

in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The Gospel: John 3:1-17 *Nicodemus Visits Jesus*

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He 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." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus 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?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The 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." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "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. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "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. "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.



Anthem: *Wash me thoroughly* David Halls

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.

This Week's News and Notices

- ◆ **Fair Trade Fortnight:** We have been able to send a donation of £175 to Traidcraft Exchange, to help with the work that they do to help farmers make a sustainable living in some of the poorest areas of the world. Many thanks to all who support Traidcraft throughout the year.

- ◆ **Our Lent Course:** This began last Wednesday using a clip from the film *The Greatest Showman* as a starting point. Don't hesitate to join this course for future sessions; just have a word with Jane.
- ◆ **Pathways, Spring Edition:** This is now available free of charge from the back of our church. It is very readable and an easy way to find out more about the work of our wider church and consider the Christian position related to issues like war and pornography. In this edition, there is also a simple "10 Ways to Act on God's Call" which offers a valuable 'check list' of things for us to reflect upon this Lent.

- ◆ **St George's Chapel, Windsor Choral Evensong: Next Wednesday, (11th) at 5:15pm,** Taplow Youth Choir will be singing Choral Evensong in the Chapel. This is always a lovely experience; all are welcome.
- ◆ **Oasis:** The next session is called "*Growing through Losing*" conducted by Fi Ivin, who is an Ignatian Spiritual Director. Loss, of any kind, can be overwhelming and leave us struggling in different ways. Yet frequently, it is when we are at our most vulnerable and empty that grace pours in.



This day uses silent reflection on scripture and other sources, and creative techniques, for individual exploration of loss in our lives. The day will end with a simple liturgy. Thursday, 26th March; 10:00am to 3:00pm at Burnham Abbey. Please book by Thursday, 19th March by contacting Rob Penn 07768483385 or email robipenn@aol.com