



Trinity - a place to belong
Spirituality - Prayer - Community - Welcome



Church website: <http://www.trinity-urc.org.uk>

MARCH 2017

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The next edition of Trinity Times will be published on 26th March. All contributions should be submitted by Sunday 19th March.



<http://www.trinity-urc.org.uk>

Pastoral letter

Dear friends,

Wednesday 1 March marks the beginning of Lent and our journey towards the great celebration of Easter - and Christ's victory over death. During the 40 days of Lent we are encouraged to reflect on what it means to receive Christ – the one who died and was raised to new life. Our Lent meetings on Tuesday take as their starting point a verse from the beginning of John's Gospel:

To all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God.' (John 1.12.)

John presents Jesus as God's Word to us and to the world – a Word full of grace and truth. This is no fake news, but good news. It is spoken not just for the few but for all people. So John speaks of Christ as the Word that brings life, the light that enlightens all people, and the assurance that 'God so loved the world'. Keeping that vision of God's universal love is essential as we follow the path of Christ.

But John also knows our need to receive the Word that is spoken, to accept the good news for ourselves, personally and deeply. We need that Word of grace and truth to take root within us, to grow and bear fruit - above all the fruit of love and compassion.

How can we be more receptive to this Christ who is so close and so real? How can we receive the true Christ? Not the Christ that reflects our own prejudices and limitations, but the surprising Christ of the gospels?

Lent encourages us to become more receptive in different ways:

- To make some space in our lives for stillness and prayer – an openness to God in our daily lives (we are again involved in the trypraying project).
- To meet with others to share our beliefs and questions; to learn more of what Christ means and can mean to us (if you can't get to the Tuesday Lent meeting there are other meetings around the town too).
- To put faith into action, through the work of the church (don't forget our AGM on 21 March where we'll also be hearing of the work of the Wycombe Refugee Partnership) and our support of charity projects (like One Can and Christian Aid – in particular with the Lent 'Count your blessings' calendar.)

The journey begins – may we walk the way of Christ.



News of the Church Family

Not included in this version

This month we would like to wish
A Happy Birthday to

Glyn E (4 th)	Andrew W (21 st)
Rebecca H (6 th)	Terry H (25 th)
Joy S (16 th)	Pauline S (26 th)
Evelyn R (19 th)	Samuel E (28 th)

Marianne H (29th)

and Best Wishes to

Marian & Michael M (25th)

on celebrating their

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

with love from all at Trinity

Worship at Trinity

Sunday Worship at 10.30 am (with activities for children):

- 5 March Worship and Communion led by Terry Hinks
- 12 March Morning Worship led by Jackie Metcalfe
- 19 March All age worship led by Terry Hinks
- 26 March Mothering Sunday: Morning Worship
led by Ann Maree Campbell

Worship is followed by refreshments to which all are welcome

Midweek Prayers at 9.30 am on Wednesdays 1 & 15 March in church (half an hour of prayer together).

Our Prayer Ministry is available after worship each Sunday morning. For more information please speak to Marian Mole or the minister.

Prayer Circle will next meet on 12 March at 4 pm. The circle is committed to pray regularly for people in need. If you would like to join the group (or have prayer requests) contact Terry Hinks or Audrey Richardson.

Prayer Pattern for March

Our weekly pattern of prayer (praying for members and church groups) during March is as follows (with wider concerns in capitals):

- 5 March Margaret Lewis (and Marian Mole) and their pastoral group
MOTHERS AND FAMILIES
- 12 March Harry Bates and Glyn Evans (with Ann Harding and
Marie Winning) and their pastoral group
TRYPRAYING CAMPAIGN
- 19 March Choir, Junior Church and Trinity Links
CHRISTIAN WITNESS TO THE TOWN
- 26 March Worship Band, Sat Cafe and Trinity Links
NEW CHRISTIANS

Prayer requests can be added to the list at the Prayer Table in the sanctuary.

What's on this month . . .

