



St. Edward's Church newsletter

MARCH 2017 – As we enter into the season of Lent, may we find courage to reflect on our lives and the choices we make. Take the time and explore how we can grow closer to God with the Lenten course being offered Wednesday evenings. And participate in our special Mothering Sunday service as we offer gifts of prayer to the women in our church community.

SERVICES

A Sung Eucharist is celebrated every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.
All denominations are welcome to receive the Blessed Sacrament.

Sunday School Lessons will take place March 12th and 19th.

Mid-Week Service: Unless announced to the contrary, there will be a short service of Holy Communion (said) every Wednesday in the side chapel at 10:30 a.m. All Welcome.

EVENTS

MARCH

Wednesday 1 st	10:30 a.m. Said Service of Holy Communion (with Imposition of Ashes)
Wednesday 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd , 29 th and April 5 th	Lent Course at Casa Benson 7:30 p.m.
Sunday 26 th	10:30 a.m. Mothering Sunday (also known as Refreshment Sunday)

LENT STUDY



Wednesday Evenings
Begins March 8th
Casa Benson at 7:30 p.m.

Our Lent Course for 2017 will be **"All Loves Excelling"** – a Diocese of Ely five-session course that will take us right through the whole of Paul's beautiful epistle to the Philippians.

The material is designed to be easy to use, with ideas for prayer activities, led reflections and questions for discussion.

The ultimate aim of the course is to grow us in confidence in our faith in Jesus Christ that we may fulfill the mission and ministry he entrusts to us.

If you would like to join the course then simply write your name on the sign-up list on the Casa Benson notice board or send an email to:

fnigel-lugano@bluewin.ch

MOTHERING SUNDAY



Sunday March 26th

Join us for
Mothering Sunday

The children's gifts will offer us a journey together in prayer, one bead at a time.

The fourth Sunday in Lent is also known as **Refreshment Sunday**, so come and enjoy some cake, too!



Chaplain's Message



Dear Friends,

Lent, which means 'spring-time', is a six-week period of abstinence and repentance in preparation for Easter. As the buds open on trees and the days lengthen, Lent is a spiritual season that calls for greater openness to the word of God and an honest reappraisal of every part of our lives.

Whether we give alms, pray, or fast, whether we do more Bible study, whether we come to church more often, we do it with the intention of entering into closer communion with God. Lent is a time to own up to any area of life that we know damages our relationship with God. It is also a time to own up to the fact of how much we keep looking for joy, peace and satisfaction in people and things around us without finding what we desire. Only God can give us what we want.

Here are some practical questions to help you on your Lenten journey. Ask yourself, how often have I lived through Lent without paying much attention to penance, fasting and prayer? How often have I missed the spiritual fruits of this season without even being aware of them? Can I honestly celebrate the joy of Easter without having first observed a good Lent?

Some people find questions like these hard. But Lent was never meant to be easy. It's supposed to strengthen our faith and commitment, and only you can make it different from previous Lenten seasons. At the very least, everyone should undertake some Bible study and pray more during Lent, as well as regard Sunday church attendance as an act of obligation.

Lent then is a season rich with possibilities. It is an invitation to enter more fully, more deeply into the mystery of our Lord's Passion, which undoubtedly will help you know God more clearly, love him more dearly, and follow him more nearly, everyday of your life.

With every good wish and blessing for a holy and blessed Lenten season.

Fr Nigel

SAVE THE DATE



Annual General Meeting Sunday 30th April In church after the Service

Every Electoral Roll member is warmly encouraged to attend the AGM and enjoy the opportunity of hearing about different areas of church life over the past year. Nominated Council members and Churchwardens, who are your representatives, are elected by your vote. Our Chaplain, Fr. Nigel who will chair the meeting, hopes to welcome a good representation from the whole Church body, as we plan the way forward in seeking to accomplish God's Holy work at St. Edward's Church.

ECUMENICAL WITNESS AT ST. EDWARD'S

Fr Nigel recently welcomed over 70 people from various denominations to join him and clergy representatives of the *Ecumenical Council of Canton Ticino (CLCCT)* for Choral Evensong in St Edward's. The Lugano Cathedral School Choir directed by Robert Michaels ably supported the service, which was held on 22nd January to mark this year's *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*. A generous donation from the congregation was later sent to the Christian community in Aleppo. *Photo from left to right:*

Efrem Akbas (lay rep Siro-Orthodox Church),
Don Damian Spataru (Roman Catholic Church)
Padre Ibrahim Unal (Siro-Orthodox Church)
Padre Mihai Mesesan (Orthodox Church)
Don Rolando Leo (Roman Catholic Church, President CLCCT ad interim)
Revd Nigel Gibson, Chaplain, St Edward's, Lugano
Diacona Elisabetta Tisi (Old Catholics Church)
Pastore Daniele Campoli (Evangelical Reformed Church)
Gino Driussi (former lay rep Catholic Church and President CLCCT)



SUNDAY SCHOOL *(During the scholastic year)*

Sunday School lessons **usually** take place on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month during the 10:30 morning Eucharistic Service. **Please see Front Page for Sunday School dates.** All children from the age of 3 are very welcome to join **Pebbles** for our youngest members, or **Rocks** for those with more reading ability. Children are encouraged to participate in the monthly Family Service. For further info contact: [Diana dellacqua.ticino@gmail.com](mailto:Diana.dellacqua.ticino@gmail.com)

TODDLERS CORNER

Welcome bags are available at the back of the church for the youngest children to enjoy quietly during the Service.

SOUL CAFÉ

A welcoming place to meet together for friendship and fellowship in the relaxed atmosphere of Casa Benson. Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month.

March 1st and 15th

from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For further information please contact Linda Denkinger 091 605 3576

NEWS SUBMISSION

Copy for the April edition is due 14th March. Email to emily.lingeri@bluewin.ch

THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE



The Sunday School gathered in Casa Benson to prepare the Christingle oranges for Sunday's Service of Candlemas during which Fr. Nigel spoke to the children about the light in the darkness and shared his thoughts about how "I will bring light into the world". The congregation with candles lit, prayed to God our Heavenly Father, **"keep us in the Light of Christ to shine in the world that others may see what we do in your name and give your glory."**

CHURCH CONTACTS

The Anglican Church of St. Edward the Confessor
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PARKING is available during every Sunday morning Service inside the parking garage of the ProCrea Clinic next door to the church.

www.stedwards.ch