

MINISTER'S MESSAGE – FEBRUARY 2012



Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Day is on 21st February this year. The following day, Ash Wednesday, marks the beginning of the season of Lent which leads up to Easter. I wonder what Lent means for you? The early Church described Lent as 'God's Springtime'. Springtime is a time of new life and energy in creation. It is a time of new beginnings, new buds and new baby animals. We too are part of creation and God longs to pour new energy into us which will produce new growth of loving actions.

Poet Ulrich Schaffer writes:

*'I sense your drive
to flow through me
into the smallest blood vessels
because you want to be my heartblood
in all the passages of my life
and you want to become visible in the leaves
and the fruit I bear.*

*Spread out in me,
press forward, penetrate, pierce and flow
even if, at times,
I want to repeal this invitation
being afraid of your ways in me.
Circulate in me, change and renew
because I know that only your Spirit
can bring real life and fruit.'*

Lent can be a time to review our lives and check to see if our arteries are clogged up through lack of spiritual exercise and a diet lacking in spiritual nourishment. Why not join a Lent Bible Study Group or read one of the many Lent books available.

With best wishes from Barbara McIntivey