

Rector's Rambles

March 2019

Lent in Heworth

Giving something up (especially chocolate or cake) for Lent is a tradition that goes well beyond the life of the church. For some this is simply a short term diet, but the attractiveness of a Lenten sacrifice seems to suggest that there is something about the value of self-denial which is hardwired into all of us. For Christians we are conscious that any Lenten discipline gives us a sense of connection with Jesus and his 40 days wilderness experience. Fasting, for the Christian, is more than just self-denial it is about making space to commune with God and to refocus our life on him in the run up to Easter. With this in mind many of us feel there can be a real value in adding something to our lives in Lent as well as fasting. This could be determining to do an extra kindness each day, extra daily prayer time, reading a lent book or attending extra events at Church.

Here in the Parish we have two activities that I hope all of us will get involved with if possible:

LYCIG Local: In Advent we began the Leading Your Church Into Growth adventure and this will continue in Lent on Tuesday Evenings and Thursday mornings. The timings are to correspond with our homegroup times but I hope that having a choice between morning and evening will give everyone a chance to join in. As I explained at the end of last year, it is from these sessions that we hope to develop the direction and vision of the church which will govern the next few years of church life. One of the conclusions from the Advent LYCIG was that God is calling us to more prayer together as a church. This has helped inspire the second Lent Activity:

Lent Course on the Lord's Prayer: Praying it, Meaning it, living it. This will begin with an Ash Wednesday Service at 7.30 pm and continue for the following 5 Wednesdays, all in St. Wulstan's.

Date	
6th March	Ash Wednesday Communion: 9.30 am in Holy Trinity and 7.30 pm in St. WYlstan's
12 & 14th March	Whole church LYCIG – Tuesday 7.30 pm in Holy Trinity or Thurs 10.30 am in St. Wulstan's
13th March	Lent Course 1 7.30 pm in St. Wulstan's
19 & 21st March	Whole church LYCIG – Tuesday 7.30 pm in Holy Trinity or Thurs 10.30 am in St. Wulstan's
20th March	Lent Course 2 7.30 pm in St. Wulstan's
26th & 28th March	Whole church LYCIG – Tuesday 7.30 pm in Holy Trinity or Thurs 10.30 am in St. Wulstan's
27th March	Lent Course 3 7.30 pm in St. Wulstan's
Tuesday 2 nd April 2019	PCC LYCIG Review
3rd April	Lent Course 4 7.30 pm in St. Wulstan's
10th April	Lent Course 5 7.30 pm in St. Wulstan's

Annual Meetings and Electoral Roll

Our Parish Annual Meeting happens in just a month's time on Sunday April 7th. We will have a combined Parish service at **10.00 am (Please note the time—it is different to every other Sunday)** The Annual Meeting will then start at around 11.30 am. One of the important functions in the Annual meeting will be to elect the Parish Churchwardens. As many of you will now know there will be a vacancy as Margaret Sellars has already stepped down from this position. I shall repeat this at the Annual meeting, but I do want to say how much I have appreciated her loyal and committed contribution to the life of the church, and especially to St. Wulstan's, throughout her time as Warden. She continues, of course, to play an active part in the life of the Parish and I know many value the way she leads and shares in services. I am also very grateful for the way that Morag Crudge, as Deputy Warden has stepped in and shouldered so much of the responsibility.

Electoral Roll Forms: By now, everyone who is an adult member of the church should have filled a new Electoral Roll form in but, for everyone who planned to do so but has forgotten, please can I remind you that we need all forms back in by March 10th.

Holy Trinity 150 Years Old This Year

Plans to mark the 150th Anniversary are continuing to develop. There are currently two key dates to have in your diary:

Weekend of June 29 & 30th:

Saturday 29th Summer Fair

Sunday 30th 10.45 am Combined Family Friendly service in Holy Trinity followed by shared lunch.

Sunday September 29th: Special Anniversary Thanksgiving Service in Holy Trinity at 10.45 am.

Social Events and Fundraising

We now have a new team to organise social events and fund raising activities across the Parish. The first event planned is a Table Top Sale in Holy Trinity on April 6th from 10.00 am—1.00 pm. This will be followed by a full programme of events through the year happening in both churches.



With love and prayers

Michael Woodmansey