

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Church of the Resurrection and St Barnabas

Extravagant Love



In our Gospel today we hear again the well-known story of Mary anointing the feet of Jesus with a pound of costly nard perfume, its value equivalent in those days to about a whole year's wages for a manual worker.

So, did Mary do the wrong thing in 'wasting' this perfume? As Judas said, the money could have been spent on the poor (and, if it had gone into the common purse used to fund Jesus's ministry, Judas

would have helped himself to some of it!). Jesus, of course, sees things differently. He knows that Mary bought the perfume to anoint his body at his burial. So why, then, didn't she save it for his death? I like to think that she was so overcome with love for her Lord that she had to anoint him right then, and use her hair to wipe his feet clean, a public act of extravagant love for the Jesus who only a few weeks earlier had raised her beloved brother Lazarus from the dead.

Can we be like Mary? What extravagant love (in the form of prayer, fasting and obedience) can we show to our Lord Jesus as we continue our Lenten journey?



Morning Prayer on Wednesday and Thursday mornings in church, starting 9.45am

Easter Flower donations please

There's a plate at the back of church if you feel you can make a contribution to the Easter flowers. Many thanks. Revd Adam

Taizé Service

There will be a Taizé service in church next Sunday evening Apr 10th at 7.00pm. It will be a lovely, reflective start to Holy Week

Covid-19 update

Following the latest Church of England guidance mask wearing is now optional, but please be aware of others' needs.

1

UKRAINE

Please continue to pray for the situation in Ukraine. Prayer sheets are at the back of church

2

2022 LENT COURSE CONTINUES

Tomorrow night, 7.30pm at St Cross Church, Clayton. Our theme this Lent is 'Embracing Justice'

3

FIRST COMMUNION

Also, please continue to pray for our First Communion candidates from Resurrection Primary and St Barnabas Primary schools