**Lent Modules**

**2024**

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS – FRIDAY 9th FEBRUARY 2023

Details about Centre locations will be sent to you nearer the time.

If you require any other information please contact:

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www.chelmsford.anglican.org

**Lent Modules**

# Welcome to the Lent Module Guide for 2024.

# This guide contains a number of short courses offered by the Diocese of Chelmsford during the season of Lent. We aim to provide a wide range of courses to enable the whole people of God to connect with their faith in this season of reflection in a variety of ways. Please look through the courses on offer to see which appeal to you.

# CCS students in their second year choose one module free of charge but the courses are open to everyone, and you can pick more than one course if you would like to. I encourage all of you to take time out to study and grow closer to God, to reflect on and challenge your calling, so you may be better equipped to serve in God’s kingdom.

# Caroline Harding LLM

# Lay Ministry Adviser.

# charding@chelmsford.anglican.org

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**Module Lent 1**

**Romans: Blueprint of the Gospel**

**PURPOSE**

This lent module aims to take participants through the book of Romans, sometimes called the ‘4th Gospel’, Paul’s brilliant summary of why we need saving, how we can be saved, and the difference it makes.

**COURSE CONTENT**

The course covers the book of Romans through a series of studies, discussions, and reflections to take away.

**TARGET GROUP**

The course is aimed at students comfortable with bible study and applying bible truths to our own lives and contexts. No prior experience is needed, but the course will require being able to read the book of Romans and discuss it in group setting.

Tutors: Simon Berry Tuesday evenings 7.00pm - 9.00pm

St George’s Church February 20, 27 & March 5, 12, 19

Becontree Course fee £25

Dagenham

**Module Lent 2**

**Thoughts of God**

**PURPOSE**

This Lent course is based on the film The Man Who Knew Infinity, starring Dev Patel and Jeremy Irons, which charts the true story of two very different mathematicians. One, an atheist, holds that any belief in God is totally irrational, the other, a Hindu, says that his god puts stunning new formulae into his mind, when he is at worship or asleep. Clips from this intriguing film provide stepping off points for course members to explore important biblical themes and what they have to say to us today.

**COURSE CONTENT**

Week 1: Journeying in faith

Week 2: Living in exile

Week 3: Questions about truth

Week 4: Friendship with God

Week 5: Longing for home

**TARGET GROUP**

Anyone who enjoy films. It would be most helpful if participants have seen the whole film before the course (it’s currently available on amazon prime). No knowledge of, or interest in, mathematics is required!

**Please note** Participants will need to buy the author’s course book: *Thoughts of God,* Circle Books, 2022 (currently £7.37 from Amazon)

**Please note this module will take place on ZOOM.**

Tutors: Revd Andy Colebrooke & Monday evenings 7.30pm – 9.30pm

Mrs Hazel Colebrooke February 19, 26 & March 4, 11, 18 Course fee £25

**Module Lent 3**

**“The Last Week”**

**PURPOSE**

The Gospel According to Mark clearly sets out the events in days leading to the Last Supper. There are details of his arrest, conduct of his trial, and his crucifixion. The events surrounding the Resurrection are short and to the point.

I would like the participants to look at what Mark has to say, consider why he made these choices, and think about how this shapes our view of Christ.

**COURSE CONTENT**

I shall be using a book called “The Last Week” written by Marcus J Borg and John Dominic Crossan as the basis for this Lent Course.

The Marcus J. Borg Foundation have published a study guide. It can be found here:

<https://marcusjborg.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Study_Guide_2018.03.pdf>

Each week the course will follow the events of each day of the last week of the life of Jesus. We shall consider some of the challenging theological interpretations and challenges of the Last Week.

To fit the events into a five-week course will mean that there will have to be some selection and compression.

**TARGET GROUP**

No prior experience is necessary, but this course will be looking at matters that are still hotly debated by theologians today. Please bring an open mind, a generous nature and a sensitivity to views that might be new.

