

We are so blessed to live in a town where the churches work so well together. It was such a blessing to have David Bracken from the Mission Church bring God's word to us last Sunday. In turn on behalf of Whitefriars, Pete Squires took God's word to the Wes. Thank you to everyone who served last Sunday before, during and after the service.

Next Sunday Melvyn will bring God's word to us. Please pray for him as he prepares his talk. The readings will be Mark 1 v 16-22 and John 1 v 35-42 and he will be preaching on those passages.

Unfortunately there will be a slight change to the service next Sunday 28th. Due to ill health Archdeacon Alison is now not able to join us, so we will be unable to offer Holy Communion this month. I am sorry for such short notice but if you wanted to receive communion next Sunday, St. Peter's church in Midland Road is having a communion service and Rev. Rachel would be delighted to see you.

There is some good news about next Sunday's service. We have a guest visiting us from Japan. Missionary Catherine Porter is on leave and is staying with Ally and Keith. As a church we have been supporting Catherine and she will be speaking to us about her work in Japan.

Notices

A message from Andrew Presland

Please see below details of a **Holocaust Memorial Service to be held at Rushden War Memorial on Friday 26th January**, organised by Rushden Town Council



**TO COMMEMORATE
HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL DAY**

Service on Friday 26 January 2024

Rushden War Memorial
5pm

Rushden Town Council will be holding a short service to remember the victims and those whose lives have been changed beyond recognition as a result of the Holocaust, Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides throughout the world.

This will take place on Friday 26th January at 5.00pm at the Rushden War Memorial.

There will be a short reading, one minute of silence and the lighting of a candle. The candle will remain lit throughout Saturday 27th January to commemorate the United Kingdom Holocaust Memorial Day.

We would welcome anyone who wishes to attend this service.

 

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Praying for the New Vicar

We are still praying at 9.45 each Sunday for the new vicar. It would be lovely if you could join us.

LZ7 update

Really good news, the teams are filling fast but we particularly need Street Safety Team Stewards. To sign up, please click the link [Sign up](#) Please pray for this event. For more information, just chat with Matt on Sunday.

Ash Wednesday

Easter is quite early this year. Ash Wednesday is on the 14th February and Rev. Rachel from St. Peters church is hosting the annual Ash Wednesday service. She has asked if someone from Whitefriars could lead the prayers. Is this something you would like to do? If so, please let me know and I can confirm this with Rev Rachel.

Also during Lent St. Marys will be hosting the Lent lunches. Would you be willing to help serve or make some soup? I don't yet know the date that we will be asked to serve but knowing we have a team ready would be very helpful.

Refreshments

We are still looking for volunteers to help set up refreshments before the service. If you would like to join the team please let me know and I can show you where everything is kept and what needs to be done.

We are not going to be using the paper cups any more on a Sunday morning. Now that the new kitchen has been completed it is now possible to wash up cups on site. We would prefer you to bring a cup with you but if you forget then please use a pottery cup. It will be your responsibility to wash it up when you have finished.

Volunteering Opportunities

There are one or two gaps on our rotas that need filling. Are you able to help?

Laundry - Could you take home the dirty tea towels each week, wash them and return them the following week?

Cleaning Rota - Could you join the Bridge cleaning rota? Perhaps ask a friend so that there are two people working together. If enough people offered, it would be only once a month or once every other month.

I hope you enjoy the rest of the week. I look forward to seeing you on Sunday. Don't forget your coffee cup.



With blessings,

Sara Owst
Ministry Resources Manager

