

Sunday 20th
2nd Sunday of Lent

10.00 Parish Eucharist [S]
10.00 United Family Worship [LB]
18.30 Celtic Evening Eucharist [LB]

Monday 21st

09.00 Morning Prayer
[St Andrew's Chapel,
Little Baddow]

Wednesday 23rd

09.15 Holy Communion [S]

Thursday 24th

10.00 House Communion
[Bentley, Hopping Jacks Lane]

Sunday 27th

3rd Sunday of Lent

08.00 Holy Communion [S]
10.00 Morning Family Worship [S]
10.00 Parish Eucharist [LB]
18.30 Evensong [LB]

Sandon Parishioners are invited to
THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL
CHURCH MEETING
of St Andrew's Church, Sandon at
11.30am following the 10am
Eucharist today
Sunday 20th March

a LENT LUNCH will follow at
12.45
further details from Christine Mennie
281305

For news and details of all children
and youth groups, activities and
leaders in the Churches, please refer
to the latest Parish Magazines

Little Baddow Parishioners are
invited to
THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL
CHURCH MEETING
of St Mary's Church, Little
Baddow at 11.30am following the
10am Eucharist
Sunday 27th March

Little Baddow
Open Gardens Day
14th May

We do need lots of volunteers for various tasks on the day both small and large. If you are splitting any of your garden plants this spring will you please put some aside for us to sell. Contact Malcolm Breeze on 225089 if you can help in any way



OLD SPECTACLES
WANTED

There will be a Collection box in
St Mary's, during Lent

2011 LENT STUDY
GROUPS

'Growing the Church'
Lessons from the Acts of the Apostles
and the contemporary Church
Tuesday 7.30pm
URC Chapel Vestry, Little Baddow
Wednesday 7.30pm
St Andrew's Room, Sandon
Thursday 11.00am
Held in the House Communion homes
in Little Baddow



The Parish Churches of
St Mary the Virgin,
Little Baddow
and
St. Andrew, Sandon
part of the Chelmer Crouch
Group Ministry

2nd Sunday of Lent
20th March 2011

Welcome

As God calls us to find new life in
him so let us come to him with
open hearts to hear his word, to
repent of our sin and receive the
new life he offers.

Our aim at St Mary's and St Andrew's is to so sense Christ's rule in our hearts and minds that we make decisions and craft policies that may help us all to walk together in the Way that leads to the Kingdom of God

If you normally receive Holy Communion you are welcome to receive Communion (the Sacraments of bread and wine) here too.
If you do not normally receive Communion you are very welcome to come forward to receive a blessing (please carry a service book with you) you will never be alone.

If you are physically unable to come to the Altar rail the Priest will always bring the Sacrament to you.
Gluten Free Wafers If you need gluten free bread, please inform a Church Warden at the door before the service begins.

Collect

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

First Reading

Psalm 121

A Song of Ascents.

- ¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?
- ² My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.
- ³ He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
- ⁴ He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
- ⁵ The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.
- ⁶ The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
- ⁷ The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.

⁸ The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and for evermore.

Gospel

John 3:1-17

Nicodemus visits Jesus, who responds with words about Nicodemus' need to be born from above, of water and the Spirit. Jesus also declares that God's ultimate aim is not to condemn but to bring life.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' ³Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' ⁴Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' ⁵Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the

Spirit.' ⁹Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' ¹⁰Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹ 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ 'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Post Communion prayer

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities

which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

The Revd Clive A. Ashley

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VESTRY HOUR

Following Monday Morning Celtic Prayer at St Andrew's Chapel (to which anyone may come) **I will be in the Vestry at St Mary's on Monday's between 10am and 11am** for anyone in either of the parishes who wishes to enquire about Baptisms, Weddings etc or to make a future appointment to discuss other matters more privately, there may be the odd week when I am granted leave to be on holiday!

QUESTIONS and ANSWERS:

What is the position regarding churchwardens' taking matins or evensong in the absence of a cleric or Reader? May churchwardens distribute communion from the reserved sacrament if no cleric turns up to celebrate holy communion?

These closely related questions serve to differentiate two separate areas of lay ministries in the public worship of the Church of England.

With regard to the first question, churchwardens are perfectly at liberty to take matins or evensong, because, unlike the preaching ministry or the administration of the sacrament of holy communion, these "choir offices" in our Prayer Book tradition express the

Church's collective faith in common praise and prayer, and belong to everyone.

Laity contribute vocally in choirs and at the lectern, and, therefore, in the absence of cleric or Reader, there could be no one more suitable than a churchwarden, the elected representative of the laity in the parish, to act as the officiant.

Canon B11 confirms that not only Readers and "such other lay persons as may be authorised by the bishops", but also "some other suitable lay person, may at the invitation of the minister of the parish . . . say or sing Morning and Evening Prayer (save for the Absolution)."

Lay eucharistic ministry in the absence of a priest is an altogether different matter, however, and the office of churchwarden does not automatically qualify a person to distribute communion from the reserved sacrament, unless, of course, he or she is a licensed Reader or authorised as an official lay worker.

On this matter, the Church of England clearly sets out the position in Canons E4 and E7, regarding Readers and lay workers respectively, and directs that only those so licensed are permitted "to distribute the holy sacrament of the Lord's Supper to the people".

In *Public Worship, with Communion by Extension* (2001), it is explained in the introductory "Notes" that "this service is led only by a person specifically authorised by the bishop; who has received appropriate training" or by "those who have permission under Canon B12" (Of the Ministry of Holy Communion) to share in the giving of communion.

Church Times 11.03.2011