Wed 1st	Trinity prayers	09:30am
Wed 1st	Elders' meeting	8:00pm
Sat 4th	Saturday Café	11.30 am – 1.30 pm
Tues 7th	“Receiving Christ” (session 2) Lent course	7:30pm
Sun 12th	Traidcraft stall	after the service
Tues 14th	“Receiving Christ” (session 3) Lent course	7:30pm
Wed 15th	Trinity prayers	09:30am
Sat 18th	Saturday Café	11.30 am – 1.30 pm
Tues 21st	Church AGM	7:30pm
Tues 21st	Church meeting	8:00pm
Tues 28th	“Receiving Christ” (session 4) Lent course	7:30pm

Churches Together in Wycombe have additional Lent activities taking place – see posters on noticeboard for info

. . . and later

Sun 2nd April	Try Praying (use it)	
Sun 9th April	Try Praying (lose it)	
Tues 4th April	“Receiving Christ” (session 5) Lent course at 7.30 pm	
Sat 29th April	An old-fashioned Games Evening 7.00 – 9.30 pm	
Fri 12th May	24/7 – Prayer for Wycombe	
Sat 21st May	URC Big Day Out at Warwick Castle (booking forms available)	

What's on . . . this month

Trinity Bookworms

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, March 1st at 2pm. We shall be discussing "Home" by Julie Myerson.

Coffee & Chat

The next Coffee & Chat will be on Monday 27 March 10.30am at the home of Ellen M when we'll be doing a 'Desert Island Discs' talking about our favourite record, book, and a luxury item.

Tuesday Meeting

All meetings in LSR at 2.30 p.m.

Tuesday March 7th What's in a Name?
Tuesday March 14th Marian M – Visit to India
Tuesday March 21st The Temptation of Jesus
Tuesday March 28th Spring Quiz

Regular March events

Every Sunday where possible

- Prayer ministry after the service

Every Tuesday

- Movers and Shakers Chinese Style (light exercise, talk/activity and lunch)
10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- The Tuesday Meeting (small, friendly fellowship group) 2.30 - 4.30 pm

Every Thursday

- Pilates well-being class 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
- Choir Practice (church choir practises Sunday's hymns) 8.00 pm

Every Friday

- Movers and Shakers, Caribbean style (light exercise, a talk or activity and lunch) 10 am – 1 pm

To find out more about any activities held at Trinity, please talk to the minister or Church Secretary

Cores End Church

Lent Meetings

The Church is holding three evenings of conversation around Lent and life, with discussion, bible exploration, music and prayer on Thursdays during Lent. For more information contact the minister Terry Hinks.

The Wednesday afternoon fellowship at the home of Rosemary and David Reynolds will also be taking a Lent theme, using some of the Receiving Christ material being used at Trinity.

Lent collecting

As last year, the church will be raising money for WaterAid through the *Jars of Change* scheme.

Open Book

Over the last year the local parish church has been building a team of people, drawn from local churches, to present bible stories in a lively and accessible way in the local primary school. This has been very well received by the local school. This is part of a national initiative by the Bible Society www.openthebook.net/

Children's Easter Fun Day

This is to be held on Saturday 8 April (10 am – 4 pm) at Cores End Church hall and is aimed at children aged 5 to 11. There will be craft, games, singing and cooking. The cost is £5 per child for the day. Numbers limited so please contact Ann Pendergast (01628 526865) for more information and to book a place.

Churches Together / family news

Our sympathy to the people of St Augustine's Roman Catholic Church following the unexpected death of their parish priest Monsignor Paul Donovan on 8 February (having been diagnosed with cancer some weeks earlier). We keep Father Paul's family and the whole parish in our prayers.

Fund Raising **FUN GAMES EVENING** April 29th

The evening starts at 7.15pm with easy, point scoring, individual games of skill, observation and fun like, Skittles, Darts, Bagatelle, Marbles, Putting and Hoopla. After a break for a light hot supper we conclude with an easy team game – no running or jumping, just more skilful, competitive fun. You could possibly win a small prize but we guarantee you'll have a fun evening. Tickets will be available soon, so why not put the date in your diary and bring along your family & friends.



