



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND



# *The Parish Magazine*

*St John-in-Bedwardine*

*St Michael's*



March 2026

50p



## Information

### WORCESTER CITY WEST TEAM CLERGY (clergy@wcw.church)

Phil Bradford (Team Rector) (01905 423794)

Day off: Friday

Sarah Cottrill (Team Vicar) (01905 426257)

Saturday

Gilly Maxim (Assistant Curate) (gilly.maxim@wcw.church)

Monday

### TEAM OFFICE

The office is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9am-12noon.	
1a Bromyard Road St John's, WR2 5BS	Tel: (01905) 420490 e-mail: office@wcw.church

### ON THE WEB

St John's	Parish Website: <a href="http://www.stjohninbedwardine.co.uk">www.stjohninbedwardine.co.uk</a> A church near you: <a href="http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/18634">www.achurchnearyou.com/church/18634</a> Facebook: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/stjohninbedwardine">www.facebook.com/stjohninbedwardine</a>
St Michael's	Parish Website and A church near you: <a href="http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/19689">www.achurchnearyou.com/church/19689</a> Facebook: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/stmichaelsdinesgreen">www.facebook.com/stmichaelsdinesgreen</a>

### SERVICES

Please check our websites and Facebook pages, or the notices published on the church noticeboards and printed in the magazine and weekly pew sheets.

### SAFEGUARDING

If you have any concerns about possible abuse of a child or vulnerable adult, contact one of the Safeguarding Officers, Fiona Templeton, Elizabeth Forman in person or via [safeguarding@wcw.church](mailto:safeguarding@wcw.church), or any member of the clergy.

Churchwardens: <a href="mailto:stjohns.churchwardens@wcw.church">stjohns.churchwardens@wcw.church</a> Gordon Templeton (749025), Joy Job (423051).	<b>St John's</b>
Pastoral care: The church's Pastoral Care Group offers support if you are lonely, bereaved, or unable to attend church. Please contact one of the clergy (as above or email <a href="mailto:clergy@wcw.church">clergy@wcw.church</a> ).	
Churchwardens: Mike Dowling ( <a href="mailto:dowlingm28@sky.com">dowlingm28@sky.com</a> / 424539) Val Mason ( <a href="mailto:val.mason@yahoo.com">val.mason@yahoo.com</a> /428948).	<b>St Michael's</b>
On Site Safeguarding Officer: Mike Dowling (details above).	

Worcester St John-in-Bedwardine and St Michael's Joint Council is a charity with the Registered Charity Number 1205354.

## *A word from the editors*

Welcome to our March 2026 edition. Phil continues the theme of discerning, and responding to, God's call to us for our outreach, mission and stewardship in our own time and place.

While we think about the future, we are not sitting on our hands! As usual we have lots of events coming up. Take a good look at what is on offer and see what takes your fancy! Of course, none of this runs itself. Are you being called to help at our Community Breakfast on 21st March? Or maybe you could help as part of our Finance Team?

Easter is coming over the horizon, with Holy Week commencing on 30th March. There's a guide to Lent and Easter services and events on page 17 and the poster version is the centre spread of this magazine. We leave you with the Post Communion set for Palm Sunday:

*Lord Jesus Christ,  
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,  
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:  
give us the mind to follow you  
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,  
to the glory of God the Father.*

*Graham and Sue Evans*

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## *Important information*

**Email address:** parishmagazine@wcv.church

**Next edition (March):** Deadline is Sunday 8th March

**Distribution –** magazines available by Sunday 22nd March.

**Subscription form:** Page 50.

**Cover picture:** Sue Evans after receiving her long service medal (see page 19) (picture by Colin Nash).

**Pictures in this magazine:** Thanks to those who have provided pictures for this magazine, including Beth Broadway, Ross Daly, Sue Fairman, Colin Nash and Worcester diocese.

## **The magazine**

We publish a Parish Magazine each month, except August.

