

Dear Friends,

The season of Lent is a very special time of the church year. I really want to encourage you to set aside a little time to engage with God and deepen your faith. You will find several options on this sheet. You may decide to sign up to the Bishops Lenten Challenge; I am going to try this myself and we have the question card resource available if you wish to use it to inspire you. I hope we might be able to include the 40 questions each week in the pages of our weekly Signpost. You may choose to read one of the books highlighted. You may choose to come along to the discussion group at the beginning of Lent with a follow up a couple of weeks after Easter. You may decide Friday Prayers are your thing or a combination of some of the above. Or perhaps you'll just engage with a few moments of reflection each day. I encourage you to make the most of the opportunity of Lent. **Rev Dan**



Everyday Conversations this Lent

This year's Bishops' Lent challenge sounds straightforward: simply to have conversations with our friends, family, colleagues, or people we just bump into in our daily life.

How can that be a challenge?

Often the conversations we have are on the same topics (you can probably name them!) or they are about practicalities like who is going to get the tea. This challenge provides an excuse to grapple with some simple questions about life, death and everything in between.

In a society where loneliness is on the rise, it's good to find ways of connecting with those around us and having meaningful conversations.

Are they all 'Christian' questions?

No! These are questions, big and small, on a variety of topics about life, the world and faith.

These are everyday questions that many of us wonder about, even if we wouldn't usually have a conversation about them.

What happens if I don't know the answers?

Don't worry, this is about conversation, not about answers! The Challenge is twofold:

- To listen to someone else's viewpoint
- To ask ourselves how our own answers connect to what we believe

How do I get started?

We've produced a pack of question cards, suitable for people of all ages. The question can be used in any way you want but, in the pack, there are some suggestions to get you started. You can even use the questions with a Lent Group or school class if you want to. We'll share the questions each day from Ash Wednesday (26 February) on our Twitter and Facebook feeds with the hashtag #40questions. We'll also share some very short videos of people of all ages having a go at some of the questions, just as a conversation starter!

The Right Revd Peter Hancock and The Right Revd Ruth Worsley

Friday Prayers - Stations of the cross

Each Friday during Lent we are all invited to gather in St John's at 5.30pm for a time of prayer which will focus around the stations of the cross. There are wonderful silver depictions on the walls of our church. Different people will lead these short acts of worship and prayer. Each will last no longer than half an hour. Gathering for prayer together as a community is a great thing to do. While the time isn't good for everyone, join us when you can, and even if you cannot be there in person, why not try to pray where you find yourself at 5.30pm on a Friday.



For Reflection

Sundays

Find a quiet moment and be silent for just 5 minutes

Mondays

How does your faith make a difference to what you do during the week?

Tuesdays

Check in with your personal Lent challenge. How is it going? You can always make a fresh start today

Wednesdays

What one thing would help you in your walk with God?

Thursdays

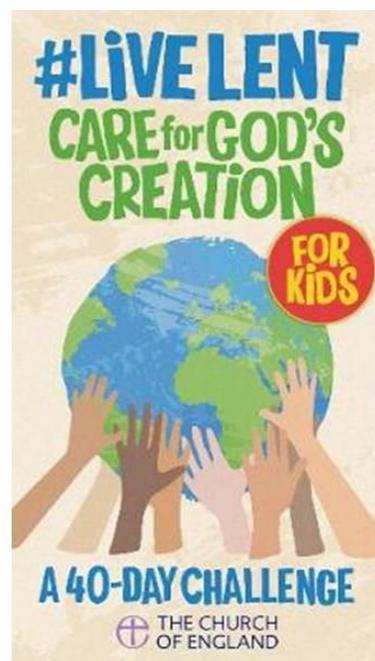
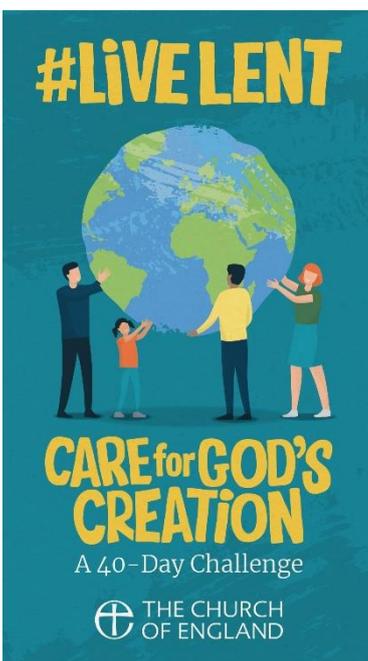
Who might you help this Lent to draw closer to God?

