**Sunday 15th March 2015**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent (Mothering Sunday)**

S GILES-IN-READING

*sgilesreading.org.uk*

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*Churchwardens:* Sylvia Gooding & Peter Bloomfield

Hymns: ***The Celebration Hymnal***

Mass Setting: *Plainsong*

Motet:

Entrance Hymn: *64* Offertory Hymn: *398*

Communion Hymns: *72 & 706* Recessional: *74*

Voluntary:

**Enthroned on the Cross**

Jesus explained to Nicodemus that the "Son of Man" must be

"lifted up" to bring the power and authority of God's kingdom

to bear on the earth. The title, "Son of Man," came from the

prophet Daniel who describes a vision he received of the

Anointed Messiah King who was sent from heaven to rule over

the earth (Daniel 7:13-14). Traditionally when kings began to reign they were literally "lifted up" and enthroned above the people. This Sunday we hear in the Gospel that Jesus will be recognized as the Anointed King only when he is "lifted up" on the cross.





**OUR INTENTIONS TODAY.**Those in need: Tony Allen, Sarah Alderson, Jean Chapman, Peter George, Herbert Hinton, Maurice Houghton, Grace John, Kate Morl, Christopher Mott, Diana Sanni, Elizabeth Sayer, Sheena Sixsmith, Margaret Summers, Fr Christopher Walker, Ann Westgarth and Nesta Williams.

The departed: Charles Bloomfield, Richard Brown (Priest), Lillian Guy, Elsie Lowe and Ernest Shipway.

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The departed: Gladys Brant, Caroline Butler, Albert Butwell, Thomas Christopher, Walter Fishlock, Ruby Howman, Alexandra Marr, Elizabeth Provins and Ruth Weaver.

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**Psalter Week 4**

**Sunday Readings: Year B. Weekday Readings: Year 1.**

**TODAY AT**

**S GILES**

Monday

16 March

Tuesday

17 March

Wednesday

18 March

Thursday

19 March

Friday

20 March

Saturday

21 March

**Sunday**

**22 March**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**(Mothering Sunday)**

**10.00 Mattins**

**10.30 Parish Mass & Sunday School**

**17.30 Evensong**

**18.00 Low Mass**

Monday of Week 4 of Lent

No Services

S Patrick, Bishop, Patron of Ireland

09.00 Matins

17.30 Evensong

18.00 Low Mass

Wednesday of Week 4 of Lent

10.00 Mattins

10.30 Low Mass

17.30 Evensong

S Joseph, Spouse of the B.V.M

09.00 Mattins

19.00 Evensong

19.30 Low Mass with Hymns

Friday of Week 4 of Lent

10.45 Mattins

11.15 The Litany

11.30 Lenten Study Group

12.30 Low Mass

16.30 Evensong

Saturday of Week 4 of Lent

09.30 Mattins

10.00 Low Mass

16.30 Evensong

**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**10.00 Mattins**

**10.30 Parish Mass & Sunday School**

**17.30 Evensong**

**18.00 Low Mass**

**NOTICES & EVENTS**

*We welcome any visitors here this morning and hope that you will stay for refreshments after the service.*

**Lent Boxes.**  This year we are once again raising alms for three charities.  This year they are Helen and Douglas House, the Additional Curates Society and Sight Savers.  Talk to Charles Bell after Mass for details.  The boxes will be available in the South Aisle.

**Lenten Study Group.**Our Lenten study this year will the book Seeking God: The Way of St Benedict by Esther De Waal.  The book examines the Rule of St Benedict and reveals how it can be a practical guide for every Christian.   We meet Fridays at 11.30.  All are welcome!

Thank you to all who supported the raffle. We raised just over £100 towards the Walsingham Youth Pilgrimage trip in the summer

**Saturday 21 March.** Church cleaning after Mass. This is to get the church ready for Palm Sunday & Easter. All Help gratefully appreciated.

**Sinners and Saints:  Dante.** The next in our Sinners and Saints series will be on Thursday 26 March at 7.30pm.  Mr Brian Williams, a DPhil student from Oxford, will give (a brilliant!) presentation on Dante's Divine Comedy.

**Jumble Sale.** We will definitely be having a Jumble Sale on Saturday 11 April, 09.00 – 13.00 at S. Laurence’s Church, to raise money for an orphanage in South Africa.  ***Please bring in your donations to Church or the Vicarage as soon as possible!***  Many thanks to those who have already brought things in.

*If you have any notices that require adding to the sheet, please contact Anne or Geoff Canterbury at canterbury@ntlworld.com or 0118 961 0525 by Wednesday of the previous week.*

Sunday 15th March 2015 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

***Note:*** *Other prayers and readings may be used if the Scrutinies are celebrated* today.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

***Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast. and I will give you a new spirit, says the Lord.***

**COLLECT**

O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

***Amen.***

**THE FIRST LESSON** (2 Chronicles 36: 14-16; 19-23)

*A reading from the second book of Chronicles.*

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy. Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons

until the kingdom of Persia came to power, This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, "Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep Sabbath throughout the days of its desolation." And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the

spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: "Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, 'The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."

*The Word of the Lord*

**THE GRADUAL PSALM** Psalm 136

***R/ O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!***

By the rivers of Babylon there we sat and wept, remembering Zion;

on the poplars that grew there we hung up our harps.

For it was there that they asked us, our captors, for songs,

our oppressors, for joy. "Sing to us," they said, "one of Zion's songs."

O how could we sing the song of the Lord on alien soil?

If I forget you, Jerusalem, let my right hand wither!

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not,

if I prize not Jerusalem above all my joys!

**THE SECOND LESSON** (Ephesians 2: 4-10)

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.*

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ - it is through grace that you have been saved - and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus. This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

*The Word of the Lord*

**THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

***Glory and praise to you, O Christ!***

***God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son; everyone who believes in him has eternal life.***

***Glory and praise to you, O Christ!***

**THE HOLY GOSPEL** (John 3: 14-21)

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.*

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him, Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life, For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son. On these grounds is sentence pronounced:

that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God."

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world. Through Christ our Lord.

***Amen.***

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**
O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world, illuminate our hearts, we pray, with the splendour of your grace, that we may always ponder what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty and love you in all sincerity. Through Christ our Lord.

***Amen.***

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

***Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to praise the name of the Lord.***