

Lent 2015

May I encourage you to start reflecting on how you will use Lent this year. Its only three weeks away. For many it's an opportunity to choose to read a good book.

I have listed four books which you might like to consider buying - if you sign up for them on or before Feb 8th, 2 weeks today, I will order them for you and secure a bit of discount.

Alternatively, of course, you might like to go into St Andrew's Bookshop - or another bookshop - or online - to buy them for your self or to see what else is available.

The books on the list are very different from each other:

The Journey by John Pritchard has readings for each weekday in Lent - none at the weekends to give you a chance to catch up! Each day he takes one of the stories from Jesus' ministry and talks about each healing or teaching or event from the perspective of John, an onlooker.

In God's Hands by Desmond Tutu, is brief but powerful. It's at one level quite simple but at another takes quite a bit of reading and thought. Starting with early part of Genesis, and rooted in his own experiences in South Africa, Desmond Tutu explores our role in God's creation - how we need to accept His love and grace in order to be channels of that love and grace to others. Each of us is called to be a 'God-carrier'!

The Bad Christian's Manifesto Dave Tomlinson - a sequel to last year's book on 'How to be a bad Christian' the author explores 'What does it look like to live well and die happy - from an unapologetically generous Christian point of view'.

Praise Him is the 2015 York Lent Course.

It's based on five well-known passages from the New Testament and its aim is to remind us of what God has done and is doing in our world and to encourage us to live more positive lives as a response.

There will be the chance to join a group for five weeks to follow the course together but if you cannot get to a group, you might like to buy a CD to go with the booklet - or a transcript of the CD which is a bit cheaper.

I am still finalising the Lent Programme so if you have any suggestions do share them before Thursday.

Bob

Jan 25th 2015