



Sunday 23rd March 2025

Lent III

Website: www.holyford.org
Facebook: @holyfordmission

Rector
Mission Community Office

Fr Steven Martin
Mrs Caz Jefferies

01297 553180
01297 552307

rector@holyford.org
office@holyford.org

Prayers and Readings for this Sunday

Collect Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Isaiah 55. 1–9 Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Psalms 63. 1–9 1 O God, thou art my God * early will I seek thee. 2 My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh also longeth after thee * in a barren and dry land where no water is. 3 Thus have I looked for thee in holiness * that I might behold thy power and glory. 4 For thy loving-kindness is better than the life itself * my lips shall praise thee. 5 As long as I live will I magnify thee on this manner * and lift up my hands in thy Name. 6 My soul shall be satisfied, even as it were with marrow and fatness * when my mouth praiseth thee with joyful lips. 7 Have I not remembered thee in my bed * and thought upon thee when I was waking? 8 Because thou hast been my helper * therefore under the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice. 9 My soul hangeth upon thee * thy right hand hath upholden me.

1 Corinthians 10. 1–13 I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, ‘The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.’ We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Luke 13. 1–9 At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, ‘Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.’ Then he told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, “See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?” He replied, “Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.” ’

Post–Communion Collect Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Notices

Hetty’s Easter Cards, Hetty Kothari has designed an Easter card this year. They are for sale at Friendly Fridays at 40p each or you can find them on display at the back of St Andrew’s Church. Closing date for orders Friday 11th April.

Easter Lillies, there is a sheet at the back of St Andrew's church for anyone who would like to record the name of a loved one(s) to be remembered over Easter. Donations to the lilies can be made in the box next to the sheet (only available during services). A similar list is also out at St Michael's, Colyford, for the Easter flowers there.

APCMs: Musbury APCM is on Wednesday 26th March at 7.30pm in the Committee Room in Musbury Village Hall. Southleigh's APCM is on Thursday 27th March at 7.30pm in St Lawrence's Church.

Lent Course: The Parables of Jesus. Tuesday 25th March at 7.30pm in St Winifred's, Branscombe. The Reverend Colin Preece will be leading the session on The Prodigal Son. All are welcome to attend.

Lenten Compline, Every Friday from 8.30pm in St Andrew's Church, Colyton during Lent. Please contact Ellen for more information: treasurer@holyford.org

South Wessex Organ Society Presents: The Passion of St John in a setting attributed to Handel. Featuring a choir and professional orchestra. Sunday 30th March, 7.30pm in St Andrew's Church, Colyton. Tickets £15 per adult, available on the door or online through www.ticketsource.co.uk See poster for more details.

Holy Week & Easter. Preparations for Holy Week are coming together. There will be a flyer with the full programme on coming out soon. This year we have a visiting preacher, the Reverend Lucy Gardner, from the University of Oxford. Please set aside time to give yourself the opportunity to attend the various services on offer as we journey together during this Holy time.

On **Maundy Thursday** we have our Mission Community service at St Andrew's at 7.30pm followed by the all-night vigil. This year there will be a fish and chip supper before the service at 6pm in the SSB. Further details and how to book will follow soon.

Your Prayers this week are asked:

Sunday	For the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem
Monday	For sacristans, servers and musicians in our churches
Tuesday	For the family and friends of the late Muriel Trivett & Doug Varey
Wednesday	For the family and friends of the late Eileen Carling
Thursday	For the work of Musbury and Southleigh PCCs
Friday	For those affected by cancer and their families
Saturday	For a deepening faith as we continue on our Lenten journey

Services and Events this week and next Sunday

Sunday 23rd March	8.00am	Eucharist, St Andrew's, Colyton
<i>Lent III</i>	9.30am	Eucharist, St Andrew's, Colyton
	11.15am	Eucharist, St Michael's, Colyford
	11.15am	Morning Prayer, St Winifred's, Branscombe
	11.15am	Eucharist, St Giles's, Northleigh
	11.15am	Eucharist, St Lawrence's, Southleigh
	6.30pm	Evensong, St Michael's, Musbury
Monday 24th March	8.30am	Morning Prayer, St Andrew's, Colyton
Tuesday 25th March	8.30am	Morning Prayer, St Andrew's, Colyton
<i>Annunciation of the Lord</i>	9.00am	ColyTots, St Andrew's, Colyton
	3.30pm	Chorister Club, St Andrew's, Colyton
	4.30pm	Beginner's Bell-Handling, St Andrew's
	7.30pm	Lent Course, St Winifred's, Branscombe
Wednesday 26th March	8.30am	Morning Prayer, St Andrew's, Colyton
<i>Harriet Monsell</i>	10.00am	Eucharist, St Andrew's Church
	12noon	Doug Varey's Funeral, St Giles's, Northleigh
	3.00pm	Muriel Trivett's Thanksgiving Service, Colyton
	4.15pm	Silent Prayer for Peace, St Andrew's Church
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer, St Andrew's Church
	7.30pm	Musbury APCM, Committee Room, V. Hall
Thursday 27th March	8.30am	Morning Prayer, St Andrew's, Colyton
	1.00pm	Colyton Bell-Ringers, St Andrew's Church
	1.45pm	Eileen Carling Funeral, East Devon Crem.
	7.30pm	Southleigh APCM, St Lawrence's Church
Friday 28th March	8.30am	Morning Prayer, St Andrew's, Colyton
	10.00am	Friendly Friday, St Andrew's, Colyton
	6.45pm	Colyton Choir Practice, St Andrew's Church
	8.30pm	Compline, St Andrew's Church, Colyton
Saturday 29th March		
Sunday 30th March	8.00am	Eucharist, St Andrew's, Colyton
<i>Laetare Sunday</i>	9.30am	Eucharist, St Andrew's, Colyton
<i>(Mothering Sunday)</i>	9.30am	Eucharist, St Michael's, Colyford
	10.00am	Morning Prayer, St Michael's, Musbury
	11.15am	Eucharist, St Winifred's, Branscombe
	11.15am	Eucharist, St Giles's, Northleigh
	11.15am	Morning Prayer, St Lawrence's, Southleigh
	7.30pm	The Passion of St John Concert, St Andrew's