St Mary of Charity Parish Church Faversham Second before Lent 24 February 2019

Welcome to the beautiful church of St Mary of Charity. Please do stay for a drink and fellowship. If you are here for the first time, please make yourself known to one of the clergy.

For our prayers:

- the St Mary of Charity clergy team and lay ministry and all whose ministry is in Faversham and the Ospringe Deanery;
- those affected by 'natural disasters' and extreme weather in the world;
- the bereaved;
- those elected to represent us in local councils or parliament;
- those who work in disaster relief;
- those affected by the Grenfell Tower fire;
- those who are homeless or vulnerably housed;
- those who are experiencing financial hardship;
- those who work for the emergency services;
- those who are receiving medical treatment;
- those who volunteer their time for the good of others;
- the people of Syria, Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan; and
- all who live in fear of violence and aggression.

9 am Eucharist (BCP) 10.30 am Parish Eucharist (CW)

Readings:

Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-25 Revelation 4 Luke 8:22-25

COLLECT:

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. Amen

Next Sunday: Sunday next before Lent Exodus 32:29-35 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 Luke 9:28-36(37-43)



Old Testament

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.'

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said,

'This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh;

this one shall be called Woman,

for out of Man this one was taken.' Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

Here ends the Lesson.

Epistle

Revelation 4

I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.' At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! And the one seated there looks like jasper and cornelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal. Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing,

'Holy, holy, holy,

the Lord God the Almighty,

who was and is and is to come.'

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing,

'You are worthy, our Lord and God,

to receive glory and honour and power,

for you created all things,

and by your will they existed and were created'.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

One day Jesus got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

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Lent 2019 - Exciting Plans

For Lent this year, congregations across the Benefice will be offered a booklet entitled *Pilgrim Journeys: The Beatitudes, 40 Days of Reflections.* This has been produced by the national Church and offers simple readings and reflection for each day of Lent - a simple yet profound way to journey, daily, towards Holy Week. The books are now available in the church, for those who would like one.

The Contemplating Easter gatherings led by Revd Sharran Ireland on Monday evenings (see posters at the back of the church) will draw upon themes in the booklet and Revd Simon Young is also planning to offer a weekly daytime Lent group with a similar focus - watch this space!

An Invitation to Friends at St Mary's

A Requiem Service for Thyra Coulson

Peter and Thyra Coulson found themselves worshipping separately throughout their married lives at their respective churches of St Mary of Charity and Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

As a result, Peter would warmly welcome any of his fellow parishioners who knew Thyra to join him at her requiem service at The Welcome Centre of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Tanners Street at 1.15 pm on Friday, 1 March 2019. This service will be followed by a family funeral at St Lawrence Church, Leaveland.

Please note that the Choral Evensong service with Right Reverend Trevor Willmott, Bishop of Dover in Canterbury, will now be at 6 pm on Sunday, 7 April 2019. This is a benefice service.

Electoral Roll

The electoral roll is a list of people eligible to hold office and to vote in elections at the Annual Parish meeting. This year we start a new roll and everyone who wants to be on the roll has to fill in an application form. Anyone who attends services may apply regardless of which parish they live in. Please do complete the whole form (including your name and address at the top!).

Forms should be returned, by 17 March at the latest, please, to Mary Wimlett (Electoral Roll Officer), Alison Swinney or Miranda Ford (Churchwardens) or our Parish Administrator, Catriona Cuthbert.

Notices for Monthly Notice Sheet to Catriona by Wednesday, 27 February, very latest!

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