

THOSE ARE THE
MODERN DAY
PHARISEES



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St Stephen & St Thomas'
Church

15 March 2009
Third Sunday of Lent

www.ststephensw12.org.

You can read all the latest news about the parish.
You can also read the sermons which are posted each week

Welcome to Rev Ben Humphries from St Michael's who is taking the service today. Father Bob is away.

Processional Hymn

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

1 Corinthians 1.18-25

(p.517)

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.'
²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Gradual Hymn

GOSPEL

John 2.13-22

(p.518)

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were

selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' ¹⁹Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' ²⁰They then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

***Amazing love, oh what sacrifice
The Son of God, given for me
My debt He paid, and my death He died
That I might live, that I might live***

INTERCESSIONS

Please pray for

- The sick and suffering: especially Felix Okike, Lucilda Bernard, Joan Andrew, Ivy Smith, Susie Leach, Norbert Edwards, Sylvia Steed, Tracey Davies, Esmay Young, Roger Cox, Althea Ferns, Dorian Henry, Detroy Henry, Mary Rodney, Esme Hoyte, Esme Fairburn

Offertory Hymn

Communion Hymn

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Recessional Hymn

Coffee in Church after the service

THIS WEEK AT ST STEPHEN'S

Monday: Mother and Toddlers (9-11)
Wednesday: Parent and Child Reading Group (from 3.30)
Holy Communion – 6 pm
Thursday: Christian Meditation Group – 6.30 pm.
Next Sunday: Mothering Sunday
Service of Holy Communion– 10 am
Celebrant and Preacher - Rev Dr Bob Mayo
Exodus 2.1-10 (p125), John 19.25b-27 (p130)

NOTICES

March 22nd (and 29th) - Lent Lunch at the Vicarage. We are having a series of Sundays looking at our Vision for the Church. On 22nd we will look at the issue of Stewardship. This does not just mean money but the time and energy we give to the Church as well.

March 28th - Work morning in the garden. Please come and help for a short or as long time as you are able to make the church garden look more attractive. A group of us are gathering and things will never have looked so good once we have finished. Talk to Luke info@lukewhite.com or Bob 07969 090907 if you are able to help.

April 5th - Palm Sunday - All Age Service (with football rattles).

April 9th - Maundy Thursday - we are going to have a meal together in church to enact the Last Supper. This will be lamb followed by yoghurt and honey. There will be a short communion service afterwards.

April 10th - Good Friday - Walk of Witness. We meet at the church at 10.45 and walk to Shepherd's Bush Green. 12 o'clock meditation round the cross. This is in 7 sections of 20 minutes each so you can come and go as you please.

April 11th - Confirmation and Baptism at St Paul's Cathedral.

April 12th - Easter Day - 5 am dawn service and 10 am Easter Bonnet Parade and All Age Celebration.