We look forward to seeing you there.
Margaret & Harry



Women's World Day of Prayer 2017

Friday March 3rd

Service at The Salvation Army Citadel at 10.30.am
Subject: "Am I being Unfair to you?" prepared by
the Women of the Philippines.

Everyone welcome.

LENT 2017

RECEIVING CHRIST in 5 different ways

'To all who received him ... he gave power to become children of God.' (John 1.12.)

An opportunity to explore just how we can 'receive Christ' and the practical implications for our day-to-day lives.

The Course uses an audio presentation by four leading Christian speakers, a Course Booklet and plenty of Group Discussion.

Tuesdays at 7.30 pm beginning on 28 March 2017 here at Trinity United Reformed Church

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 28 February | 1. Receiving Christ: as children of God |
| 7 March | 2. Receiving Christ: in the stranger and the needy |
| 14 March | 3. Receiving Christ: in Holy Communion |
| 21 March | AGM / Church Meeting |
| 28 March | 4. Receiving Christ: through prayer and fellowship |
| 4 April | 5. 'Christ in you, the hope of glory' <i>Colossians 1.27</i> |

If you would like to come add your name to the Sign up list at church or contact Terry Hinks 01628 525076 or minister@trinity-urc.org.uk

Other Churches together Lent Courses:

Why follow Jesus? An exploration of the costs and joys of following Christ - led by Revd High Lewis on Wednesdays 8, 15, 22 and 29 March at 7.30 pm at the Vicarage, 6 Priory Avenue, HP13 6SH

'Receiving Christ' course on Thursday evenings, at 7.45 for 8pm, at 10 Pretoria Road, commencing from 9 March to 6 April, run by Alan Gibson

Exploring Spiritual Practises on Wednesday afternoons, 1.30pm - 3pm from Wednesday 1 March - Wednesday 5 April.

Lifting the lid on Lent on Saturdays 4 March – 1 April, 3 – 4 pm at Oakley Hall: Interactive sessions for children and adults arranged by All Saints

Being disciples on Wednesday evening 7.45 – 9.15 pm in All Saints Church from Wednesday 8 March - Wednesday 5 April. Discussions on book by Rowan Williams

Letter to Trinity, High Wycombe and Cores End Church

Dear Friends,

It is a real encouragement to learn of the large gift that your church has raised for the eye clinic here in Parakou, Benin. Thank you so much.

When Bethesda hospital opened its doors two years ago it was with some trepidation that I began to work in the eye clinic. What equipment we had was on its last legs. Many of the surgical instruments were blunt or rusty. An inauspicious beginning.

But begin we did. Hesitatingly. Somewhat fearful. Slowly, Slowly.

And now, nearly two years on I can look back and see how things worked out. An appeal that I wrote in my newsletter touched the hearts of a number of friends. Gifts were sent. New surgical instruments were purchased. More diagnostic equipment was sent out..... a slit lamp from Japan, eye medicines from India, a surgical lamp from Australia and more things from UK.

All these have been put to good use.

And now I can happily report that, despite the never lacking frustrations, things are going well. Each month in the eye clinic we register over five hundred new patients. Last year 1,500 eye operations were performed.

2017 will see further progress.

So it is with joy that I thank you for your participation. The money your church has raised will go towards the purchase of a puff-air tonometer (to measure the pressure of eyes of patients to detect glaucoma). That will have an impact on the treatment of many people.

On their behalf I thank you.

Andrew POTTER.

