SERVICES IN APRIL

Sundays at 8am

- **6 Apr Holy Communion**
- 13 Apr no service
- **20** Apr no service in church (7am Easter

Sunrise service on Hall Tower Hill)

27 Apr no service

Sundays at 11am

- **6 Apr Morning Worship**
- **13 Apr Holy Communion**
- **20 Apr Holy Communion for Easter Day**
- **27 Apr Morning Worship (no Taizé today)**

Wednesdays at 10.30

- **2 Apr Holy Communion**
- 9 Apr Morning Worship
- **16 Apr Holy Communion**
- 23 Apr no service
- **30 Apr Morning Worship**



Sunday 2nd March 2025 NEXT BEFORE LENT Quinquagesima



Readings for the fourth week of the Sermon Series on Prayer.

1 Corinthians 1:18-31 and Matthew 5: 1-12

Taking Up Love: A Different Approach to Lent

When we think of Lent, our minds often turn to giving things up – chocolate, social media, or perhaps our favourite TV shows. While these sacrifices can be meaningful, there's another powerful way to observe this season of preparation: taking up practices that enrich our spiritual lives and benefit others.

This Lenten season, consider embracing new habits that bring you closer to God and your community. Just as Jesus spent forty days in the desert preparing for his ministry, we can use these forty days to cultivate practices that transform us into more faithful disciples.

One powerful practice to consider is dedicating time each day to intercessory prayer. Choose three people – perhaps those facing challenges or those with whom you have difficult relationships – and pray for them daily. This simple act of loving intention can soften hearts and open new channels of grace, both for them and for yourself.

Another meaningful practice is the art of sacred listening. In our fast-paced world, truly listening to others has become rare. Commit to having one deep, meaningful conversation each week where you focus entirely on understanding someone else's journey. This might mean visiting an elderly neighbour, sitting with a troubled friend, or really hearing your friend's concerns without immediately trying to fix them.

Consider also taking up a regular act of service. This could be as simple as writing one encouraging note each day to different people in that you know, volunteering at our local foodbank, or offering to help at church or a local community group. These acts of service help us embody Christ's love in tangible ways.

Reading scripture mindfully could be another enriching practice. Rather than racing through biblical passages, spend fifteen minutes each day dwelling deeply on a single verse or short passage. Let the words sink into your heart and guide your daily actions.

As we journey through Lent, remember that this season isn't just about deprivation – it's about preparation and transformation. By taking up new practices that nurture our faith and serve others, we mirror Jesus's own journey of preparation. These forty days can become a time of spiritual growth and renewed purpose.

When Easter arrives, you may find that these new practices have become such an integral part of your spiritual life that you want to continue them. In this way, Lent becomes not just a season of temporary change, but a catalyst for lasting spiritual transformation.

Revd Jonathan Brennan March 2025

BARWICK MONDAY FELLOWSHIP

Monday 10th March 2025

2.15 pm at

All Saints' Church
' My Life in Retail'

A presentation by

David Hall



£3 to Include Refreshments

Please come and join with us to have an enjoyable afternoon.

ALL WELCOME