**Please note this module will take place on ZOOM.**

Tutor: Rev David Pierce Thursday evenings 7.30pm – 9.30pm

 February 22, 29 & March 7, 14, 21

 Course fee £25

**Module Lent 4**

**The Place of Grace**

**PURPOSE**

This course uses material from Grace: God’s Amazing Gift by Jenny Baker, published by Spring Harvest Interactive Bible Studies(2004).

It considers:

* what grace is;
* how grace is intrinsic to God’s character;
* why we can find it so hard to receive grace;
* how grace transforms us and empowers us to live in freedom;
* how grace sets us free from sin and shame and calls us to forgive; and
* how grace works itself out in the context of a worshipping community.

It does so using the story of Gideon from the book of Judges, and some key New Testament passages on grace from Paul’s letters.

**COURSE CONTENT**

Session One: Introducing grace

Aim: to understand that grace is intrinsic to God’s character

Key text: Ephesians 2: 1-10

Session Two: Receiving grace

Aim: to understand why it can be so hard to receive grace, and what we can do about that

Key texts: Judges 6: 1 – 24, 36-40 and 7: 1-8

Session Three: Empowering grace

Aim: To consider how grace transforms us and empowers us to live in freedom

Key text: Judges 6: 25-32 and 7: 9-23

Session Four: Liberating grace

Aim: To understand how grace sets us free from sin and shame and calls us to forgive

Key texts: Romans 6: 1-18; Judges 8: 1-35

Session Five: The grace community

Aim: to understand how grace calls us to be part of a community

Key text: Ephesians 4: 1-10

**TARGET GROUP**

It is suitable for anyone wanting to learn more about God’s amazing gift of grace – no prior study is needed. The reading for each session will be Bible passages, and details will be given before the start for Session One, and then at the end of each week’s session for the following week.

Tutors: Revd Hayley Rogers Wednesday evenings 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Revd Kim Lepley February 21 & 28 & March 6, 13, 20

St Andrew’s Church Course fee £25

Rochford

**Module Lent 5**

**Poems and Prayer**

**PURPOSE**

To explore how reading and listening to poetry can help us to pray.

**COURSE CONTENT**

Sessions will include looking at poems from around the UK and at poetic writing in prayers and sermons. Two or three poems will be chosen as a focus for each session on themes such as the world around us, prayer, Biblical characters, pain and praise.

We will learn how poetic language can be God language, exploring some of the riches of the English language. Participants can bring their favourite poems and there will be an opportunity to write some of our own poetry – all for private use unless group members want to share them.

**TARGET GROUP**

No previous of study of poetry is needed and if you were put off poetry at school this module aims to leave you with a love of poetry!

Tutor: Revd Canon Dr Elizabeth Jordan Wednesday mornings10.00am – 12.00 noon

Diocesan Office February 21,28, & March 6, 13, 20

Chelmsford Course fee £25

**Module Lent 6**

**The Unknown Bible**

**PURPOSE**

The Bible is the best-selling book of all time, and is revered by millions as Holy Scripture, a guide to good-living, for comfort, wisdom and inspiration. But parts of it are often overlooked as boring, irrelevant, or even offensive to modern readers. In this Lent course we explore some of the lesser-known biblical books to find out what, if anything, they can add to our understanding of faith and life in our times.

**COURSE CONTENT**

The Lent Course will be delivered online. You will be able to watch a video once a week in your own time and then discuss the topic in an online forum with the other students and a tutor.

For more information email admin.stedmunds@london.anglican.org

**Please note this module will be online, using the online MOODLE platform.  It allows the flexibility to participate at any time during the week.  Once you have registered, your confirmation letter will provide details of how you can access the site.**

**In order to register for this module you will need to book via the Eventbrite link below and make payment via that link, if appropriate. PLEASE DO NOT SEND PAYMENT TO CHELMSFORD DIOCESE FOR THIS MODULE.**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/788981473827?aff=oddtdtcreator>

**TARGET GROUP**

No prior experience necessary.

Tutors: Revd Beki Rogers,                                    6 weeks beginning 12 February

Mr Martin Carr & others                                             Course fee £25

**Module Lent 7**

**I Believe in the Resurrection**

**PURPOSE**

To put the physical resurrection of the dead back onto the Christian agenda, rather than the vague “going to heaven” in popular thought.

