Benefice Lent Group 2024

February is a month where we start the change from looking backwards to Christmas to looking forwards towards Easter. In ‘church speak’ it is the Sundays before Lent, a sort of 'get ready for Lent' reminder. During Lent we are looking towards Holy Week and Easter, that traumatic and ultimately joyous time, and we add to our preparations by running a Lent course. For many the Lent course offers an opportunity to meet with others and explore some of the deeper concerns about life, hope, faith, and God. Proverbs 27:17 says, *‘As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.’* This can be borne out in a Lent group or home group setting, or anywhere where questions and exchanges of thoughts and ideas take place. Opening ourselves up to the views of others has the potential to expand our understanding, knowledge, insight, and empathy.

For Lent this year we will be following a course called **‘What Kind Of Church?’** It seeks to offer us the tools to reflect on the changing nature of the place of the church in society and how the Church might respond to that. Each session will include video input, discussion, reflection on a Bible passage, and prayer.

The sessions themes and dates are below and all these sessions will be held at Church House Newport 7.30pm – 9pm.

* Everything has changed – Feb 21st
* Encounter and Engagement – Feb 28th
* What comes to you when you hear the word mission? – March 6th
* Holding lightly – March 13th
* Attitude of gratitude – March 20th
* Dare to dream – March 27th

The link below will take you to a video relating to this course and give you a little taster of it as will further info found via this link.

[What kind of church? - Evangelical Alliance (eauk.org)](https://www.eauk.org/resources/what-we-offer/courses-and-small-groups/what-kind-of-church)

If you would like attend this year’s Lent sessions please contact me. Knowing numbers will help me in providing materials and setting out the venue.

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