

The Parish of Esher

'Exploring the Gospels'

A series of Discussion Evenings for Lent

Last autumn we held a series of discussion evenings to consider the relevance of the Old Testament to our lives today. Building on that, as our Lent studies this year we'll look at the four Gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. We'll explore why we have these different accounts of Jesus's life rather than a single integrated story. We'll consider how the four Gospels appear to borrow from one another, but also how they differ both in content and in emphasis. We'll reflect on how those four different 'voices' complement one another and how, taken together, they can draw us closer to the figure of Jesus whom we revere as God and Man.

If this sounds intriguing, do come along. We'll meet in Christ Church on four Tuesday evenings at 8pm. One of our Ministry Team will give a short and provocative introduction to get us thinking, and then over light refreshments we'll dig deeper. We'll suggest some questions for starters, but you may well have other things you'd like to talk about.



Our first session will be at 8pm on Tuesday 28 February when we'll look at Mark, the shortest Gospel and probably the earliest to be written. Among other things, we'll ask ourselves how we would capture the essentials of our faith.

'Exploring the Gospels'

Our programme

Although the dates set out below are firm, the topics for discussion may change as we learn from one another and sense one another's needs.

28 February - Mark - the first gospel, stark and simple

- › What is our essential 'good news'?

7 March - Matthew - teaching and drama

- › Applying the Sermon on the Mount
- › Judgement

14 March - Luke - the option for the poor

- › Power, wealth and poverty - within our country
- › Power, wealth and poverty - globally
- › The free market - insights from Pope Francis and Archbishop Justin

21 March - John - reflecting on the Word

- › Where we meet God

Much as we hope that many people will want to attend all the sessions described above, each evening will stand on its own, and therefore you're welcome to come as and when you can.

If you'd like to know more, please contact Revd Jonathan Andrew - jandrewsher@gmail.com / 01372 464380.

All evenings will start at 8pm and, however much you want to talk, we'll aim to finish around 9.30pm!