**Prayer Matters**

Those whose names are in the book placed on the Lady Chapel altar during services.

Katrina Mendy, Paul Rogers. Parish - those living in Gravel Hill Close, Grazely Close. The work of Street Pastors. Diocese -Paddock Wood deanery The Rev Andrew Axon, Area Dean; Mr Michael Harvey, Lay Chair

Bexley Winter Night Shelter open until 28th March- its guests and volunteer staff.

For those living in poverty, and the Food Banks and other support agencies trying to help.

For our Government and our country as we carve a new path without being in the European Union.

For those infected by the Coronavirus in China and around the world, for those who care for them, for health specialists and authorities combatting the spread of infection, and for all who at this time are feeling anxious, especially for those with friends and family in China.

Anniversary of Baptism: Francesca Duffy 24.02.19, Mila Kenwood 24.02.19, Lily Kirk 25.02.18

**Dates ahead**.

3rd March 7.30 pm PCC meeting

6th March 10.30 am World Day of Prayer St John Fisher church.

23rd March 11.00 am Diocesan Advisory Committee site visit to St. Mary’s.

28th March: 10.00 am-1.00 pm Work party in church-repairs and tidy up and enjoy coffee and doughnuts!

29th March 12 noon Hunger Lunch in Church Hall in support of Church Mission Society

5th - 31st March CTiOB Lent Course on Tuesday mornings and Thursday evenings.

2nd April 11.00 am Standing Committee meeting at 43, Wansunt Road

19th April 11.30 am Annual meeting of parishioners followed by Annual Parochial Church meeting at 11.35 am.

**St. Mary the Virgin, Bexley**

High Street, Bexley, DA5 3LX

Team Vicar: Reverend Clive Wood

revclivewood@gmail.com

01322 270942 07982 392 809

Rest days: Mon. and Sat.

**Bexley Team Ministry**

**Welcome to the Parish Church of**

**St. Mary the Virgin, Bexley**

Worshipping and serving a loving God and reaching out to the community

in the name of Jesus Christ

[www.stmarysbexley.co.uk](http://www.stmarysbexley.co.uk)

**SUNDAY 23rd FEBRUARY**

**SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT**

**8.30am** Holy Communion – BCP

Readings: Exodus 24: 12-18, Matthew 17:1-9

**10.00 am** Family Service including the baptism of Annabel Susan Kirk. Reading: Matthew 17:1-9

Both services followed by refreshments

*Matthew 17:2 And Jesus was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white.*

**COLLECT**

Almighty Father,

whose Son was revealed in majesty

before he suffered death upon the cross:

give us grace to perceive his glory,

that we may be strengthened to suffer with him

and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

**ADDITIONAL COLLLECT**

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.

**This week**

**Mon 24th** 6.00 pm Bexley Beavers and Cubs Founders Day service.

**Wed 26th Ash Wednesday**

9.00 am Assembly at Old Bexley School with Ashing

10.00 am Holy Communion CW with Ashing

Readings: Joel 2:1-2,12-17, 2 Cor 5: 20b -6.10 John 8: 1-11. Preacher Rev’d Ren Harding.

No House group until after Easter, please join in with CTiOB Lent Course.

7.30 pm Team Holy Communion service with ashing at **St John’s**

**Thurs 27th** 10.00 am Finance Committee meeting at 43, Wansunt Road

**Fri 28th** 7.00 pm Choir practice

**Sat 29th** 9.30 -4.00 pm Bishop’s Study Day at Christ Church Chislehurst.

7.00 pm Friends’ Quiz night in Church Hall

**SUNDAY 1st MARCH**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

**8.30 am** Holy Communion –BCP. Readings: Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7,Matthew 4:1-11

**10.00 am** Holy Communion CW with prayer for Healing and Wholeness. Readings: Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7, Romans 5:12-19, Matthew 4:1-11

**Confirmations** Sidcup Deanery Confirmations will be on Ascension Day (21st May). If you, or someone you know may be interested in Confirmation (adult or child) please let Clive know.

**CTiOB Lent Course** ‘Opening the Scriptures, Setting our Hearts on Fire’. A five week course for Lent. Commences 3rd March at Baldwyns Park Baptist Church at 10 for 10.30 am on Tuesdays, and 5th March at the United Reformed Church 7for 7.30 pm on Thursdays- see poster at back of church for full details.

**Involved with church children’s work?** There will be Afternoon Teas to say ‘thank you’ on 1st and 29th March. See noticeboard, Janet or Clive for further details and an invitation.

**Bexley Foodbank** Please place food and toiletry items in the box in the cross aisle- see list on box and at back of church.

**Jobs vacant page** Churchwarden, gardeners, crucifer. Help on refreshment and sidespersons rotas. First –aider

**Pastoral visits and Home Communion** Please let the Vicar or Christine Wood (LLM) know if you or someone you know would like a pastoral visit or would welcome a visit to receive Holy Communion.

**Coronavirus**The Diocese of Rochester has adopted guidance set out by the Diocese of Europe with regard to the current outbreak. Full details are on the noticeboard. Please note that we are advised to observe basic standards of hygiene at all times and refrain from receiving Communion by *intinction* (dipping).

**Key holders**The church has been found with inner porch door and vestry door unlocked. If you hold church or safe keys please ensure you keep the building secure.

**Modern Slavery** Sadly there are more than 136,000 potential victims of modern slavery in the UK. These could be Labour exploitation, Sexual exploitation, Domestic Servitude or Organ Harvesting. Rochester Diocese is working alongside the Clewer Initiative to encourage people to be more aware and report any concerns. (**please take a card- in the welcome area**)[www.theclewerinitiative.org](http://www.theclewerinitiative.org)

**SOCIAL EVENTS**

**LeapYear Quiz Night**

29th February 7.00 pm Church Hall

Tables of six £5 per person.

A Friends of St. Mary’s event.

Contact Sheila Thompson 01322 522071 or Barbara Graham 0208 308 0872

**An evening with the Gibbons Ensemble**

14th March 7.00pm in Church

A fun evening of light musical entertainment.

Proceeds to the Extension Fund. Tickets £5 includes small glass of wine and nibbles

Tickets from Marion Smith/ Chris Kirk

**Day trip to the Tulip Festival at Pashley Manor Gardens**

25th April 10.00 am to 4.15 pm (approx)

£27 per person includes entrance fee, coach travel and gratuities.

A Friends of St. Mary’s event.

Contact Christine Rawlinson 07576 852637 crawlinson22@yahoo.co.uk