30 January 2017.



Flag of Benin

The colour green recalls hope and revival,
red the courage of ancestors,
and yellow the on-going preservation of the
country's wealth

TRYPRAYING



Following on from the success of last year's event across the town, Trinity is again getting involved in *trypraying*. This year trypraying will take place in churches across the town, and in many other parts of the UK too, over the first two weeks of April. On Sunday 2 April everyone in participating churches will be given a *trypraying* booklet and encouraged to 'use it' over the next 7 days. On Sunday 9 April (Palm Sunday) everyone will be encouraged to 'lose' the booklet by giving it to a friend or member of their family who is not yet a Christian, with the encouragement to give prayer a try for a week.

trypraying is a booklet or phone app designed for the unchurched, non-Christian and spiritually diverse world in which we live. Presented in every day inclusive language, the booklet, through its 7 day plan, takes the reader on a spiritual journey using prayer, in which the ideas and concepts of the Christian faith are placed in everyday life. *trypraying* encourages the reader to talk and engage with God. The booklet is packed full of anecdotes, scripture, testimony and basic tips for effective prayer. Youth and children's versions are also available. The booklet is supported by two websites: www.thereishope.co.uk for information for churches, and www.trypraying.co.uk for those exploring faith.

The campaign will be supported with banners outside participating churches and adverts on local buses. Last year a number of churches paid for adverts to be placed on buses for 2 weeks, but many remained in place for much longer than that! Trinity is sponsoring a bus advert this year.

Date for your diary-

Trypraying Celebration service on Sunday 9 April from 5- 6 pm at St Peter's, Loudwater....worship, prayer and stories as we celebrate together with churches from across the local area participating in *trypraying*.



Safeguarding ... isn't it just about preventing abuse?



We want to reduce/eliminate risks of something undesirable happening, so also consider...

Risk assessment – what might go wrong and how can you prevent it?

What hazards are there in the building?

Are there particular risks with, say, cooking or making hot drinks?

Is anyone present likely to be adversely affected by abilities (e.g. with steps)? Are you holding activities which might have risk of physical injury? Is equipment safe? (And remember, no unauthorised electrical items are to be brought in without the permission of the Lettings team)

Security in the building

If any entrance door is unlocked, who is keeping an eye on it to prevent unauthorised people entering the building and posing a risk to you or others (adults or children) then or at other times? Would you know if they are authorised or not?

If someone leaves via the side entrance doors, remember they will stay unlocked – who will ensure they are locked again immediately?

How do you ensure that any children are supervised at all times and do not have access to other parts of the building?

Online and personal data security Are you aware of the risk of giving out personal information (directly or online) to people you do not know?

Accidents and First Aid

Do you know where the first aid kit is?

Do you know where the accident log book is (downstairs & Crendon Hall noticeboards), and to whom who to report incidents?

Fire safety / evacuation

Are you clear on the evacuation procedure and what you should do? Do you know where the muster point is?

Safeguarding of adults at risk and children – see policy

Adults at risk

Adults can be at risk, especially if they are vulnerable because they are elderly, or through complex trauma, learning disabilities, memory loss, homelessness or addiction.

Children

See Safeguarding Policy. The URC *Good Practice Guidelines 4* is available on request for additional information.

Update from Chiltern Local Area Steering Group meeting, held 4th February [edited]

Personnel - Revd Jean Wilkinson to be included on list of retired ministers; Hilary McClintock to be included as a Local Leader; Simon Rudiger to be Fairford Leys Rep and join the Steering Group.

Voluntary contribution towards ongoing expenses - Suggested donation of £30 per church to cover expenses.

Group Changes and other Church News

Gerrards Cross – Hilary McClintock was welcomed as Local Leader at St Andrew's Gerrards Cross on 22nd January 2017. Revd Bridget Powell will be Hilary's support person and contact with the Group. Hilary is employed directly by the local church.

Chesham – Revd Bridget Powell retired as their minister at end December 2016. Revd Terry Hinks met the elders in October; he and Revd James Fields, convenor of Pastoral Committee, will meet them again this March. Two challenges: deployment and lack of a manse. A good case could be made for a half time post, but would need to be agreed by Pastoral Committee.

