

St Clement's Church, King Square

The Second Sunday before Lent 4th February 2024

Collect

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and the earth
and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit
reigns supreme over all things,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading (Proverbs 8.1, 22-31)

A reading from the Book of Proverbs.
Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding
raise her voice? The Lord created me at the
beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long
ago. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the
beginning of the earth. When there were no
depths I was brought forth, when there were no
springs abounding with water. Before the
mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was
brought forth – when he had not yet made earth
and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. When he
established the heavens, I was there, when he
drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he
made firm the skies above, when he established
the fountains of the deep, when he assigned the
sea to its limit, so that the waters might not
transgress his command, when he marked out the
foundations of the earth, then I was beside him,
like a master worker; and I was daily his delight,
rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his
inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

Psalm (Psalm 104)



**Response: Bless the Lord, my soul,
Lord God, how great you are.**

Bless the Lord, my soul,
Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord,
The earth is full of your riches.

May the glory of the Lord last for ever.
May the Lord rejoice in creation.
May the thoughts be pleasing to God.
I find my joy in the Lord.

I will sing to the Lord all my life,
make music to my God while I live.
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord.

New Testament Reading (Colossians 1.15-20)

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Colossians.
Christ is the image of the invisible God, the first
born of all creation; for in him all things in heaven
and on earth were created, things visible and
invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers
or powers – all things have been created through
him and for him, He himself is before all things, and
in him all things hold together. He is the head of
the body, the church; he is the beginning, the first
born from the dead, so that he might come to have
first place in everything. For in him all the fullness
of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God
was pleased to reconcile himself to all things,
whether in earth or in heaven, by making peace
through the blood of the cross.

Gospel Reading (John 1. 1-14)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was
with God, and the Word was God. He was in the
beginning with God. All things came into being
through him, and without him not one thing came
into being. What has come into being in him was
life, and the life was the light of all people. The
light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did
not overcome it. There was a man sent from God,
whose name was John. He came as a witness to
testify to the light, so that all might believe through
him. He himself was not the light, but he came to
testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens

everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become the children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Post Communion

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

For your prayers

In our Prayers: Hugh, Josh, Diane Rankin, Lloyd Whitney, Diane, Trevor, Vera, Chris Hall, Tommy Lacken, Christine & Tony, Sue, Kathy, Maria Amparo Garcia, Maria, Lenny Shaw, Roger Shaw, Adele Skinner, Pat, Martin Fletcher, Vanessa, Enoch Amo-Owusu, Jill Hetherington, Justine, Ian and Martyn. Gregg and Julia Hill, Lewis & Callum, Eamon Irvine, Mia Angel Grant, Christine Shaw.

Among the departed: Rosario Leona, Fr Colin Oxenforth, Santa Enoch Amo-Owusu

Anniversaries of Death: Annie Whitehead, Caroline Wainwright, Mary Johnson, Jack Holt, Fr Henry Howell, Lawrence Edgar Snow, James Jolly, Henry Charles Bennett, Amy Elenore Crowley, Ethel Lilian Oliver, James Henry Lamb, Fr Evan Jones.

In the Parish: We pray for those who work in estate management and repairs.

In the wider world: We continue to pray for the people of the Holy Land, especially those living in Gaza.

Notices

This week in church...

Wednesday 7th	Open Church 10am-1pm Mass 12.30pm
Next Sunday 11th	Sunday Next before Lent 10.30am Parish Mass

Ash Wednesday

There will be **Sung Mass with Imposition of Ashes on Wednesday 14th February at 7pm**. Please make every effort to attend, so that we can make a good start to Lent together. Meanwhile, please bring your Palm Crosses to church so that they can be made into ash!

Lent Study and Devotion

This year we will be holding the ancient devotion of **Stations of the Cross at 7pm on Mondays**. We will also be repeating the quiet evening service of **Compline at 6pm on Wednesdays**.

Lent is an opportunity for all of us to pray and study, alone and together. **Would you like to be a part of a Lent Group this year?** If you're interested, please let me know which daytimes or evenings during the week are best for you.

Father David

Men's Clothes Appeal

Care4Calais with whom we work in supporting the needs of Refugees and Asylum Seekers based in the Barbican Thistle Hotel are asking **for men's coats and other winter clothes** for distribution to those without any winter wear in this cold weather. If you have any good quality second-hand clothes to donate please speak to Fr David or Rita.

Parish Giving

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is an established service for managing One-Off donations and Direct Debit giving to St Clement's. It is free and reduces the burden of work on church volunteers and provides a simple and secure service to givers. For more information speak to Emke or Father David or go to:

[www.https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/home/](https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/home/)

St. Clement's Church is very grateful for all donations to our work. To donate now please scan the QR code below. You can use debit or credit card, Apple Pay or Google Pay. Many thanks!

