

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

4TH MARCH 2018

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

OLD TESTAMENT READING – *Exodus 20: 1-17*

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 CORINTHIANS 1: 18-25

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.' Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

GOSPEL READING – *St John 2: 13-22*

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

– will be held on Wednesday, 25 April 2018, I am asking all those who usually do a report to be included in the Annual Report & Accounts, to let Rosemary Hoyle have these reports, typed if possible, but handwritten is fine. I need them by the end of February to enable time to compile the Report and Accounts and printed in time for the Annual meeting. Please remember that you are reporting from 1 January to 31 December 2017. Many thanks – Rosemary (contact details on outside back cover of Parish magazines – email: rosemary-hoyle@sky.com).

MOVING MOUNTAINS - As part of the weekend's activities there will be a **CURRY night at St Mary's Allithwaite** and an **ITALIAN night, with a musical interlude, at St Paul's on Saturday 10th March at 7pm**. There is a list to sign at the back of Church to assist with catering.

MOVING MOUNTAINS PRAYER 2018

Join us in praying as preparations go forward for the programmed of events between 8th – 11th March 2018

Monday – 5th March – 7.30 pm

Crown Cottage, Thornfield Road, Grange over Sands

EVE BAYNES - We announce with regret the death of Eve Monica Baynes, who lived in the parish 1982-2015 and was the organist at Flookburgh until 2007. She passed peacefully on 17th February at Senwick House Care Home near Kirkcudbright at the age of 93. The funeral service will be held on Thursday, 8th March at 11am at Greyfriars Episcopalian Church, Kirkcudbright, followed by the committal at Dumfries Crematorium at 2pm. If anyone would like to contact her son - Peter Baynes, Tel: 07768 772137, e-mail: petebaynes@hotmail.com he would welcome any calls and emails.