

THE COMMONER

ST BARNABAS CLAPHAM COMMON

11 FEBRUARY 2021 ISSUE #28

LENT

ACTIVITIES THAT ARE FROWNED UPON



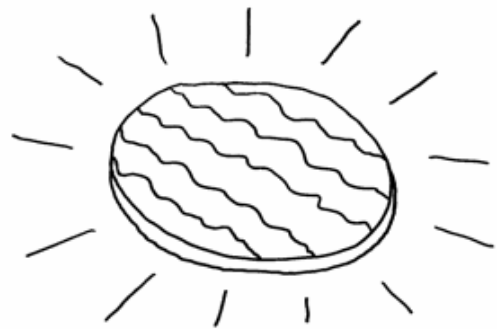
PARISH BREWERY TRIPS



FOUL LANGUAGE ANYWHERE IN THE DEANERY



HAVING TOO MUCH FUN



CHOCOLATE BISCUITS AFTER THE 10 A.M.

CartoonChurch.com

LAST YEAR I GAVE UP GIVING UP. THIS YEAR I'M GIVING UP AGAIN.

Giving up alcohol. Giving up swearing. Giving up biscuits. Giving up fun. Hands up if that sounds like it epitomises your perception of Lent (which starts with Ash Wednesday on 17th February). Anyone? Of course, it's up to you what you choose to give up for Lent but it's hard for us to shake the sense that it should be something pleasurable if we are to appreciate the joyless vibe that the season of Lent can be made to project. Last year, I gave up alcohol for Lent, as I often do, and that was going fine ... until about half way through when Lockdown 1 was announced. Suddenly we were living in a strange, new world and in response, I have to confess, I gave up on the giving up.

Little did I anticipate that one year on, we would still be living in a state of lockdown! But no matter: this year, I am giving up again. I can only speak for myself at this point, but a recent study day reminded me that whilst COVID remains our primary, daily concern at present, for those in the developing world, it is just another challenge on top of many others they may already face: water scarcity, failed harvests, lack of education, medical shortages. Holding a mirror up to my privilege, it strengthened my Lenten resolve for giving up all over again. And in as much as giving up alcohol is a way of reconsidering my privilege, I hope it will help me to take up my cross after Christ afresh. RT

LENT

There will be an **Ash Wednesday service** in Church on Wednesday 17 February from 12.15 - 12.45pm. It will be a time of reflection using a set liturgy which would hopefully prepare us to journey with Jesus through the period of Lent.

Undernoted are 2 different Lent resources, a Lent course that take us through the Holy Land and a 40-day reflection on God's creatures. We hope that either or both resources will help you journey through Lent.

A RIVER THROUGH THE DESERT

Prepared by St George's College in Jerusalem, this lenten pilgrimage follows Jesus from Galilee to Golgotha, exploring the geography of the Holy Land. It will enhance our current series in John's gospel by helping us to meet with Jesus and some significant places from the Holy Land.

Ian will lead us through 5 sessions via Zoom commencing on Thursday 18th Feb and thereafter, each week (7.30 - 8.30pm). The Five sessions are:

1. The Desert
2. The Water
3. The Mountain
4. The Sea
5. The Garden



Each session will start with a prayer followed by a short introduction; a five minute on site film which expands the theme; time for a discussion and reflection based on set questions; striking photos from the Holy Land before closing in prayer.

Please contact Ian at curate@stbcc.co.uk if you would like to take part or if you would like more information.

40 DAYS WITH GOD'S CREATURES

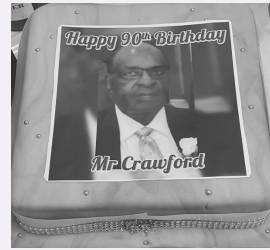


What better time than Lent to discover how faith in Christ shapes our perceptions of animals and how the Gospel message affects all of God's creatures?

The "40 Days With God's Creatures" app helps us reflect theologically and creatively about animals and animal issues, taking you on an explorative journey, including the use of biblical and theological readings, art, videos, music, photography and poetry.

Download for FREE on Android and iOS by visiting: www.sarx.org.uk/lent/40daysguide

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY MR CRAWFORD!

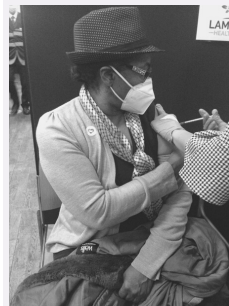


Mr Crawford, our oldest male church member, celebrated his 90th birthday last week, (virtually) surrounded by family and friends, including our Vicar. His grand-daughter, Safiya, kindly agreed to write a few words for the Commoner:

Our family was so fortunate to have celebrated 90 years of life with Grandad/Hawthorne/Staff. To be able to virtually celebrate his birthday despite the adversities of Corona was a blessing indeed. Due to his nature, it was only right that we acknowledge him in all his glory. He truly is the epitome of a beautiful person inside and out.

We hope you had a wonderful time and wish you once again a very Happy Birthday!

VACCINATIONS



This is a photo of our very own warden, Yvonne Langley, receiving her 1st dose of the vaccine against the Coronavirus, and we are delighted to report that many other members of our congregation have also already received the vaccine. If you haven't yet and are wondering what is like, here is Yvonne telling us more:

It was really easy to book, I received a text, logged on to the site and booked an appointment. I had been thinking about it, but by then I was happy to receive it. When I arrived, I joined a queue, and after using the hand sanitiser I filled out a form and I was then called into a room. There were two nurses, and one of them was happy to take a photograph. I received the Pfizer vaccine. The injection stings a bit but is painless. After the injection I was asked to wait for 15mins in another room before leaving. The arm was sore for a couple of days but I have been well and I am very pleased to have received it.

PRAYERS

We pray for the family and friends of Noel Maximill Martin, whose funeral will be on Friday 12 February.

We also pray for the family and friends of Layo Oni, daughter of Mrs Tani Oni, and sister of John and Iyabo. Layo died unexpectedly having contracted COVID whilst being treated for DVT.



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CHURCH FOR ALL - INCLUDING YOU

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