Articles on all aspects of Christian and parish life, letters, jokes and anecdotes are welcome - do contribute if you can. If you have a story to tell, please make contact. Do include your name as anonymous contributions will not be considered. If you can, please use e-mail (address below left). The editors will always acknowledge items sent by email; please try again if you do not receive a response. Please send all written correspondence for the magazine to the Parish Office.

The magazine costs 50p to purchase and can be obtained from the back of church. Subscriptions are available at the discounted price of £5 per year; by subscribing you make things easier for our printing team as we know more closely how many copies to print.

You can subscribe by filling in the form near the back of the magazine or by taking a subscription form from the rack (where the magazines are) at the back of the church. Please return the form and your payment to the parish office.

## **Opinions!**

Opinions expressed in this magazine are personal opinions of the authors concerned and may not represent the views of the editors, our Joint Council or The Church of England. Such material is offered as a source of debate or reflection.

## **To advertise**

Please see page 14.

## *From Phil Bradford*

When writing about his circles of hell, Dante forgot to include one for the composers of modern interview questions. Long gone are the days when you might just show how you were suitable for a given role; today, a candidate is expected to deal with the abstract, the bizarre and the downright unanswerable. Although I have very rarely been subjected to it myself, one I find especially irritating is ‘Where do you see yourself in two/five/ten



years’ time?’ It is a bizarre hangover from an era when a person might expect to do one job for their whole career, a time before young people faced chronic job insecurity and an inability to get on the housing ladder. In an increasingly unstable and chaotic world, where we are driven to despair by the unchecked actions of a growing number of megalomaniacs, it can be hard at times to imagine that we will be around in a decade to find out how accurate the answer to the question was.

That said, we cannot avoid questions about the future. There is sometimes a risk, as Christians, of taking the approach that ‘God will sort it out’. To be a Christian does not absolve us of the duty to make decisions and to act responsibly for ourselves. We should not expect God to sort everything around us to our satisfaction.

Fundamental to Christian belief is that God entrusted us with stewardship over his creation, with the responsibility to care for it, although that is by no means a trust that has been repaid. The free will human beings have can be and often is used for evil purposes; if this were not a possibility, then it would not truly be free will. At the heart of any Christian engagement with the future, therefore, is a prayerful discernment of where we are and where God wants us to be, how we realign a world which has diverged from his ways with the values of his kingdom. And perhaps a good starting point for that discernment is a Post-Communion prayer from Common Worship:

*Go before us, Lord, in all we do  
with your most gracious favour,  
and guide us with your continual help,  
that in all our works  
begun, continued and ended in you,  
we may glorify your holy name,  
and finally by your mercy receive everlasting life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

In that is our recognition that we need to seek the guidance of God to move forward, rather than become trapped in a present where we are doing things because they have ‘always’ been done that way. To move away from the comfort zone, stepping into the uncertainty of a future which is different, can be scary, but God continually prompts us to change in the midst of an unfolding human history. That does not mean always taking the easy route, or changing for the sake of change, or avoiding change because we dislike the new. It means genuinely, prayerfully seeking God’s help in discerning the right path.

This is something which we have to face as a church in West Worcester in 2026. I wrote at the end of last year about taking steps to making us a church which was fully inclusive and showed the love of God to all people in this time and place, but in a rapidly changing world we need to discern God’s vision for how we best undertake his ministry here at this particular moment in time. Unlike that interview question, we can have no clear idea of where we will be in five or ten years’ time, for the world is unpredictable and full of surprises; a decade ago, who in the Church would have taken the massive changes wrought by Covid into consideration in planning for the future? But we can listen to where we think God might be calling us and seek to respond accordingly. At some point later this year, the intention is to hold an away day at which the parishes can look to determine our priorities for mission and ministry in the near future, so that we can engage honestly with where we are and the direction in which we want to head. We cannot plan the way ahead with any certainty, but we can ask that God direct us along the right path to respond to his call in our own time and place. As we do that, please pray for our community and a willingness to listen to where that call may be taking us.