To dispel some of the myths of an afterlife at the end of a tunnel or sitting on a park bench, which often surface during bereavement visiting and funeral preparation; &

To see Jesus’ resurrection as the model for our resurrection.

**COURSE CONTENT**

The Biblical evidence for resurrection in both Old and New Testaments.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead – the model for our resurrection?

The importance of the body.

Funeral liturgies and practice.

Bringing Christian Hope to the bereaved.

**TARGET GROUP**

This module is suitable for anyone currently on the CCS (or having completed it previously), plus any Christians interested in what happens after we die. Also, those engaged in pastoral and bereavement visiting; and Readers, Licensed Lay Ministers and Clergy who conduct funerals. But, in all cases, no prior experience necessary.

**Please note this module will take place on ZOOM.**

Tutor: Revd Simon Law Monday evenings 7.30-9.30pm

 February 19, 26 & March 4, 11 & 18

 Course fee £25

**Module Lent 8**

**The Development of Holy Communion**

**From the Latin Mass to Common Worship**

**PURPOSE**

To trace the development of Holy Communion from the pre-Reformation Latin Mass through the English Prayer Books of 1549, 1552 and 1662 to Common Worship.

**COURSE CONTENT**

Each week there will be a Celebration of each Communion Service, as it would have been at the time, followed by (or preceded by) a detailed discussion.

**TARGET GROUP**

Anyone currently on the CCS (or having completed it previously); any Christians interested in how Holy Communion has come down to us today; and very useful for Ordinands and those in training for Licensed Lay Ministry.

Tutors: Revd Simon Law Tuesday evenings 7.30pm - 9.30pm

St Gabriel’s Church February 20, 27 & March 5, 12, 19

Pitsea Course fee £25

**Module Lent 9**

**Church History - The Reformation, Part 2**

**PURPOSE**

Today we all, religious or not, still live with the legacy of the controversy and warfare of the 17th century when religion and politics were inextricably intertwined. This course aims to enlighten members about those struggles.

**COURSE CONTENT**

**2nd March**

Religion in Europe in 1600.

The reigns of James I and VI and Charles I. Papists and Puritans.

The English Civil War. The Commonwealth.

The Counter Reformation in Europe and the Thirty Years War.

The Peace of Westphalia.

**9th March**

The Restoration in England. The exclusion crisis over religion.

The Revocation of the Edict of Nantes in France.

The Glorious Revolution in England.

Scotland and Ireland.

Queen Anne.

**N.B. Please bring your own lunch**

**TARGET GROUP**

No prior experience needed. Although this is a continuation of last year’s Church History module, it will not be necessary to have done that module for this to make sense.

Prior reading, if desired, but not necessary: - Owen Chadwick, **“The Reformation “.**

Tutor: Miss Rowena Rudkin 2 Saturday’s 10.00am – 3.00pm

Gwinnell Room March 2 & 9

St Mary’s Church Course fee £20

South Woodford

**Module Lent 10**

**Encountering Christ through Art**

**PURPOSE**

To look at the ways in which Christ has been portrayed in art and in so doing to discover how art can provide new perspectives and insights into what are often very familiar gospel stories.

**COURSE CONTENT**

We will be looking at a variety of paintings from different periods of history from Renaissance to Contemporary, taking in Christ’s birth, passion, crucifixion and resurrection. There will also be some quiet time for personal reflection.

**TARGET GROUP**

The course is open to anyone who is interested in exploring how art can enhance our appreciation of the life and ministry of Christ. No prior knowledge of art or art history is required.

**Please note -** Hot drinks will be provided but participants will need to bring a sandwich lunch. Alternatively, lunch will be available in the House Dining Room at a cost of £14.00 per person. If you wish to take up this option please let the Course Leader know in advance.

Tutor: Revd Mark James Tuesday 10.00am – 4.00pm

Diocesan House of Retreat March 12

Pleshey Course fee £15