

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 1st Mar:	11,00am	Jumble Sale
Mon 3rd Mar:	9.45am	Sparkles (weekly)
Mon 3rd Mar:	1.00pm	Zoom Prayer Meeting
Mon 3rd Mar:	6.30pm	Ignite (Weekly)
Tues 4th Mar:	All Day	Day of Prayer and Fasting
Tues 4th Mar:	10.00am	Community Sunshine Café
Tues 4th Mar:	1.15pm	Chair Yoga
Tues 4th Mar:	6.00pm	Pancakes with Ignite
Tues 4th Mar:	7.30pm	Lighthouse Homegroup in Royal Room
Tues 4th Mar:	7.30pm	Prayer for Revival, Prayer Room
Wed 5th Mar:	10.00am	Holy Communion in Royal Room
Wed 5th Mar:	12.00 noon	Mothers Union
Wed 5th Mar:	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Service
Fri 7th Mar:	12.30pm	Chair Based Tai Chi
Fri 7th Mar:	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Mon 10th Mar:	9.45am	Sparkles
Mon 10th Mar:	6.30pm	Ignite
Tues 11th Mar:	10.00am	Community Sunshine Café
Tues 11th Mar:	1.15pm	Chair Yoga
Tues 11th Mar:	7.30pm	Lent Course
Wed 12th Mar:	12.00 noon	MCC
Fri 14th Mar:	12.30pm	Chair Based Tai Chi
Fri 14th Mar:	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Mon 17th Mar:	9.45am	Sparkles
Mon 17th Mar:	6.30pm	Ignite
Tues 18th Mar:	10.00am	Community Sunshine Café
Tues 18th Mar:	1.15pm	Chair Yoga
Tues 18th Mar:	7.30pm	Lent Course
Wed 19th Mar:	10.00am	Holy Communion in Royal Room
Wed 19th Mar:	12.00 noon	MCC
Fri 21st Mar:	12.30pm	Chair Based Tai Chi
Fri 21st Mar:	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Mon 24th Mar:	9.45am	Sparkles
Mon 24th Mar:	6.30pm	Ignite
Tues 25th Mar:	10.00am	Community Sunshine Café
Tues 25th Mar:	7.30pm	Lent Course
Wed 26th Mar:	12.00 noon	MCC
Fri 28th Mar:	12.30pm	Chair Based Tai Chi
Fri 28th Mar:	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Sat 29th Mar:	10.00am	Craft Morning
Sun 30th Mar:	Both services	Mothers' Day Cake Sale

Chadderbox March2025 **Newsletter of St. Chad's** **Church, Chadwell Heath**



Apparently, according to Google, this month of the year marks a period of exploration and new beginnings, full of possibilities and opportunities. It's recognised as International Creativity Month and Self-Love, encouraging people to explore new hobbies, interests, skills, and passions. I've only touched on a few dates, but you would not believe how many

different celebrations that happen in March, and like me, you would be amazed at what is celebrated. The first one is:- International Women's Day on 8th March, which is an opportunity to recognise the achievements of women in all fields, while highlighting the need to fight for gender equality. The 11th March is Nyepi known as the 'Day of Silence'. This annual celebration is unique in its kind, as it is marked by a full day of silence, meditation, and reflection, followed by colourful rituals and community festivities. Then we have Cherry Blossom Festival on the 20th March, which is an iconic festival of ephemeral beauty and fragrance gathering with family and friends. Our next date is International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on 21st March, which was proclaimed by the United Nations in 1966. Its main aim is to raise awareness of the persistent challenges of racial discrimination and to promote equality, tolerance and diversity.

Then we have Harmony week celebrated between 18th- 24th March in Australia that aims to promote inclusion, diversity and mutual respect between the country's different cultures, religions, and communities, recognising everyone's contribution to creating a harmonious and inclusive society. Holi Festival is on the 25th March, which is one of the most vibrant and joyous festivals celebrated in India and other parts of the world, celebrating the arrival of spring and an opportunity to get together and have fun. Can you believe it there's also a Barbie Day on 9th March, which celebrates the debut of an 11inch tall doll, released in 1959. Perhaps we should take this one seriously and all dress as Barbie Dolls and the men could dress as Ken (Ha Ha)! Our next date we will all recognise; its Mothers day on March 30th and then of course we can't forget the preparations for the coming of Christ; Shrove Tuesday is 4th March, a Christian festival celebrated in many countries across the globe. It falls on the Tuesday before the beginning of Lent, a period of around six weeks leading up to Easter.