*Phil*

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## ***Sundays and Principal Feasts in March***

Sunday 1st March: The second Sunday of Lent

Sunday 8th March: The third Sunday of Lent

Sunday 15th March: The fourth Sunday of Lent / Mothering Sunday

Thursday 19th March: Joseph of Nazareth

Sunday 22nd March: The fifth Sunday of Lent (Passiontide begins)

Wednesday 25th March: The Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sunday 29th March: Palm Sunday

Monday 30th March: Monday of Holy Week

Tuesday 31st March: Tuesday of Holy Week

## *In Memoriam*

Joan Kathleen Burgess	1 March 2009
Allan Wordsworth	5 March 2023
Robert Leslie Osborne	6 March 1986
Henry Barrow	8 March 1998
Ronald Victor Roberts	10 March 1995
Susan Alice Potter	23 March 1990
Frederick John Halls	24 March 1987
Stanley Norman Frank Parrott	28 March 1987
Samuel Frank Hodgetts	28 March 2005

Additions to In Memoriam are not automatic but must be specifically requested via the clergy.

Inclusion only needs to be requested once; entries are then included until the fortieth anniversary.

An extension may be requested by family or friends of those named.

## *From the Registers, January 2026*

### **St John's**

**FUNERALS:** *Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord*

d. 28th November 2025      Sam Edward John Gleadall

d. 21st December 2025      Patricia Fletcher

d. 2nd January 2026      John McNicol

**SERVICES:** Communicants 275. Total attendance at all services 599 including 164 at two funerals.

### **St Michael's**

**SERVICES:** Communicants 38. Total attendance at all services 59.

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## *Evening Prayer with Bible Study*

The theme for Sunday Evening Prayer with Bible Study on 8th February will be Governor Felix: Saying "Wait" to God, Acts 24.

These services are held on the second Sunday of each month at 5.30pm at St John's Church with hot drinks and sweet treats (cakes or cookies) available. The sessions last about an hour, set within a service of Evening Prayer.

During the cooler months the sessions will be held in the Blakefield Room, otherwise they will continue in the font chapel. Wherever it is being held, please gather in the church beforehand.

*Philip Evans*

## *Weekday services*

### **Up to and including the week commencing 23rd March:**

The following mid-week Eucharists and Daily Offices are scheduled in February, with the exception of the week commencing Monday 16th February:

Tuesday St John's 10am (Holy Communion - Book of Common Prayer)  
Thursday St Michael's 10.30am (Eucharist - Common Worship) \*\*

\*\* On the second Thursday of each month (12th March) this is a Eucharist for Wholeness and Healing.

Daily offices take place in St John's Church from Monday to Thursday. Morning Prayer is at 8.30am. Evening Prayer is at 4pm during GMT and at 5pm during British Summer Time. Occasionally other commitments will prevent a service happening; the schedule for each week will be published in the pew sheet.

**Week commencing Monday 30th March (Holy Week):** Please see the Easter information on pages 26 and 27.

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## *West Worcester World Day of Prayer*

This year the West Worcester World Day of Prayer Service is to be held at St John in Bedwardine at 1.45 pm on 6th March. Here in St John's this annual ecumenical service rotates between Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church, our church and Bromyard Road Methodist Church and members of Westside churches and others help lead the service.

We are delighted to be hosting the service prepared by the women of Nigeria. The service booklet has the welcome "I will give you rest, come" and we hope many will come to this service where all are welcome. The service lasts about 50 minutes and light refreshments are served afterwards.

*Sally Mills*

### **World Day of Prayer**

The origins of World Day of Prayer date back to the 19th century when Christian women of the United States and Canada initiated a variety of activities in support of women's involvement in mission at home and in other parts of the world.

#### **These activities remain related to:**

*Concern for women and children*

*The role of prayer in mission work*

*A vision of Christian unity*

*Biblical study as everyone's responsibility*

*Social issues and working with immigrants*

*Linking world peace with world mission*

In 1926 the women of North America distributed the worship service to many countries and partners in mission. The response worldwide was enthusiastic: thus the call was issued for a world Day of Prayer.

