



weeps gently
for the children who will never grow old.
He watches the able
fail to turn the table
of injustice and loss
and so revisits the cross.
For love's sake
call out from the wilderness
the orphan, widow and refugee.
For Christ's sake
Call out the careless war-brokers
and conflict stokers,
that in peace and safety
all might be free.

*Please continue to prayer for each other in the circuit.
For our members and all those who attend church whether
virtually or in person.*

*For the children who are part of Sunday Schools or
weeknight outreach groups.*

*Please pray particularly for our circuit staff, ordained and
lay, as they care for and support us while facing their own
challenges.*

*We remember too those in chaplaincy roles,
in hospitals, prisons and other settings.*

*February 2021
Circuit Prayer Diary*

**Come, O most gracious Redeemer, and dwell
within us and reign where you have the right to
reign. By your Holy Spirit take possession of our
souls and lead us in the ways of righteousness
and peace.**

Amen.

John of Kronstadt (1829-1908)

Lent can be a time for fasting or abstinence from particular pleasures. But it can also be a time when we re-examine our lives and in particular our relationship with God.

This may start with reflecting on our lives.

After reflection we may take a variety of courses of action.

We could look at ways to develop our spiritual life.

This could indeed mean giving something up, but could also mean doing something different, either for the period of Lent or as a permanent change.

We may want to get into a more structured regular pattern of prayer or reading our bibles or studying together with others.

Or we may want to look at doing practical things for others.

This could be as simple as doing shopping for the isolating or shielding, or perhaps phoning a friend who is finding lockdown or home schooling a challenge.

What would the Lord have you do this season of Lent?

Listen and he will guide you.

Most of us can retire to safety to protect us from disease and do not face physical threat when we do go outside . Not everyone in the world has those privileges:

The Call of the Wild - by Michaela Youngson

The call of the wild
romantic to the inner child,
devoid of cares

who dares
to set off on unknown byways and
adventurous highways.
There is a different call
when you pick up all
you can carry
and dare not tarry
as the rattle of machine gun
or the drone of the drones
robs childhood of fun
and families of homes.
The dogged rhythmic beat
of endless walking feet
day in and day out
carrying hope and doubt;
longing for a welcome,
for a rest,
for a cast off bed,
no need for your best.
As false gods and prophets
break vows and make profits
and give in to temptations
of power and control;
a wandering preacher
a healer and teacher