



BROMSGROVE METHODIST CHURCH AND CENTRE.

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*Encouraging, supporting, and developing followers of Jesus Christ and
Sharing God's love in the wider community*

PRAYER: Grant to those who seek you, O Lord, the gift of your kingdom, the comfort of your grace and the vision of your glory. **Amen.** *Book of Common Order (1562).*

BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 30th March 2025.

THE WELCOME COFFEE SHOP:

The Welcome Coffee Shop Opening Hours: Monday to Thursday inclusive from 10.30am until 12.30pm.

Plus 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month from 10am until 12 noon.

The next Newsletter will be for Sunday 6th April 2025.

Service on Sunday 30th March 2025.

10.30 am: Holy Communion led by Rev Ruth Wilson.

Please join us for Coffee after the service.

Service on Sunday 6th April 2025.

10.30 am: Morning Worship led by Deacon Janet Thomas.

POLICE DROP IN SURGERY: Will take place in the Welcome Coffee Shop on Monday 31st March 10.30 – 11.30am. Please take this opportunity to raise any concerns you may have and to find out what is being done by the police, to tackle the issues which are important to yourselves. *Terry Clarke.*

LENTEN CONCERT: As part of our Lenten reflections, there will be a concert on Saturday 5th April at 3.00pm. Presented by Bel Canto Singers, it will feature reflective music. Entrance is free with opportunity to make a donation for our Church and Find Your Voice Redditch (Parkinson's UK). Tea and biscuits will be served afterwards. Please join us and bring a friend. *Veronica Porter on behalf of Janet Millward.*

REGENTS COURT: Deacon Gwynn is looking for a few singers to come and join a service at Regents Court Tuesday April 15th at 3pm. Please let Gwynn know if you're available. *Deacon Gwynn Bamford.*

UPPER ROOM WELCOME HOUSEGROUP: Notification of our next housegroup on Friday 4th April at 10.30am in Room 6 asking the question **WHO AM I?** All are welcome to share with us. *Pat Booth #####.*

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING (with BRING AND SHARE LUNCH): This will be held at midday following the Communion service on Sunday 27th April. All welcome. *Pam Gale.*

LENT STUDY GROUP: There will be a Lent Study group meeting from 11 am till 12noon on Thursday mornings through out lent. We will be following the Lent Study called 'River through the Dessert' written by Richard Sewell who is dean of St George's in Jerusalem. *Janet Millward.*

FILM NIGHT: The final Film Night of the season will be on Saturday 29th March featuring the musical **HAIR-SPRAY.** Refreshments will be available from 6pm with the film show starting at 6.30pm. Entry is by donation as usual. *Jim Buchanan.*

ONLINE LENT STUDY GROUP: One Long Thursday into Friday: An exploration of the deep themes of the Thursday of Holy Week. **Overview:** There is so much that happens on the Thursday of Holy Week in terms of teaching, activities and events. And the different Gospel writers all explore it slightly differently. In addition, it is just one of the days of Holy Week and we might simply pass it by in the rush from Palm Sunday to Easter Day. This lent group provides the opportunity to dwell in this day and give the themes of Thursday due consideration. **When?:** 7.30 – 8.45 pm on five consecutive Thursday evenings from **13th March to 10th April.** **Where?:** Online, via Zoom. The group is offered as a means for those unable to join a physically gathered group. **Who?:** Rev Stephen Levett will host the group and provide the primary and initial study input.

From then on all group attendees who choose will; be encouraged to share in the ensuing conversation. The people of the Bromsgrove & Redditch Circuit, and anyone they care to personally invite, are welcome to be part of the group. **To indicate your interest and to receive the Zoom meeting log-in details please email revlev66@gmail.com** Please do not publish the Zoom link in any newsletter or public online social media.

GIVING BY INTERNET BANKING: If you prefer to donate to the Church via Internet Banking the bank details are as follows: - **Sort Code: 40-15-07. Account number: 81213652. Account name: Bromsgrove Methodist Church. Reference: Collection.** For donations to our charities' Fund use the bank details above. **Reference: Charities.** UK Tax payers please consider **Gift Aid and complete a 'Gift Aid' Declaration** available at the back of the Church. Completed declarations please to Eleanor Wright – Gift Aid Secretary, one of the Stewards or myself. Thank you. *Sheila Sharman.*

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK - ROMANS 12 verse 12.

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer."

COMMENT:

This quotation from St. Paul's letter to the church in Rome, is part of his discourse on Christian conduct. The whole chapter is well worth a quiet reflection.

Life is made up of ups and downs, happy times and sad. We need to perhaps discover how to rejoice more over the good things, than to quietly accept them all, and seeming to take them for granted. It is by giving God the glory, that we can point others to God.

After all, God is shepherd of our souls, and longs to be shepherd to all people.

Suffering is not something we endure easily, and the often quite natural response is "Why me"? Suffering comes in several forms- mental anguish, physical pain, spiritual dryness, as if we are in a spiritual desert at times. All are part of life, and it is then that we are grateful for help, from wherever it comes, referring back to the human "angels" of last week's service.

Prayer is the mainstay of the Christian's life, and it is, in its simplest form, just talking to God; for a trouble shared is one halved - and again referring back to last week, Jesus said, "come to me all who are burdened and heavy laden and I will give you rest".

So let us develop hope, patience and prayer as essential God-given ingredients in the rich pattern of our lives. Every blessing, *John.*

Suggested Readings for Week Beginning 30th March. (The Servant of the Lord)

Sun	30*.	Luke 2:33-35.	StF 278	Psalms 34:11-20.	Worship.
Mon	31.	Isaiah 40:1-11.	StF 183	Psalms 107:1-16.	Care.
Tue	01.	Isaiah 40:18-31.	StF 113	Psalms 107:17-32.	Flourish.
Wed	02.	Isaiah 42:1-9.	StF 255	Psalms 107:33-43.	Challenge.
Thu	03.	Isaiah 43:18-25.	StF 470	Psalms 110.	Learn.
Fri	04.	Isaiah 44:1-8.	StF 157	Psalms 111.	Open.
Sat	04.	Isaiah 45:1-8.	StF 15	Psalms 112.	Open.

**Mothering Sunday.*

All items for inclusion in the next edition should be submitted by 9am on Friday morning to #####. Thank you.