



Diocese of London - Willesden Episcopal Area  
**The Parish Church of St. Lawrence Little Stanmore**  
alias **Whitchurch**



**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B)**

**5<sup>th</sup> February 2012**

*The readings today touch on the reality of suffering and healing. The following of Christ - as he said - will bring us face to face with the cross. We ask the Lord to give us the strength that we will need to follow him.*

**FIRST READING** *Job 7:1-4. 6-7*

*In spite of his many sufferings, Job will not turn against God.*

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service,  
his time no better than hired drudgery?  
Like the slave, sighing for the shade,  
or the workman with no thought but his wages,  
months of delusion I have assigned to me,  
nothing for my own but nights of grief.  
Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?'  
Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!'  
Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.  
Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed,  
and vanished, leaving no hope behind.  
Remember that my life is but a breath,  
and that my eyes will never again see joy.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** *Ps 146:1-6*

**R/ Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.**

1. Praise the Lord for he is good;  
sing to our God for he is loving:  
to him our praise is due. **R/**
2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem  
and brings back Israel's exiles,  
he heals the broken-hearted,  
he binds up all their wounds.  
He fixes the number of the stars;  
he calls each one by its name. **R/**
3. Our Lord is great and almighty;  
his wisdom can never be measured.  
The Lord raises the lowly;  
he humbles the wicked to the dust. **R/**

**SECOND READING** *1 Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23*

*Paul did not spare himself for the sake of the Gospel.*

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into

my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord,  
anyone who follows me will have the light of life.  
Alleluia!

**THE GOSPEL** *Mark 1:29-39*

*Having spent himself in ministering to those in need, Jesus seeks a place of quiet to rest and pray.*

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

*We particularly welcome to the Christian Family any visitors or newcomers who might be here for the first time. At the heart of this service is the reception of Holy Communion and everyone is encouraged to come up to the Altar Rails. Refreshments are available for everyone after The Parish Eucharist in the Church Hall. Please do join us*

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## THIS WEEK AT ST LAWRENCE' S

**05 Sun**            **5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**  
**08:00**    **The Eucharist**  
**10:00**    **The Parish Eucharist**  
**18:00**    **Evening Prayer**

07 Tues            09:30    The Eucharist

08 Weds            11:00    *The Eucharist at Edgware Abbey*  
19:45    PCC Meeting

09 Thu            19:30    The Eucharist

**12 Sun**            **6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**  
**08:00**    **The Eucharist**  
**10:00**    **The Parish Eucharist**  
**18:00**    **Evening Prayer**

Always at your service is your **Rector & Parish Priest**

Fr Paul M Reece

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### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**The Sick** Audrey Amps, Susan Best, Terry Chipperfield, Bill Harvey, Tom Harvey, Martin Heveside, Mercy Jenewari, Magda Kuk, Lucy Holland, Christine Ploss, Robert & Dorothy Ringguth, Susan Ringrose, Fiona Shafran, Graham Sivyver, Carol Spencer, Ann Strachan, Judy Tayler-Smith, Pam Toovey, Richard Webb, Doreen Windsor.

The Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, St Luke's Hospice, The Elderly & Housebound of our Parish especially those who live in Knights Court & Whitchurch Lodge Residential Homes.

### The Departed

Recently Edith Venn

Years Mind

Baby Alfie Payne, Betty Wilson, Frances Ainslie, Audrey Barton, Olive Foley, Helen Hoding-Mills, "Lob" Lettin, Michael Pearce, Gordon Edge, Jean Emmerson, Gurbachan Kaur, Neil Pollock priest, Pattie Harland, Marcelle MacDonald, Frederick Meacock, James Pereira, Doreen Saul, Gertrude Searle, James Sutherland, Josie Todhunter, "Duke" Windsor

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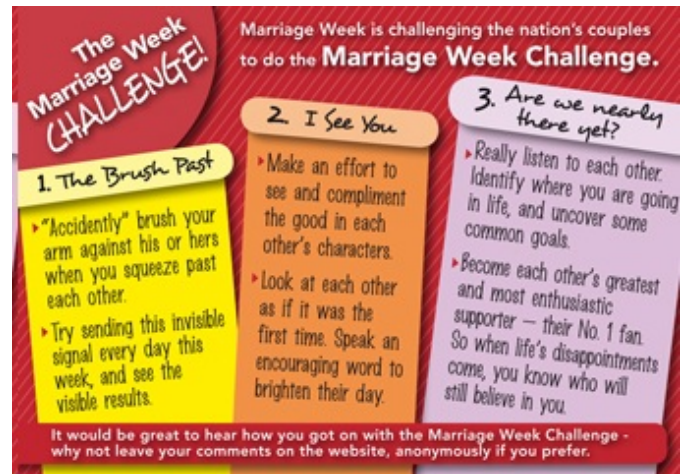
**PCC MEETING** On Wednesday of this week there will be a PCC Meeting at 19:45. Note it is Wednesday NOT Thursday. Would all PCC Members please endeavour to be there please?

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**CHURCH CLEANERS** One of the striking things about our building is how clean it always is compared to some other Churches. Why? Because we have a team of people who lovingly clean our building week by week. Sadly the numbers of people prepared to clean the Church are dwindling and we now need new people to step forward and take their place

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**MARRIAGE WEEK** You may be aware that the 7th – 14th February has, since 1997, been a nationwide, week-long celebration of marriage as the basis for family life in the UK. Marriage Week celebrates the diversity and vibrancy of marriage as the basis for family life. and is timed to end on Valentine's Day! During this week we are asked to pray as a parish community for all our married couples and for those preparing for marriage this year.



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**LOVE UNKNOWN: THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY'S LENT BOOK 2012** Ruth Burrows is the author of numerous best-selling books, including *Essence of Prayer*. This new book is the result of a commission to write the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book for 2012. In it she distills the wisdom and experience gained from her life as a Carmelite nun into a vigorous, compelling presentation of what it means to be a Christian. Ruth Burrows believes that many people, even regular churchgoers, miss the true meaning and joy of Christianity. God longs for us to know him as our Saviour, so that he can bring us to share in his own Trinitarian life and love. Burrows traces how God reveals himself to us through our personal lives, particularly our experiences of weakness and failure; through history and the natural world; through the scriptures; and above all, through his beloved Son Jesus. Encountering the living God revealed in Jesus Christ challenges us to face our own truth, and sets us free to receive the boundless love, the joy, fulfilment, and holiness, for which we were made. Fr Paul is willing to order copies from Amazon for people - like last year. £7 instead of £9.99 please write your name on the list at the back of the Church. Fr Paul has already read it - in Advent - and thoroughly recommends it! Ruth Burrows is a very good accessible spiritual writer and was quite influential to many in the early '80's along with Fr Gerard Hughes (*God of Surprises*).

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