

# NOTICES / DIARY DATES

Event	Date and time	Venue
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
Women's World Day of Prayer Event	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March (11:00 am)	Princes Risborough Baptists Church
Choral Evensong and Dedication of the Samuel Green Pipe Organ	Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> March (3:00 pm)	St. John's Church
PCC Standing Committee Meeting	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> March (7:30 pm)	-
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

## TURKEY-SYRIA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

Over 30,000 people and counting have died in Turkey and Syria following the devastating earthquake. Thousands more people are injured, hundreds of buildings have been destroyed, and there's an urgent need for clean water, shelter and medical aid. The UK Government will match pound-for-pound up to £2 million donated by the public to the Disasters Emergency Committee's appeal. [www.dec.org.uk/appeals](http://www.dec.org.uk/appeals)

## 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 <a href="mailto:mark.roberts975@btinternet.com">mark.roberts975@btinternet.com</a>	01296 437345

[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 19<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**  
**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.

## 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... 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 or on the hands 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, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

Exodus Ch. 24 VV. 12 – 18  
2 Peter Ch. 1 VV. 16 – 21

Matthew Ch. 17 VV. 1 – 9

## PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER



Heavenly Father and Lord of all Life, we share with you now our love and concerns for the world, for the events which have brought pain and distress. As we approach the period of Lent, we are mindful of our need to reflect on the ultimate sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ, that he gave his life to save us all. As we call to you from our hearts, help us to hear your call to us. Guide us, we pray, to do your will amongst those with whom we live and work. Let us be your hands and your instruments in the world as we seek to be a blessing to others.

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, Sally Zeybek, Kelly Safaris Silva, Marcus Barthropp, Gary Webb, Lila King, Rita Probert, Rev Nancy Wallace, Roger Hussey, Dick Field, Margaret Fish, Rosemary Mortham, John Gabbitas, Dawn Glenister and Martin Moore. 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.
- 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 particularly pray at this time for the people of Turkey and Syria following the recent major earthquakes.
- 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.