For more information about World Day of Prayer in England, Wales & Northern Ireland visit: **[wwdp.org.uk](http://wwdp.org.uk)**

## *Dates for your diary*

<b>Location key</b>	<b>(J)</b> St John's Church	<b>(M)</b> St Michael's Church
	<b>(V)</b> The Vicarage, 7 Manor Road	

**(J) Mondays in term time, 10am:** Little Lambs, see pages 9 and 22. Last meeting this term is Monday 23rd March; return on Monday 20th April.

--- 000 ---

**(J) Friday 6th March 1.45pm:** World Day of Prayer Service, see page 7.

--- 000 ---

**(J) Saturday 7th March 4pm:** Messy Church, see pages 10 and 28.

Doors open and drinks available from 3:30pm.

--- 000 ---

**(J) Thursday 12th March, 1pm:** The Good Old Days present

Discover History, "The Severn story in Worcester", see page 9.

--- 000 ---

**(J) Saturday 14th March, 9am:** Women's Breakfast, see page 9.

--- 000 ---

**(M) Monday 16th March, 2.30pm:** Mothers' Union.

--- 000 ---

**(J) Wednesday 18th March, 2.45pm:** Tea/Coffee & Cake, see page 9.

--- 000 ---

**(M) Thursday 19th March, 2pm - 4pm:** West Worcester Friendship Group.

--- 000 ---

**(J) Saturday 21st March, 8.30am - 11am:** Community Breakfast, see page 10.

--- 000 ---

**(V) Thursday 26th March, 7.30pm:** Mothers' Union.

--- 000 ---

**(V) Friday 27th March:** Fourth Friday Friendship Group. Look out for sign-up sheets in church or contact Sarah Cottrill for details.

--- 000 ---

**(J) Saturday 28th March, 10.45am:** Cafe@10.45, see pages 10.

--- 000 ---

**Sunday 29th March:** Clocks go forward. Don't be late!!

--- 000 ---

**(J) Wednesday 15th April, 7.30pm:** Bible Course commences. Come from 7pm when tea and coffee will be available.

## Events at St John's

### Little Lambs



**Mondays in Term Time at  
St John's Church  
10:00am to 11.30am**

**FREE!**

**Toys and Games, Art & Craft, Messy Play,  
Snacks and Stories, Singing**

**Birth to 4 years old and carers**

Our last meeting this term will be on  
Monday 23rd March and we will return  
on Monday 20th April.

**THE GOOD OLD DAYS  
PRESENTS  
DISCOVER HISTORY**



**THE SEVERN STORY IN WORCESTER**

**THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH  
1.00PM**

**ADMISSION £4**

**INCLUDES REFRESHMENTS**



**Women's Breakfast Meetings  
for Friendship and  
Christian Fellowship**

**Why not join us?  
Everyone is welcome!**

**Our next meeting is on  
Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March  
9.00am until 11.00am**

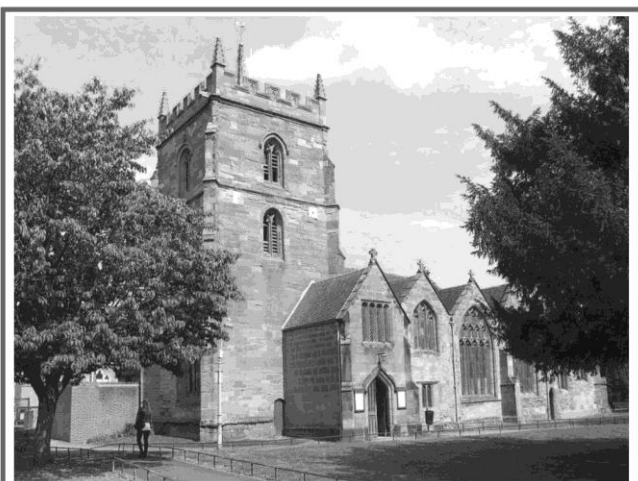
**St John-in-Bedwardine  
in The Blakefield Room**

