

4<sup>th</sup> March 2018  
~ 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent ~

10.00 am Holy Communion

President: Revd Sr. Elizabeth Shearcroft, C.A.

Preacher: Revd. David Stephenson (Area Dean)

Readings: Exodus 20:1-17 OT page 68  
1 Corinthians 1:18-25 NT page 162  
John 2:13-22 NT page 89



“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.”  
Mark 8: 34b & 35

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<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/immanuelstandrew>

Vicar	Revd Sr Elizabeth Shearcroft CA
Wardens	(Vacant) (Vacant)
Treasurer	Caroline Hewitt
Envelope Sec	Lorraine Thomas
Stewardship	Lorraine Thomas
Safeguarding	Laura Reynolds (Children)
Officers	Maureen Boothe (Vulnerable Adults)
Office	Tuesdays and Fridays (school hours) 8679 6888 <a href="mailto:office@immanuelstreatham.org.uk">office@immanuelstreatham.org.uk</a>

452 Streatham High Road, London, SW16 3PY

# OPEN DOOR

Our weekly newsletter for you to take home



**Immanuel and St Andrew**

Registered Charity no:1131245  
[www.immanuelstreatham.org.uk](http://www.immanuelstreatham.org.uk)

25<sup>th</sup> February 2018  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

10.00 am Holy Communion

President & Preacher: Revd Sr. Elizabeth Shearcroft, C.A.

Readings: Genesis 17:1-7,15,16 OT page 13  
Romans 4:13-end NT page 150  
Mark 8:31-end NT page 42

## Collect

**Almighty God,  
you show to those who are in error the light of your truth,  
that they may return to the way of righteousness:  
grant to all those who are admitted  
into the fellowship of Christ's religion,  
that they may reject those things  
that are contrary to their profession,  
and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;  
through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen**

## Diary Dates

- **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018 - Immanuel Prays!** - our prayer group meets at 7:30 pm in the Chapel.
- **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018 - CAIAS** - 10:30am in the Common Room. This week's programme: Brain Gym
- **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018 - Admission to Communion/Confirmation sessions** - see below for details.
- **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2018** ~ informal Lent tea and talk at Marcia Crow's home ~ 14.30 pm
- **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March** - Funeral in church at 11:00 am of Granville Brown.
- **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March** ~ Funeral at Streatham Park Cemetery Chapel (Rowan Road) of Silburn (Jim) McLean ~ after Service gathering at Immanuel. Time to be confirmed.

### More sad news...

As many members of Immanuel will already know, Susan England died on Monday. Susan had been receiving palliative care for her cancer for some time and was doing very well - but succumbed to pneumonia last weekend and died on Monday evening. We give thanks for Susan's life and all she meant not only to her family but also to the church, to Immanuel and Woodmansterne schools - and to much else besides. Please remember her family, particularly her husband Chris and sons Peter, John and Michael, in your prayers.

Also, Penny Bramwell's sister Sarah Green died last Sunday, leaving her three children Aimee, Sabrina and Julian. Please also remember them and Penny and family in prayer, giving thanks for Sarah's life.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

### Admission to Communion/Confirmation

Exploration and preparation sessions take place in Church on **Thursdays** from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018:

Admission to Communion (7-12 year olds) 4:30 - 5:45pm  
Confirmation Preparation (12 years upwards) 6:30 - 7:45pm

## Prayer Pointers

- Pray for those preparing to share in the ministry and worship at Immanuel over the next four months giving thanks for the support we are being given.
- Give thanks for our very positive MAP morning which gave much clarity and vision for us at Immanuel & St. Andrew growing together as a community **Knowing Jesus ~ Making Him known.**
- Pray for all involved with our school. For the right person to offer as a foundation or for election as a parent governor, pray that we can be representational of the community school serves. Give thanks for interest shown.
- Give thanks for the lives of Susan England, Sarah Jennifer Green (Penny Bramwell's sister), Jim McLean and Granville Brown (Lorraine Thomas's father) and pray for Chris, Penny, Hannah and Lorraine and their families at this sad time.

### Immanuel Prays!

The next few meetings are at 7.30pm in the Chapel on  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February      Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March              Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March

If you are unable to attend but would like us to pray for you or someone you know, please contact Lorraine or Marion.

### Lent exploration ~ "Tea & Talk"

During Lent you are invited to join Marcia Crow on Saturday afternoons at her home for a cup of tea and informal chat about the book you are reading for your Lent preparation also to explore why we give things up or take things on for Lent and how easy or hard we find it! Talk to Marcia to confirm time (14.30) and place, (Guildersfield Road).

## Ministry Musings

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

One of the things that we cannot fail to notice in our scripture readings throughout Lent is that God is always prepared to give us the opportunity to come back to Him and deepen our knowledge of Him.

Throughout history, from the time that we were created with freewill, whilst a number of God's people have remained consistently faithful and obedient to God's rule and supremacy others repeatedly drift away from His presence, preferring to go their own way, marring God's image within themselves and finding themselves isolated.

Abram and Sarai were called to be faithful into their old age. They did not always find faithfulness easy, Sarai remained barren in a society that recognised God's blessing in their offspring and particularly through their sons. The couple never stopped trusting in God though they asked really tough questions and did not always understand why things were as they were. God honoured their faithfulness and used it to offer His people a new covenant ~ He asked that all male descendants would be circumcised to show their intention to remain faithful and God renamed Abram and Sarai ~ Abraham and Sarah and promised that they would be the father and mother of nations through giving them a son. Before Christ this faithful couple had carried their cross and honoured God! You and I will have 'crosses' to carry throughout our lives and Lent is a time to recognise them and our attitude and response to them in the light of God's Love. Whatever our cross is, whether it is recognised by others or not we may feel pressure, prejudice, rejection or isolation but we have to trust in God and praise Him simply through thanking Him for standing with us and at times carrying us. That is about denying ourselves and our material and human wants and may challenge us ethically, even morally, when in conflict with the worlds standards but it will deepen our "knowing Jesus ~ making Him known".

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