

Notice of Preparation of the New Church Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll is the church's register of electors. It is the list of those qualified to attend and to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting where the elections take place for the Parochial Church Council and the parish's representatives on the Deanery Synod. According to the Church of England Representation Rules, every six years the Church Electoral Roll must be completely renewed. 2019 is the sixth year and, from the 3rd February, a new Electoral Roll will be prepared. No names will be carried over from the old Roll, so anyone who wishes to be entered on the new Roll must apply by completing the Form of Application for Enrolment. The 7th April marks the completion of the new Roll when the present Roll will cease to have effect. If you would like to be enrolled, or you have any queries, please contact our Electoral Roll Officer, Tom Burton, 5, Ulverston Crescent, Lytham St. Annes, FY8 3RZ. tel. 720456 or e-mail: tburton@talktalk.net Forms are available at the back of the church for completion. These can be returned to Tom or can be placed in the large envelope at the back of the church marked 'Completed Electoral Roll Forms'. The forms can also be downloaded from St. Cuthbert's Church website.

Presentation of the Elements - if you wish to be involved please pop your name on the list at the back of Church. Many thanks.

Keep up to date with us on Facebook at [St Cuthbert, Lytham](#) and by regularly visiting our website stcuthbertslytham.org

What's on This Coming Week			
Mon	19.00	Choir Practice	Vestry
Tues	11:00	Shrove Lunch	Church
	19:00	Cell Groups	Church
Ash Wed	9.45	Bertie Bears	Hall
	19.00	Bell Ringers	Belfry
	19:00	Service of Repentance	Church
Thurs	10.30	Community Craft Group	Church
Fri	11.00	Holy Communion	Church
Sat	From 10:00	Open Church	Church
Sun	08:30	Holy Communion	Church
	10:00	Holy Communion	Church
	13.30	Baptism	Church

Your prayers are asked for:
those in special need at present: Sally Ward, Brenda Davey, Thelma Abbotson and Sarah Welch.
The recently departed: Connie Street, Hellie Meaney and Sheila Collings.
and for those who have requested our ongoing prayer support: Elizabeth Frater and Dennis Quinlin.

St Cuthbert's is a charity registered in England and Wales Charity Registration No. 1143673
 Registered Office: St Cuthbert's Church, Church Road, Lytham St. Annes, FY8 5QL
 Telephone: 01253 736488



Sunday, 3rd March 2019
The Sunday Next before Lent



A warm welcome to St Cuthbert's today

We are pleased to offer a loop system for those with hearing difficulties - just turn your hearing aid to the T setting.

8:30am Holy Communion [BCP]

President: The Revd Nick Wells

Preacher: Mr David Chapman

Readings: 2 Corinthians 3.12 - 4.2; Luke 9. 28-36.

10:00am Holy Communion

President: The Revd David Hirst

Preacher: Mr David Chapman

Psalm 99

Readings: as above.

10:00am Sunday School

Our Sunday School meets in church and then moves over to the Church Hall for their time together.

Children's Society Boxholders

Before I do my final count up for 2018, please may I ask those boxholders who have not yet had their boxes emptied to bring them into Church and hand them to a warden or sidesperson. Thank you. Enid Fallows.

OPEN CHURCH NEEDS YOU

"Being open strengthens the rôle of the church in the community and gives opportunity for mission. The primary reasons for visiting a church building are social, spiritual and feeling a sense of welcome and of holiness. A space for reflection or prayer at the heart of a community " - from Ecclesiastical website.

Please consider adding your name to the open church rota at the west end of church to "church sit" occasionally or every week, or speak with the vicar or curate for further information. Volunteer guidelines are available. It is a joy to visit the church when it is peaceful for the "church sitters" and our hope is that the visitors also find and take away something positive from their visit to church.

Shrove Tuesday - We have lunchtime service at 12noon, followed by a traditional pancake lunch at the back of church, overseen by Katie Fieldhouse. We need an idea of numbers so there is a list for names at the back of church. There is no cost to share this time together, though there will be a chance to make a donation if you wish.

Prayer Support - If you are disappointed that a name is no longer on our prayer list please complete a fresh form from the back of church. Names will remain on the ongoing prayer support list for 6 months when a fresh form will be required

The Lengthening of the Days

Lent this year starts quite late: Ash Wednesday, which has been the first day of Lent since the latter half of the seventh century, falls on 6th March. For about three hundred years before that, Lent always started on a Sunday, half a week later. And before that again, the period of penitential preparation for Easter was no more than the time from Good Friday to Easter Day, or at most the preceding week, which we now call Holy Week. But we are used to the longer stretch which, since its establishment, has always been conceived of as a spiritual commemoration of Christ's forty days in the wilderness. The present arrangement gives us forty fasting days before Easter because Sundays — which are never fasting days — need to be discounted in the arithmetic. The problem of not being able to count Sundays within the forty-day total was why, in the seventh century, the extra half-week was added to the front of Lent to make the numbers right.

When Lent begins and ends depends, of course, on the variable date of Easter, which in 2019 is almost as late as it can be: 21 April. The latest possible date is 25 April, with the earliest being 22 March. If Easter is early, the beginning of Lent is pushed back into February, sometimes quite a long way back. But however Lent falls, for those of us in the more northern parts of Europe in particular, it runs over a six-week period when we really notice the way the days are lengthening and things are beginning to grow. In the agricultural world of Anglo-Saxon England, where an open fire was the only source of heat, and firelight and precious candles were the only source of light, this striking lengthening of days in the six weeks before Easter, regardless of when precisely that was in any given year, was eagerly anticipated and it had a huge impact on people's daily lives. The church, using

its language of Latin, officially called the season *Quadragesima*, the forty-day season, and focused on its penitential nature. But for the people of Anglo-Saxon England it was above all the weeks when the days grew longer. Their name for the season, out there in the everyday world, was 'the lengthening' (meaning 'the lengthening of the days'): *Lencten* in Anglo-Saxon, from the verb *lengan*, 'to lengthen'. It is this word that we are using when we refer to the liturgical season of *Lent*. It is no more and no less than the Anglo-Saxons' normal word for what we call 'Spring' — itself an Anglo-Saxon word, but not used as the name for the season of the year until centuries after the Norman Conquest. When *Spring* replaced *Lent* as the name of one of the four seasons, *Lent* lived on as the common name for the season in the church's liturgy.

In those parts of Europe where the local language developed from Latin, the names for this liturgical season were derived from *Quadragesima*: for example, French *carême*, and Italian *quaresima*. An alternative approach, as in Germany, is to give the forty days a name that reflects the dominant practice of fasting (*Fasten/Fastenzeit*). It was only in Anglo-Saxon England that in everyday speech the liturgical season was named after the season of the year in which it falls. It stuck, and became the church's official name for the season once English replaced Latin following the Reformation. *Joyce Hill*

Our **Lent Course, Together for Good**, begins on Tuesday 12th March at 7pm in church. We will be looking biblically at relationships and community together. Please do try to come along as part of your personal preparation for Easter.