

# Monthly Newsletter



## The start of Lent

As the weather appears to be brightening up and we look forward to Spring starting soon, the liturgical year actually enters a more solemn time as we start the season of Lent.

Before we start Lent, we look forward to our Beetle Drive with pancakes and a licensed bar on Shrove Tuesday - 6:30pm start. Please note this means that 'Faith & a Pint' is cancelled that evening.

The following day is Ash Wednesday and at our usual midweek Said Mass at 10am there will be Imposition of Ashes. There is also an opportunity for this in the evening at a special 7:30pm Mass. Do come and mark the start of Lent at one of these services. I will also be in the school that day to ash both staff and children.

### Lent Preparation

To help us prepare for Lent, there will be two groups. There will be a book group on a Wednesday morning at 11am.

We will look at the book '*The Things He Did*' by Archbishop Stephen Cottrell.

On Wednesday evening (7:30pm) there will be a discussion group based around the BCC series '*Broken*' starring Sean Bean. More details for both groups are at the back of church, or just speak to me.

Last week we started a **new pattern for our midweek services**. With a mix of morning and evening services throughout the week, there are now more opportunities to join in the prayer of the Church across the world, and to pray for our parish, our town, our country and beyond. The new pattern can be found overleaf.

Finally, a reminder of our Patronal Festival on Sunday 11th May with our good friend **Bishop Stephen Venner**.

With love and blessings,

*Fv Corniel*

### Coming up:

#### Shrove Tuesday

4th March  
*Beetle Drive*

#### Mass, Exposition and Benediction

Thursday 13th Feb

#### Bring & Share Parish Lunch

16th March

#### Rosary Prayers

Thursday 20th Feb

#### The Annunciation

Tuesday 25th March

#### Patronal Festival

Sunday 11th May

# Stuff happening at St John's



## 3rd Sunday of Lent

On Sunday 23rd March, the Revd Charlotte Bradley, Chaplain and Interfaith Advisor to UCL will preside and preach for us to mark the 3rd Sunday of Lent.

We very much look forward to welcoming Revd Charlotte (back!) to St John's.



## Defibrillator

The PCC has been working with Watford Council to secure grant funding for the installation of a Defibrillator.

This is a potential life saving piece of equipment which we are pleased will be installed on the external wall of church facing Cross Street, as an important community asset.



## Parish Lunch

March's Parish Lunch will be a 'Bring and Share' on Sunday 16th March. Do sign up and indicate what you would like to bring along - there is a sheet at the back of church.

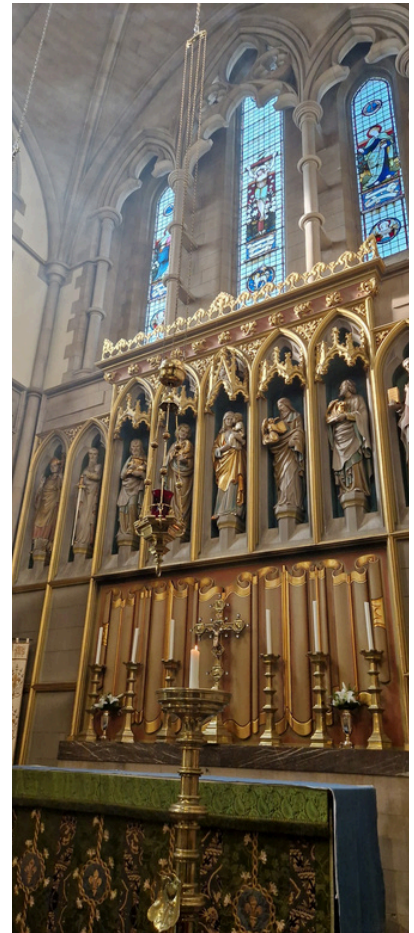


## The Annunciation

There will be a special Mass on Tuesday 25th March at 7:30pm to celebrate the feast of the Annunciation.

Our guest preacher will be Fr Richard Watson, vicar of St Saviour's, St Albans and Rural Dean of St Albans. Fr Richard will be joined by his organist and he is rallying his congregation to join us too!

As it is a feast day, refreshments will be served after the service.



## Midweek Services

**Monday - 8am**  
Morning Prayer

**Tuesday - 5:30pm**  
Evening Prayer

**Wednesday - 10am**  
Said Mass with Lectio Divina

**Thursday - 7:30pm**  
2nd of the month: Mass, Exposition and Benediction  
3rd of the month: Rosary

**Friday - 5:30pm**  
Evening Prayer

*You can also check the calendar on our website.*