Chalfont St Giles – Revd Dr John Parry leaves at the end of summer. The Roman Catholic Church and the Rock Church in the village have closed, leaving just Deanway and the Anglican Church (the latter leading an Alpha Course with 80 people including some from Deanway). Deanway has a membership list of 40, but average congregation of 12. Several key people have died, raising questions about the church's future. The Council has discussed closing, but there are a range of views on this. Several community activities still happen. Next minister is due to be a Methodist, so Circuit input will need to be considered.

Same-Sex Marriage registration – Chesham URC is now registered for this and has a dedicated registrar for such services.

Annual Meeting May 6th 2017 at Trinity Slough and gathering for all the churches – All in the churches in the group are invited to come for lunch and the afternoon. Notices & flyers will be forthcoming.

Grants applied for by Group churches – Chesham applied for a grant for Quinquennial Report essential roof repairs of £6257.24 last November, agreed by officer action and concurred by this meeting. £3000 towards

this was given by Resources Committee who met on 6th December.
ACTION: Please remember that local churches should notify the Group of any Grants being applied for.

Synod Pastoral Committee feedback

Deployment – following the discussion on the deployment paper at the last Synod meeting in November the small group from the Pastoral Committee who worked on the paper will prepare a reply for the next Synod in March.

A paper was discussed on Synod-accredited Lay Preachers and the role of TLS and a second paper on the support available for lay leaders.

The Moderator wishes Synod to take part in a Synod Church Life Review and to set Vision Goals for the next year.

Synod Discipleship Committee – Revd Leonora Jagessar Visser t’Hooft has been our representative on this committee. Heather Pugsley is willing to be the Group representative, but cannot guarantee attending all meetings. Bridget will inform Convenor Revd Jane Wade.

Any items from the Ministers’ Meeting – The ministers are meeting bi-monthly. The January meeting was a small group, but we hope more will attend at the home of Revd John Parry in March. It is a useful meeting.

AOB - Revd Terry Hinks is on sabbatical from 20th April to 20th July. September’s agenda will include looking at the Church Life Reviews (CLR -profiles) and Ministry reviews (MASA) for the Group churches.

Date of next Steering Group meeting – 9th September 2017

Money makes the world go round!

The Finance Committee generally meets just twice a year - once to consider the year to come, and once to look at the year just gone. Several of the committee members have been doing this for over 20 years. Whilst none are particularly wishing to stand down, it would be useful to have “new blood” on the committee to bring a fresh perspective to our financial thinking. If you, or someone else you think could be interested, please consider this and make appropriate nominations at the AGM.

Angus - Finance Committee Chairman

Count Your Blessings – Lent with Christian Aid

For Christians around the world, Lent is a time of reflection, self-examination and thinking of others. Thinking about how we follow Jesus' call to sacrificial living, breaking down barriers, building bridges, and demanding justice for the poor and the oppressed.

People like Michael who lives in South Sudan, where 6.1 million people urgently need humanitarian aid as a result of the conflict that erupted in December 2013. .

Michael, a skilled fisherman in his 70s, has gradually lost his sight during the past five year. He fled alongside his family when government forces came to his village. Soldiers killed people and stole cattle, forcing Michael to flee to the swamp, where he resided with his family for two months. When they returned, their belongings were gone, and they were left with next to nothing.

Thankfully with fishing hooks and nets from Christian Aid, Michael can now take the younger generation to the swamp and teach them how to fish, so they can continue to feed their community.

Throughout Lent, we are reflecting on the hymn written for us, 'When I Needed a Neighbour, You Were There', and on the blessings in our lives through our Prayer Diary, *Count Your Blessings*.

Christian Aid is working with people displaced within South Sudan, who are living in some of the hardest-to-reach places, to provide much-needed food, safe water, sanitation facilities and essential household items so they can start to rebuild their lives.

Just £15 could provide fishing gear for a family like Michael's; £8.50 could provide two cooking pots; and £3 could pay for two plastic jerry cans for storing drinking water.

