

## Churches Together in Central Bromley – Lent Course 2026

Churches Together in Central Bromley will be facilitating a Lent study course this year, consisting of five interactive studies exploring the First Letter of John. Sessions will take place on Tuesdays between 7.45 to 9.30pm, beginning on 24th February until 24th March. The group will meet at St Peter & St Paul's Church Bromley. Admission is free and all are most welcome. For further details please contact [office@saintjohnsbromley.com](mailto:office@saintjohnsbromley.com)

## The Diocese of Rochester's "Called Together" Programme

In March 2025, the Diocese of Rochester secured nearly £11 million of funding from the National Church to support the Called Together vision. This is a nine-year programme of work to grow missional churches, with missional leaders and missional disciples. This is the largest external funding award the Diocese has ever received in support of mission and ministry, and it is designed to enrich every church setting. An update has just been shared about how work around the vision is progressing. Please visit: [www.rochester.anglican.org/about-us/ourvision/progress-updates/](http://www.rochester.anglican.org/about-us/ourvision/progress-updates/) and/or see the information at the back of the church to update yourselves on this exciting project.

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### In the service today:

**Servers:** Philip Hood & Emily Jones

**Reader:** Louise Bonter

**Intercessions:** The Vicar - The Rev'd Michael Gentry

**Director of Music:** Richard Sutton ATCL

**Vicar: The Rev'd Michael Gentry**

[vicar@stmarksbromley.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stmarksbromley.org.uk)

**Churchwarden: Emile Akabi-Davis**

[info@stmarksbromley.org.uk](mailto:info@stmarksbromley.org.uk)

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Theresa Weller - [psa@stmarksbromley.org.uk](mailto:psa@stmarksbromley.org.uk) 07856 775603

**Safer Recruitment:** Ruth Russell

**Hall bookings:** [hallbookingstmarksbr2@gmail.com](mailto:hallbookingstmarksbr2@gmail.com)

Please see the porch noticeboard and notices in church for details of all regular and seasonal services and the website: [www.stmarksbromley.org.uk](http://www.stmarksbromley.org.uk)

# St Mark's Church, Bromley

8 March 2026

The Third Sunday of Lent

The Rev'd Michael Gentry – The Vicar

<b>Proclamation:</b>	436	Praise my soul, the King of heaven
<b>Gradual:</b>	83	Glory be to Jesus
<b>Offertory:</b>	362	Glorious things of thee are spoken
<b>Communion:</b>	295	Let all mortal flesh keep silence
<b>Final:</b>	94	We sing the praise of him who died

**Setting:** Mass in the Dorian Mode - Barrie Cabena (1933-2025)

**Anthem:** Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake - Richard Farrant (1530-1580)

**Organ Voluntary:** Improvisation on 'Picardy'

**Collect:** Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Reading: Exodus 17. 1-7:** 17 From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarrelled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

*Please turn to face the gospel as it is read from the central aisle*

**The Gospel: John 4. 5-42:** <sup>5</sup> Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. <sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" <sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." <sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." <sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." <sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' <sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" <sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." <sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." <sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." <sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" <sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, <sup>29</sup> "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" <sup>30</sup> They left the city and were on their way to him. <sup>31</sup> Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." <sup>32</sup> But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." <sup>33</sup> So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" <sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. <sup>35</sup> Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. <sup>36</sup> The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup> For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' <sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour." <sup>39</sup> Many Samaritans from that city believed in Jesus because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." <sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there for two

days. <sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world."

### Prayers

#### **Today's Bidding and Response During Prayers:**

Bidding - Lord as we get to know you better

**Response - Reveal more of who you are**

#### **For all who are unwell at this time:**

Hazel Robins, James Bunting, Tobias Franzén, Mary Marsh,  
Elaine Morrison, Roderick Cupido and Cheryl Nicholls

#### **For the recently departed:**

Robert Crawley and Diane Traynor

**To add names to or remove names from these lists please contact Ruth Russell -**

**[hr@stmarksbromley.org.uk](mailto:hr@stmarksbromley.org.uk)**

**Post Communion Prayer:** Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Coffee/tea and biscuits will be served in the church hall after this service. All are most welcome to join us.**

### Forward Programme

#### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March – The Fourth Sunday of Lent & Mothering Sunday**

10am Parish Eucharist with distribution of posies

#### **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March – St Mark's Friendship Group**

12 – 2pm in the church hall – shared lunch for the last meeting of this term.

#### **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Meeting of the Parochial Church Council**

#### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – The Fifth Sunday of Lent**

10am Parish Eucharist and 6.30pm Choral Evensong

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