

Take time out from your busy lives and give some space this **LENT**—

**At Christ Church**—Wednesday evenings in Lent between 8 pm and 9 pm, starting on 29th February.

“Exploring God’s mercy” - a chance to explore five classic themes of the Christian Faith  
Lost and finding the way

Trapped and set free

Sick in soul and healed

In turmoil and being at peace

Barren and becoming fruitful.

**At St Aidan’s Church**—Tuesdays in Lent at 2.00 pm or repeated at 7.30 pm  
The ‘York’ discussion course for Lent.

And why not book one of the Bishop of Rochester’s Quiet Days—details below

### BISHOP’S QUIET DAYS—LENT 2012

These are intended for anybody, lay or ordained, who wishes to spend some hours with me in reflection and prayer during Lent. I will be offering broadly the same material and programme at six different venues as indicated below, and hope that these days will offer some spiritual nourishment and encouragement as we seek to be faithful to Christ in our daily lives.

Each Quiet Day will begin at 10.30 am (with arrivals from 10.00 am) and will end around 3.30 pm. The Quiet Day will include time of shared worship, some addresses by me and space for personal prayer and reflection. The overall theme for the addresses will be “Home Thoughts from Abroad”; my intention is to offer some reflections around scriptural themes of home and belonging, and especially how we nourish ourselves spiritually for life “at home” in a world which we may often experience as being “abroad”, that is strange and unfamiliar. Using different language, this might be about the tension of living in the here and now, while also nurturing the life of the Spirit within us.

The dates and venues for the Quiet Days are as follows:

Saturday 25th February at St. Barnabas, Joydens Wood

Thursday 1st March at St. Peter’s, Pembury (Upper Church)

Monday 5th March at St. Martin’s, Chelsfield

Monday 12th March at St. John’s, Meopham

Saturday 17th March at Bromley College (Rochester Spirituality Network Lent Quiet Day)

Friday 23rd March at St. John’s, Hildenborough

Bishop James

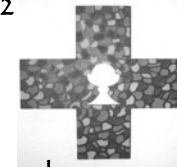
There is no charge for attendance, though people are asked to bring their own packed lunch—tea/coffee will be provided.

Items for the news sheet should be sent to [juliehill34@aol.com](mailto:juliehill34@aol.com) or left on the clip in the lobby  
Items for the website should be sent to [cc.web@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:cc.web@blueyonder.co.uk).

19th February 2012

Notes and News

Christ Church,  
Milton-next-Gravesend



A warm welcome to any visitors worshipping with us this morning. please make yourself known to one of the clergy or the people who greeted you at the door

### Looking Ahead

19th Feb 10.00 am Guest preacher/ celebrant  
Rev. Ruth Oates, Rural Dean

22nd Feb 10.00 am and 7.30 pm Ash Wednesday  
Holy Communion

27th Feb 7.30 pm Prayer for the Olympics at St. Mary’s Church, Wrotham Road

29th Feb 8.00 pm Lent Course begins in Church  
“Exploring God’s Mercy”

### Confirmation and Admitting children to Holy Communion

We will soon begin the process of preparing candidates to be confirmed and also preparing children over the age of 7 years to be admitted to receive Holy Communion.

If you are interested in either of these, or would like more details, please have a word with Sue or Jo. If you are already confirmed, but would like to make a fresh commitment by re-affirming your baptismal vows at the confirmation service, please let us know that too.

**TODAY**

This morning we welcome Rev. Ruth Oates, our Rural Dean, as guest preacher and Celebrant.

Sue is at St. Mary’s and Jacqueline is at St Margaret’s, Ifield and Holy Family this morning.

Next Sunday will be the fourth Sunday of the month and the sales tables will be set up in the hall.



Please bring your money so you can buy some of the produce on sale.

All profit is for the good causes we are supporting this year.

We will also be drawing the 200 Club in the hall after the service

**Holy Communion** 8am Monday, 7am Tuesday, 10am Wednesday, 7am Thursday, no service Friday, 8am Saturday, 8am and 10am Sunday.

**Evening Prayer** 4.45 pm Monday to Friday, except on Bank Holidays

Rev. Sue Brewer—01474 352643 [suec@brewer86.plus.com](mailto:suec@brewer86.plus.com)  
[www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk](http://www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk)

Registered Charity No 1130741



**COFFEE MORNING**  
**Friday 24th February**  
**From 10.30 am to 12.30 pm**

Admission 50p includes tea or coffee and biscuits.

Also

**Quiz Evening—Friday 24th February at 7.30 pm**

Please feel free to bring along your own drinks and nibbles.

**Admission £5 per person—PRE-BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL**

Both these events will be held in the **EllenorLions Hospice, Coldharbour Road.**

Please support your local Hospice.

**A milk chocolate egg to  
 celebrate the real  
 meaning of Easter**



The Real Easter Egg is the first to mention Jesus on the box and it's Fairtrade too!  
 £3.99 per egg (with a 15p donation to Traidcraft Exchange on every egg)

If you would like to order a Real Easter Egg please sign on the sheet on the Traidcraft table.

Last date to order will be Sunday 12th March



**'Let Justice Prevail'**



**Friday  
 2nd March  
 Women's  
 World Day  
 of Prayer**



**Praying for Malaysia**

**ST AIDAN'S CHURCH  
 GRAVESEND  
 At 10.00 am**

**Speaker: Mrs. Angela Henderson  
 From Hartley United Reformed Church**

**EASTER PAGEANT**



Churches Together in Gravesend are looking for five men to be involved in the stage based drama (modern clothes and a couple of lines) and a dozen or more volunteers for walking pageant (costumed but without any speaking parts). This will take place in the morning of Good Friday.

If you are interested in taking part please contact Graeme Baldwin on [graemebaldwin@citypraisecentre.com](mailto:graemebaldwin@citypraisecentre.com)



**FORGETMENOT SINGING  
 in the Church Hall on  
 Thursday 23rd February  
 from 2-3.30 pm.**

The cost will be £2.50 per person

Disabled people and their carers are Especially welcome at these sessions.



Come and enjoy a **FREE Fairtrade lunch** at **Emmanuel Baptist Church on Friday 24th February and Friday 2nd March From 12.00—2.00 pm**

*Sandwiches, toasted sandwiches, homemade cakes, fresh fruit, snack bars, tea, fresh filter coffee, hot chocolate, fruit juices.*

Free samples for you to take away!!

All donations will be shared between Tearfund and Traidcraft.

**PILOT PROJECT TACKLING ISOLATED ELDERLY PEOPLE**

This project will take place on Riverview Park. Social Services and the GP surgery will identify 50 people who meet the criteria (live alone, over 75, in reasonable physical/mental health).

We are looking for church volunteers to assist with home-based interviewing, which will take place in April and May, with some follow-up visits in June/July, to arrange any help we can manage in meeting the needs people identify. That will be the end of the project—it is not an open-ended commitment.

If you can help, please have a word with Sue.