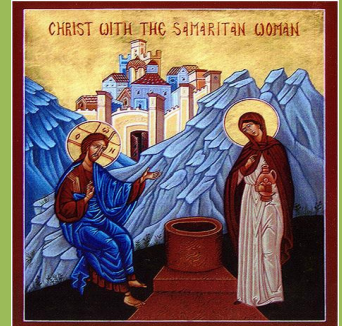


AMPLEFORTH ABBEY

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT (A)

The woman said to Jesus, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.' ...The woman said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' (*John 4:19-29*)

OPEN TO THE WORD



Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well develops from what might seem a chance meeting into a life-changing moment for a woman 'on the edge.' Despite at first misunderstanding Jesus' cryptic talk of 'living water,' she *is* open to belief in Jesus as one 'greater than our father Jacob.' Her journey of discovery does not, however, end there. Time spent with Jesus opens her heart to accept his claim that he is the Messiah. She then eagerly calls her neighbours to hear of her discovery. Perhaps unconsciously, she has broken out of the prison of isolation imposed on her by her dubious marital status – and emerged into the true light of day – not merely the blinding noonday sun. One never knows where an afternoon 'chat' may end up. ..

MASS TIMES IN THE ABBEY CHURCH

Sun.	27 March	THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT	10.00
Mon.	28 March	Feria	12:35
Tues.	29 March	Feria	12:35
Weds.	30 March	Feria	12:35
Thurs	31 March	Feria	12:35
Fri.	1 April	Feria	12:35
Sat	2 April	Feria	12:35

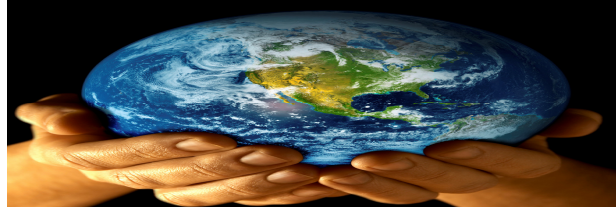
AMPLEFORTH ABBEY

MANY SINGERS - ONE VOICE



On the afternoon of March 22, Schola members from St. Martin's Ampleforth joined in song with children from several local schools in the Abbey Church. This – and a morning taking part in music-related activities in the College – formed part of the ongoing Outreach initiative which fosters shared activity, friendship and a pooling of resources in choral and instrumental music between neighbouring schools. The visitors also had a tour of the Abbey church before returning home. As St. Augustine famously said: *He who sings, prays twice.*

OFFERING A SUPPORTING HAND ALL OVER THE WORLD



The Japanese earthquake and tsunami remind us that our Lenten resolutions can also be of practical value to others. The Abbey and our schools and parishes seek to support suitable charities throughout the year; not just in Lent. There also remains a continuing need to support new monastic communities worldwide; especially in Asia and Africa. Fr Mark Butlin OSB – who is based in Paris with Alliance for International Monasticism – travels regularly to give retreats and advise Benedictine and Cistercian monks and nuns on initial and continuing formation. In Lent, described by St. Benedict as the 'Joyful Season,' it is encouraging to reflect that we **all**, in our varied roles, can help our fellow-believers – however far away – to share in the even deeper joy of Easter by our prayers and material generosity.

WEEKDAY MONASTIC OFFICE IN THE ABBEY CHURCH

6.00 a.m. Matins

7.30 a.m. Lauds

8.45 a.m. Little Hour

6.00 p.m. Vespers

8:15 p.m. Compline