



Immanuel Weekly News
Sunday 27th March 2022

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LENT IV

Thought for the week: “There is no dichotomy between human beings and God’s image. Whoever tortures a human being, whoever abuses a human being, whoever outrages a human being, abuses God’s image” (Mons. Oscar Romero)

Oscar Romero was the Archbishop of San Salvador from 1977 until he was assassinated in 1980. He was initially regarded as a conservative choice as archbishop, but he became increasingly outspoken about human rights violations in El Salvador. He is one of the 10 martyrs on the Great West Door of Westminster Abbey.

Church Family News: With deep sadness we share the news of the death of Joe Tooth, which happened early morning Saturday 19th. Our prayers for the family at this time.

Val Carter: there will be a service at Kingsdown on Monday 4th April at 10.30 and you are welcome to attend.

Sunday Service:

10.30 Morning service:

We welcome and thank Rev. Martin Camroux for leading the worship this morning. There will be refreshments after the service, so please stay on in the hall for a chat over a welcome cuppa with Margaret and Martin.

Please include in your prayers:

- Peace and Justice for the people of Ukraine.
- Those people living in fear, feeling hunger, vulnerable, and facing persecution
- The Partnership Lent Studies
- Those who suffer because of their faithfulness
- All those who are on the verge of losing heart

From the **Memorial Book** in the Chapel – between 24 – 31 March: Norah Anderson, Phyl Dyer, Stanley Booth Watson, Jean Elizabeth Timbrell, Ivan Woolford.

Last Sunday’s flowers were given to Mike Carter, Jean Campbell and Brian Timbrell

If you know of anybody who might welcome some flowers as a reminder that we’re thinking of them, please let us know.

Partnership Lent Studies: Will be based on the musical 'Hamilton' and is entitled '**The Room Where it Happens**'. The study includes clips from the show that tie in with the themes. The evening will be based around small group discussion. The study will run for the next four weeks: 29th and April 5th.

We will be at Bath Road and begin at 7.30pm and each session will finish by 9.00pm.

The themes covered are:

1. Identity and Belonging.
2. Ambition and Temptation.
3. Forgiveness and Redemption.
4. **Love and Sacrifice.**
5. Hope and Courage through Adversity.

Please put these dates in your diary and join us in this exploration of how our faith can impact the world around us."

- Partnership Lent Study 2022: This is a recurring meeting on Tuesday March 15th, 22nd, 29th and April 5th. Commencing at 7:30pm until 9:00pm. Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/99298604413> Meeting ID: 992 9860 4413

Tea and coffee after morning service

Now that we are having to "live with Covid", I would like to arrange tea and coffee after the morning service at least once a month - twice would be nice. However that depends on having volunteers to run it. Please can you let me know if you would be willing to:

- prepare and serve tea and coffee and wash up afterwards
- set up tables and take them down

Please let me know either by telephoning me on 490672 or emailing me at farrow684@btinternet.com Thanks Anne Farrow.

Church Flowers

Dear Friends As you will have seen from the Newsletter the flowers in Church on Sunday are given to members of the congregation to let them know we are thinking about them. If you feel able to give a small donation to this fund it would be much appreciated. If you want a special Sunday in memory of a loved one please let me know Edith Watson 432195

Food Bank Donations

A reminder that next Sunday, April 3rd is the opportunity to contribute some items for the Swindon Collective (Foodbank). These can be anything you wish but must be within the given time of 'best before' on the label. Besides foodstuffs, you can also give basic items like soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste, and all gifts will be taken during the following week to the collection point which is part of the Bible Society headquarters in West Swindon. Thank you for your help for local people in need.

Ukraine collection

You will be pleased to hear that £1,125.63 was raised to help relieve the suffering in Ukraine. Millions of the people there have been forced to leave their homes, or seen them destroyed, and families are being separated and scattered. Basic needs are not being met and many, including children, are losing their lives. The World Concerns committee has agreed to send an additional £700 from Immanuel's Emergency Fund and a grand total of £1,825.63 will now be sent to the DEC Appeal in London.
World Concerns Committee

Date for your diary.

Good Friday 7:00pm 15th April at

Christ Church.

Sung by the combined choirs of Immanuel and Christ Church along with friends.

A beautiful 1 hour musical work for the Season.

Music by Sir John Stainer

Words: The Rev'd J Sparrow - Simpson

With five hymns for you to join in.

Soloist: Clifford Friend - Bass

Sir Peter Beale - Tenor

Organist: Tim Eyles

Conducted by: Geoff Gleed

Admission: Free.

Live music is back....Music for Springtime

If you fancy a pleasant evening out why not pop over to Aldbourne on Saturday 2nd April? AVE (a choir that rehearses here at Immanuel) is performing at St Michael's church that night in Aldbourne and the programme is simply packed with some really popular favourite church music. The main work will be the Rheinberger Mass that some of you may not know - but it full of rich harmonies that are easy on the ear - and among the rest.....Mozart, Fauré, Stanford, Parry, Brahms....and since it is April, the great favourite "All in the April Evening".

Admission is £10 on the door and the concert starts at 7.30pm You will love it.

Armed Conflicts in the World – During 2021-2022 there have been 17 armed conflicts happening in the world, causing thousands of deaths, who have died twice: the first time by bullets, the second time through world indifference. I share this information with you all, based on research carried out by the *Escola de Cultura de Pau de Catalunya*.

(<https://escolapau.uab.cat/alerta-informe-sobre-conflictos-derechos-humanos-y-construccion-de-paz/>)

Cameroon (Ambazonia/Northwest and Southwest). Ethiopia (Tigray). Mali. Mozambique Lake Chad. West Sahel. Democratic Republic of Congo (Two regions). Somalia Sudan (Darfur) and South Sudan. Afghanistan. Myanmar. Iraq. Syria. Yemen. Ukraine.

Too many...How many of these have we heard of? Too few, so we have not been able to pray for the people who are suffering. We bring all these places of conflict to God and pray for justice and peace. Lord in your mercy – hear our prayer.

Something joyful: If you have BBC iPlayer, I would like to invite you to watch the most wonderful programme, truly heart-warming, and moving and joyful. It's called **Mission Joy** – the conversations and above all, the laughter between the “Arch” Desmond Tutu and His Holiness the Dalai Lama; it lasts 80 minutes and it is one of the best programmes I have seen for a very long time. I have read the book that was the result of this meeting, and found that very good, and this programme completes the book. I'm convinced it will bring you joy.