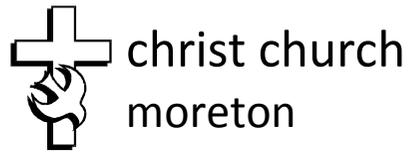


March 2014 at



Dear friends at Christchurch

HAPPY LENT!

It may well be the first time you have ever been wished that. Lent is often thought of as a time for giving things up – maybe chocolate or some other favourite. It hardly seems appropriate to wish you happiness under those circumstances.

Lent was originally a forty day period of preparation for those being baptised on Easter Sunday. From there it developed into a time where all Christians were encouraged to take time to renew their spiritual lives in readiness for the great Easter celebrations. Which is why I think it's sad that now Lent is so much seen as a time to give up things we enjoy. The emphasis should be not on giving up, but on making time for the best, and the best has to be your relationship with the Lord Jesus.

But if that relationship is to flourish, it will mean taking time to spring-clean your soul – because in our modern world there are so many things which, even though they are good themselves, can actually begin to push Jesus to the edge. So – what could you do to make this a happy Lent?

- Set aside time each day to read the Bible and pray. Ask the Lord to show you if there are things in your life that need changing – and ask him for the grace to do something about it!
- Get a Lent book with readings for each day of Lent – there will be some on our bookstall on 2nd & 9th of March.
- Join with others for prayer at 7.30 am on Tuesdays, or meet with a couple of other Christians each week during Lent to pray.

So – have a great Lent!

Yours in Christ

Graham Cousins

Regular weekly activities:

Monday	-	9.30 am : Toddler Group
	-	1.00 pm : TLC
Tuesday	-	9.30 am : Toddler Group
	-	3.30 pm: S.O.S.
	-	6.00 - 8.00 pm Foodbank
Wednesday	-	1.00 pm : Needlecraft Group
	-	1.30 pm : Baby Bible Buddies
	-	5.15 pm : Rainbows
	-	5.45 pm Brownies
Thursday	-	9.45 am : Keep Fit
	-	11.00 am : Keep Fit
	-	1.00 pm : Craft Group
	-	5.30 pm : Brownies
Friday	-	9.15 am : Mothers 'n' Others
	-	7.00 pm : Bowls
	-	2.00 - 4.00 pm Foodbank

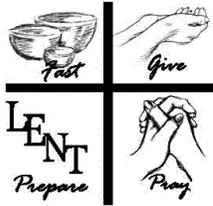


CHURCHES TOGETHER LENT LUNCHES

After a break of a few years, this year we will again be joining with Christians from the other churches in Moreton for a series of Lent Lunches.

The lunches will be on Wednesdays (starting on 12th March), and we will be hosting them in the Parish Centre. Each week we will begin with a short service at 12.00 noon, followed at 12.30 pm by a soup lunch.

LENT PRAYER



We will meet for prayer in the Parish Centre from 7.30 – 8.00 am each Tuesday morning in Lent.

CONFIRMATION

On Sunday 15th June Bishop Keith will be with us at 6.30 pm for a confirmation service.

Confirmation is a great opportunity for anyone who has either come to faith or has recommitted their life to Jesus to publicly mark that commitment to Jesus, and to commit themselves to serve him as part of Christ Church. Even if you have been confirmed in the past, it is possible to renew your baptismal vows in the service.

In the run up to the service we will be holding a 'Thinking about Confirmation' course, which will be starting after Easter. If you feel that confirmation might be an appropriate step for you, do please speak to Graham.

Special Services in March:

Sunday 16th March, 10.45 am – **Parade Service**

Sunday 30th March, 10.45 am – **Christ Church Together**

(no other services that day)



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday 15th March

9.00 am

LADIES LUNCH

Saturday 15th March

12.00 noon

FOLLOWING JESUS



ANIMAL PUZZLE QUIZ
Fill your answers into the grid which will then give you all the references you need to solve the mystery verse below.

1. Australian animal.
2. Long-necked animal.
3. Baby bear.
4. It's got JAWS!
5. Underground animal.
6. Pet animal - it barks!
7. Milk giving animal.
8. Small horse.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								

3A 1G 5A 5D	2E 6B 5C 5B 7C	5A 2G	4C 1C 6A	2B	7C 2B 5C 5C
5A 4C 4E 2G	8D 8B 3B	2E 2B 4A 4B 5D 1F 4A	1G 2F	5A 5D 8C	

(MATT:19)
N.I.V.

If we are following Jesus, then he wants us to help others to follow him as well.