

Lent

MERTON
PRIORY
CHRISTCHURCH
HOLY TRINITY
+ ST.JOHN'S +
TEAM
MINISTRY

“Brothers and sisters in Christ, since early days Christians have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord’s passion and resurrection and prepared for this by a season of penitence and fasting.

By carefully keeping these days, Christians take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel and so grow in faith and in devotion to our Lord.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy word.”

Ash Wednesday liturgy, Common Worship

The Bishop of Southwark’s Lent Call 2026

The Bishop's Lent Call for 2026 is raising funds for projects that focus on the work of schools that will help benefit children and young people to flourish here in our diocese and in our link dioceses in Zimbabwe and Jerusalem.

You can find more information on the diocesan website:

Lent Call resources - The Diocese of Southwark

Lent Resolutions

This Lent, I _____ (insert name)
undertake these resolutions _____

to grow in faith and in devotion to our Lord.



Ash Wednesday is 18th February

A day for everyone to worship at the start of Lent.

9.45am Eucharist with hymns at St John the Divine, Merton.

Including the imposition of Ashes.

Ashes to Go

12pm – 1pm near Wimbledon Station

The clergy will be offering commuters and passers by the chance to receive ashes and prayer. A reminder throughout the day of our need for God.

7.30pm Eucharist with hymns at Holy Trinity, South Wimbledon.

Including the imposition of Ashes.

Lent Lunches

Each week of Lent there will be a Lent lunch.

Please come along for lunch and make a donation to the Bishop's Lent Appeal.

Thursdays at 12.45pm at Holy Trinity, South Wimbledon

From 26 February for five weeks.

This follows the 12.15pm Eucharist.

You are welcome to the Eucharist or lunch – and great if you can make both.

Sunday Evenings in Lent at 6.00pm at St John the Divine, Merton.

From 22 February for six Sundays.

This year we will do Stations of the sacred pause – an alternative to stations of the Cross. Stations of the sacred pause are built around themes such as silence and presence, waiting, darkness, disorientation, vulnerability and lament, the states in which we can find ourselves during Lent and our Christian life in general.

If you have questions about Stations of the sacred pause or would like to learn more, please ask Mary.

Lent Groups

Wednesdays at 10.30am at St John the Divine, Merton

Dates: starts Wednesday 25 February for five weeks

Leader: Revd Mark Eminson

Material: *Dancing to the Heartbeat of God* by the Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally

Other information: This follows the 9.45am Eucharist

Thursdays at 7.30pm at Holy Trinity, South Wimbledon.

Dates: starts Thursday 26 February for five weeks

Leader: Revd Mary Kilikidi

Material: *Dancing to the Heartbeat of God* by the Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally

Come together with others for study, discussion, and prayer during Lent.

‘A Green Lent’

Living life more simply is good for the planet and can link with a Lenten discipline. For example, to experiment with using public transport instead of your car, fasting from plastic – how much household waste can you eliminate? Try out the Eco Tips on the weekly Notice Sheet.

Or join in prayer with others:

Monthly Prayer Points – Pray and Fast for the Climate

Spiritual Conversation

If you would like to talk about faith, prayer life and your spiritual journey or have any questions about God and Christianity, please reach out to Mark rector@ht-sw.org.uk or Mary curate@ht-sw.org.uk

Confession

If you would like to make a confession, please ask Mark. He can also direct you to the right person if you wish to make confession outside of the parish.

Collect for Ash Wednesday

Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:
create and make in us new and contrite hearts
that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
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.

The Prayer of St. Ephrem for Lent

O Lord, Master of my life, preserve me from the spirit of sloth and
distraction
and the spirit of envy and vain speaking.
Grant instead to me your servant the spirit of purity and humility
and the spirit of patience and love.
O Lord and King, give me grace to know my own sins
and not to think evil of my brothers and sisters
for you are blessed for ever and ever. Amen.

Collect for the Third Sunday of Lent Common Worship

Eternal God,
give us insight
to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.