



parish of finchampstead & california

Website: [pfc-church.uk](http://pfc-church.uk) click [Subscribe](#) to get the PFC email newsletters

Quick web links: [What's On](#) | [Giving](#) | [Resources \(ePewsheets\)](#)

Email: [office@stjames.finchampstead.co.uk](mailto:office@stjames.finchampstead.co.uk)

Parish Office, Baptism, Wedding, or Funerals, please call 0118 9730133

Church Centre bookings for St James'; Sue Sampson 0118 9732069

Parish Centre bookings St Mary & St John's; Marjorie Stalker 01344 779636

Social Media: [bettinafaull@gmail.com](mailto:bettinafaull@gmail.com)

## 5<sup>th</sup> March | Notices

SJ-St James', SJCC-St James' Church Centre,  
SMSJ-St Mary & St John's at Gorse Ride Junior School,  
SMSJPC-SMSJ Parish Centre, SE-St Eligius Church  
AGCC - Arborfield Green Community Centre

<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>
8.00am	Holy Communion CW (SJ)
9.30am	Family Communion (SJ)
9.30am	Holy Communion (SMSJ)
11.00am	Parish Communion (SJ)
11.00am	Holy Communion (SE)
3.00pm	Family Bingo & Afternoon Tea (SJCC)
4.30pm	Confirmation Class (SJCC)
6.00pm	Evensong (SJ)
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	
9.30am	Fledgelings baby & toddler (SJCC)
<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	
11.00am	Tuesday Men's Group (SJCC)
7.30pm	Come and See (SJCC)
<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	
9.15am	Toddler Praise (SE)
<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	
2.00pm	Mothers' Union Meeting (SJCC) - speaker from local homeless charity Pilgrim Hearts. Visitors welcome.
8.00pm	Thursday Evening Prayer Meeting (SMSJPC)
<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	
6.30pm	Youth Group (SE)
<b>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	
3pm - 4.30pm	Churchyard Spring Tea (SJCC)
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>
8.00am	Holy Communion BCP (SJ)
9.30am	Café Church (SJCC)
9.30am	Holy Communion (SMSJ)
11.00am	Parish Communion (SJ)
11.00am	Service of the Word (SE)
5.00pm	Confirmation Class (SJCC)

**Some Sad News** Mary Dewhurst died peacefully on 26<sup>th</sup> February at Wild Acres Care Home. Mary, and her late husband, John, worshipped at St James' for many years, and both gave generously of their time and talents. Mary served as Church Warden for several years, and more recently, was a much loved and valued member of the SJ Social Committee.

**NEW - Tuesday Men's Group at SJCC** Are you free on a Tuesday morning? Why not come along and have a coffee and a chat. We will meet every week at 11am in the Church Centre. Feel free to bring a friend.

**Last Call for Confirmation on 26 March** St Paul's Wokingham are offering two preparation options - online and in person. Contact our Church Office [urgently](#) for more details.

**Come and See - every Tuesday at 7:30pm SJCC** Come and See is our diocese-wide big, warm open invitation to everyone, for everyone for an adventure in faith and trust. We will be exploring the Beatitudes, a core message from Jesus' 'sermon on the mount'. It's completely free and all are welcome. Light refreshments will be provided. Bring a friend. Please contact the church office to let us know you are coming - [office@stjames.finchampstead.co.uk](mailto:office@stjames.finchampstead.co.uk) or 0118 973 0133. Bishop Steven's daily emails for *Come and See: The Beatitudes* are also available online, or in a booklet at a subsidised price of £2 incl P&P until the end of April.

**Thursday Evening Prayer Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> March 8pm at SMSJPC** Join us at St Mary and St John's Parish Centre at 8pm to pray for the parish and those around us. (Exceptionally moved from the usual first Thursday of the month.)

**Tea & Chat Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2pm-3:30pm at SMSJPC** Join us for refreshments and a friendly chat on the second & fourth Tuesday of the month. We would love to see you.