For 70 years, Christian Aid and its supporters have been making a difference, helping to transform the lives of people living in poverty. Will you help?

With your help, we will be there for them tomorrow.

For more information, visit www.Christian-aid.org/Lent

WYCOMBE TALKING NEWSPAPER



The Talking Newspaper team are looking for people to run the recording sessions on Friday evenings. This is not as technical as it sounds.

The main requirement is familiarity with a computer. It is usually done once every four weeks.

There is no age barrier. Whilst some of the recordists are retired it could just as easily be a young person who is looking to do community service.

There are also copying jobs to be done on Saturday morning, when the CDs and memory sticks are prepared for posting.

If you think you know someone who could do this or want to ask more about it please call Ann Higginbottom on [01494 451374](tel:01494451374).

Some readers with long memories may recall Maurice Gwilt, who was very involved with this organisation, using his sonorous tones to make regular recordings. It would be good if Trinity could once again become involved in this worthwhile cause.

Growing Snowballs Game at Thinking Day Service

At the Guide's Thinking Day service on 19 February everyone was given a piece of paper to write a skill and a quality they would like to grow in the months ahead. Then having crunched them up and thrown them we shared the ideas and added another word linked to the Bible reading. These are the ideas that were shared:

A skill you would like to grow and improve

- running for longer; rugby; tap dancing; swimming; playing chess learn about technology;
- guitar playing; ukelele (x2); musical instrument; piano playing (x2);
- Cooking (x2); sewing; knitting; tending the garden; painting
- using a website; compute skills; using laptop; using i pad;
- learn Spanish and Italian; maths (x2); get better at handwriting; French;
- giving things a go; flexibility

A quality or value you would like to grow / strengthen in yourself.

- Less stressed (x2); listen to other people's advice; not getting annoyed at people when things don't go my way; perseverance; positivity; smiling; coping with stress; confidence; faith; be more cheerful; less last minute;
- kindness (x3); growing in love; love and help others more; helping others (x4); caring; generosity; tolerance (x2); thoughtfulness;
- patience (x6); prayer; integrity.

A word from our reading (John 15. 1 – 12 Jesus the vine and his disciples the branches)

- Keep growing (x2); growing inwardly; more patience (x2);
- Let us know about Jesus; be united to him; faith in Jesus; to be understanding; remain in the vine; believing in Christ to grow; faithfulness; walk in God's way; grow in faith (x6)
- loving (x7); love one another (x4);
- Fruitful; Loving; Joyful; Faithful; United; Close to Jesus; Giving glory to God; Praying.

Churches Together in High Wycombe

LENT '17 options

Being Disciples

Wednesdays 8 March - 5 April
7.45-9.15pm in Church

A series of discussions on Rowan Williams' book. Topics include faith, hope and love; forgiveness; holiness; social action; life in the Spirit

Why follow Jesus?

Wednesdays 8 March - 29 March
7.30-9pm in the Vicarage, 6 Priory Ave

An exploration of the costs and joys of following Christ through personal stories

Receiving Christ

Thursdays 9 March - 6 April
7.45-9.45pm at 10 Pretoria Road, HP13 6QW

Using the York Course 2017 to explore how we can receive Christ and be in relationship with him

This course is also on at Trinity URC, Tuesdays 28 Feb - 4 April excluding 21 March, at 7.30pm

Lifting the lid on Lent

Saturdays 4 March - 1 April
3-4pm in the Oakley Hall

Explore Lent together in a series of interactive sessions for children and adults

Exploring Spiritual Practices

Wednesdays 1 March - 5 April
1.30-3pm at Wesley Methodist

Draw closer to God by learning about some basic practices of Christian discipleship

Next Steps...

This year there's a range of options for Lent study sessions to choose from, with something for everybody.

Take a look at the posters for each course and sign up in church.



Feasts & Festivals
The United
Reformed Church

Big Day Out!