**Contact Margaret Rutter (425396)**



**ST JOHN-IN-BEDWARDINE**

**Join us for Tea,  
Coffee & Cake**



**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March  
2.45pm**

**Everyone Welcome!**

**Suggested donation £2.00**

## *Events at St John's*

### **St John in Bedwardine**



**Join us for Fresh Coffee  
and Danish,  
'Friendship and Thoughts'**

**At 10.45am on  
Saturday 28th March**

**Guest speaker  
Luise Horrocks**

**ALL WELCOME**



**Saturday 7th March, 4pm.**  
(doors open 3.30pm with  
drinks and biscuits).

March's theme will be  
**"Mary and Martha"**

Usually the first Saturday of each  
month (but for April it's in the  
morning of Good Friday, 3rd April).

Please do come along,  
you'll be sure of a warm welcome!

### **FREE COMMUNITY BREAKFAST**



All are welcome  
to come and  
share a full  
English breakfast  
with unlimited  
supplies of tea,  
coffee & toast.

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March  
8.30am to 11.00am  
St John's Church**



St John-in-Bedwardine & St Michael's Joint Council is a registered Charity (no. 1205354)

### *Coach trips*

*Sunday 13th June  
Llangollen*

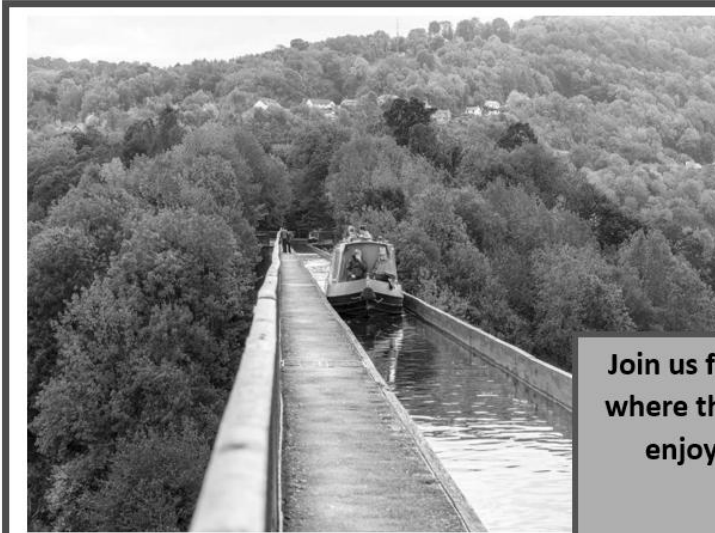
(see page 11)

*Weston-super-Mare  
Tuesday 21st July*

*Saturday  
26th September  
Bath*

Email [office@wcw.church](mailto:office@wcw.church)  
for enquiries about any of the above.

**Coach Trip to  
Llangollen & the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct  
Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June**



Join us for a trip to the beautiful town of Llangollen where there will be time to have a look around, and enjoy the many independent shops, cafes and riverside walks.

We will then head to join the cruise.

The cruise begins with a crossing of the mighty Pontcysyllte Aqueduct aboard a canal boat; where you can relax and enjoy the beautiful canal and stunning scenery of the Dee Valley. There is a fully stocked bar onboard and cream teas can be ordered

**Tickets cost  
£34.50**

**Enjoy a day out to Llangollen where we will then take a boat ride along the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct**

**To book your place please fill in a booking form along with a £10 non-refundable deposit.**

**Please return the form to the Parish office (open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9am-12pm) or to Charlotte at the next Discover History talk.**

**You can email [office@wcv.church](mailto:office@wcv.church) for enquiries.**

**Payments will be required by the 1<sup>st</sup> of June**

**The coach will leave at 9.00am from St John's church.**



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## *Children's Church – March 2026*

The children have been enjoying their sessions and have been exploring Epiphany. They have also been enjoying being involved in the main service through reading, prayers and helping with the collection. We enjoyed preparing the ash for Ash Wednesday and are getting ready for Easter by exploring lent together.