During Lent, Christians give up luxuries to remember when Jesus went into the desert for 40 days to fast and pray. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent on 5th March. The ashes used on Ash Wednesday come from the burnt palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday. The ashes are a symbol of death and repentance placed on the foreheads of Christians in the shape of a cross in remembrance of Jesus' death and resurrection; they are a sign of belonging to Jesus Christ. I think that this service is one of the most potent services where we are reminded that this is not our lasting home because our forever home is in eternity, with God. It's also a reminder that we have heard the call to turn away from sin and to give our lives to Jesus. If you've never been to this service can I encourage you all to put it in your diary and make it a priority because it's a time of reflection, repentance, preparation and it's a time to deepen our faith as together we remember why Jesus died on the Cross, he bore our sins because of his amazing love! One might say that Jesus loved us to death. Romans 5:8 says, "God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners." And 1 John 4:10 says, "This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."

So let's begin to prepare our hearts during Lent to receive the sacrifice of love made on our behalf. Let's show God that the sacrifice of his Son Jesus Christ was not in vain.

Have a Blessed March
Christine



We are excited to announce that we will be moving back into the church on Sunday 2nd March. It has been a long wait, and thank you all for being patient during these long and turbulent months of waiting for the building to be complete.

To celebrate this service, we are having a joint service with the 9.00am and 10.45am congregations at **10.30am**. There will be refreshments and all sorts going on—do come along and see the changes we have made. We guarantee you will be warm and comfortable!

We look forward to worshipping with you on the 2nd March.

Following on from our amazing shoebox weekend last December, it's time to start collecting for this year's campaign.

Last year, along with shoeboxes donated from other organisations, we sent over 600 boxes to Ukraine, which was a brilliant result! I am hoping we can do a similar number this year so it's never too early to start collecting.

This is what we will be collecting each month:

- | | |
|--------|--|
| March | Soaps and Flannels |
| April | Toothpaste and toothbrushes |
| May | Colouring pencils, crayons, note book, erasers, pencil sharpeners and pencil cases |
| June | Small toys (balls, cars, dolls, small games etc) |
| July | Sweets |
| August | Back to soap and flannels and toothpaste |
| Sept | Teddies and soft toys |
| Oct | Gloves, hats |
| Nov | Pencils, crayons, colouring/note books |



Please keep your shoeboxes for us too.

I can assure you first hand that all these items bring joy to children of all ages.

Thank you for supporting this wonderful charity.



Sunday 30th March is Mothers' Day and we will be holding a cake sale after both services.

Please bake a cake if you are able to celebrate our mums—all proceeds will go to church funds.



Our local food bank is in greater need than ever. Please prayerfully consider how you can support your community with donations of non-perishable foods, toiletries and baby items, including nappies of all sizes.



Tuesday 4th March is a day of prayer and fasting. Here are some prayer points:

- Pray for the world—this fallen world is economically, socially, climatically, politically damaged; war-torn, stabbing of our youth, the NHS, Police and Education and for the institutions that are sick and broken
- Pray for the world at war, for Israel and Palestine, for Ukraine and Russia.
- Pray that Leaders of all Nations would turn to God for Godly counsel
- Pray for peace of Jesus throughout the world
- Prayer for refugees, for the Unemployed, homeless and lonely
- Pray for Support workers and families caring for people with learning disabilities
- Pray for all those within our church family who are unwell at this time, awaiting test results and operations, or struggling in their faith
- Pray for those who are mourning loved ones
- Pray that God will bless us so that we can be a blessing to others
- For Martin and Christine as they lead us and Neil, Daryl and Bob as they bring God's word to us
- Continue to pray for the staff team and all our volunteers
- Pray for PCC and all the different groups in St Chads
- Pray that God will continue to cover the whole church family
- For the Church globally, especially where Christians cannot openly worship
- Scriptures:
 - **1 Peter 5:7**—for encouragement “Cast all your care on Him; for He cares for you.”
 - **Philippians 4:7** - for peace “And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. “
 - **Luke 21:19** - for patience “Stand firm, and you will win life. “
 - **Psalms 31:9** - for those grieving— “Be merciful to me, Lord, for I am in distress; my eyes grow weak with sorrow, my soul and body with grief.”
 - **John 16:22** “So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy”.



'My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.'

Exodus 33:14 (NIV UK)

March 2025 services

Traditional Holy Communion at 9.00 am

This is a Book of Common Prayer (BCP) service every Sunday for those who prefer something more traditional and reflective and lasts for 50/60 minutes.


All Age/Family Church Morning Worship at 10.45 am

This is a contemporary service, usually with times of worship, prayer and teaching, and lasts for about 80-90 minutes. When it is not All Age Worship (AAW), children leave for Junior Church after we have worshipped as a church family for the first part of the service.

