

Today's hymns: 24, 391, 494, 516

Welcome

A warm welcome to you, whether you are joining us in Bonn (9.30am) or Cologne (11.45am). The **St. Boniface Sunday School** meets during the service in Bonn today. In church, please note:

- Please wear a surgical mask or an FFP2 / KN95 mask.
- Please follow the instructions if you would like to receive Holy Communion, in either one kind (bread) or two (bread and wine). The body and blood of Christ may be completely received in one kind only. If you wish to receive the wine, please drink from the chalice.
- Please place your donation in the collection basket during the offertory hymn, or donate by bank transfer (account details on the front page).

This week

Tuesday 7 February, 7.30pm: **Evening Prayer** on Zoom.
Friday 10 February, 6pm: **Evening Prayer** followed by **Bible study** (6.30pm to 7.30pm) at All Saints, Cologne.

Looking ahead

Monday 13 February, 7.30pm: **Chaplaincy council** meets at All Saints.
Wednesday 15 February, 7.30pm: **Book Club** meets on Zoom. This month's read is the novel 'Night Train to Lisbon' by Pascal Mercier.
Weds 22 February, 7.30pm: **Ash Wednesday liturgy** at All Saints.

Lent prayer group starts on 28 February

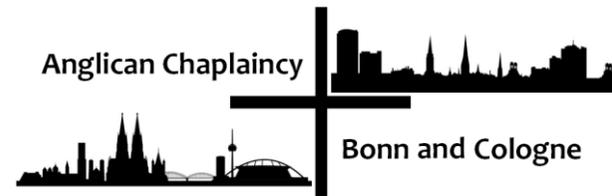
Each Tuesday during Lent, all are invited to join in 30 minutes of prayer for the needs of the world, our community, and ourselves. We meet on Zoom at 8pm, after Evening Prayer (7.30pm). We will also explore two ancient Christian contemplative prayer methods. On 28 March, we will use Lectio Divina for our scripture reading and prayer time. Early Christians used this method to meditatively reflect on scripture, deepening their understanding of God's Word. On 4 April, we will focus on the Ignatian Method, which enables us to use our imagination to visualize ourselves in the Scripture reading. Both of these practices can enhance our Lenten journey.

Are you new to Bonn or Cologne, or to this church? For up to date information, follow us on Facebook/Twitter and visit our website. To be added to the mailing list, let us have your contact details. Any data you give us will be kept securely and in no case given to any third parties.

Name:

Address and tel. no.:

e-mail:



WELCOME

Welcome to Sunday worship, especially if you are joining us for the first time. Refreshments will be served after the service. We hope you might stay and introduce yourself.

**Sunday 5 February 2023
Third Sunday before Lent**

President and preacher:
Revd Richard Gardiner

Collect

Almighty God,
who alone can bring order
to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity:
give your people grace
so to love what you command
and to desire what you promise,
that, among the many changes of this world,
our hearts may surely there be fixed
where true joys are to be found;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Old Testament reading – Isaiah 58.1-9a
False and True Worship**

Thus says the LORD:
¹Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. ²Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. 'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?'

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SUNDAY WORSHIP
9.30am at St. Paulus,
Siegburger Str. 75,
53229 Bonn
11.45am at All Saints,
Bonner Str./Lindenallee,
50968 Cologne

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ZOOM MEETING I.D.
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Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers. ⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. ⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rearguard. ⁹Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

Psalm 112.1-9

Alleluia!

Blessed are those who fear the Lord and have great delight in his commandments.

**Their descendants will be mighty in the land,
a generation of the faithful that will be blest.**

Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness endures for ever.

**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
gracious and full of compassion are the righteous.**

It goes well with those who are generous in lending
and order their affairs with justice,

**For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be held in everlasting remembrance.**

They will not be afraid of any evil tidings;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

**Their heart is sustained and will not fear,
until they see the downfall of their foes.**

They have given freely to the poor;
their righteousness stands fast for ever;
their head will be exalted with honour.

New Testament reading – 1 Corinthians 2.1-12

The True Wisdom of God

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. ⁶Yet among the mature we do speak

wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,

nor the human heart conceived,

what God has prepared for those who love him' —

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

¹¹For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

Gospel reading – Matthew 5.13-20

Salt and Light

Jesus went up the mountain and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to teach them:

¹³You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.'

Post Communion prayer

Merciful Father,

who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life,
that those who come to him should never hunger:

draw us to the Lord in faith and love,

that we may eat and drink with him

at his table in the kingdom,

where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen.