

Outlook

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile."

Romans 1:16

This week we began the season of Lent. It includes 6 Sundays and 40 other days that lead up to the events of Passover/Easter. Just as Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness before he began his public ministry, so Lent is an invitation to take some time to consider our own walk with the Lord and to recommit our lives to him.

We plan to look at the life, teaching, work, death and resurrection of Jesus through the Gospel of Mark this Lent. It would be great if every one of us were able to [read](#) or [listen](#) to the whole of Mark over these coming weeks. (See the back page for more information on how to get the most out of these Lentern studies.)



On Tuesday many of us will have eaten pancakes as a symbolic way of getting ready for Lent - and they were no doubt delicious! As we head towards this year's Easter celebrations, why not take the opportunity to feast on the Word of God by digging deep into Mark's Gospel?

A Collect for this Week

Holy God, our lives are laid open before you: rescue us from the chaos of sin and through the death of your Son bring us healing and make us whole in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Romans 1:11-17

11 I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong – **12** that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. **13** I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that I planned many times to come to you (but have been prevented from doing so until now) in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles. **14** I am a debtor both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both

to the wise and the foolish. **15** That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are in Rome. **16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. **17** For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed – a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: 'The righteous will live by faith.'

Mark 1:21-34

21 They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. **22** The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. **23** Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, **24** 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are – the Holy One of God!'

25 'Be quiet!' said Jesus sternly. 'Come out of him!' **26** The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. **27** The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, 'What is this? A new teaching – and with authority! He even gives orders to

impure spirits and they obey him.' **28** News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee. **29** As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. **30** Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. **31** So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them. **32** That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all who were ill and demon-possessed. **33** The whole town gathered at the door, **34** and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was.

Lent Events



Our Lent course continues each Tuesday at 7:30pm and Wednesday at 1:45pm. You'd be most welcome to join in. And here are some other **helpful Lent dates** for your diary:

■ Agapé/Passover Supper

➤ 7:00pm Thursday 2nd April (*please note change of time*)

➤ [Click here to reserve your seat](#) at this delicious meal

■ Holy Communion for Holy Week

➤ 9:15am every day Mon 30th March - Thurs 2nd April

The PCC would like to invite you...



... to come and join them for a time of spring cleaning All Saints' - inside and out - during the morning of **Saturday 28th March** (the weekend before Easter Sunday).

There'll be dusting, gardening, tidying, window cleaning and lots more to get stuck into. And there'll be cake too. Lots of cake.

Gardening



We (*still!*) need to find someone to take on the lawn mowing and general gardening at All Saints'. I (Ian) am no expert, but even I know that everything will start to grow again in the next month or so... might **you** be willing to take this on? Or help occasionally? Let us know!

New Wine Celebration Event: 6:30pm Sunday 1st March



The next New Wine evening of worship/teaching/prayer will be held at St Paul's Burseldon on Sunday 1st March 6:30pm. If you'd like to go but don't have a lift, let Ian know.

Keep in Touch



Wardens:

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Making the Most of Mark's Gospel



To get the most out of Mark's Gospel, why not read these passages and make a note of your answers to the questions? There'll be more similar readings & questions each week during Lent.

>>> [Read Mark 1:1-20](#)

The word "gospel" means "good news". Mark begins his book of good news with three statements about Jesus by:

- a) the Old Testament prophets (messengers) (Mark 1:2-3)*
- b) John the Baptist (Mark 1:7)*
- c) God himself (Mark 1:11)*

What do they each say about Jesus?

- a)*
- b)*
- c)*

>>> [Read Mark 1:21 – 2:17](#)

In chapters 1 and 2 Jesus shows his authority in different situations. (See Mark 1:16-20, 21-22, 23-28, 40-45; 2:1-12.) When Jesus speaks or acts, what sorts of things happen?

>>> [Read Mark 2:18 – 3:6](#)

Even at this early stage, Jesus divided opinions. Some people were amazed by him, while others were enraged. What are your impressions of Jesus from these early chapters of Mark? And do you have any questions about Mark 1:1-3:6?