**PRAYER DIARY**

**R.I.P.** Pamela Austin (Sue Jull’s mother); Carol O’Connor who have died recently.

**We remember with thanksgiving the anniversaries of:** Alfred C Hastings; Betty Williams (28th); Vic Moyse (2nd); Billy Cann (6th).

**Prayer requested for healing and other needs:** Stuart Hobbs; Robinson and Robina Ihesiene; Jean Murch; Jonathan Roast; Pam Storey; Michael Scott-Kerr.

**Thank you Father:**  For the rapid distribution of the vaccine here in Harrow.

**Happy Birthday to:** Pam Lemar (28th); Simon Narayan (29th); Robina Ihesiene (5th)

**Church Families:** Malcolm Macpherson; Pearl Marcano; Lenore Marcano - Green; Althea; Simone and Orley McIntyre**;** Sue McLeod; Kulan and Chris Mills; Gill and Roger Moore; Elfreda Morris; Hughie Morris; Jean, John and Christina Murch.

**The Parish:** Dunster Way; Eastcote Lane; Edinburgh Close; Exeter Road; Field End Road; Hamilton Crescent

**The Persecuted Church**:  **Syria** In her Muslim neighbourhood in Syria, the fact that Suzan had become a Christian was considered deeply shameful – not just for her but for her family. Locals told her father that she had disgraced him. Some Muslim men came to her father, saying that she had a bad reputation and should be killed and her father should take care that this shame would be washed away. Thankfully, he refused to do this so-called ‘honour’ killing.

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK**

Lord, what are my riches? What stops me giving everything to you? What weighs me down and ties my hands? What denies me true freedom? Show me, and give me grace to abandon my idols, so that, when you look at me with love, I shall not walk away still cluttered.

***Please send any items for next week’s STARLINK to Susan McLeod by midday this Friday, preferably by email (mcleod383@btinternet.com), or otherwise by hard copy to 8, Drake Road***

**ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, ROXBOURNE**

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***Star Link***

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| **SUNDAY, 28th February 2021 Lent 2** | | | |
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| **8.00 am: Holy Communion**  **9.45 am: Parish Communion**  **with Prayers for Healing**  *and* **Go Mad on Sunday**  *Please come to the Hall after the Service for Coffee, Tea & Fellowship* | | |
| **This Week’s Services** |  | **Next Sunday 7th March** | |
| **Monday – Friday**  9.00 am Morning Prayer [cw]  **Wednesday**: 9.30am Holy Communion  **Saturday:**  8.30 am Barnabas Fellowship |  | **8.00 am:** Holy Communion  **10.00 am: Parish Communion**  *Exodus 20: 1-17; 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25;*  *John 2: 13-22* | |
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**A**

### Today's Collect

**lmighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ’s sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

***Readings: Genesis 17: 1-7 & 15-16***

***Romans 4: 13-25***

***Gospel: Mark 8: 31-38***

**AA**

**lmighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

***Genesis 17: 1-7 & 15-16***

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, “I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers.” Abram fell facedown, and God said to him,“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

God also said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her.”

***Romans 4: 13-25***

It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless,because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah’s womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God,being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.” The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

***Mark 8: 31-38***

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again.He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. “Get behind me, Satan!” he said. “You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”

**NOTICES**

**WELCOME BACK** Services at St Andrew’s restart today. Morning prayer will also restart and the church is still open every day until 6pm for private prayer.

Covid-19 risk assessments have been carried out, the church is carefully cleaned before and after services and social distancing is adhered to at all times. Masks need to be worn. Please come and join us. If you are unable to come a recording of the service will still be available on our website from 12pm onwards.

**MESSAGE FROM STUART HOBBS** I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, well wishes and cards during my spell in hospital. Also, I was grateful to Lyndon for his frequent visits. It’s very reassuring to feel part of Gods family.

**And** we’re really pleased you’re home again, Stuart

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**Our lockdown Lent Course**

Lent has started and out Lent Course is beginning this week. There is still time to join in.. The course comprises video presentations, discussion topics and daily Bible readings. All the videos are available NOW on our website.

Lent is a time when we would normally come together to share our faith. Three weekly Zoom sessions are planned to give some opportunity for fellowship.

They are:

Monday 1000 – 1045 (Lyndon/David)

Wednesday 2000 – 2045 (Pam/Keith)

Thursday 1500 – 1545 (Sue/Annie) *Keith Nicholls*

1. St Andrew's Church bank details for one-off payments and gifts -
2. **PCC of St Andrew's Roxbourne Parish**
3. **Sort code: 40-11-58  Acc No: 20404810**
4. *Please note this is not the account for regular Stewardship Giving - please see Wendy Godwin or Peter Sage for those details (Tel: 07889 249500*