

11th February 2024



**“And now these three remain;
Faith, Hope and Love.
But the greatest of these is Love”**
(1 Corinthians 13: 13)



Editorial

1st Sunday before Lent

John 13 v 1-17, 31-35

As you will have seen in the shops this week, we are coming up to Valentine's Day which takes place on Wednesday! Valentine's Day is traditionally a day when we show our love to the special people in our lives or be bold enough to declare our love for someone. I wonder how you are planning to mark Valentine's Day this year? Of course you could always come for a romantic night out at our Ash Wednesday service which is also this Wednesday?

The actual story of St Valentine is far removed from the typical chocolates and flowers that we associated Valentine's Day with. St Valentine was a Priest in Rome who was martyred on 14th February, 269.

Valentine was arrested and tried for trying to evangelise and tell people about Jesus. Whilst in court, Asterius the judge put St Valentine to the test and asked him to pray to restore the sight of his blind daughter. After St Valentine prayed, the judge's daughter was healed and could see again and St Valentine was released.

However St Valentine continued to tell people about Jesus and was re-arrested and sentenced to death by beating. Before he died, he sent a note to Asterius' daughter 'From your Valentine'.

St Valentine sacrificed his life because of his passion of telling other people about Jesus. St Valentine followed the example of Jesus himself who gave his life on the cross out of love for us. As John 13 v 1 reminds us 'Jesus loved them to the end'.

As we reflect on love this week; may we too follow in the footsteps of Jesus and St Valentine. May we be willing to show true love not just this week – but throughout our lives. May we follow Jesus' command 'Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another' (John 13: 34)

Rev'd Vinny Whitworth



Please Pray for...

Family of Doreen R
Family of Enid B
Minti R
David & Norma V
Barbara S
Brenda & Ken
Betty
Lee A
Stuart & family
Jackie
Isaac
Jodie
Anne H
Baby Teddy
Ruby & family
Ross
Abigail
Caitlin
Belinda K
Phil & Sue B
Dean
Norman M
Freda



Remember, this list is for those who need our prayers, not just the sick or bereaved.

This Week at St Bede

Sunday 11th February

10am Holy Communion

As we approach Valentine's Day; today we explore Jesus' command to love one another and the example that Jesus showed us in how we should serve one another. Our children's ministry group 'Church Rocks' also meets this week.

Tuesday 13th February

1.15pm Funeral of Enid Bowker

Enid's funeral will take place here at St Bede's Church, followed by a Committal Service at Overdale Crematorium. Please do keep Enid's family in your prayers.

Wednesday 14th February

7.30pm Ash Wednesday Communion Service

Join us for our joint Ash Wednesday service with St Andrews Church at 7.30pm in the Community Room as we begin our Lent Series – From Wilderness to Glory.

Friday 16th February

2.30pm St Bede Collective Worship

Our church school are meeting in church for their collective worship.

Sunday 18th February

10am Morning Service

Join us for our morning service as we continue our Lent Series reflecting on Jesus' time in the Wilderness. Our children's ministry group 'Church Rocks' also meets this week.





 THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Manchester

**St Bede Charity
Partner 2024.**



ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT 2024

We are delighted to be able to share details of our Lent Programme coming up at St Bede.

Our Lent Programme begins with our **Joint Ash Wednesday Communion Service** with St Andrews which is being hosted at St Bede's Church (in the Fellowship Room) on **Wednesday 14th February, 7.30pm.**

Our Lent Course this year is 'From Wilderness to Glory' It begins on **Wednesday 21st February at 7.30pm** and will run every Wednesday from 7.30pm-9pm at St Andrews Over Hulton.

Please sign up at the back of church if you wish to come and if you need help with lifts to St Andrews then speak to Vinny or one of the Wardens. Our Sunday services during Lent will also be following the same themes.



PRAYER LIST

Please can you all check the names on the Prayer List to ensure it is up to date and let me know any changes.

