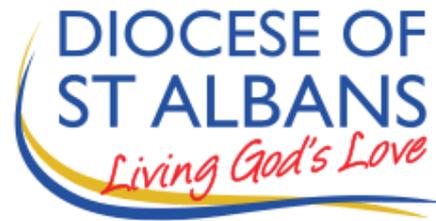


Live the Challenge



Knowing Christ
and making him
Known +

Lent - Day 1 - 'handed on'
Wednesday 1st March 2017

Luke 1 : 1-4

Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eye-witnesses and servants of the word, I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.

During Lent we will make a journey through the gospel according to Luke through a short daily Bible reading, reflection and response. As we explore a verse or two of scripture each day our focus will be on evangelism - making the gospel of Christ

known in today's world and praying that people we know may come to know him and his love at work in their lives.

The hope is that this year's Lent Challenge will help us to renew our commitment to knowing Christ and making him known. Also, later in the year, we will have the opportunity to build on this fresh commitment by joining in with the global prayer initiative - [Thy Kingdom Come](#) - between Ascension (25th May) and Pentecost (4th June).

[Follow this link for the Bible passage](#)

Reflection

Through today's verses we are reminded of the care and attention given to recording the gospel account, so that we 'may know the truth'. (Luke 1:4)

- What is your response to 'knowing the truth'?
- This Lent, do you hope to get to know Christ better?
- How will you hand on something of the gospel of Christ to others?

Respond & Comment

- Thank God for Saint Luke and the other gospel writers who recorded the events surrounding Christ's life, death and resurrection so carefully.
- Would you 'pledge2pray' that people you know might know Christ? - to do so, visit [Thy Kingdom Come](#)
- [Make a comment and share your thoughts with others.](#)

*2017 Lent Challenge, Knowing Christ and making Him Known, was written by The Revd Canon Tim Lomax, Director of Mission, the Diocese of St Albans.
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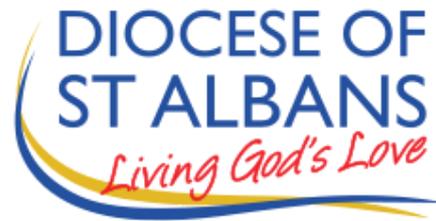
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Lent - Day 2 - 'to make ready'
Thursday 2nd March 2017

Luke 1 : 16 - 17

He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

The angel Gabriel visits the priest Zechariah and tells him that his wife Elizabeth will bear him a son. When fully grown this man would become known as John the Baptist and would 'make ready a people prepared for the Lord.' John would come to recognise Jesus as the Christ - the Messiah who would bring God's salvation to the ends of the earth. But more than this, he would also point others to Jesus and make their hearts ready to receive him.

[Follow this link for the Bible passage](#)

Reflection

- How will you make ready your own heart and life to receive all that the Lord has for you during Lent?
- What will you do to help make others ready for what the Lord has for them?

Respond & Comment

- What could you do to point others to Christ today?
- Think of five people you know who you can pray for - that they might know Christ.
- [Make a comment and share your thoughts with others.](#)

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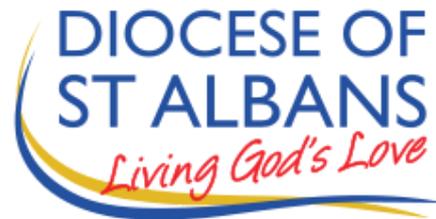
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Lent - Day 3 - 'good news' Friday 3rd March 2017

Luke 3 : 16-18

John answered all of them by saying, "I baptise you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming: I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary: but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to people.

John the Baptist pointed others to Jesus - one more powerful than himself. John baptised with water, but Jesus baptises with the Holy Spirit and fire. The gospel writer makes it clear that John proclaimed this and many other things about Jesus to the people - and this was good news.

[Follow this link for the Bible passage](#)

Reflection

- Why is Jesus good news to you?
- If someone was to ask you, 'why is Jesus good news?', what would you say?

Respond & Comment

- Thank God for the gift of his Son, Jesus - and that because of Jesus, he can draw you into a loving relationship with himself.
- Pray for an opportunity to explain to someone why Jesus is good news.
- [Make a comment and share your thoughts with others.](#)

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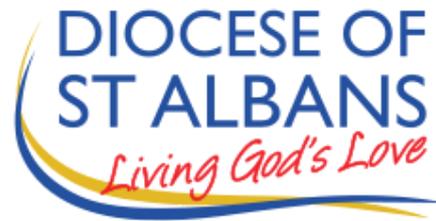
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Live the Challenge



Lent - Day 4 - 'one does not live on bread alone'

Saturday 4th March 2017

Luke 4 : 1-4

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

The devil plays on Jesus' hunger by tempting him to change a stone into bread. It is as if the devil is saying, 'if you are who you say you are, then use your power to give yourself what you need. And if you want other people to follow you and be

impressed by you then give them what they want.'

Jesus knows that's not how things work in the Kingdom of God - 'One does not live by bread alone', he replies (v4). We don't just need physical 'stuff' to live, we need the spiritual resources of God - his Word (scripture), guidance, comfort and strength.

[Follow this link for the Bible passage](#)

Reflection

- What temptations are you and others you know fighting at the moment?
- What spiritual resources from God will make a difference?

Respond & Comment

- Thank God that he knows you and knows your needs day by day.
- Pray for someone you know who currently needs God's word of encouragement, guidance, comfort or strength. How will you support them today?
- [Make a comment and share your thoughts with others.](#)

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