

Prayer themes for March 2010

1. St David's Day – the people of Wales
2. The housebound
3. Those facing operations
4. Lent courses and Groups
5. Women of the World
6. The recently bereaved
7. Action to deal with Climate change
8. Staff in our local hospitals
9. Those preparing to be married this year
10. Our traveller and gypsy communities
11. Marriage preparation courses
12. Our local newspapers
13. That we may be able to reflect on the meaning of Christ's Passion
14. Give thanks and pray for our Mothers and those who have been as mothers to us
15. Church Councils and administrators
16. Local Resident's Associations
17. St Patrick's Day – the people of Ireland
18. Schools beginning their Easter holidays
19. Those who work in our shops
20. Boldness to witness to our local communities
21. Those planning Easter services
22. Those preparing for baptism
23. Prayer Groups linked to our churches
24. Humility and a wish to serve
25. Witness to our Faith
26. A deepening of our faith
27. Give thanks for Jesus in our lives
28. For joy in our faith
29. For peace in our world
30. Those who work to make our communities a safer place
31. Our young people and youth leaders

Number 90, March 2010

“Live in

Harmony

with one another”

Newsletter from Churches Together in Sidcup

Pancakes and Prayers

The pancake party held on Shrove Tuesday raised the princely sum of £230. Thank you for all those who attended and contributed.

Pancake Day or, more appropriately, Shrove Tuesday leads us into the time of Lent. Today, living in a busy world and leading busy lives many people hardly having the opportunity to take a breathing space. Lent provides us with the opportunity to take time and to inwardly reflect on our own lives and the life of the church, to reflect on what God has done for all humanity. Lent gives us a time of preparation in readiness to celebrate God's marvellous redemption at Easter and the resurrected life that we live and hope for as Christians. Lent is not just a time of reflection and preparation but also one of prayer.

We offer up to God prayers of thanksgiving, prayers of supplication, prayers of intercession, prayers of confession, prayers of adoration and many others. However, I wonder how many people practice contemplative prayer? Prayer which has been described as waiting upon God, listening for God, opening ourselves to God, responding to the invitation to meet God in silent awareness. By coming to God in silence and stillness we lay aside the busyness of our lives. We make ourselves available, open and receptive for God to do as God wills and in the stillness and the silence perhaps we hear that still small voice of calm.

So as we journey through Lent, as we walk the Good Friday Procession and then celebrate Easter I am reminded of some words from that wonderful hymn “Now the green blade rises”. For at the resurrection, at Easter “Love comes again, like wheat that springs up green”. The time of celebration has arrived.

Rev Malcolm Wright Emmanuel Church

**Friday Lent Lunches at Holy Redeemer
Church Hall, Days Lane
Food & fellowship at a modest price
Every Friday at 12.30pm until 26th March**

**WOMENS' WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
'Let all that hath breath praise the Lord'
Compiled by Christian women
from Cameroon
Friday 5th March 2010
1.45pm at St John's, Church Road, Sidcup
with Sue Robbins
8.00pm at Footscray Baptist, Sidcup Hill
with Joy Raggett**

**Greetings Card Workshop at 10.30am -12pm on
Saturday 6th March at Avery Hill Christian Fellowship,
Southspring. £3 entry fee. For more information
contact June on 020 8302 0425**

**JULIEN PRAYER MEETINGS
Every 3rd Friday starting 19th March at 7.30pm
At Weaver Room, Emmanuel Church, Granville Rd
Waiting on God in the Silence
Contemplative prayer in the Christian Tradition**

**CRIBS Easter Play & Annual Meeting
At 6.30pm on Sunday 21st March at
St Martin's Church, Erith Road, Barnehurst, DA7 6HX**

**Christ Church Parish Fun Run at 2pm
on Saturday 27th March at Christ Church, Main Road
Further details from Juli Atkinson 020 8300 1350**

**Good Friday Witness at 9.30am at 2nd April from St
John's, Church Road. Refreshments at Emmanuel
Church, Hadlow Road afterwards.**

**The next Churches Together in Sidcup Annual General
Meeting is at 7.45pm on Wednesday 21st April at St
Lawrence's, Main Road.**

**The next CTiS General Meeting is at 8pm on
Wednesday 16th June at Footscray Baptist, Sidcup Hill**

Monthly Churches Together Prayer Meeting every 3rd
Saturday
9 - 9.30 am. All welcome
Next Meeting is
**20 March – Sidcup Baptist Church
17 April – New Covenant (at St Andrew's)
15 May – St Lawrences**

***Footscray Baptist Church will provide the editorial for
April
Holy Redeemer for May***

www.sidcupchurch.org.uk has links and news from the churches

***To send an editorial or article of interest to our wider
community please
email items to harmony_74@hotmail.com
by 7th of month prior to publication or write to
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DA15 8LW or fax 0208 850 0566***