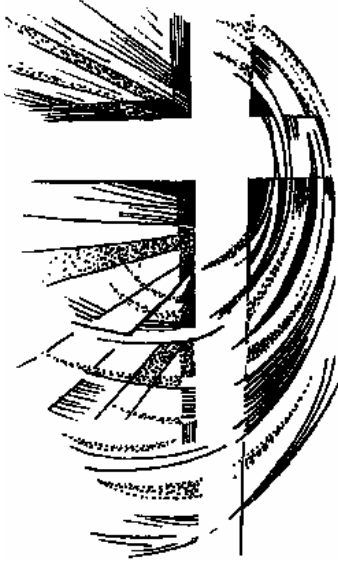


Lent, 2007



The themes of this year's Lent observance will concern our development as a church community which is looking to the future with confidence

It is the wish of the Parochial Church Council that everyone who values Holy Cross Church and its Christian message will be involved. This Lent will be an opportunity to talk deeply and share issues about today and ideas for the future. It will be really good if everyone had a part, especially in meeting in small groups, as well as attending worship and thinking through the issues together.

When the time comes, please join one of the planned groups and make sure that you give attendance a high priority.

Also, take advantage of the Lent Lunch activities which should be very enjoyable.

Features of this year's Lent will be

- discussion groups focusing on our common life and reviewing how we could enhance our work as a parish church;
- renewal of our Electoral Roll which is about belonging and being part of the family;
- a stewardship programme aimed at improving our understanding of our role as Christians;
- a series of Lent Lunches to raise money for an anti-slavery charity and make people think;
- an aim to end Lent with a faithful and renewing celebration of Easter.

London Diocesan Lent Appeal

Your gifts will support projects working with trafficked people and forced labourers in some of the poorest parts of the world - 'Take the Shackles off my Feet so I can Dance'

QuickTime™ and a
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

As Christians, like William Wilberforce 200 years ago, we believe that human beings should be free. But according to the UN, there are now at least five times as many slaves as there were in Wilberforce's day.

For the 2007 Diocese of London Lent Appeal, we need your help to **raise £250,000** to set enslaved people free. We want to see an end to slavery in all its forms: to proclaim freedom for those imprisoned by poverty, to release the oppressed and truly show the year of the Lord's favour.

Setting captives free is not just a matter of loosing chains. Your donations will also be used to tackle the root causes of slavery, such as vulnerability, poverty and ignorance, which lead people into danger. And when a person is freed, they need your help to build a new life, free from trauma and the stigma of their past. Join in this major work of charity to needy people this Lent.

LENT LUNCHESES, 2007

Lent Lunches **are an expression of our Lenten discipline as a Christian congregation.**

We use them to fulfil three aims:-

- 1) to be together to deepen our faith and awareness of God's word and world;
- 2) to give alms to assist others in need - this year, we are supporting the London Diocese Appeal

Take the Shackles off my feet!- an anti-slavery campaign of great significance today.

- 3) to serve each other's needs in preparing simple food and sharing it with guests.

Lunch is served from 12 noon to about 1pm (but note change on 3rd March)

SATURDAY	ACTIVITY TO ENJOY AROUND LUNCH THAT DAY
24th February	11.00am In Free-Fall? Why does the Christian church in our country appear to be in terminal decline? Neil Richardson suggests some answers and invites you to join in the discussion.
3rd March	A visit to the Shri Swaminarayan Mandir in Neasden. 20 places have been booked for this visit. If possible, We plan to take lunch at the restaurant close by the Mandir- watch for confirmation of this. Meet at 10am at Church.
10th March	9.45am A Walk through the new Northala Park , led by the Revd. David Wise, Chair of the Park Steering Committee. Meet at Church first.
17th March	11.15am Sheenagh Burell Willesden Area World Development Advisor, speaks about our Lent Project, the Diocesan Lent Appeal " Take the shackles from my feet so I can dance. "
24th March	10.00am Parish Clean Up Morning in the churches and churchyard. Join with Holy Cross friends in getting the place spick and span for Easter, followed by lunch, of course!
31st March	11.00am Krystyna Palamarchuk and some of the young people of the parish, perform a concert in the New Church. Don't be late!

NB. Please volunteer to prepare food, serve and clear up for this Lent Lunch Series. Sign the list on the Notice Board as soon as possible.

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are needed to see this picture.

The Shri Swaminarayan Mandir in Neasden