

## From ASHES to EASTER

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Feb  
Sun 21<sup>st</sup> Feb

ASH WEDNESDAY 6.30am and 6.30pm  
**LENT 1**

6-7pm Reflection on Sunday readings in the Church  
Church Council meeting

Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb

Tue 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb

Tue 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb

Wed 24<sup>th</sup> Feb

Sun 28<sup>th</sup> Feb

Elders' Morning Tea

7.30 Lent Reflections 1(in the studio)

7pm Shared Meal[s]

**LENT 2**

6-7pm Reflection on Sunday readings in the Church

7pm Film/discussion in the hall 1

Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar

Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar

Sun 7<sup>th</sup> Mar

7.30 Lent Reflections 2(in the studio)

7pm Shared Meal[s]

**LENT 3**

6-7pm Reflection on Sunday readings in the **Studio**

7pm HeartSong [Time to be confirmed]

Tue 9<sup>th</sup> Mar

Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Mar

Thu 11<sup>th</sup> Mar

Sun 14<sup>th</sup> Mar

7.30 Lent Reflections 3 (in the studio)

7pm Shared Meal[s]

8pm Fellowship of Contemplative Prayer

**LENT 4 {refreshment Sunday}**

*Bishop Kaye Goldsworthy @ St Paul's*

6-7pm Reflection on Sunday readings in the Church

7pm Film/discussion in the hall 2

Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Mar

Tue 16<sup>th</sup> Mar

Tue 16<sup>th</sup> Mar

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Mar

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> Mar

Church Council meeting

Elders Morning Tea

7.30 Lent Reflections 4 (in the studio)

7pm Shared Meal[s]

**LENT 5**

6-7pm Reflection on Sunday readings in the Church

7.30 Lent Reflections 5(in the studio)

Tue 23<sup>rd</sup> Mar

Wed 24<sup>th</sup> Mar

Sat 27<sup>th</sup> Mar

7pm Shared Meal[s]

Morning Busy Bee - Preparation for Easter

12noon Making Palm Crosses

Sun 28<sup>th</sup> Mar

**PALM SUNDAY**

8am Procession from Gino's

6-7pm Reflection on Sunday readings in the Church

7.30 Lent Reflections 6 (in the studio)

Tue 30<sup>th</sup> Mar

7.30 Lent Reflections 7 (in the studio)

✂ **HOLY WEEK Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Mar - Sun 4<sup>th</sup> April** ✂

## St Paul's Beaconsfield



LENT

2010

### from ASHES to EASTER and Beyond

The season of LENT, which began on Ash Wednesday, is 40 days of preparation for the Paschal Mysteries of Easter, which is followed by the 50 days of resurrection celebrations that take us onwards to Pentecost. The days are shortening, and will soon become cooler, as the natural world around undergoes a change of season, as we reflect on the changes within ourselves so too we are called to attend to our becoming in Christ... As we experience and encounter the natural rhythms of change, so we may know our orientation toward change, that movement within ourselves (our community) that leads us through the cross to new life. We prepare for dying in order that we may experience the promise of new life....

In our community we are blessed with com-panions (those with whom we share bread), and in our communion we realise ourselves as the Body of Christ, together we can therefore walk to the cross, and make real the promise of resurrection.

*Like the resurrection of the East End will this Lent be a journey that takes us Beyond the Church?*



## ✠LENT✠ A tradition of liberation

Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving were the traditional disciplines required for the observance of a “right and proper” LENT. More contemporary liturgical thought has emphasised **LENT as a season of preparation.**

LENT is not there to make us a better people, nor a pious people; rather it is a time in which we prepare for liberation, for freedom to celebrate the Pascha (Christian passover). In LENT we are brought into the story of our Lord’s dying and rising, and we have the opportunity to set aside our worldly driven-ness, or the pull of worldly gravity, and to free-fall in trust that resurrection is a promise for us all to realise. Lent enables us to know “The Story” within ourselves, making Easter “Our Story”



## HOLY WEEK Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Mar - Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Apr

<b>Monday - Wednesday</b> <i>29<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> Mar</i>	6.30am	Morning prayer
	12noon	Mid-day prayer
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer
	8.30pm	Compline
<b>Tue 30<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	7.30	Lent Reflections 7(in the studio)
<b>Wed 31<sup>st</sup> Mar</b>		Afternoon Preparation of Sand Mandala
<b>Thur 1<sup>st</sup> April</b>		MAUNDY THURSDAY 7pm Mass of the Lord’s Supper & Footwashing followed by roast lamb supper
<b>Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> April</b>		ALL NIGHT VIGIL GOOD FRIDAY 9am Reflections on the Cross 3pm Waiting and Watching
<b>Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> April</b>		Preparations for Easter Sunday
<b>Sun 4<sup>th</sup> April</b>		EASTER SUNDAY 6am service of Light 9.15am Mass of the Resurrection <i>and champagne celebration</i>

✠LENT✠ We join journey

together to share our



**PRAYER** - *is the very breath of our faith. In prayer we encounter God and hear the creative Spirit within us and in all things. During Lent we seek renewal of our prayer life. The Daily office of morning and evening prayer provides a tradition to frame our prayer life*



**BIBLE STUDY** - Attending to the word of God in Holy Scripture enables us to look more deeply at ourselves. It also provides **an opportunity to share** insights and questions.



