

NOTICES / DIARY DATES

Event	Date and time	Venue
Team Morning Prayer	Wednesday 2 nd March (8:45 am)	St. Dunstan's, Monks Risborough
Ash Wednesday Service** (Solemn Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes)	Wed. 2 nd March (7:00 pm)	St. John's Lacey, Green
LENT COURSE Session 1	Tuesday 8 th March (2:30 pm)	TBC
Meeting of the PCC Standing Committee	Tuesday 8 th March (7:30 pm)	TBC
Team Morning Prayer	Wednesday 9 th March (8:45 am)	St. John's Lacey, Green
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 16 th March (8:45 am)	Holy Trinity, Bledlow

** Please return last year's Palm Crosses for burning to form the ash to be used at this Service.

FINANCIAL POSITION AT ST JOHN'S

Our draft accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021 indicate a deficit for the year of around £2,000 (equivalent to an average of around £40 per week). The initial draft budget for the year ended 31st December 2022 suggests that the deficit for the current year would be likely to be over £3,000 (equivalent to an average of around £60 per week) unless we take firm action to address the situation.

LENT STUDY COURSE

Churches Together Lent Study course this year is based on the book "Sharing the Easter Story" by Sally Welch. This is available to order online at £8.95. If you are not able to order online, please ask Tony to obtain a copy for you. The St. John's study sessions will be on Tuesday afternoons at 2.30pm commencing 8th March.

Key Contacts:

Vicar:	Rev. Canon Tony Bundock	01844 347741
Team Rector:	Rev. David Williams	01844 346984
Licensed Lay Minister:	Mr Graham King	01844 343910
Churchwardens:	Mrs Pat Rushmere	01494 562140
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PCC Secretary & Pew Sheet editor:	Mr Mark Roberts mark.roberts975@btinternet.com	01296 437345

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PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, LACEY GREEN



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing
SUNDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2022
SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

WELCOME TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

You are warmly welcomed to St. John's Church, particularly if you are new to our congregation or are a visitor. This Sunday the 10:00 am service will be led by Canon Tony.

WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S

- Wearing masks in church, is requested apart from for the choir when singing, for those leading worship and during actual receipt of Holy Communion. The congregation are requested to wear masks when moving around in Church, maintain social distancing and sanitise their hands.
- We are proposing to have both the Old Testament and Epistle Lessons during 10:00 am Sunday services from the beginning of March.
- Singing of hymns in Church during the sung services will continue. The congregation can continue to join in the singing of hymns, but to do so wearing their masks.
- Holy Communion will continue in one kind only for the time being and will be administered from the area in front of the chancel step. We are proposing to offer, for those who wish it, hosts intincted by the Celebrant at the 10:00 am Sunday services from early March.
- The Peace will continue for the time being to be observed discreetly and following social distancing protocols.
- The congregation are asked to observe social distancing as far as possible and the Lady Chapel area will be set aside as a mandatory social distancing area for those who feel they need to socially distance themselves from others. Please respect this.
- We are proposing to serve coffee after the 10:00 am Service on Sundays from the beginning of March.

Weekly Services:

SUNDAY

- 8:00 am In-church Said BCP Communion Service (1st & 3rd Sun)
10:00 am In-church Parish Communion Service with Hymns

TUESDAY

- 9:30 am In-church Said Parish Communion Service

FOCUS ON..... ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday is a holy day of prayer and fasting. It is preceded by Shrove Tuesday and marks the first day of the penitential season of Lent. In the Western Church, it is observed by Roman Catholics, Anglicans, Lutherans, Methodists and Moravians, as well as by many from the Reformed tradition. Ash Wednesday derives its name from placing ashes on the foreheads of worshippers with either the words "Repent, and believe in the Gospel" or "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return; turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ",

The ashes are customarily prepared by burning palm leaves blessed at the previous year's Palm Sunday celebrations. Ashes are a very ancient sign of penitence - in the Old Testament, Job repents "in dust and ashes," and there are other associations of ashes and repentance in Esther, 1st and 2nd Samuel, Isaiah, and Jeremiah. By the 10th century, the monk Aelfric tied the practice, which dates to the eighth century, to the period before Easter, writing, "Now let us do this little at the beginning of our Lent that we strew ashes upon our heads to signify that we ought to repent of our sins during the Lenten fast". The method of calculation of the forty days of Lent has varied considerably in Christian history. It is now usual practice in the West to count these days continuously to the end of Holy Week (not including Sundays); with Lent beginning on the sixth Wednesday before Easter. The Fourth Sunday of Lent (known as Laetare or Refreshment Sunday) was allowed as a day of relief from the rigours of Lent, and the Feast of the Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary almost always falls in Lent. These brief breaks from the austerity of the Lenten season are the background to Mothering Sunday which is marked by the distribution of flowers and cake. As on Ash Wednesday the forty days of this penitential season begin, may our Lord grant us grace to keep Lent faithfully.

Canon Tony Bundock

COLLECT FOR SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever, Amen.



READINGS FOR SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

Exodus Ch. 34 VV. 29 – 35
2 Corinthians Ch. 3 V. 12 – Ch. 4 V. 2

Luke Ch. 9 VV. 28 – 43a

PRAYER CHAIN PRAYERS

(This Sunday Service's Intercessions Led by JAMES NISBET)



We give thanks dear Lord for your saving goodness for us and for all people. We thank you that you are with each one of us as we walk along life's highway. That whether we feel elated or face distress and tiredness, that you are our constant friend and companion. Help us to trust in you at all times, through life's highs and lows that we might come at last to behold the revelation of your majesty.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us evermore, Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER FOR SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

This Week you are Asked to Pray for:

- Those in the parish and further afield who are sick or in need that they receive peace and healing, including: Mary Mines, Helena Oecken, Ian Wilson, Ian Goodearl, Phillipa King, Sally Zeybek, Doug Tilbury, Don White, Pat Syrett, Sally Smith and Marina Eldridge. Also, Margaret Karstens of Kuruman.
- The recently departed including Winifred Eyett and Ron Goodearl. May their souls rest in peace. We pray for their families, including Charlotte Burton and Beryl Goodearl, and friends at this difficult time.
- Kelly Safaris Silva and her family who are currently in need at this time.
- We pray for the country of the Ukraine, for its people and that the current conflict will end and peace will be restored.
- We pray for the people of the Tongan archipelago following the recent major volcanic eruption and tsunami and for the various aid organisations bringing relief to its people.
- We pray for those in this country affected by the recent Storm Eunice.
- All parts of the world affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19), those who are ill with the virus and those caring for them. Particularly praying for countries where infection rates are very high and the hospitals are struggling to cope.
- For the country of South Africa, for the people of Cape Town and Diocese of Kimberly and Kuruman including our linked parish of St. Mary's Kuruman.