As part of the URC's Feasts & Festivals focus for next year, do consider coming along to the **Big Day Out at Warwick Castle on Saturday 20th May from 10 am to 5 pm.** It's for the whole church, and is being organised by the Pilots.

There will be many things to be excited about, including:

- worship for everyone, with live music
- access to Warwick Castle and attractions
- the chance to meet with friends, old and new from all over the country

A duffle bag for use on the day, and special edition Feasts and Festivals Badge are all included in the price.

Admission prices are:

17+ years £16.50 per person

4-16 years £11.00 per person

Under 4s Free

There is also 1 free adult place for every 10 paid child places.

Each group or family is responsible for making their own travel arrangements. Car parking charges at Warwick Castle will be around £9 per car.

If you are interested in going, please see me. Alan and I will be going. The deadline for booking is 31st March.

Kate Yates

Contact the Pilots Desk on

pilots@urc.org.uk



An extract from the Church & Society Newsletter

The Synod Church and Society Network held its first annual event at Hertford URC on 8 October 2016 and Kate Yates and I were able to attend on behalf of Cores End Church and Trinity Church, High Wycombe. We heard about three projects involving churches in the Synod. In a presentation on London hosting we were moved by the experiences of a refugee and a woman who was providing a room for her, and the positive impact this had had. There was also good news to hear from the foodbank run from Hertford URC and some excellent interfaith work involving children and young people in London.

It was good to meet Grace Pengelly (the new URC Church and Society Secretary) and to hear of the good work being done by the Joint Public Issues Team. This year the Team will particularly focusing on: campaigning for fair treatment of refugees and asylum seekers; enabling conversations about what a post-Brexit Britain could look like; and new research on poverty and welfare. The team will also continue work in the areas of peace, climate change, Syria and political engagement among others.

The gathering broke up into small groups to look at areas of particular interest. Kate and I joined the group looking at Mental Health issues and shared the work going on at Trinity. It is hoped that further sharing of ideas and resources can continue in these interest groups. The morning ended with a wonderful hot lunch provided by members of the Hertford Church.

Here was an event that looked outwards and recognised both the huge needs in our world and the great work that is going on – a real antidote to much that is on the church agendas. An event to be recommended – do come next year!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tem', with a stylized flourish underneath.



Recruiting choirs and
individual singers

**Will you be one of the
400 singers at the
Free Church Choirs
Festival of Church Music?**

**Worcester Cathedral
Saturday 14 October 2017**

**Music books available from January 2017
Order yours now**

For more information contact
Elizabeth Crisp 01252 626937 or
elizap10@btinternet.com

Visit the website <http://www.freechurchchoirs.org.uk>

**Festival Organist - Rufus Frowde
Festival Pianist - Lynne Bradburn
Festival Conductor - Peter J Williams**

Prayers for March

A Prayer for Lent.

Bless me, Lord, during this season of Lent.

Draw me closer to you.

Remind me that discipline is not all about giving up but also about giving out to others.

Hold before me the example of your Son and the saints in resisting temptation.

Direct me to your word in the Bible for my comfort and encouragement.

Help me to resolve my doubts and strengthen my faith.

Bless me, Lord, I earnestly pray, rejoicing in your never-failing love. *Amen*

On the homeless and dispossessed - Lord have mercy.

On broken families - Lord have mercy.

On the persecuted and abused - Lord have mercy.

On the self-satisfied - Christ have mercy.

On the ruthlessly successful - Christ have mercy.

On the oppressor and tyrant - Christ have mercy.

On the homemakers and carers - Lord have mercy.

On the shy and self-effacing - Lord have mercy.

On the everyday workers - Lord have mercy.

Dear Lord and Father we watch our television screens, listen to our radios, read our newspapers and are distressed and despondent about what is happening in our world. Help us to remember that it is your world and that we should place it in your hands with prayer. Remind us to give thanks for the good things that are reported, showing that there is still beauty, courage, kindness and love to be found here. In Jesus' name. *Amen*.



Who's who

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Church contact number
☎ 01494 520365 (answer phone)