

**PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM**  
**Lent 111 (B)**

**This Week: Divine office - Psalter Week 3**

- Mon:** 9.30 Mass (International Women's Day)  
Int: All who suffer from leprosy  
(2 Kings 5 v.1-15; Luke 4 v.24-30).  
*Give 20p – if no MU branch in this parish*
- Tues:** 9.30 Mass. Int: Those who find it hard to forgive  
(Daniel 3 v.25, 34-43; Matt 18 v.21-35)  
*Give 50p for every further education course you have completed.*  
7.30pm Bible Study by Zoom – Luke 15 – The return of the Prodigal Son
- Wed:** **9.00** Mass Requiem – March Anniversaries  
(Isaiah 25v.6-9; Matt. 11v.28-30)  
*In Kagera the simplest Malaria injection costs £3 for children and £4 for adults. Could you pay for an injection for someone today?*
- Thurs:** **4.00pm** Mass Int: Ministry of Deliverance  
(Jer. 7 v.23-28; Luke 11 v.14-23)  
*Give 50p if you have a washing machine*
- Fri:** 9.30 Mass Int: Diocese of Kagera  
(Hosea 14 v. 2-10; Mark 12 v. 28-34)  
*Give 10p for every Doctor at your surgery*
- Sat** 2.00pm Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)  
3.00pm 1<sup>st</sup> Mass of Sunday. Int: Home & Family.  
(Readings as on Sunday)
- Next Sunday: LENT IV - MOTHERING SUNDAY**  
9.30am Parish Mass, Address and Blessing of Candles.  
(II Chron 36 v 14-16, 19-23; Eph 2 v 4-10; John 3 v 14-21)

**NOTICES:**

1. Please note change of times of Mass on Wednesday and Thursday
2. Electoral Roll revision is taking place throughout March (list on bier) Please check your details are correct.
3. List on bier for orders for Easter Candles
4. See italics above and also the March magazine (on church website) for suggestions of giving to Kagera
5. Tuesday's Bible Study by Zoom. Virtual 'Room' opens at 7.15pm. If you haven't got the link, please email [a.f.m.gray@binternet.com](mailto:a.f.m.gray@binternet.com) and if you have problems logging in, please phone 01449 766359 before 7.30pm

**Please keep silence from 9.25 to prepare for Mass**

**THEME:** In today's Gospel we see Jesus creating a riot in the Temple as he drives out the traders and cattle. When he is finished, his Father's house is reclaimed for worship. Let us ask the Lord to drive out the sin of selfishness in our lives, so that we can become temples of the Holy Spirit, free to worship God.

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

**Celebrant:** Forgive us, Lord, for the times we refuse to carry your cross.  
Lord have mercy.

**People:** **LORD HAVE MERCY**

**Celebrant:** Forgive us, Lord, for the times we do not follow your commandments. Christ have mercy.

**People:** **CHRIST HAVE MERCY**

**Celebrant:** Forgive us, Lord, for the times we have neglected you.  
Lord have mercy.

**People:** **LORD HAVE MERCY**

Celebrant proclaims God's forgiveness

No Gloria during Lent.

**OPENING PRAYER:** Let us pray for the confidence in the love of God and the strength to overcome our weakness. Father you have taught us to overcome our sins by prayer, fasting and works of mercy. When we are discouraged by our weakness, give us confidence in your love. Amen.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD**

**First Reading - Exodus 20 v. 1-17:** God gives his people the commandments of life. Jesus sums up these commandments by telling us we must love God and our neighbours.

*God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.*

*'You shall have no gods except me.*

*'You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.*

*'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.*

*'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, nor your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred.*

*'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.*

*'You shall not kill.*

*'You shall not commit adultery.*

*'You shall not steal.*

*'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.  
'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Psalm 18

® **You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.**

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul.  
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted; it gives wisdom to the simple. ®

The precepts of the lord are right, they gladden the heart.  
The command of the Lord is clear; it gives light to the eyes. ®

The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever.  
The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. ®

They are more to be desired than gold, than the purest gold  
and sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb. ®

**Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 1 v. 22-25:** The Jews wanted a Messiah that would free them from oppression and could not accept one who suffered a criminal's death. The Greeks who exalted human strength and wisdom thought it madness. God's ways are not our ways for the Cross shows his power, love and wisdom.

*While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength*

**Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, O Christ!  
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord, whoever believes in me will never die. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!**

**Gospel - John 2 v. 13 – 25:** Jesus' mission to renew all things is prefigured in His cleansing of the Temple. The earthly building will be replaced by the new exalted body of Jesus.

*Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money-changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.*

*During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.*

**Address**      **Creed -Nicene**

## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

**Celebrant:** We are all sanctuaries of God's presence. Let us pray that people throughout the world will be treated with respect and understanding.

**Reader:** Let us pray that as Christ was strongest in the weakness of His passion, so may His strength be seen in those who are crucified by hardship and oppression today.

Let us pray that as God's commandments are for all time, so may rulers of nations come to see them as the only lasting basis for peace.

Let us pray for all who make our laws; that they will uphold Christian values and may we respond to them in a positive way.

Let us pray for our Parish - that we may witness to the reconciliation which Christ won for us

Let us pray for ourselves, that we may fast, pray more and give money sacrificially during this season of Lent. We pray for the Church in Kagera that we are supporting.

Let us pray for all who do not see the need for prayer and for those who do not like participating in the liturgy.

**We pray** for the healing of the sick – Michael Denny, Doug Hales, Joan Hill and for our parishioners in homes: Margaret Maundrell, Hazel Lockwood, Billy Carter, Cindie Lind and Trevor Thorpe.

**We pray** for those who have died in the light of Christ, whether Christians or not, all people of good will: that God will welcome them all into His kingdom in heaven. We pray for Fiona McClean, recently departed (pause while a candle is lit) and Frederick Mills, Margaret Fletcher, Delphine Thorpe, Bob Keeble, William Carter; Audrey Handscombe; Robert Multimer; Pip Godfree; Fr. Donald Rae; Peter Warren; Herbert Knock; whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

**Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee, blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen**

## SILENCE

**All:** Heavenly Father, we praise you for your wisdom and love. May our faith and humility increase, our courage grow stronger and our love overcome all obstacles, as we place all our trust in your Son, Jesus, and make our prayers through him. Amen.

**Sanctus**

**Mystery of faith - Lord by your cross and resurrection You have set us free. You are the Saviour of the world.**

**Lord's Prayer**                      **Agnus Dei.**

**Post Communion Prayer**      **Angelus**      **Blessing**