

# THE CHURCH @ THE PINES WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

## ORDER OF SERVICE 23<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY

**LEADER: Mike Bowstead**

Welcome and Notices

Quiet Time

Call to Worship

StF 148: Come, let us with our Lord arise

Prayers of Adoration, followed by Lord's Prayer

Young people leave for their activities

Prayer of Confession

StF 429: Lord, we turn to you for mercy [remain seated]

OT reading: Genesis 45:1-15

Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

StF 423: Forgive our sins as we forgive

Sermon: Forgiving and Being Forgiven

StF 416: There's a wideness in God's mercy

Prayers of Intercession

Young people return and share

StF 410 Lord, your church on earth is seeking

Dismissal & Blessing

The Grace

Coffee

The YouTube link to view the live stream on Sunday is:

[https://youtube.com/live/nKs9ahCT\\_0U?feature=share](https://youtube.com/live/nKs9ahCT_0U?feature=share)



## PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

Show me Lord, how to love my neighbour. Not the one I get on really well with, enjoy time out with. Not the one I see at church each week, and sees the world as I do, generally. Not the one who lives along the street with whom I share my thoughts about the weather with. Show me Lord, how to love the neighbour I avoid, the one I struggle with, whose views and outlook on life I disagree with, whose lifestyle seems so different to mine. Show me Lord, how, as you loved others, including even one such as me, so I can hold out these hands of friendship and love to all who in your eyes are neighbours, your children, truly loved by you.

We pray for Kate's friend Ellie, may she rest in peace. We pray for her family and friends as they grieve, be with them Lord.

We pray for anyone who is unwell, praying especially at this time for Fred and Beth's Mum. Embrace them with your love, hope and care Lord. Bless the hands and hearts of those who care for them.

This week, we pray for all those living in Donnybrook. May they know your love, presence and peace in their lives.

## NOTICES

### Church Finances

We do not take a collection during the service but a Response Box (for cash) and a contactless machine (for cards) is on the Information Table, should you wish to make a donation to the work of our Church.

Alternatively, you could sign a Standing Order form committing to regular monthly giving, which allows our Treasurer (Ben) to monitor the church finances more closely. Please do speak with Ben if you wish to make arrangements for this.

### Good Friday Workshop for Sunday School

We will be having a workshop for young people on Good Friday, as we did last year. Last year was great fun, with painting, making and mess! Sarah is looking for at least one adult to support this for our young people. Please let her know if you are available to support on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April.

### New rota – could you read, do tech desk or offer other talents?

Sarah is busy drafting the next rota, for March – May. We are always keen to hear from people who like to be more involved, either by offering a warm welcome, doing readers and/or prayers, setting up and sitting on the tech desk, assisting with Sunday School or coffee. Many hands make light work! Please chat with Sarah.



## House Group

Linda and Reg run a house group on Wednesday evenings, starting at 7.45pm. All are welcome to join them for this mid-week time of fellowship. Please do speak to Linda or Reg if you'd like more details and for their address.

# NOTICES FROM ST MICHAEL'S

## School Admissions

Those wishing to apply to Ranelagh church school on church attendance criteria will be required to have up to two stamps each month in their child's passport, when they attend a regular service during Years 4 & 5 (even if they have a sibling at the school). To make sure that all new signees understand the admissions criteria we ask that you email the parish office to make an appointment.

Please go to the school website for their latest admissions policy.

## NOTICES FROM THE CIRCUIT



**ASH  
WEDNESDAY**  
05.03.2025

As a circuit, we meet together for an act of worship  
to help us observe Lent this year.

at  
Woosehill Church at 7.00pm  
Service will be led by  
Revs. Sharon Gardner & Soba Sinnathamby



# READINGS

## Genesis 45: 1-15

Joseph makes himself known

45 Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all his attendants, and he cried out, 'Make everyone leave my presence!' So there was no one with Joseph when he made himself known to his brothers. 2 And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard him, and Pharaoh's household heard about it.

3 Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am Joseph! Is my father still living?' But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence.

4 Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'Come close to me.' When they had done so, he said, 'I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! 5 And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. 6 For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no ploughing and reaping. 7 But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

8 'So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt. 9 Now hurry back to my father and say to him, "This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don't delay. 10 You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me – you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have. 11 I will provide for you there, because five years of famine are still to come. Otherwise you and your household and all who belong to you will become destitute."

12 'You can see for yourselves, and so can my brother Benjamin, that it is really I who am speaking to you. 13 Tell my father about all the honour accorded me in Egypt and about everything you have seen. And bring my father down here quickly.'

14 Then he threw his arms around his brother Benjamin and wept, and Benjamin embraced him, weeping. 15 And he kissed all his brothers and wept over them. Afterwards his brothers talked with him.

Readings continued...



# READINGS Continued...

## Luke 6: 27-38

### Love for enemies

27 'But to you who are listening I say: love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, 28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who ill-treat you. 29 If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. 30 Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. 31 Do to others as you would have them do to you.

32 'If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. 33 And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. 34 And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. 35 But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. 36 Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

### Judging others

37 'Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. 38 Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.'