**'Bring Mum to church' special breakfast at 9.15am Café Church service on Mothering Sunday, 19 March (SJCC)**

**Church Fete in Memorial Park 1<sup>st</sup> July 1pm - 4pm** Our largest fundraising event and everyone can help in some way. Lots to do nearer the time but right now we are looking for sponsorship and significant donations suitable for the Grand Draw. If you have any contacts who could help, maybe through your work, then please speak to Nicky ([nicky@alder.ndo.co.uk](mailto:nicky@alder.ndo.co.uk)) or Carolyn ([carolynfox@aol.com](mailto:carolynfox@aol.com)) or contact the church office.

**Crowthorne Foodbank Current Requirements** - just these items required at the moment = Custard, rice pudding, jam, carton juice, pulses (chickpeas & kidney beans) washing up liquid, fabric softener, toilet rolls, anti-bac spray, men's and women's deodorant, men's shower gel, adult toothbrushes (single packets). **Every** donation really does make a difference. Please pop contributions in the box under the stairs in SJCC.

**Green Team Info:** Fairtrade Fortnight 27 Feb - 12 March - a good time to switch to some fairtrade items to support producers in protecting the future of some of our much-loved foods (coffee, chocolate, bananas) as well as the planet.

### Save the Date

**18 Mar** 10am Green Team Working Party (SJ)

**19 Mar** Mothering Sunday - Special refreshments and a gift for all ladies at or after all services (SJ, SJCC, SE, SMSJ)

**26 Mar** Confirmation Service @ St Paul's, Wokingham

**6 - 9 April** Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday

**20 May** Quiz Aid for Christian Aid (SJCC)

**24 May** 7:30pm Parish Lecture (SJCC)

**1 July** 1pm - 4pm Church Fete on Memorial Park

**Parish Intercessions List - Please pray for:** Joyce Beckett, Sophie Hall, Ann Pask, Colin Ramsay McClaren, Linda Whiteside, Gerry and Steve Prosser, David Powell, Bob Helliwell, Mo Nottage, Daniel, Helen & Chris Goble, John Coombs, Tina Worrell, Alison Woodrow, Ginger Timms, Regina and Bella, Hannah and Tom Edwards, Jamie-Marie Hemming, Ashley Bootham, Caroline Anamoah, Nicola, Angela Mills, Hugh Dempster

**And those who mourn the loss of loved ones:** Irene Dalzell, Ray Leftley, Catherine Livanos, Mary Dewhurst

# Readings and Prayers for 5 March 2023: LENT 2 COME AND SEE – THE BEATITUDES (2)

## Genesis 3:6-13

*This passage creatively explains humanity's fall away from the vision God had for us, and the shame and blame game that are its immediate symptoms.*

<sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

<sup>8</sup> They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' <sup>10</sup> He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' <sup>11</sup> He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' <sup>12</sup> The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' <sup>13</sup> Then the Lord God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.'

## Romans 1:18-25,28-32

*The passage lays bare the extent and seriousness of human sin and weakness, and our hopelessness without the saving grace of God in Jesus Christ.*

<sup>18</sup> For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and wickedness of those who by their wickedness suppress the truth. <sup>19</sup> For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. <sup>20</sup> Ever since the creation of the world his eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made. So they are without excuse; <sup>21</sup> for though they knew God, they did not honour him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their senseless minds were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Claiming to be wise, they became fools; <sup>23</sup> and they exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling a mortal human being or birds or four-footed animals or reptiles.

<sup>24</sup> Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the degrading of their bodies among themselves, <sup>25</sup> because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed for ever! Amen.

<sup>28</sup> And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind and to things that should not be done. <sup>29</sup> They were filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, covetousness, malice. Full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, craftiness, they are gossips, <sup>30</sup> slanderers, God-haters, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, rebellious towards parents, <sup>31</sup> foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. <sup>32</sup> They know God's decree, that those who practise such things deserve to die—yet they not only do them but even applaud others who practise them.

## Matthew 5:21-30

*In this section of the sermon on the mount Jesus outlines a distinction between God's vision and our lived reality.*

<sup>21</sup> 'You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not murder"; and "whoever murders shall be liable to judgement."' <sup>22</sup> But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgement; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, "You fool", you will be liable to the hell of fire. <sup>23</sup> So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, <sup>24</sup> leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. <sup>25</sup> Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. <sup>26</sup> Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

<sup>27</sup> 'You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery."' <sup>28</sup> But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup> If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. <sup>30</sup> And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

## Collect

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Post Communion

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.