

Mortlake with East Sheen Team Ministry

Pray On The Move: 14-17 February 2018

Whether or not you have a busy life, if you would like a little daily scriptural input to help you pray this Lent do feel free to use this weekly sheet or, if you would prefer to receive it by email contact revd.gareth.davies@icloud.com. The bible readings are those set for the eucharist in the Church of England's *Common Worship* lectionary.

On your knees, get set, go.

14 February: Matt 6: 1-6, 16-18

"Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them..."

"...whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you...so that [you] may be praised by others."

One of the things Lent asks us is whether we can do something, or refrain from doing something that is wont to control us: we are encouraged to develop our inner freedom in order that we might heed God. What would you let go of as Lent begins, that you might be freer for God?

15 February: Luke 9: 22-25

"If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me."

Our cross is how we are, our ego, our aches and pains, our awkwardness and our mistakes. To follow God means coping with life without trampling on people or making them suffer. To deny oneself means to reach a point where one's self is no longer the most important thing, to be able to accept disappointments and to see God in both the good and the difficult parts of life.

16 February: Matt 9: 14-15

"Why do...the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?"

If we fast we do so in order to make space for God, to be reminded that God desires to be present to us in our life. But the important thing, in fast or in feast, is to be aware of where Jesus Christ is present in our situation, that we are in step with him, not out of step.

17 February: Luke 5: 27-32

"...[Jesus] went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me.""

Who are the Levis of today, the individuals that people find difficult? Who do we spend time with – those we like or (quite possibly) admire, or those who are already judged and found wanting?