A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Romans 8.18–25

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Jesus taught his disciples, saying: ‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you – you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.’

Matthew 6.25-end

Sunday 16 February 2020
Second Sunday before Lent

READINGS FOR THIS MORNING:
Romans 8. 18-25; Matthew 6. 25-end
8am Holy Communion (BCP)
10am Parish Eucharist
HYMNS: 108, 408, 19, 416

6.30pm BCP Evensong
READINGS:
Proverbs 8. 1, 22-31; Rev 4.

HYMNS: 69, 636, 10
PSALM: 148
FOR OUR PRAYERS
Those who are ill or in need: Michael Green; Jenny Smith; Sarah Pitman; Hilary Brazier; Judith Sanson; Joyce Smith.
Those who have died:
Those whose anniversary of death falls this week:
Link Parish of St Francis of Assisi, Barham Green—SEE IMPORTANT NOTICE OPPOSITE!

TUESDAY 18 FEBRUARY
11am  Morning Prayer
2pm  + 8pm  Study Group on Acts (3) in Truman Room
8pm  Book Club at 3 Elm Walk

WEDNESDAY 19 FEBRUARY
No Christ Church Toddler Group—half term

THURSDAY 20 FEBRUARY
8pm  Brass Group in Church

SATURDAY 22 FEBRUARY
Quiet Day at Mitcham Parish Church—see opposite

NEXT SUNDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2020
Sunday before Lent
8am BCP Holy Communion
8.45am Choir Practice
10am Parish Eucharist
+ Junior Church making pancakes together!
6.30pm BCP Evensong

MONDAY 24 FEBRUARY
8pm  PCC Meeting in the Truman Room

TUESDAY 25 FEBRUARY
11am  Morning Prayer

WEDNESDAY 26 FEBRUARY—Ash Wednesday
9.30am Christ Church Toddler Group in the Hall
8pm  Ash Wednesday Parish Eucharist with ashing for those who wish to receive it.

THURSDAY 27 FEBRUARY
3pm  Together on Thursday Tea in the Hall
8pm  Brass Group in Church

FRIDAY 28 FEBRUARY
7.15pm-9pm  KFH in the Truman Room

MICHAEL’S MESSAGES WAS PUBLISHED RECENTLY. Do take a copy today (blue)—it has some important information in it. It is also available to read on the church website.

ENTER THE DESERT – A PRE-LENT QUIET DAY. You are invited by the Merton Spiritual Formation Group, this SATURDAY, 22 FEBRUARY, 10am-3pm, at St Peter & St Paul, Mitcham Parish Church. The desert was a place where Jesus came close to God. Come and explore what the desert might mean for you through worship, readings, prayer and silence. No need to book, just come along! See flier & poster for further details.

LENT COURSE AT CHRIST CHURCH—see the blue message sheet for details. There will be two sessions at 2pm and 8pm (opt for one) on the 5 Tuesdays in March. Please sign the list on the table at the back of the church.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER—FRIDAY 6 MARCH—Praying for Zimbabwe. A service for everyone. “Rise! Take your mat and walk” 10.30am Service at St John Fisher Church, 207 Cannon Hill Lane SW20 9DB. 8.00pm Service at Church. Refreshments are served after each service. Men, women & children are welcome!

ST. PATRICK’S DAY BARN DANCE—taking place from 6.30pm onwards in the Hall on SATURDAY 14 MARCH. £15 a ticket includes hot dogs with delicious sausages, dancing with a caller and the children go free. Please sign the list at the back of church if you are coming.

CHURCH GARDEN—A group of us are meeting in the near future to discuss ongoing plans for the new garden. We would love ideas at this time about what we could include in our scheme, concentrating on plants and small trees at this initial stage. If you have ideas especially if they grow well in your garden please send them to Karen (inc photos if you have them) to thechinnis@binternet.com or pass them on to Hazel, Pat, Elaine, Rosie, Marion C. or Karen Chinn, in church.

BACK GARDEN—please keep off the whole area while the turf beds down properly. Many thanks to those who are keeping the area watered.

JUNIOR CHURCH DATES—parents please collect a blue sheet of paper giving details of this term’s activities and meeting dates.

COLLECTION FOR THE MONDO CHALLENGE FOUNDATION on 2/20 raised £16.91 and of that £420 was Gift Aided. We can reclaim a further £105 tax making a total of £721.91. Thank you for your generosity.

EARLY LIFT DRIVER REQUEST we are looking for a driver to help bring an early local passenger to church for choir practice around 8.30 to 8.45 am once a month. Please contact Hazel Bate 07962 811 990 if you can help.

TOGETHER ON THURSDAY TEA will take place on 27 February at 3.00pm in the Hall. All welcome.

BF SUBSCRIPTIONS The subscription for Bible Reading Fellowship notes is due for renewal. If any current subscribers want to change their order or if anyone else would like to subscribe, please speak to Jenny Tomlinson.

OUR ZIMBABWE LINK PARISH — the parish priest of St Francis Barham Green is visiting the Diocese, along with other colleagues, from March 23 for 2 weeks. Christ Church has been asked to provide accommodation for Fr Moffat and his wife. Would you like to offer to help? It would be good to have 2/3 hosts who could provide bed and breakfast to cover the 14 days they will be with us. We would be willing to cover your costs if necessary. Also it might be good if there were a few offers to have them for an evening meal during their stay so that they get to meet as many as possible. There might also be the need for people to escort them to their meeting places in London and more locally during their stay, depending upon the planned programme. Can you offer to help? Please speak to Jenny Tomlinson or Michael, today.

WE NEED at least 2 new volunteers to help with cleaning the Church to join one of our teams once a month. Can you spare an hour or so once a month? Please speak to Michael if you can help.

HALL CAR PARK: Parking for the 10am Sunday service in the Hall car park and beside the coned off area on Copse Hill are reserved for drivers and passengers who have limited mobility and need to be close to church. Please would other drivers park elsewhere.

CHRIST CHURCH TODDLER GROUP continues to meet on Wednesdays 9.30-11.15am for pre school children and their parents/carers in term time. We will welcome help in putting out the equipment on an occasional or regular basis. Help would be particularly welcome at 8.30pm on Tuesday evenings when everything is set up. Please contact Mair Rabagliati. There is no meeting next Wednesday, in half term.

TOILET TWINNING IN CHRIST CHURCH HALL The toilets in the hall have all been twinned with toilets in poor communities overseas through the Toilet Twinning scheme of the charity Tearfund. This was funded by a donation. Have a look at the certificates in the hall to see where our twinned toilets are being built. There are leaflets at the back of church with more information on the scheme.

NIGHT SHELTER: Our local Salvation Army congregation are using their HQ in Kingson Road, Loughes Park as a venue for the Night Shelter in Merton. This will be on 7 consecutive Mondays, beginning on 9th March and concluding on 20th April. They write: “We have already had some commitments to volunteer, but would welcome more from our Churches Together Group. Looking particularly weak are the overnight slots and the Tuesday am breakfast slots. The timings are as follows: Monday evening slot: 6.30pm – 11pm (or part of this time) Overnight slot: 11pm - 7am. Tuesday breakfast slot: 7am - 9am. If you join us as a volunteer, then you will need to attend a short training session run by the Night Shelter. You do not need to sign up to every week of the 7, but you are welcome to do so. Please respond to Jill.grinsted@salvationarmy.org.uk if you are interested in signing up!