



News-sheet Gemeindebrief March



"and Simon Peter said, "You are the Messiah, Son of the Living God."

Matthew 16:16

For the healing of the nations

For those affected by the coronavirus outbreak.

For those who care for the sick and the bereaved.

For those who work to prevent pandemics

Prayers during Lent traditionally focus on:

- those preparing for baptism or confirmation
- the leadership team - wardens and council
- those looking for forgiveness
- all who are 'hungry'
- *add your own prayers...*

Weltgebetstag - World Day of Prayer

This year's World Day of Prayer is on Friday, 6th March 2020. The Markuskirche in Stuttgart-Süd, Filderstraße 22/Ecke Römerstraße is acting as host this year for our area. The country which provided the liturgy this year and which we are focussing on is Zimbabwe. Everybody is invited to attend and join in.



Introducing Pfarrer Christopher Sturm

After the Ash Wednesday service and fish supper, the new Old Catholic (OC) Pfarrer, Christopher Sturm, was kind enough to sit down and allow himself to be interviewed. So here is a brief introduction to the new man at the helm of our host congregation.

From 2012-2020 he was the Pfarrer for the OC congregations in [Offenbach am Main](#) und [Aschaffenburg](#). The move to Stuttgart, was in some senses a move home, before joining the OCs he was a Roman Catholic priest in Zuffenhausen and Stammheim.

We discovered a common interest in Scouting and that the old adage "Once a Scout always a Scout" holds true in German as well as English, another childhood interest was football and he is still a VfB fan..

On a more theological note, his favourite Bible passage is from John 14: "My Father's house has many rooms..." There is place for everyone in God's house, but also space for everyone to be themselves. He envisages it as a house, with many flats, sometimes communal, sometimes giving us a space to retreat into and close the door. This togetherness in diversity important, as humans and as Christians we should seek to live together, get to know each other and be open to encounters with the unknown. If we are open to each other, then the barriers of culture, tradition or language can be overcome. (Although you will have to prove that your German is really bad, before he'll be brave enough to speak English ☺) He looks forward to getting to know us better.

Intercessions during Lent

For the prayers of intercession there will again be a world map on the floor in that big space behind the altar and people will be invited to get out of their seats and pray for a country, an area..... in the stillness!

Where will you pray for this Lent?



• Upcoming events

Items in italics are for your prayers and information.

- Mondays – 19:00-20:00 – Informal German Conversation
- Wednesdays - 19:30: **Bible Study** – six week Lenten theme.
- Tuesday 3rd March - **LEGS Ladies' Evening Group, Stuttgart** – Ha Long e-mail legs@stcatherines-stuttgart.de if you would like more details
- *Thursday 5th March – Kleiderkammer – (donations not currently needed)*
- Friday 6th March – **Weltgebetstag** - Markuskirche
- Thursday 12th March – **Men's Pub Night** - Wirtshaus zum Hotzenplotz,
- Saturday 14th March – **Prayer breakfast** – 09:15 – Anglican Centre
- Thursday 19th March – **Women's Group** – 10:00 – Anglican Centre
- *Thursday 19th March – Kleiderkammer – donations not currently needed*
- Tuesday 24th March - **LEGS Ladies' Evening Group, Stuttgart** – YAFA e-mail legs@stcatherines-stuttgart.de if you would like more details
- Sunday 29th March – 11:15 - **Bilingual, Ecumenical Joint Service**
- **Save the date** – Annual Chaplaincy Meeting – Sunday 26th April - post service
- **Save the date** – Annual Book Sale – Saturday 16th May – 10:00-16:00



Revision of Electoral Roll and preparation for Annual Church Meeting

If you have joined us at St. Catherine's and have made this your church in Stuttgart now is the time to consider whether you would like to be added to the electoral roll. This will allow you to formalise your membership and vote, plus stand for election at the Annual Church Meeting. For more details and forms speak to Frances (in her hat as Electoral Roll Officer) or Kara. Forms must be returned by 28th March 2020.

Children & Young People

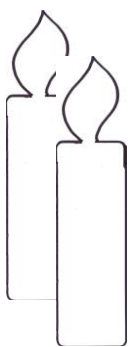
Over the coming weeks the Sunday School Programme is focusing on disciple Peter and friendship.

Thank you to those children who took part in our service on Pancake Sunday.



Informal German Conversation

Monday evenings from 19.00 - 20.00 in Anglican Centre
Welcoming anyone, including native speakers, to help members of the congregation and local refugees improve their language skills.



Baptism opportunity...

If any adult or child would like to be baptised talk to Kara about opportunities for this sacrament.

Confirmation opportunity...

A service is planned in November. If anyone aged 15 plus would like to be confirmed talk to Kara as soon as ...

Keeping you safe

Chaplaincy Safeguarding Officer – **position vacant**. (Speak to Kara if you are interested in taking on this role). Should you have any queries, concerns or feedback, can be contacted at safeguarding@stcatherines-stuttgart.de

