

## NOTICES / DIARY DATES

Event	Date and time	Venue
PCC Meeting	Tues. 7 <sup>th</sup> February (7:30 pm)	St. John's Church
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 8 <sup>th</sup> February (8:45 am)	St. John's Church
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 15 <sup>th</sup> February (8:45 am)	Holy Trinity Bledlow
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 22 <sup>nd</sup> February (8:45 am)	St. Mary's Princes Risborough
Ash Wednesday Service	Wed. 22 <sup>nd</sup> February (7:30 pm)	St. John's Church
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 1 <sup>st</sup> March (8:45 am)	St. Dunstan's Monks Risborough
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 8 <sup>th</sup> March (8:45 am)	St. John's Church
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 15 <sup>th</sup> March (8:45 am)	Holy Trinity Bledlow

## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

For the Ash Wednesday evening service, we use ash from burning last year's palm crosses during the Imposition of Ashes. If you are willing, please can you return your old palm crosses to Margaret Gray for burning. Thank you.

## ONE CAN TRUST

One Can Trust are trying to create bags that enable families to make a nutritious meal. Soup is not needed, but all donations for the food cupboard are welcome. Sources of protein e.g., tinned meat, tinned fish, lentils etc. In addition, items such as tinned tomatoes and cook-in sauces will enable people where possible to prepare meals of their choice. We are being told that donations to the Trust have been down recently, but demand remains high. Any offerings that you can donate will be welcomed (we have a donations box outside the Church Porch). Thank you.

### 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
	Mrs Margaret Gray	01844 347094
PCC Secretary & Pew Sheet editor:	Mr Mark Roberts	01296 437345
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[www.stjohnschurchlaceygreen.co.uk](http://www.stjohnschurchlaceygreen.co.uk)

## PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, LACEY GREEN



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing  
**SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**  
**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY 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.

## WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S

Wearing masks in church is now optional except for the Lady chapel where we request that masks are still worn in this part of the Church. Please continue to maintain social distancing where possible and sanitise your hands. We are continuing to offer, for those who wish it, hosts intincted by the Celebrant at all Communion Services. Reintroduction of the Common Cup will be considered again at a later time. The Lady Chapel area will continue to be set aside as a mandatory social distancing area for those who feel they need to socially distance themselves from others and where masks will be worn. Please respect this. Where possible, we will be serving coffee after the 10:00 am Service on Sundays.

We have now received the card reader so we will shortly be able to take cashless offerings during services / donations. Linked to this we also have a QR code for members of the congregation to donate via their Smartphone, which can be used as of now. You will need a QR reader App to use this. Thank you for however you choose to make your offering.



### Weekly Services:

#### SUNDAY

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

#### TUESDAY

9:30 am In-church Said Parish Communion Service

## FOCUS ON... SALT AND LIGHT

After the Beatitudes in St. Matthew's Gospel Chapter 5, Jesus continues his Sermon on the Mount by reminding all those who have flocked to listen that they are the light and the salt of the world. In the First Century, light and salt were precious commodities. Alongside natural light from the Sun, the Moon and the Stars, only very little light was able to be produced using fairly primitive oil lamps during the hours of darkness. Salt was mined or reclaimed from the sea in salt pans, in which the seawater was evaporated by the sun. Salt had many uses, including healing, flavouring, preserving and cleaning. Roman troops were often paid in salt, hence the origins of the word "salary", and the first of the great Roman roads was the "Via Salaria" – the salt road which ran for some 150 miles from Rome to the Adriatic coast. In his teaching concerning light and salt, Jesus spoke not only to his twelve disciples but to the assembled crowd. And Jesus told them that they, and indeed all human beings, are called and invited to be salt and light for the world, unless they choose to deny and reject that aspect of themselves. Nobody is expected to produce salt or light of themselves – these things are provided for them by God. All they are required to do is to allow the light to shine through them and to be a channel of God's savour for the world. We too, then, are to be light and salt for the world, not just in future but right now, exactly as we are. We just have to be open enough to transmit God's light. The more we trust in God, the more God's light will shine through us. And as that happens, our tiny pinch of salt will increase until it begins to flavour life all around us. But even though there will be times when we fall short, we will still belong to God's kingdom, provided that we are learning to love; for Jesus said that the two most important laws are to love God and love other human beings as we love our own selves. If we can do that, then the divine light will shine through us just as if we were plain glass, and we will be salt indeed for God.

*Canon Tony Bundock*

### COLLECT FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever, Amen.



### READINGS FOR THE 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Isaiah Ch. 58 VV. 1 – 12  
1 Corinthians Ch. 2 VV. 1 – 16

Matthew Ch. 5 VV. 13 – 20

## PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER



Heavenly Father, as we begin the new month of February, help us to remember that every day is a new day with You. Inspire us to reach out to others in kindness, peace and joy. Let quarrels be resolved, and relationships restored. As we begin each new day may we remember that You are prepared to protect and guide us. And we do thank and praise You. We earnestly pray for healing, mercy, and compassion in our world. We ask in the name of Jesus, your Son, Amen.

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 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Merciful Father, who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life, that those who come to him should never hunger: draw us to the Lord in faith and love, that we may eat and drink with him at his table in the kingdom, where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever, 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, Sally Zeybek, Marcus Barthropp, Gary Webb, Lila King, Rita Probert, Rev Nancy Wallace, Roger Hussey, Dick Field, Margaret Fish, Rosemary Mortham, John Gabbitas and Dawn Glenister. Also, Martinus Vorster of Kuruman.
- The recently departed. May their souls rest in peace. We pray for their families and friends at this difficult time.
- Kelly Safaris Silva and her family who are currently in need.
- We pray for our government, that they will lead wisely and fairly for all.
- We pray for countries where there have been natural disasters, for their peoples and for the various aid organisations bringing relief.
- We pray for Peace in the Ukraine. That there will be a rapid end to the fighting and the suffering for its People.
- We pray for our National Health Service, which is suffering increased demand at this time, and the Doctors, Nurses and Support Staff.
- 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.