



2011  
Ickenham Churches

Lent is an excellent opportunity to set aside time when you can travel further in your relationship with Christ. Please think about taking part in one of the many activities on offer – remember, Lent is a time of taking up as well as giving up!

### **Ash Wednesday – 9 March at St Giles'**

10.00 Holy Communion (with optional ashing)  
20.00 Holy Communion (with optional ashing)

### **Lent Groups**

This year we have 5 groups, each taking a different approach with the same study book. We hope that many of us will find this gives a helpful opportunity to prepare again for Easter and learn more about how God has reached out in love to us. The book we are using is:

**'Exploring God's Mercy, Five Images of Salvation'**  
by Stephen Croft, Bishop of Sheffield

Each of the sessions explores God's mercy through 5 images taken from Psalm 107 and then moves on to the Gospel of Mark, to explore how God's mercy is revealed in a deeper way in the life and ministry of Jesus. Please bring your Bible with you. Although there are 5 sessions in the book, we shall only meet during 4 weeks, between the week beginning Monday 14 March to the week ending Friday 8 April.

#### **1. Creative Group** Leader: Wendy Williams

Meeting at Peter and Wendy's home, 209 The Mead Hoyle Crescent, Ickenham, on a day and time as agreed by Wendy with the members.

Members will be able to choose the ways which most appeal and enable them to be creative, for example music, poetry, art, craft, writing, photography. The hope will be to surprise and inspire each other in exploring the timeless images of God's love.

#### **2. Worship and Word Group** Leader: Adrian Guthrie

Meeting at the Rectory, 38 Swakeleys Road, Ickenham

Tuesdays 15, 22, 29 March and 5 April 8.00-9.30pm

Beginning with a period of informal sung praise and prayer, we will then read the Bible together to discern what God is saying to us through his word and through one another.

The hope will be that we can discover how to apply what God has been showing us in our daily lives.

#### **3. Home Bible Study Group** Leader: Bryan Wadland

Meeting in Kitty and Mike Harvey's home, 17 Gilmore Close, Ickenham

Wednesdays 16, 23, 30 March and 6 April; 2.00–3.30pm

We will use the study book to understand Biblical themes of God's love and mercy and how this encourages us in our Christian lives, especially as a preparation for Easter.



#### **4. Contemplation Group** Leader: Anne Whitlam

Meeting in St Giles' Church, Wednesdays 16, 23, 30 March and 6 April; 7.30-8.45pm  
We will explore the chosen themes through spoken meditations, silent prayer, and music.  
There will be opportunities for group members to join in the activities or simply to share the time together.

#### **5. Bible Study & Discussion Group** Leader: Ken Tombs

Meeting in the Walter Davis Room upstairs in the St Giles' Church Hall, Wednesdays 16, 23, 30 March and 6 April; 7.30-8.45pm.  
We will see how, through God's mercy the lost are found, the captives are set free, the sick are healed and those in danger are led to safety. We will explore together what God can do for us.

#### **How do I join a group?**

Please sign up for the groups on the lists in St Giles' or the URC or email/ring Stephanie White in the St Giles' church office on 01895 622971 or office@stgileschurch.co.uk.

#### **Midweek Compline**

The short reflective service of night prayer (Compline) will be held at St Giles' on four Wednesday evenings at 9pm: 16, 23, 30 March and 6 April. Those attending the Lent Groups in the church and church hall will be able to go straight from their group if they wish. Others are very welcome to come straight to church for this brief service which many of us find a helpful part of our Lent discipline. Our offerings at these services will be going to the Hillingdon Foodbank which provides short term and emergency food to families in the borough going through difficult times and crises.

#### **URC/St Giles' Away Day**

Saturday 2 April 10am-4pm at St Margaret's Tylers Green. Are we good news for Ickenham? What is our good news and how do we provoke interest in it? We will explore these questions together through a variety of activities for all ages. Light lunch provided – cost to cover the day's expenses will be £5, children free. Please sign up on the lists in either church.

#### **The Prayer Walk in the URC in Holy Week**

From the afternoon of Monday 18 April to the afternoon of Wednesday 20 April we propose to use the centre flower of the Chartres Cathedral labyrinth to create a contemplative and inter-active prayer walk within the petals of the flower. The flower will be made from arrangements of chairs (so that folk can sit down at any point). Each petal will represent a few lines of the Lord's Prayer and will have aids to reflection and activity in it. People will be invited to make the journey in their own time using whatever they want and moving on. This is aimed at all ages. There will be quiet activities for individual children and some for families to do together. No booking necessary, just drop in and out at your leisure!

## **Holy Week and Easter**

The services during Holy Week will enable us to enter into the story of Jesus' passion in the week leading up to his death and resurrection. We hope that you will be able to attend as many of the services as possible and use them to identify with the events that led up to and included the weekend that changed the world.

17 April **Palm Sunday** Services at both churches at normal times

Monday 18- Wednesday 20 April 9.00-9.20 **Morning Prayer** at St Giles'

Monday 18- Wednesday 20 April **Prayer Walk** at the URC (see inside for details)

21 April **Maundy Thursday**  
10.00 Communion (BCP) at St Giles' Church  
19.30 Remembering the Last Supper at the United Reformed Church

22 April **Good Friday**  
10.30 **All-age service** at St Giles' led by Ken Tombs  
11.15 **Walk of witness** leaving from St Giles'  
12.00 **Frugal Lunch** in aid of Christian Aid in St Giles' Church Hall including a Fairtrade Stall  
14.00 **Meditation Service** at St Giles' led by Anne Whitlam  
"Stay and watch with me" – meditations and music to "watch with Christ" in his last hour.

24 April **Easter Day**  
8.00 Holy Communion (BCP with Easter hymns)  
9.45 Holy Communion in the church  
Family Service with Communion in the church hall  
11.00 Easter Celebration with Holy Communion at the URC