Fridays

Consider gathering for prayer at 5.30pm – Wherever you are!

Saturdays

Think today of one thing you could change to better care for our environment



#LiveLent: Care for God's creation will help broaden your view of Christ's redeeming mission – a mission Christians are called to share. With weekly themes and prayers shaped around the first Genesis account of creation, it explores the urgent need for humans to value and protect the abundance God has created.

- The **adults' edition** offers a daily bible reading, a short reflection and an action to help you like in greater harmony with God, neighbour and nature.
- The **Kids' edition** provides a daily challenge to honour and treasure the earth, weekly short prayers and Bible readings on creation themes.

Books & Apps for Lent

The selected book we are encouraging you to engage with over the 40 days of Lent is **#LiveLent: Care for God's creation**. It will be available at just £2 each. A version for children is also available and *an app should be available soon*. You can also sign up to get the passages delivered to your email inbox <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/lent-2020-church-resources>

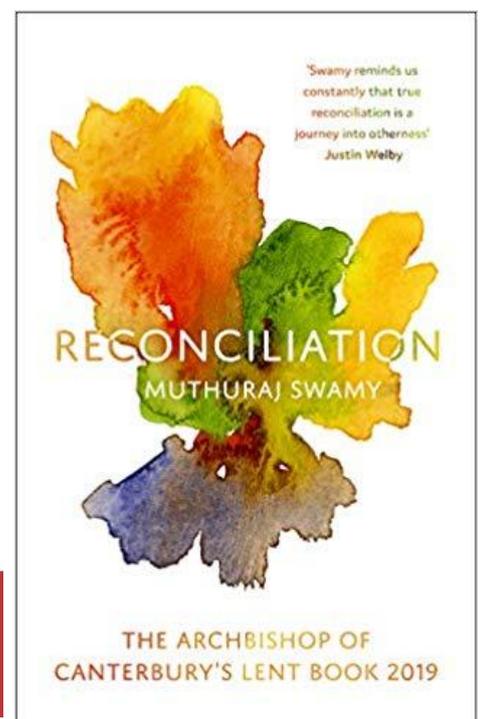
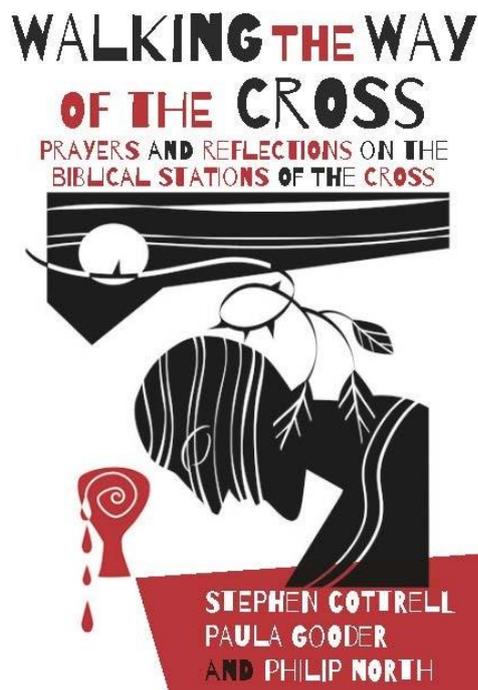
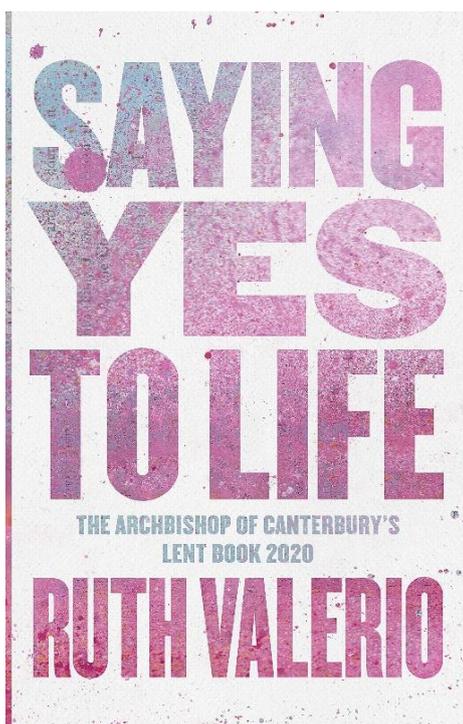
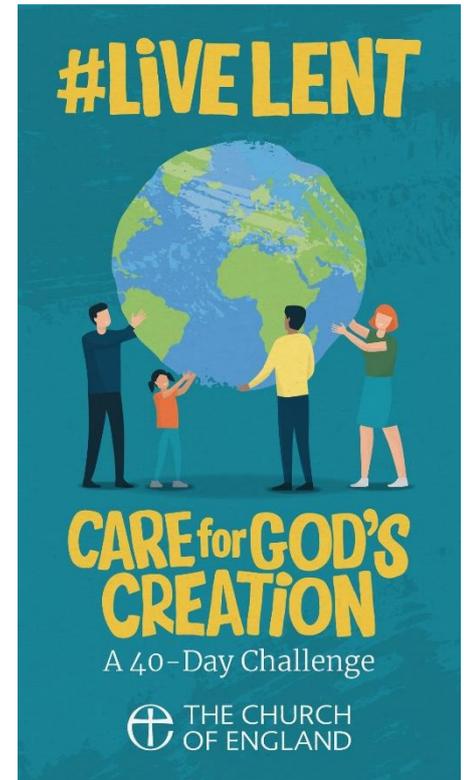
We shall have two gathering points for those engaging with this material on **Thursday 5th March at 7.45pm** and on **Thursday 23rd April at 7.45pm** both in the Parish Hall.

