

EAST GREENWICH

CHURCH OF ENGLAND TEAM MINISTRY



Lent Activities
2025
5th March-19th April

Introduction

Last year we used Lent to pause and slow down and consider that the purpose of Lent was **to create space in the middle of life's responsibilities to appreciate what's always been there: God's presence.**

There was something very valuable about joining together in new ways and discovering God in this way. This year we are doing something similar, but simpler.

Lent is a 40-day period of making space for God leading up to Easter Sunday, based on Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness and is an important tool that can help us to listen to God's voice

While Lent does traditionally include personal sacrifice, the goal of this time isn't to "better" your life, but to **centre** your life on what matters most: the One who made you and loves you endlessly.

In the parish over Lent 2025 we want to take this again and examine what it means in the widest sense. There will be a range of activities and studies and we hope that it will enable everyone to encounter and notice God in new and familiar ways.

Together, let's make space for what matters.

All of these activities are available to everyone and it is fine to just dip into things as your schedule allows!

Stations of the Cross

If you would just like a peaceful space to sit, ponder and/or pray with no pressure, then Christ Church will be open every day of Holy Week (the last week of Lent - 14th-19th April) from 10-12 with stations of the cross which you can explore alone and give yourself space for contemplation.

Study courses

This year we wanted to give people space to set aside time to study the Bible and the meaning of Lent and Easter a little more, so there are a number of opportunities to think about what difference the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus 2000 years ago can and could make today.

Hope Explored

HOPE|EXPLORED

Alongside the stations of the cross, Revd John Pout will be running a the three sessions of the Hope Explored course at Christ Church on three mornings for Holy Week (exact dates TBC - keep an eye on the church newsletters for full info.) This course looks at the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, and provides an opportunity to discover how he fulfils three great longings we all experience: the longing for hope, peace, and purpose.

Please drop Revd John an email if you would like more details
(johnpout@icloud.com)

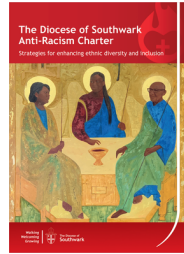
Wild Bright Hope



At St George's church we will be studying the Big Church Read Lent book "Wild Bright Hope" which brings together a range of up and coming writers who talk about what gives them hope and encourage us to embrace a more hopeful perspective and consider how we can play a part in bringing in the kingdom of God. We have some spare copies of the book if you need one! There will be two groups running each week, Tuesday evenings at the Vicarage and Wednesday day times at church.

Tuesdays 8-9pm at the vicarage	Wednesdays 12:30-1:30pm At St George's	Planned study
Lent – Wild Bright Hope (The Big Church Read Lent Book 2025)		
11 th March	12 th March	Chapters 1 and 2
18 th March	19 th March	Chapters 3 and 4
25 th March	26 th March	Chapters 5 and 6
1 st April	2 nd April	Chapters 7 and 8
8 th April	9 th April	Chapters 9 and 10
15 th April	16 th April	Chapters 11 and 12

Anti Racism



In 2021 Southwark Diocese launched their anti racism charter with the words: **Being anti-racist is not the same as simply not being racist. It is not enough as a Diocese not to be racist; instead we must actively counter, disrupt and oppose racial injustice. This isn't an easy task; it takes introspection as well as continued intentional action and is not a static description of ourselves.**

To continue the work started by that charter they have now launched 4 weekly studies to enable people to be involved in beginning to think how to take action so that we are all working to bring justice and equality.

On four Sunday evenings in Lent we will be exploring these studies together at Christ Church, from 6pm til 7:30pm.

Sunday 23rd March – Session 1 led by Rev John Pout

Sunday 30th March – Session 2 led by rev Laura Faturoti

Sunday 6th April – Session 3 led by Rev John Pout

Sunday 13th April – Session 4 lead by Rev Laura Faturoti

There will also be time for relaxed and informal sung worship as we meet together.

Creativity and New Things!

As we discovered last year, there is huge opportunity to find God in the unexpected as we share the things we love and try new experiences. With that in mind we wanted to allow space for those experiences again this Lent. These will happen on the Saturdays in Lent, at St Georges church unless otherwise stated.

Saturday 8th March Litter Picking

We will look to find God in caring for creation and our local community as we litter pick around the local area. **Meet at St George's church at 10am!**

Saturday 15th March Board Games

So often we find good in sharing laughter and joy with friends and making new connections. To help us to this we will have an afternoon of board games **in St George's church from 2-5pm.**

Saturday 22nd March Sport

Details of this are still being worked out, but last year we loved discovering God and new friends in netball, so we wanted to give space for this again. Keep an eye on the church newsletters for the full details!

Saturday 29th March

Flower Arranging

There is a real joy in bringing the outside in and arranging it to bring joy to others. We will meet in church to arrange flower posies to give out on Mothering Sunday. **In St George's church 10am-12noon**

Saturday 5th April

Pilgrimage at Lesnes Abbey

A chance to get out into nature and explore signs of hope as spring arrives. Rev Barbara Moss will lead us on a pilgrimage at Lesnes Abbey (where there is also a lovely cafe and a great children's play area!)

Please keep an eye on the church newsletters for details of timings and meeting points.

Saturday 12th April

Craft Day

Discover the creator in your creativity!

A day of craft in church where we hope to have a chance to do painting, pottery and diamond art, amongst other things!

In St George's church from 10am-2pm