

# NOTICES / DIARY DATES

Event	Date and time	Venue
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
Ladies' Breakfast & Talk by Susan Hopkins on her recent trip to Oberammergau. To attend, please contact Rose Williams on 01844 274225 / email on <a href="mailto:rosewilliamsgp@yahoo.co.uk">rosewilliamsgp@yahoo.co.uk</a>	Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> March (09:00 to 10:30 AM)	St. Mary's Church Hall, Princes Risborough
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
Men's Breakfast. To attend, please contact Steve Williams 01844 274225 / <a href="mailto:mensbreakfast@stmarysrisborough.org.uk">mensbreakfast@stmarysrisborough.org.uk</a> (£7 per head payable on the day)	Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> March (08:45 to 10:30 AM)	St. Mary's Church Hall, Princes Risborough
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 15 <sup>th</sup> March (8:45 am)	Holy Trinity Bledlow

## TURKEY-SYRIA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

Over 40,000 people 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	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 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF 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. We are now no longer automatically sanitising people's hands before and after receiving Communion. This will now be a matter of personal choice. A bottle of sanitiser is available in the Chancel in front of the choir stalls for people to use if they wish. 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... ST. MATTHIAS

In the Book of Common Prayer calendar, Saint Matthias is commemorated on 24<sup>th</sup> February. However, in modern lectionaries including Common Worship, his saint's day falls on 14th May. This change was made so that his feast-day did not fall in Lent but instead in proximity to Ascension Day. According to the Acts of the Apostles (written c. AD 63), Matthias was chosen by the Apostles to replace Judas Iscariot following the latter's betrayal of Jesus and his subsequent death. His calling as an Apostle is unique, in that his appointment was not made personally by Jesus, who had already ascended into heaven, and it was also made before the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the early Church. He is said to have planted the faith around Cappadocia and on the coasts of the Caspian Sea, residing chiefly near the port Issus. According to the historian Nicephorus, Matthias first preached the Gospel in Judaea, then in Ethiopia (by the region of Colchis, now in modern-day Georgia) and was crucified. An ancient Coptic text, the Acts of Andrew and Matthias, also places his activity in Ethiopia. And the Synopsis of Dorotheus also contains the tradition that he preached "in the interior of Ethiopia"; and affirms that "he died at Sebastopolis, and was buried there, near the Temple of the Sun." Alternatively, another tradition maintains that Matthias was stoned at Jerusalem by the local populace, and then beheaded. But according to Hippolytus of Rome, Matthias died of old age in Jerusalem. There are claims that the Apostle's mortal remains were brought to Italy by the Empress Helena, mother of Emperor the Great). That being so, part of these relics would be interred in the Abbey of Santa Giustina, Padua, and the remaining in the Abbey of St. Matthias, Trier, Germany. However, a marker placed in the ruins of the Roman fortress at Gonio (Apsaros) in the modern Georgian region of Adjara supports the claim of Greek sources that Matthias is buried at that site.

*Canon Tony Bundock*

### COLLECT FOR 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

Genesis Ch. 2 VV. 15 – 17 & Ch. 3 VV. 1 – 7  
Romans Ch. 5 VV. 12 – 19

Matthew Ch. 4 VV. 1 – 11

## PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER



God our Father, in your love and goodness you have taught us to come close to you in penitence with prayer, fasting and generosity; accept our Lenten discipline and when we fall by our weakness, raise us up by your unfailing mercy. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; 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.