Sunday 2nd March	All Age worship with Baptism
Sunday 9th March	Family Church
Sunday 16th March	Family Church with Holy Communion
Sunday 23rd March	Family Church
Sunday 30th March	Family Church with Holy Communion

Mid-week Services (Wednesday 10am)


Wednesday 5th March	Holy Communion in Royal Room
Wednesday 19th March	Holy Communion in Royal Room



Come to the Lighthouse Homegroup for Bible Study and Fellowship

1st Tuesday of the month in the Royal Room at 7:30pm

For more details contact Martin Brown
07780 674 120
MartinBrownNewham@gmail.com



Zoom Prayer Meeting

Monday 3rd March at 1.00 pm.
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85834336962?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85834336962?pwd=9sme7flWm2ctaMSj12Cza7GaRZkgni.1)
[pwd=9sme7flWm2ctaMSj12Cza7GaRZkgni.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85834336962?pwd=9sme7flWm2ctaMSj12Cza7GaRZkgni.1)
Meeting ID: 858 3433 6962
Passcode: 282066
Copy and paste link or look out for email and click on the link.

The Church Office is open every day except Thursday between 10am and 12 noon, for enquiries of any kind. Pauline Loomes, our Church Administrator, can be contacted by: **tel: 020 8597 8076** **email: churchoffice@stchads.church** **website: www.stchads.church**



'February on the Floor' is taking place on Friday 28th February, when our young people will be sleeping on the floor to raise money for those who do not have a bed. If you are able to support this project, please sign up on Sunday, you can pay cash or card and all the money raised will go to 'Stand by Me', the charity that organises this project.

Alternatively, you can donate on their website at <https://www.standby.me/giving>.

"At Stand by Me, our hope is for every child in our care to get an excellent education and pursue their dreams. With the support of loving sponsors, our kids are getting a quality education, but we know that having a good day of learning starts before arriving at school. Unfortunately many children don't have a bed to sleep on and often go to school tired, in tattered uniforms and with empty bellies. Through 'February on the Floor', you can help a child have a good night's sleep and have the best start to their day."

Saturday 1st March is our Jumble Sale, our first fundraising event to take place in the church. We need lots of help, first on Friday 28th Feb, from 2.30pm and then on the day from 10.00am onwards. Help will also be needed to clear up afterwards, take unsold items to the charity shops or the tip, and pack away the leftover clothes to be collected by Cash 4 Clothes. You can help on a stall, or just be a floater when people need a beak, take tea and coffee round to the workers, or show people where the hall is for the refreshments.



We would also appreciate any home-made cakes to sell in the coffee shop. All profits will go to the church.



Pancake Fundraiser Tuesday 4th March from 6.00—7.30pm.

Come and have your pancakes in the hall, cooked and served by Ignite, our Monday night Youth Group. No set price, pancakes will be for donations and all money raised will go towards buying equipment or trips out for the Youth Group.

Ash Wednesday Service in the church on 5th March.

Each year, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent and is always 46 days before Easter Sunday. Lent is a 40-day season (not counting Sundays) marked by repentance, fasting, reflection, and, ultimately celebration. The 40-day period represents Christ's time of temptation in the wilderness, where he fasted and where Satan tempted him. Lent asks believers to set aside a time each year for similar fasting, marking an intentional season of focus on Christ's life, ministry, sacrifice, and resurrection.



Our Lent Course will take place on Tuesdays, starting Tuesday 11th March at 7.30pm in the Royal Room for five weeks, finishing on the 9th April. The course will be based on the film 'Casablanca'. Everybody is welcome to attend.



If you wish to watch the film before, you can watch it for free by following this link:

<https://archive.org/details/casablanca.-1942.70th.-aniversary.-blu-ray.-1080p.-dtshdma.-5-audio.x-264-hds>

Just copy and paste this link into your browser.

Please note the Tuesday Prayer group will be joining the Lent Course.

Kids@St Chad's £3 per child

Craft Morning

Crafts, Songs, Games, Stories and refreshments included!

Come and join the fun!

When: Saturday, 29 March 2025
Where: St Chad's Church Hall, Eric Road, RM6 6JH
Time: 10am - 11.30am
How: To book, please contact Julie.stchads@gmail.com
Cost: £3 per child
Ages: Up to 11 years (under 5's must be accompanied by an adult)

A colorful collage of many handprints in various colors (red, blue, green, yellow, purple) arranged in a circular pattern.

Please see Pauline if you would like to volunteer and be part of the team that keeps St. Chad's going. We are always looking for volunteers for services, either prayers, reading or serving refreshments. We are also looking for people to learn how to do the tech/sound side for services. We especially need volunteers to help at our Coffee Shop and MCC (Mature Companions Club).

No experience needed, just a servant heart.

