

# *The Parish Church of St John the Evangelist, Crowborough*

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## **11TH FEBRUARY - THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT**

### **COLLECT**

Almighty Father,  
whose Son was revealed in majesty  
before he suffered death upon the cross:  
give us grace to perceive his glory,  
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him  
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### **FIRST READING: 2 Kings 2.1-12**

*A reading from the second book of Kings.*

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.' Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho.

The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.' Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### **PSALM 50.1-6**

**Our God will come and will not keep silence.**

The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken;  
he has called the earth  
from the rising of the sun to its setting.  
Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,  
God reveals himself in glory. **R**

Our God will come and will not keep silence;  
before him there is a consuming flame,  
and round about him a raging storm.  
He calls the heavens and the earth from above  
to witness the judgement of his people. **R**

'Gather before me my loyal followers,  
those who have made a covenant with me  
and sealed it with sacrifice.'  
Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause;  
for God himself is judge. **R**

### **SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4.3-6**

*A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians*

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

### **GOSPEL: Mark 9.2-9**

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

### PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Lord, you give us food from heaven. May we always hunger for the bread of life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### POST COMMUNION

Holy God,  
we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:  
may we who are partakers at his table  
reflect his life in word and deed,  
that all the world may know his power to change and  
save.  
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### HYMNS

Entrance: 440 (omit \* verses)  
Offertory: 271  
Communion: 178, 305  
Final: 443

### PRAYERS

**The peoples** of the Holy Land, Ukraine, Afghanistan  
**Our keeping of Lent**; that it may be a season of grace  
**Bishops in our diocese:** Martin, Will, Ruth.

**The Sick:** HM King Charles, Ann Adkin, Chris Avery, Sarah Cashmore, Jenny Chatterton, Sally Everett, Paul Jones, Tim Malone, Hubert Moore, Mary Morgan, Tracey Norris, Janet Prince, Tim White, Alan Cooper.

**R.I.P.:** Maurice Reynard, Gerald Walcher, Jeanette Puckett.

**Year's Mind:** Leopold Stern, David Cracknell, David Kingsbury, Brian Smith.

### Jeanette Puckett R.I.P.

Jeanette's coffin will be received into church at 5pm on Tuesday 27 February, followed by a Mass at 5.15pm. Her funeral service will take place on Wednesday 28 February at 12.45, followed by a reception in the church hall.

### FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Sunday 11 February	8am	<b>Mass (BCP)</b>
<b>Sunday Next before Lent</b> <b>(Quinquagesima)</b>	10am	<b>Parish Mass</b>
Wednesday 14 February		
<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	7.30pm	<b>Mass with</b> <b>Imposition of Ashes</b>
Sunday 18 February	8am	<b>Mass (BCP)</b>
<b>The First Sunday of Lent</b>	10am	<b>Parish Mass</b>

### VALENTINE'S CONCERT

**Sunday 11th February, 2.30pm**  
**St John the Evangelist Church.**

Arias and duets from the World of Opera, celebrating Puccini's centenary, starring Sarah Chae (soprano), David Chatterton (tenor) and Richard Black (keyboard).

Tickets cost £20 (includes interval refreshments and a glass of Prosecco) will be available on the door.

Proceeds in aid of Dementia UK.

### BINGO NIGHT

**Tuesday 13th February**  
in the church hall at 7pm.

Price £15 to include fish and chips and bingo cards (BYO drinks). There will be a raffle and some extra games so please join in the fun! Sign up sheet at the back of church and any queries to Kathy Redington on [redingtonkathy@hotmail.com](mailto:redingtonkathy@hotmail.com)



### Lent Course 2024: Music for Lent and Holy Week

The Lent course this year will provide some short pieces of music for reflection, along with commentary and the opportunity for discussion. It is hoped that these will draw us deeper into some key themes of the season and, towards Christ as we approach the days of his Passion.

The sessions will take place after Mass on Wednesdays (10.45pm in the church hall), starting on 21 February. They will last approximately 40 minutes.

It is not easy to play music on Zoom, so each session of the course will also be e-mailed out on Saturdays with the notice sheet for those who would prefer to read a reflection and listen to the music at home.

### THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

**Friday 1 March at 11am St John's Church**

The service calls for a number of people to read a passage from the Bible or other material illustrating the daily lives of women in a particular country; this year the country being Palestine (the service was written before the present conflict escalated). It would be wonderful if there could be representation from St John's. If you would be willing to participate please contact Judith Wilkinson, Priest in charge, St Michael and All Angels, Jarvis Brook [revjudithwilkinson@gmail.com](mailto:revjudithwilkinson@gmail.com)

**Priest in Charge:** The Venerable Dr Edward Dowler (01273 425040) [archhastings@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:archhastings@chichester.anglican.org)

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**Hall Contact:** Please go to the Church Hall section of the website

**PCC Secretary:** Rita Burton (01892 664071) [tylersrmb@gmail.com](mailto:tylersrmb@gmail.com)