



PARISH OF FINCHAMPSTEAD AND CALIFORNIA

LENT WELL SPENT

RESOURCES

Although Lent is now a distant memory, it seems worthwhile putting together a list of resources. The needs we identified in the programme won't go away. And although as a Parish we support several of the organisations we heard from, it may be that as individuals we want to do more.

Many of us felt that we wanted to make a personal response to what we heard and learned (and some did so after the lectures and discussions) – the danger, as so often, is that our good intentions are overtaken by the busyness of our lives. The idea of this summary is to act as a reminder of those intentions and provide the incentive actually to do something about them.

The weekly handouts with the Bible readings and related questions for further study are now available on the Parish website: <http://parish.finchampstead.co.uk/worship/growing-living-faith/>

LENT WELL SPENT ... *at work*

A wide range of resources can be accessed via the London Institute of Contemporary Christianity website: www.licc.org.uk/

LENT WELL SPENT ... *with the poor – Foodbanks*

Food and toiletries for Crowthorne Foodbank will continue to be collected at both churches, as needed. Financial contributions can be made via the website of Wokingham Vineyard Church (which also has an up-to-date list of what's needed and can be stored): www.wokinghamvineyard.org/foodbank-donations

If, as has been the case recently, Crowthorne Foodbank has run out of storage space, Wokingham Foodbank is likely still to welcome donations: <http://wokingham.foodbank.org.uk/>

LENT WELL SPENT ... with the poor – Credit Unions

Details of the Berkshire Credit Union, based in Reading, are at www.cslberks.org/. Alternatively you can pop into FBC Centre on Thursdays from 2 till 4 and have a chat with Jake Sipsma at his stall in the entrance hall; he will explain anything you might want to know about credit unions, including how to join up.

LENT WELL SPENT ... with the poor – Mityana Charity

Hugh Wakeling is now heavily involved with this small locally run charity and will be happy to give you any information you might want. Or see the website: <http://mityanacharity.org/>

LENT WELL SPENT ... with the homeless

The website for Churches in Reading Drop-in Centre (CIRDIC) is at www.cirdic.org.uk/. There's a facility there for making donations and we have an open invitation to any of the Centre's sessions: St Saviour's Church Hall, Berkeley Avenue, Reading RG1 6JT.

LENT WELL SPENT ... with the persecuted church

Barnabas Fund, which we supported as our Lent charity, receives updates from the many countries round the world where Christians are persecuted, including Egypt, Turkey and China which we focused on in Holy Week: see <http://barnabasfund.org/UK/>

AND ALSO (1) ... our Church Mission Society (CMS) partners

Kailean and Kim Khongsai visited both churches just before Lent and told us about their work with A Rocha. To learn more about them or to sign up for their newsletter see: <http://www.cms-uk.org/tabid/742/language/en-GB/Default.aspx>

AND ALSO (2) ... the Anglican Church in Ethiopia

The church in the Gambella region of Ethiopia is doing its best to help cope with the continuing influx of refugees from South Sudan. The best way to get a sense of what's going on is via Bishop Grant LeMarquand's blog at www.grantandwendy.com/

FINALLY ... we need feedback

This is the first time we have had an integrated Lent programme. Some parts of it seemed more successful than others – please let us know what you think (john@adoramus.wanadoo.co.uk or via the Parish office).