Tony

FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND

One night I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord. Many scenes from my life flashed across the sky. In each scene I noticed footprints in the sand. Sometimes there were two sets of footprints, other times there was one only. This bothered me because I noticed that during the low periods of my life, when I was suffering from anguish, sorrow or defeat, I could see only one set of footprints, so I said to the Lord, "You promised me Lord, that if I followed you, you would walk with me always. But I have noticed that during the most trying periods of my life there has only been one set of footprints in the sand. Why, when I needed you most, have you not been there for me?" The Lord replied, "The times when you have seen only one set of footprints, my child, is when I carried you."

ENID'S FUNERAL...

Last week we shared the sad news that Enid Bowker, a much loved member of St Bede's Church, sadly passed away.

Enid's funeral will take place this Tuesday (Tuesday 13th February) at 1.15pm in church. All are welcome to attend.

Please do keep Tony, Gill, Elliot and Sophie and Stephen in your prayers at this very difficult time.

ACCOMMODATION NEEDED FOR CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY CLIENT

We have been asked to share this request by Jane Hampson, who leads the CAP work at Deane Church within our LAMB Mission Partnership

Urgently needed for CAP client - house / apartment / flat to rent with 2 bedrooms, under £650 per month. If anyone knows of anything that would be suitable please contact Jane Hampson on 07778 011655.


COLLECT

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts, and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord

Our Church depends very heavily on fundraising as well as regular giving to keep our Church afloat.

We ask that you do continue to give by setting up a Standing Order from your bank. Please contact our Treasurer, David Almond for further details –

David.almond3@ntlworld.com
or visit our website
www.st-bede.org.uk



From Wilderness to Glory **St Andrew's and St Bede's** **Lent Course 2024**

Join us as we journey with Jesus during Lent on a devotional journey from the wilderness to the glory of the Resurrection.

We will be meeting on the following Wednesday evenings during Lent, 7.30pm-9pm at St Andrews

21st February - Jesus among the Crowds

28th February - Jesus on Prayer

6th March - Jesus among Friends

13th March - Jesus among Enemies

20th March - Jesus in the City

Our Lent Course is based on the book by Tom Wright
'From Wilderness to Glory'

If you want to come along please sign up at the back of church.





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Greetings for 2024 from Vinny, the Wardens
and the Ministry Team at St Bede's



WOW

Worship On Wednesday



Join us for fun, food, songs, games,
and activities as we explore faith and life together.

We meet every Wednesday
6.15pm-7pm
St Bede Church Community Room





St Bede's is a living Church, and its people are The Church. The Church's only financial support is its own Church family.

Please try to support our social and fundraising events as they are vital not only to the financial wellbeing of our Church but are great opportunities to get to know one another better.

Your Church thanks you for your gifts of money, time and talents.

Contacts

Vicar– Rev Vinny Whitworth – 01204 658921 vinny@st-bede.org.uk

Associate Priest – Rev Malcolm Bristow – 01204 659816

Licensed Lay Minister (Reader) – Tony Whitehead – 07967 223380 – tony@st-bede.org.uk

Reader Emeritus – Pat Bristow

Authorised Lay Ministers – Gillian Blackburn, Carol Hardman

Church Wardens – Jean Philips – 01204 451676 Gill Blackburn – 01204 660396

PCC Secretary – Elaine Almond – 07757099862

Treasurers – David & Elaine Almond

Organist – David Platt

Newsletter Editors – Tony Whitehead 07967223380 & Sharron Hardman – 01204 700848

Social Media Team – Kirsty Critchley 07763 495009 & Tony Whitehead 07967223380

Administrator – Elaine Almond – 07757099862

St Bede Primary Academy Headteacher – Anna Black – 01204 61899

Chair of Governors – Tony Whitehead Vice Chair – David Almond

ST BEDE'S CHURCH, MORRIS GREEN, BOLTON-LE-MOORS

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