



TELSCOMBE CLIFFS COMMUNITY CHURCH
www.telscombecliffscommunitychurch.org.uk

NEWSLETTER

MARCH/APRIL 2020

Why Observe Lent 2020?

Lent is a season in the **Christian liturgical calendar** that anticipates Jesus' resurrection and falls between Ash Wednesday and Easter. Other seasons in the Christian calendar include Advent, Christmas, and Easter. The roots of Lent go back to the practices of Christian converts in the early church, who would fast in preparation for being baptized on Easter morning. Eventually, Lent became associated with Jesus' 40-day **fast in the wilderness**.

It is common for modern Christians to choose something to fast from during Lent, whether a type of food, a habit, or some other comfort. Participants can break their fast on Sundays, which are "feast days" that foreshadow Easter.

There are a number of reasons why Christians can be sceptical about the benefits of observing Lent. Some Protestants look down on Lent because they associate it with Catholicism. It would be incorrect to assume that Lent does not have a rich history apart from the Catholic church. It would also be wrong to assume that every ritual the Reformers or other Protestants have thrown out was inherently problematic.

Consider also the fact that even though the Bible does not command believers to follow Lent, it does assume the practice of **fasting**, which seems to be a lost discipline in the evangelical world. Done with the right attitude, fasting is a way for Christians to willingly deny themselves something good (whether food or otherwise) in order to seek and "feast" on God in a more focused way. And Lent in particular is an opportunity to join the global church in pursuing a deeper understanding of our relationship with Jesus.

Fasting often falls into different categories and the Catholic and Anglican churches have each made specific suggestions to the members of their denominations. Pope Francis has recommended that for Lent 2020, people give up damaging words. **He said**, "We live in an atmosphere polluted by too much verbal violence, too many offensive and harmful words, which are amplified by the internet. Today, people insult each other as if they were saying 'Good Day.'" The Church of England has suggested that for Lent 2020, people focus on caring for God's creation. To that end, the church has developed an app called **#LiveLent**. Those who sign up for it will receive a daily reflection, Scripture reading, and prayer, as well as a specific daily challenge pertaining to that goal.

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**ROTAS FOR
ELDERS AND WELCOMERS**

COMMUNION

Mar 1st Kathy Gillott Sam Shepherd
Apr 12th Val Barritt Tom Rose
May 3rd Liz Hunter Kathy Gillott

Vestry Duty

Mar 1st Val Barritt
Mar 8th Sam Shepherd
Mar 15th Kathy Gillott
Mar 22nd Neil Watts
Mar 29th Liz Hunter
April 5th Lin Paddock
April 12th Kathy Gillott
April 19th Sam Shepherd
April 26th Val Barritt
May 3rd Lin Paddock

Please arrange a substitute if you are unable to fulfil your duty

Preaching Plan

Mar 1st Wyn Funnell
Mar 8th Tim Mills
Mar 15th Simon Franklin
Mar 22nd Wyn Funnell
Mar 29th Graeme Allen
Apr 5th Liz Montgomery
Apr 12th Neil Watts
Apr 19th Barbara Sayers
Apr 26th Steve Brunton
May 3rd Neil Watts

**TELSCOMBE CLIFFS
COMMUNITY CHURCH**

SERVING ELDERS

Treasurer	Sam Shepherd
Asst Treasurer	Linda Paddock
Church Secretary	Neil Watts
Asst Church Sec	Kathy Gillott

Preaching Plan	Val Barritt
Serving Elder	Tom Rose
Serving Elder	Liz Hunter

Non Serving Elder	Janet Coghlan
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FABRIC COMMITTEE

Tom Rose
Elizabeth Hunter
Philip Slinn

FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

Linda Rose

CHURCH MUSIC:

Mark Hatherley
Kathryn Gillott

**Any items for the newsletter can be
e-mailed to:
kathryngillott@yahoo.co.uk**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

*****MARCH 28TH 2PM FILM SHOWING - 'THE KING AND I'*****

+++++MARCH 29TH CHURCH MEETING AND AGM+++++

*****APRIL 18TH CHURCH QUIZ*****

+++++APRIL 25TH 2PM FILM SHOWING - 'EASTER PARADE' +++++

*****MAY 10TH VE DAY AND ST GEORGES DAY LUNCH*****

+++++JUNE 7TH CHURCH MEETING AND OUTING+++++

The March bible study is on Tuesday 17th March at 6.30pm. As Easter dominates the first half of April, the April bible study will be combined with the Maundy Thursday breakfast service on the 9th April starting at 9.30am