

Lent Lectures

Tuesday evening Lent Lectures in the Edmund Room, St Edmundsbury Cathedral. Refreshments are served from 7pm (7.30 pm start). Admission is free, donations welcome. Full details on our Lectures are available on our website www.stedscathedral.co.uk and on our Spring Events and Services leaflet.

Tuesday 7th March - Standing in the Gap – transactional faith for our times. Chris Chivers, Principal of Westcott House, Cambridge.

Tuesday 14th March - "Is This Age Yet?" Ann Morisy, writer and lecturer.

Tuesday 21st March - Jesus Under Pressure (1): Press and Pressure. The Rev Dr Malcolm Guite, priest-poet and Chaplain of Girton College, Cambridge.

Tuesday 28th March - The Forgotten Faithful, salt and light in the Middle East. Neil Graham, staff member of Embrace Middle East and Regional Secretary for the south (UK).

Tuesday 4th April - Jesus Under Pressure (2) Love, Like Water. The Rev Canon John Parr, parish priest of Hadleigh with Layham and Shelley.

Friday Lunchtime Lent Addresses in The Edmund Chapel, St Edmundsbury Cathedral, 1pm to 1.30pm. Free admission.

How I Pray - Personal reflections on the experiences of prayer.

Friday 10th March - The Rev Canon Matthew Vernon, Canon Pastor and Sub Dean, St Edmundsbury Cathedral.

Friday 17th March - The Rev Canon Dr John Parr, parish priest of Hadleigh with Layham and Shelley.

Friday 24th March - The Rev Jutta Brueck, priest in charge, St Thomas, Ipswich.

Friday 31st March - The Rev Canon Malcolm Rogers, vicar of St Mary's with St Peter's, Bury St Edmunds.

Friday 7th April - The Rev Sharon Potter, Rector of Cockfield.

Holy Week Services

(dates and times correct at time of printing)

This year Canon Angela Tilby, writer, broadcaster and priest, speaks at all our Holy Week services.

Sunday 9th April Palm Sunday
10.00am Sung Eucharist and Procession of Palms

Monday 10th April Monday of Holy Week
7.00pm Night prayer with Address

Tuesday 11th April Tuesday of Holy Week
7.00pm Night prayer with Address

Wednesday 12th April Wednesday of Holy Week
1.00pm Holy Communion
7.00pm Night prayer with Address

Thursday 13th April Maundy Thursday
11.30am Chrism Eucharist
7.00pm Solemn Eucharist of the Lord's Supper with Address, followed by Procession to Altar of Repose and Vigil until midnight

Friday 14th April Good Friday
10.30am Churches Together Walk of Witness begins at the Cathedral
12 noon Good Friday Devotion (hymns, readings and addresses)
2.00pm Good Friday Liturgy and Veneration of the Cross
4.00pm Good Friday Children's service

Saturday 15th April Easter Eve
6.30pm Easter Vigil, Service of Light, Confirmation and First Eucharist of Easter

Sunday 26th April Easter Day
8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Festal Choral Eucharist
3.30pm Festal Choral Evensong

Angela Tilby is an author and Anglican priest, who is now a Canon at Christ Church, Oxford. Before ordination she spent 22 years as a producer within the BBC's Religious Department. She has made regular appearances on television and radio, including "Thought for the Day" on BBC Radio Four.

St Edmundsbury Cathedral

Following in the footsteps of Edmund, King and Martyr



Lent and Easter 2017



Welcome

Easter is the most important season of the church's year, and the foundation of our faith in the God of Love.

Through the Easter story, Jesus promises us light, life and peace in all our darkness and fear, both in this life and in the life beyond life where 'death is no more'.

Please join us for the services of Holy Week and Easter as we journey with Christ through his trial, crucifixion, death and his bursting from the tomb in new resurrected life.

This Easter, may you know something of God's healing and energizing touch in your life and in the lives of those you know and love.

The opening lines of this well-loved Easter hymn, gentle but poignant, sum up our hopes and our faith in the risen Jesus:

***Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,
Wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been;
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green
(Words, J Crum, tune Noel Nouvelet)***



Time line



Ash Wednesday

This is the day that begins the season of Lent. "Remember that we are dust, and to dust we shall return". These ancient words, as a worshipper receives ash on their forehead, acts out what our hearts try to express: a recognition of our mortality and of a first step towards seeking to lead a healthier spiritual life.

***"Repent and believe in the Good News"
(Mark 1:15)***

Lent

Growth is the key to using the 40 days of Lent properly. "Lent" comes from the 'lengthening of the days in springtime'. It reminds us that we, like nature, are to grow; to grow in health of body, mind and spirit. For Christians to grow in the knowledge of Jesus' purposes of justice and love will help us to make a better world.

***"The spirit drove Jesus into the wilderness,
He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted
by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts;
and the angels waited on him"
(Mark 1:12-13)***

Maundy Thursday

"Maundy" comes from Jesus' command that we should 'love one another' ('command' from the Latin 'mandatum'). On this day Christians recall the Last Supper, the last meal Jesus had with his friends, and when he washed their feet, asking them to serve and love others. After the meal Jesus was arrested and betrayed before his crucifixion and it is a time when we remember all who are unjustly treated or let down.

***"Jesus said, just as I have loved you, you also
should love one another. By this everyone will
know that you are my disciples"
(John 13:34)***

Good Friday

The day of Jesus' Crucifixion and death. As you reflect on the meaning of the cross, remember that someone - Jesus - loved you so much that he was prepared to die for you. Jesus died because he wanted to put us, and all humanity, into a right relationship with God and each other.

***"When the centurion saw that Jesus had breathed
his last he said ' Truly this man was God's son!"
(Mark 15:39)***

Holy Saturday

The gap between Jesus' death on Good Friday and Easter dawn, when Jesus bursts from the tomb into new resurrected life. It is a space with nothing, no services or music - just space to think and prepare for the joy and mystery of the resurrection. But on Holy Saturday night, Christians gather for the most powerful service of the year, when the darkened church (representing the coldness of the tomb) is transformed with a candlelit procession, joyful music, bells and flowers. "Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed. Alleluia".

Easter Sunday

"We are an Easter people and 'Alleluia' is our song!" (St Augustine of Hippo). The resurrection of Jesus is the reversal of death on the cross and is the promise that Christ will be with us to strengthen us in our new life, in this world and the next.

***"He is not here; for he has been raised,
as he said. Come, see the place".
(Matthew 28:6)***