

## SCOUTING

# The Gang Show

18-22 FEBRUARY 7.30PM\*

TICKETS: Adults £6 Children £4 are available from Kristine Lockwood on 0117 909 6400 (after 6pm).

If need be, leave your land line phone number for Kris to call back. Or email: kristine.lockwood@blueyonder.co.uk stating which night required and how many adults/children tickets required.

Note that *there will be no Friday Night Live on 21 February* as a result of the Gang Show week.

\*SATURDAY 7PM

## Deanery Synod

TUESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 7.30PM

THIS is being held in St Stephens Church. If you'd like to come along to see what happens, please do.

*Refreshments will be available from 7pm.*

## Lent Course

'FOLLOWING JESUS' has been, and is, a recurring theme at St Stephens: including 'We follow Jesus' and 'Follow THE Star, Jesus' being words we will all have heard and said often.

So, following on from this, the focus of our Lent Course 2020 will be: 'Let's talk... Jesus!' with a mixture of short films, discussion, sharing and prayer.

Simply come along to Church on the Wednesday evenings in Lent: 4 March to 8 April at 7.30pm.

## SPECIAL ANNUAL SERVICE

# Ash Wednesday

06 MARCH 7.30PM in Church

## PALM CROSSES

PLEASE would you bring your palm crosses to Church during February, so they can be transformed into ash in time for the Imposition of Ashes on Ash Wednesday. *Thank you!!*



## MOTHERING SUNDAY

# Planning meeting

MONDAY 2 MARCH 7.30PM

IF you wish to help or suggest ideas then you are welcome to attend this meeting in the Church Room.

## Jo's HIIT FIT Class

SATURDAYS 8AM-9AM £5 per class.

IN the Church Hall.

*For all abilities.* Contact Jo 07 938 820 063 or just turn up on the morning!

## Keep-fit & Pilates

A BRAND new class to help improve general fitness, heart and lung function by performing light cardio-vascular exercises using your own body weight.

Fitness pilates movements strengthen your core, back and glutes, to help you tone up, get fit & improve bone density.

Relaxed, laid back classes, perfect for beginners, Tuesdays at 1pm, beginning on 25 February.

£6 per session or book 6 for £30.

For more info, email Hayley Rose: resultft@outlook.com

02 FEBRUARY 2020

CANDLEMAS

BIBLE READINGS: MALACHI 3:1-5; LUKE 2:22-40

# Waiting...

**Waiting here for You  
With our hands lifted high in praise  
And it's You we adore  
Singing Alleluia**



THESE words – from a worship song by Christy Nockels – describe two things. Firstly there is the idea of waiting for the Lord to come. Jesus promised that He will come again and as Christians we wait in joyful anticipation of that; although we are not sure when he will come again, and how.

The second is that this waiting is not something we passively do, like waiting for a bus or our turn in a queue, no, waiting for the Lord is something that we are actively involved in. Praise and worship are our tasks, our work, while we wait.

In our Gospel reading for today, Candlemas, we hear the story of when the baby Jesus was presented in the temple of Jerusalem to two faithful people there, Simeon and Anna.

They were elderly and had devoted their lives to waiting for the Lord, praising and worshipping as they did so.

Simeon had been told by the Holy Spirit to go to the Temple and what he had longed for would be revealed to him.

And then it happens, quietly and simply, a couple bringing their firstborn to be blessed, like many others would have done before.

Simeon and Anna immediately recognise the Redeemer, and how do they respond? Why by praising and worshipping of course!

So as we wait for the Lord, let us never forget that it is our job to continually praise and worship Him.

*You never know – one day we might be surprised like Simeon and Anna were!*

**PETER ROBBINS**



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CHARITY NUMBER 131503

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS  
ISAIAH 58:1-9: MATTHEW 5:13-20