**FILM NIGHTS** - Two film nights give us the opportunity of Seeing Christ in our culture as we journey through LENT. The 7pm start gives us a chance to watch the movie and be led in discussion as we look at Lenten themes.



**DAILY Reflection** – *The “regula” or daily offices from the monastic tradition serve as an example for us to adopt a time each day that we set aside for contemplating God’s Word. The Lent readings can help as a guide.*



**SHARED MEALS** - *Our St Paul’s tradition of hospitality is an open invitation to join in a simple meal Bread, cheese & wine and to share our thoughts and questions as we look together at the journey to Easter and the Paschal Mystery. You might like to host your own shared meal or join in Wednesdays at the church*

**MANDALA** - Again this year we’ll prepare a sand mandala during holy week in the circle that we use for dancing. This can be used for a creative time of prayer and reflection and will be danced into the ground on Easter morning. Walking round the circle can be a pilgrimage of prayer



**WORSHIP** - The highest calling of the Human Soul - Our Sunday worship changes pace and colour as we make Eucharist together and REALise the Resurrection. Our being together enables us to glimpse our call as the Body of Christ

**HOLY WEEK** - *The greatest of weeks in the Christian Calendar, and a time when we attend to the mysteries of Easter. Activities this week are stilled so that we may be silent and in prayer, visiting Gethsemane before Calvary.*



## LENT REFLECTIONS

Taking some time each day to “Be still and know that I AM God” gives us an opportunity to listen in Prayer and to be aware of our selves and of our relationship with all of creation and with the Divine.

*If the soul is vigilant and withdraws from all distraction and abandons its own will, then the spirit of God invades it and it can conceive because it is free to do so.” Abba Cronius*

## LENT STUDIES

There are seven Lent reflections each one provides some thoughts, a starting point for us to look at movements that shape who we are..... Seeking the Divine is very much related to finding ourselves..... for we are the reference point as we look to the Divine..... and “We are the Body of Christ”. So we reflect both on our own life and being, and also on the life and being of the St Paul's community.

In our efforts to recreate the east end of the church WE have given new shape to our community... this also illustrates that WE have also taken on a new shape.....

*The east end has a delightful feel of going “Beyond the Church”...*

We might keep this sense of “Beyond” as we contemplate the movements that arise during Lent.

*"My word....shall accomplish my purpose"*  
[Isaiah 55.11]

## OPTIONAL GROUPS

In addition to the Lent Studies described above – there may be other groups meeting during lent to share and explore together... Please look for notices in the Service Sheet.

## SHARED MEALS

Coming together over a shared meal to share our experiences of journeying through life is the natural path of community life and is shared by many (possibly all) religious traditions, for example...

Ramadān (Arabic: رمضان) is a Muslim religious observance that takes place during the ninth month of the Islamic calendar; the month in which the Qur'an was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad. It is the Islamic month of fasting, in which participating Muslims do not eat or drink anything from true dawn until sunset. During Ramadān, Muslims ask forgiveness for past sins, pray for guidance and help in refraining from everyday evils, and try to purify themselves through self-restraint and good deeds. Each day of fasting ends with the community(family) sharing a meal together.

We have a shared meal each Wednesday after Evening Prayer. All are invited to bring and share simple food as we talk of our experiences of Lent, our expectations of Easter and explore a future in which “I AM making all things new”.....

This time/venue/format will not suit everybody.... Therefore you are also encouraged to invite a small group for a regular shared meal, a chance to get together with friends and find companions with you on your Lenten journey.

## ORIENTATION

*The East End Project is a significant point in the life of St Paul's.. It shows a movement into greater commitment and more abundant giving.....*

*Perhaps a 'tipping point' that will ring us in a a very different tomorrow.....*

What will tomorrow bring... What is our experience of resurrection?

If, as community, we maintain the giving that has built the East End chapel and taken us beyond the past... then what might we be capable of creating tomorrow? The narratives of scripture give us so many opportunities to see “I AM making all things new” and so to wonder at what 'I am making new'.

*The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.*