



# The Kingdom of God

has come near



Ripon Cathedral  
here for us all

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has come near

With these words in the opening of St Mark's Gospel, John the Baptist proclaims that Jesus is coming to inaugurate the Kingdom of God. As a Cathedral community we have already committed ourselves to 'Growing God's Kingdom'. So this Lent we are offering the opportunity to explore more about the Kingdom of God and our place in it.

We shall do that by focussing on St Mark's Gospel (the Gospel which we shall be reading on Sundays throughout most of 2018) and we offer the following ways in which you might explore this theme in Lent.

- ▶ A Series of sermons on St Mark's Gospel and the growing of the Kingdom of God at 8am and 10.30am services, followed by a discussion group in the Library with the preacher (after the 10.30am service over coffee).
- ◆ A Eucharist at 12.30pm on Tuesday lunchtimes, followed by a shared bread and cheese lunch in the Cathedral Hall discussing Rowan Williams' 'Meeting God in Mark'.
- ◀ Discussion groups around the city and area over the first part of Lent on 'Meeting God in Mark' book. Culminating in:
- ▶ Exploration of St Mark's Gospel with Bishop Helen-Ann on 20 March at 7.30pm in the Cathedral.
- ◆ Reading. Book suggestions for private reading in Lent.

Details of all of these are in this leaflet. Lent invites us to a closer walk with God in Christ Jesus to grow in faith. That is partly a matter of the head and partly of the heart. Often where the heart goes the head follows. So it is good both to make time for study and discussion and to make time for prayer. We have many opportunities to join in prayer in the Cathedral, listed for convenience on the back. Why not resolve to make time to join in more, or to make more time for personal prayer?

## Details of the preaching series

At the 8am Eucharist and repeated at the Sung Eucharist at 10.30am when there will be a discussion with the preacher in the Library over coffee afterwards starting at noon for half an hour. The texts of the sermons will also be available on the website.

DATE	PREACHER	THEME
18 February <a href="#">Lent 1</a>	The Dean	The Kingdom of God: a tempting prospect
25 February <a href="#">Lent 2</a>	Canon Wendy	At the still point of the turning world
04 March <a href="#">Lent 3</a>	Canon Ailsa	Kingdom and Conflict
18 March <a href="#">Lent 4</a>	Canon Barry	Creation groaning in travail

## Reading suggestions

Rowan Williams [Meeting God in Mark](#)

This will form the basis of the Lent groups, details of which are on the next page. Copies are available from the Cathedral Bookshop.

Tom Wright [Mark for Everyone](#)

A chapter by chapter commentary on St Mark's Gospel.

Ched Myers [Binding the Strong Man](#)

An alternative commentary on St Mark's Gospel.

The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book –

Luigi Gioia [Say it to God: in search of prayer](#)

Described as 'a welcome encouragement to all those who feel the need to freshen their practice of prayer'. For Gioia, prayer is not about methods or techniques, but trusting that God is truly interested in everything that happens to us and wants to hear about it.

## Lent Groups

Based around a discussion of the book 'Meeting God in Mark' by Rowan Williams. Groups will be led by members of chapter and be held around the area as shown below. Space at each home is limited, so please sign up on the boards in the south transept as soon as possible if you plan to join a particular group.

HOSTS	ADDRESS	DATES
<b>Monday afternoons 2.30–4pm</b>		
Hugh & Jean Dunn	The Old Court House Court Terrace, Ripon, HG4 1PD	19, 26 February 05 March
Meeting on the 1st floor – need to climb steps		
<b>Tuesday lunchtimes 1–2.30pm (After a Lent Eucharist)</b>		
Cathedral Hall	Minster Close	27 February 06, 13 March
Includes a bread and cheese lunch (for a donation to Christian Aid)		
<b>Wednesday mornings 10.45am–12.15pm</b>		
Michael & Mary Waiting	76 Whitcliffe Lane Ripon, HG4 2JN	21, 28 February 07 March
<b>Wednesday afternoons 2.30–4pm</b>		
Clive & Jane Mansell	10 Watermill Lane North Stainley, HG4 3LA	21, 28 February 07 March
<b>Wednesday evenings 7.30–9pm</b>		
Michael Crosby	3 Pecket's Hole Harrogate, HG1 3DY	28 February 07, 14 March
<b>Thursday evenings 7.30–9pm</b>		
Diane & John Whelan	6 Cathedral Close Ripon, HG4 1ND	22 February 01, 08 March

## Prayer suggestions

Why not join us daily at the Cathedral for Morning Prayer 8.30am;

The Eucharist 9am and noon on Wednesdays and Fridays; Evening Prayer 6pm.

Cathedral Meditation Prayer group meets every first Monday, 7.30pm.

Or pray alongside us at home by picking up a copy of the Cathedral Prayer Diary.

The Magdalen Fellowship meets every Monday, 10am, at St Mary Magdalen's for quiet prayers for healing.