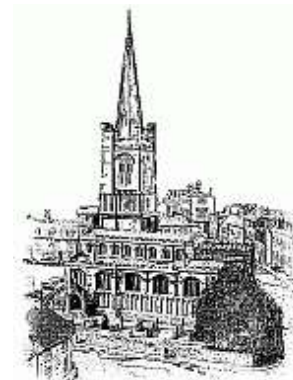
12.30pm-1.30pm Churches Together in Stamford Lent Lunch at the URC Hall, Broad Street: donations to Christian Aid

#### Sunday 15th March Third Sunday of Lent

9.30am Parish Eucharist (Order 1, Sung)

11.15am Saints Alive! All-age worship. Theme: St Patrick

*Magazine material for April due in this week*



There is a box at the back of church for donations for **Easter Lilies** in memory of a loved one; these will be used to decorate the church for Easter. Suggested donation is £3 per lily.

## Prayers, readings and music for today's services

**Setting: Merbecke**

**Processional hymn: 442 (God is Love: let heav'n adore him t. Bethany)**

**Collect (Prayer for today)**

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.**

**First reading: Genesis 12, 1-4a**

The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Second reading: Romans 4, 1-5, 13-17**

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to

the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") – in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual hymn: 390 (Blessed assurance t. Blessed Assurance)**

**The Gospel reading: John 3. 1-17**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

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