



Lent courses, books and resources for 2024

Dear friends,

Lent can often be seen as a season of discipline and privation, as we journey through the desert wilderness with Jesus. And although the sacrifices we make are important, Lent is also a season of opportunity. A season blest with resources written and designed with the purpose of challenging and encouraging us to dig down into the soil of the desert, and find springs of living water waiting to refresh and strengthen us.

My hope is that in amongst this collection of resources, you will find something to guide and enrich your Lenten journey.

With my prayers,
Primrose Northrop

Watch and Pray - The Church of England

The Church of England's Lent theme for 2024 is Watch and Pray: Wisdom and hope for Lent and life. Watch and Pray invites us to seek God in both familiar and unfamiliar places this Lent: in darkness and in quiet; in movement and migration; in the healing and transforming work of the Spirit; in the weeping of Holy Week and in the joy of Easter morning.

www.churchofengland.org/faith-calling/what-we-believe/lent-holy-week-and-easter/watch-and-pray-resources-lent-2024

Tarry Awhile: Wisdom from Black Spirituality for People of Faith

By Selina Stone

'Tarrying' is a Black Christian spiritual practice in which believers actively wait to experience the manifestation of God's presence. Whether in the vibrancy of music and singing, or in the hushed silence of the congregation, people of all ages anticipate an encounter with God that will transform what they know, feel and experience day to day. Tarry Awhile, (The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent 2024 book), offers wisdom for all people who hope to encounter God in the midst of wearying times. It provides fresh reflections on familiar biblical passages, and draws on personal stories, theology and the spiritual wisdom of ancestors who have gone before us.

Available online and in all good bookshops.

True Freedom - The Clewer Initiative

Over the last six months, The Clewer Initiative has worked closely with the World Council of Churches to create an international Lent Resource. True Freedom is a six week course, drawing on themes from the book of Galatians, and designed to encourage individuals and churches to



respond to modern slavery in their communities. It is hoped that this ground-breaking collaboration will result in churches and individuals using the resource to learn more about modern slavery and most importantly, to begin to take action against it.

For more information, please visit:
theclerinitiative.org/resources/true-freedom

Christ and the Chocolaterie

By Hilary Brand

Christ and the Chocolaterie is an original, innovative Lent course for small groups or individuals, inspired by the film *Chocolat* starring Juliette Binoche. It suggests clips from the film, group discussion questions, exercises and meditations, and relevant Bible passages for a powerful aid to Lenten reflection. Twenty-one years since it was first published, Hilary has updated the course for this new edition.

Available online and in all good bookshops.

The Lent Encounter 2024

Through signing up to this devotion, you will receive a daily email from the Bible Society, containing a simple reflection and prayer, with the option to read or listen. You can use this resource during your daily quiet time, on your morning walk, or during your commute to work. It promises to be a simple yet profound journey, as you join thousands of other Christians around the world, travelling through Lent.

For more information, please visit:
www.biblesociety.org.uk/resources/the-lent-encounter-sign-up

Calling a Wounded Planet Home - Green Christian's

Inspired by Green Christian's Deep Waters Course, this new resource for Lent asks "What kind of people might we need to be to face the challenges of climate change?" Here is a space to go deeper together, and a space of contemplation that can resource meaningful action. Covering topics of Love, Truth, Wisdom, Justice and Hope, this course uses music, prayer and Bible texts to inform reflection and discussion.

For more information, please visit:
borrowedtime.earth/programmes-of-mutual-support/a-new-lent-course-calling-a-wounded-earth-home



Following Jesus for a world Restored - Tearfund

Now is the time for people who know God's story of restoration to hold it up as a banner of hope. Now is the time to remind ourselves of the truer trajectory – all things being made new! – and join God's kingdom mission of restoration.

Journeying with Tearfund in the lead up to Easter you will reflect on your call to join Jesus as people of restoration – working together towards God's vision of all things made new.

For more information, please visit:

www.tearfund.org.au/following-jesus-for-a-world-restored-lent-2024

Lent and Easter for Everyone

Tom Wright

Offering seven weeks' worth of daily readings and reflections, Lent and Easter for Everyone enables you to relive Christ's journey - from his temptations in the wilderness to the darkness of the cross and beyond into the glory of Easter. Each reflection is drawn from a key passage in Wright's immensely popular For Everyone series, and each one ends with practical suggestions for personal reflection or group discussion.

Available online and in all good bookshops.

Healing & Hope in the one household of God - Embrace the Middle East

In this Lent resource for small groups, Embrace the Middle East, are offering participants the chance to reflect on Jesus' message of healing and hope. Through a series of scriptural reflections from Christian Leaders working in the Middle East, we are invited to pray for healing and hope to rule our hearts, as we journey towards Easter.

For more information, please visit:

shop.embraceme.org/products/lent-study-guide-2024

Lent with the Beloved Disciple

The Rt Reverend Bishop Michael Marshall

The 2024 Bloomsbury Lent Book invites you on a six-week journey in the company of the 'beloved disciple' as found in the narrative of the Gospel of St John. Ideal for both individual use and for small group study, Lent with the Beloved Disciple takes us into the heart of that Paschal Mystery, by which all things in heaven and earth are ultimately fulfilled in the risen and ascended Christ, who is 'all in all.'

Available online and in all good bookshops.



Act on Poverty - Christian Aid

Christian Aid has teamed up with partner organisations across the UK to help churches gain a deeper understanding of poverty and empower Christians to act in the run up to the next UK general election. Designed for use during Lent or later in 2024, the six-week resource brings campaigners from the UK and global contexts into dialogue about the differences and similarities between their visions for an end to poverty.

For more information, please visit:

www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/act-on-poverty

The Infernal Word - Notes from a Rebel Angel

By Revd Nicholas Papadopoulos

The Infernal Word began as a series of addresses preached on Good Friday in Canterbury Cathedral. They make ideal seasonal reading for anyone who wishes to explore the story of salvation.

Beneath their conversational and sardonic surface style, these infernal reflections engage deeply with the reality of a loving God who is made visible and vulnerable in Christ.

Available online and in all good bookshops.

A Prayer for Lent 2024

O God, the author and source of all light,
Teach us to fix our eyes on your Son,
Following him through this season of Lent,
With faithfulness, resolution and hope.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
your Son, who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever.
Amen.

Spread the word

Please use this guide to inform your choice of Lent materials for 2024, and pass it on to others to whom it would be helpful, especially those in your church communities who might not know what is available to individuals, or who would benefit from following a program.

Primrose Northrop

Calendar of Prayer

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www.canterburydiocese.org