

*Parish of Seale, Puttenham & Wanborough*

# SUNDAY Supplement

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**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Lent 5 (Passiontide begins)**

## Today's Services

**10.30 am** Holy Communion at St Laurence, Seale

**6.00 pm** Virtual Compline by Zoom

For all zoom services please use this link: [Church Services](#)

Or by phone - dial one of the following:

0203 901 7895 ; 0208 080 6591 or [Find your local number](#)

Meeting ID: 987 5792 9381 – Passcode 981857

Download Order of Service here:

[Virtual Compline](#)

## Today's Readings:

**Morning:** Hebrews 5.5-10 ; John 12.20-33

**Evening:** Exodus 7.8-24

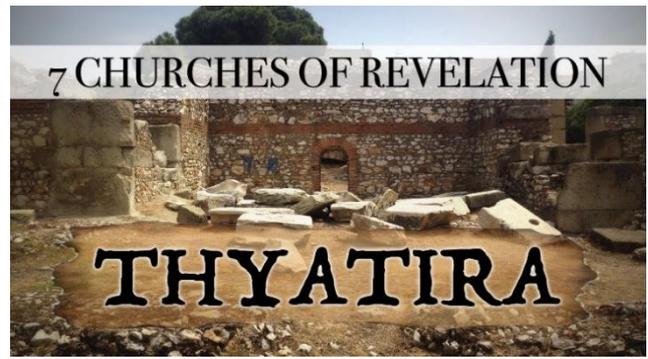
## Prayer for this week

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
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.**

## FROM THE RECTORY DESK

Dear Friends

In our Lent talks last week Philip took us to the town of Thyatira, centre of worship for the pagan God Apollos and the trade in purple dyes.



The church at Thyatira, was a thriving church with a strong sense of pastoral care and active in mission. Sadly this church was condemned for immorality of the kind recorded in the Old Testament by Jezebel wife of king Ahab who worshipped the fertility cult God Baal. Jezebel was a ruthless immoral seducer of people and her followers degraded the Christian community at Thyatira. Many of the licentious practices at Thyatira were connected with trade guilds which Christians were forced to join if they were to continue to trade by this means they were drawn into debauchery.

We can conclude from the message to the church at Thyatira that:

- Christians must check that their business practices do not clash with their Christian principles and values.
- Christians who belong to societies and clubs should not compromise their Christian values and biblical integrity just to belong.
- Churches need to guard against the seductions of immorality and worldly practices that could undermine the purity of the Christian message it proclaims and lead congregations astray.
- Business investments must be ethical and not exploit the people of God.

Next Tuesday Marcus will reflect on the message to the “dead” church at Sardis. The text is below.

Lenten Blessings,

Rector

## To the Church in Sardis

**3** “To the angel<sup>[a]</sup> of the church in Sardis write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits<sup>[b]</sup> of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. <sup>2</sup> Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God. <sup>3</sup> Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.

<sup>4</sup> Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. <sup>5</sup> The one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life but will acknowledge that name before my Father and his angels. <sup>6</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

## CHURCH OPENING TIMINGS FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Seale and Puttenham churches every Wednesday 12.00 – 3.00 pm

Sands and Wanborough churches open every Tuesday 2.00 – 4.00pm and every Saturday 10.00 am - 12 noon



## **21<sup>st</sup> March (Passion Sunday) 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

10:30am HC (CW) St. Laurence Church Seale (MAX 30)

6:00pm Compline Zoom Hosted

23<sup>rd</sup> March 6pm Lent Study by Zoom

## **28<sup>th</sup> March (Palm Sunday)**

10:30am HC (CW) St. John the Baptist Puttenham (MAX 30)

6:00pm EP Zoom Hosted

## **1<sup>st</sup> April Maundy Thursday**

6:00pm HC (CW) Zoom hosted

## **2<sup>nd</sup> April Good Friday**

2:00pm Virtual stations of the cross Zoom Hosted



**Wear a  
mask**

### **REMEMBER HELP US TO HELP YOU WHEN ATTENDING CHURCH IN PERSON BY OBSERVING THE FOLLOWING:**

- Sanitise on arrival and departure
- Always wear a mask
- Give your contact details when asked
- Sit in the areas marked with red and white tape as directed by the Churchwardens and stay there until the service ends
- Do not gather in groups before, during or after worship
- Do not gather outside the churches for social conversation
- Do not sing or hum with the music even if tempted to do so you will spread the virus if you are contagious and will not be aware of that if you are A-symptomatic.
- When you make your responses do not shout or speak loudly
- Wear warm clothing because doors and windows will be kept open
- Take your service sheet away with you
- Drop your offering in the church plate on departure
- Keep to the maximum of thirty attendance rules

## **NATIONAL DAY OF REFLECTION**

On 23 March 2021, it will be one year since the first UK lockdown. Since then, millions of people have been bereaved, both because of Covid-19 and due to other causes. Please pray with Marie Curie on this day. The national prayer time is 8pm there will be a time of silence for those who have died of Covid 19 at 12:00 noon



Covid 19 has reduced our church services but not our parish expenses so we would encourage you to keep your giving at a regular level so that we do not fall into debts. Anything extra you wish to give over and above your existing generosity would be gratefully received and considerably help our church finances. There are three ways in which you can do this: 1. Send the money electronically to the Seale, Puttenham and Wanborough bank account, which is at Lloyds Bank, Farnham, sort code 30 93 20, account number 02210758, account name SPWPCC (it would be very helpful if you could add your name as a reference). 2. Send the money by post to Michael Thorpe, Treasurer, Delamere House, Greenacres, Runfold, GU10 1QH 3. Set up a monthly standing order to the above bank account. Michael will supply you with a Gift Aid form for any payments which you are kind enough to make.

## **PARISH GIVING SCHEME**

If you would like to change your regular Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) giving please write to: Parish Giving Scheme, 76 Kingsholm Road, Gloucester GL1 3BD or email to [info@parishgiving.org.uk](mailto:info@parishgiving.org.uk) Or phone 0333 002 1260. It helps if the PGS reference number, which can be found below your address on PGS correspondence, is quoted. If you would like to start your

regular Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), or have any questions about it, please contact Mike Cloughley, our PGS coordinator: Telephone number: 01252 782304 Email: [cloughley@btinternet.com](mailto:cloughley@btinternet.com)



Please contact any member of the ministry team if you are anxious, lonely or would like a spiritual or social chat.

THE RECTOR: 01252 783057 or [Rector@spw.org.uk](mailto:Rector@spw.org.uk)

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