You may like to try something a bit more challenging that expands on the theme of caring for God's creation. **"Saying yes to life"** by **Ruth Valerio** – is this year's Archbishops Lent Book. It is described as "perfect for individuals and groups to think, reflect, pray and be challenged together"

We also offer two other books for you to consider:

Muthuraj Swamy: Reconciliation. This was the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent book for 2019 and while a bit heavy in places it is a very pertinent topic for our times (**£7.04 on amazon**)

Stephen Cottrell, Paula Gooder and Philip North: Walking the way of the cross – prayers and reflections on the biblical stations of the cross. which will link well with our Friday prayers (**£9.99 on Amazon**)



Lent Activities 2020

CALENDAR

(Please see weekly Signpost for full church activities)

Contact:

Vicar: Vacant

Curate: Rev'd Dan Crouch

Churchwarden: Chris Perry

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February

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wed 26 th	9.30am	Said Communion with ashes (in the hall)
	7.00pm	Communion Service with ashes at West Huntspill
Fri 28 th	5.30pm	Friday Prayers Stations of the Cross

March

Lent 1 Sunday 1st 8am Said Communion 9.30am Parish Communion with Bishop Ruth

Every Wednesday throughout Lent 9.30am Said Communion (with short reflection) in the hall
Every Friday throughout Lent 5.30pm Friday Prayers Stations of the Cross in church

Thurs 5th 7.45pm Lent book group. Parish Hall

Lent 2 Sunday 8th 8am Said Communion 9.30am Family Communion 3pm Baptism

Lent 3 Sunday 15th 9am Said Communion 3pm Communion with tea

Mothering Sunday 22nd 8am Said Communion 9.30am Family Communion

Saturday 28th March – 2pm - Baptism

**Passion Sunday (29th March) 8am Said Communion at St John's 10am Joint Service at East Huntspill
1.30pm Baptism**

April

Fri 3rd April – School Easter Service

Palm Sunday & Holy Week

Sunday	5th April	8am Said Communion	9.30am Communion	3pm Prayers on the Knoll
Mon 6 th	8.30pm	Night Prayer in Church		
Tues 7 th	10am	Service in Wells Cathedral (blessing of oils)		
	8.30pm	Night Prayer in Church		
Wed 8 th	9.30am	Said Communion in the hall		
	8.30pm	Night Prayer in Church		

Maundy Thursday 7.30pm Holy Communion with foot washing followed by vigil till 10pm

Good Friday 10am Family Service; 2pm Holy Hour with readings, hymns and reflection

Holy Saturday 8pm Lighting of the Easter Fire

**Easter Sunday 8am Said Communion; 9.30am Family Communion and Easter Egg Hunt,
4pm Easter Family Praise**