

Thinking Prayers for Lent **

Number 3

The Find

Jesus says, "Here is a picture of the kingdom: It is like a treasure buried in a field. The person who found it went and, through sheer joy sold everything he had – and bought the field.

I have a treasure :
the thing I value most in life.
I relive the events
that led me to discover it . . .

I think of the history of my life
from the time I found this treasure . . .
what it has done for me
and meant to me . . .

I stand before this treasure
(be it God or Jesus or an idea;
a person or a task).
and I say, "Of all the things I have,
you are the dearest."
And I see what happens to me
when I say that sentence . . .

I think how much I would gladly do . .
or give . . .
in order to preserve this treasure.
If it is not important, I acknowledge this
with sadness – and I hope for a day
when I shall find a treasure for which,
through sheer joy, I would be ready to
give up everything.

I am a treasure
I should have no awareness of my
worth
if someone had not found it.
I recall and relive the details of the
finding.

There are many things concealed in me
that different people drew out
and revealed to me.
I joyfully review each of these . .
and gratefully remember
the persons who uncovered them . .

Finally I stand before the Lord
and find, to my surprise,
that he considers me a treasure . . .
I see reflected in his eyes
the many lovely facets
that only he could observe in me . . .
and I rest in the love he gives me.

Anthony de Mello - Wellsprings

** Guidance Notes to help with these exercises are available from Peter

THE CROSS AND STABLE

4th SUNDAY OF LENT - 31st March

MOTHERING SUNDAY



Next Sunday

Passion Sunday - Lent Five - 7th April 2019

11.00 Signed Communion Service - Peter Green
Isaiah 43:16-21 • Psalm 126 • Philippians 3:4b-14 • John 12:1-8

Part of Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership
Church of England • Baptist Union • Methodist Church • United Reformed Church

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mothering Sunday

Hymns

486 Now Thank We All Our God
sheet Brother James' Air (Psalm 23)
31 Amazing Grace
sheet O God in Heaven

Collect

God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 2: 1-10

Birth and Youth of Moses

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river; while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter; 'Shall I go and get

you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her; 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her; 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:33-35 and John 19:25b-27

Hear the Gospel according to Luke & John

Glory to Christ our Saviour

Luke:

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

John:

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

This is the Gospel of Christ

Praise to Christ our Lord

Notices

Bible Study Thursday 4th April 2019
2pm for 2.30 at Church. part 4 of a new course on "Prayer"

Family Tots Friday 5th April 1.15 – 2.45
pm An open group for parents and carers with pre-school children

AGM

Sunday 14th April after church

HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday 6:30

Good Friday 4pm

Saturday Decoration 5pm

Easter Day 11am

Stantonbury Ecumenical
Partnership AGM 25th April

Welcome Sam - Please Note
Monday 17th June at 7:00

Please pray for:

- For the Muslim community of Christ Church New Zealand.
- For those who hate and those who foster hatred.
- For the people of Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi.
- Our members and friends: Gill Grant, Amy Head, Beverley Zialor, Peter and Dina Davis, Wendy
- For Mike McConnell receiving treatment. Eileen following a house fire
- James, Dina's son, critically ill; Phyllis West in Milton Court.
- For Brexit or
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Contacts

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Parish Website

www.stantonbury.net

Cross & Stable Website

try: www.crossandstable.weebly.com



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