

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY

Sunday 22nd March: 5th Sunday of Lent

St AUGUSTINE'S	HOLY TRINITY
10.00am: Sung Eucharist President: Rev Jairo Nyaongo	11.30am: Said Eucharist President: Rev Jairo Nyaongo

SERVICE ROTA

Breakfast	Offertory	Sidespeople	Intercessor	Readers
R Leach & G Pestell	M Barnett & R Leach	R & F Higgins	K Devey	R Meek M Woodbridge
Readings: Ezekiel 37.1-14; Romans 8.6-11; John 11.1-45				

KNITTING. The new maternity unit at the L.&D hospital **NEED** baby blankets as well as slightly larger blankets for larger babies. Patterns available on Sunday. And green large hats. The hospital is appreciative of your contributions.

YELLOW GIFT AID ENVELOPES If you wish to use a yellow Gift Aid envelope for your collection, please remember to fill in your name and address or we cannot claim Gift Aid on your donation.

Angela

DATES FOR THE DIARY

LENT BIBLE STUDY: 16th March – St. Augustine's Choir Vestry, 2.00pm
23rd March – St. Augustine's Choir Vestry, 2.00pm

BIG BIRTHDAY LUNCH – We have several members of the congregation who have special birthdays coming up, including several 90th, a couple of 80th, and a 60th! To celebrate, we will be holding a bring-and-share lunch in the hall on Saturday 18th April. If **you** also have a special birthday this year, please let us know. Sign-up sheet will be put up on Sunday 29th March

Lynne

YOUNG GROWERS CLUB We meet on 4th April from 11.00am to 2.00pm. All are welcome.

Rev Jairo

PARISH MAGAZINE The Easter edition of the Parish Magazine is now in bundles at the back of church ready to be delivered. Please help by taking any roads that you or a family member could deliver.

Rosemary

PALM SUNDAY 29th March: Please let me know if you would like to take part in the dramatic reading of Matthew's Gospel at the 10.00am Service at St. Augustine's Church. The readings and roles are ready for collection.

Rev Jairo Nyaongo

VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Mothering Sunday is the one day of the year when we intentionally acknowledge and celebrate all who have provided, and continue to provide, motherly care. It is also a day when we are invited to be gracious and acknowledge that for some, the term 'mother' is incredibly difficult, because as we celebrate and share gifts, others might be grieving.

Loss and bereavement can be entwined with this day. Mary understood the pain of motherhood as she watched her son die a painful death on the cross. St. John writes (John 19:26-27) *When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.'* Then he said to the disciple, *'Here is your mother.'* And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

The interaction in this passage reminds us that on Mothering Sunday, we celebrate 'family life' and motherhood in all their forms. And as we recognise those who give of themselves to care for us, or others, we also thank and support them.

Let us use this special day to thank God for Mothers whether they are *our* mothers, whether it is Mary the mother of Jesus, whether it is the church. Whoever they are, we thank God for the many ways in which we have been supported, valued, and received love and comfort.

Rev Jairo Nyaongo