We continue to have two groups running at St John's.

Our **Scramblers** group is for pre-school and Key Stage 1 children. We follow a programme called 'Diddy Disciples' which uses familiar songs to retell the Bible stories in an age-appropriate way. There is often a simple craft activity to do, and toys to play with for the youngest children. Adults who stay in to support their young children can listen to the service through a speaker in the Blakefield Room.

Our older children are in our **Explorers** group. This allows them to consider Bible stories in a little more detail, followed by an activity or craft. There is always an opportunity for children to share what they've done in the main service if they would like to.

We always welcome new members. Come along on the 1st, 3rd or 4th Sunday of the month if you would like to give it a try!

*Fiona Templeton and Amy Rees*

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## *Date Alerts*

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST is on Saturday March 21st, from 8.30 to 11.00am. Everyone is welcome so please bring your family and friends and come and share breakfast with us at St John's Church.

Café Church (Café@10.45) is on Saturday 28th March from 10.45 am at St John's Church. Thought for the day will be by Luise Horrocks who is coming to talk about her music and singing career in Oxford.

Come and have a coffee and Danish with us. Give yourself a treat on a Saturday morning.

*Jenny English*



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## *Worcester Festival Choral Society*

WFCS's next concert, Mendelssohn's "Elijah", is in the Cathedral on 21st March at 7.30pm.

Tickets (£10 - £29) are available to buy from [www.WFCS.online](http://www.WFCS.online) or 0333 666 3366.

*Edward Reeves*

# *Would you like to advertise in this magazine?*

An advert can be full-page, half-page or quarter-page in size.

The booking can be from one month to one year.

The Parish Magazine is published A5 in size, in black and white.

There are eleven issues each year,  
July and August being a combined issue.

If you are interested to advertise, please contact Sue Hussell  
by telephone on 01684 893397  
or by email at [suehussell4@gmail.com](mailto:suehussell4@gmail.com)

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## *Pilgrimage*

Stephen Buckley will be leading a pilgrimage from Great Malvern Priory to Worcester Cathedral on Saturday 28th March.

Pilgrims are warmly invited to travel together on the 9.15am train from Worcester Foregate Street to Malvern. After a short act of worship at Great Malvern Priory, we will walk back to Worcester Cathedral, stopping at various points along the way for worship and prayer. Please bring a packed lunch and plenty of water. We expect to arrive at Worcester Cathedral at around 4.30pm.

All are welcome. For more details please talk with Stephen or me.

*Gilly Maxim*

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## *St David's News*

On Sunday 1st March we shall be having our patronal service. This will be at 4pm and will be followed by light refreshments. You are most welcome to come and join us at this service.

We had our usual coffee morning in February and our next one will be on Wednesday 4th March at 10.30am. We would be very pleased to see you there.

On Saturday 21st March we are having a social afternoon consisting of a fun quiz, a tombola (a prize every time) a raffle and of course tea, coffee and cake. This will take place between 2pm and 4pm. We look forward to seeing you on the 21st.

*Carole Stone, Deputy Church Warden.*

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## *Easter Flowers at St. John's Church*

Spring is on its way and the Flower Team is planning the decoration of church for Easter. This year Easter Sunday falls on Sunday 5th April and the team will be decorating the church on Saturday 4th April from 9am until 1pm. Refreshments will be available from about 11am. Any gifts of greenery which you may have to spare would be most welcome.

If you wish to remember relatives or friends, you can do so by making a donation towards the Easter lilies and flowers. Please give your donation, in an envelope, with the name(s) of those to be remembered, to the church wardens or Sue Hussell. The names will be included in the memorial list which will be placed on the 'Welcome' table.

The Flower Team thank you for your continued support, and wish you and your families a blessed and joyful Easter.

*Sue Hussell*

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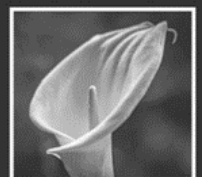


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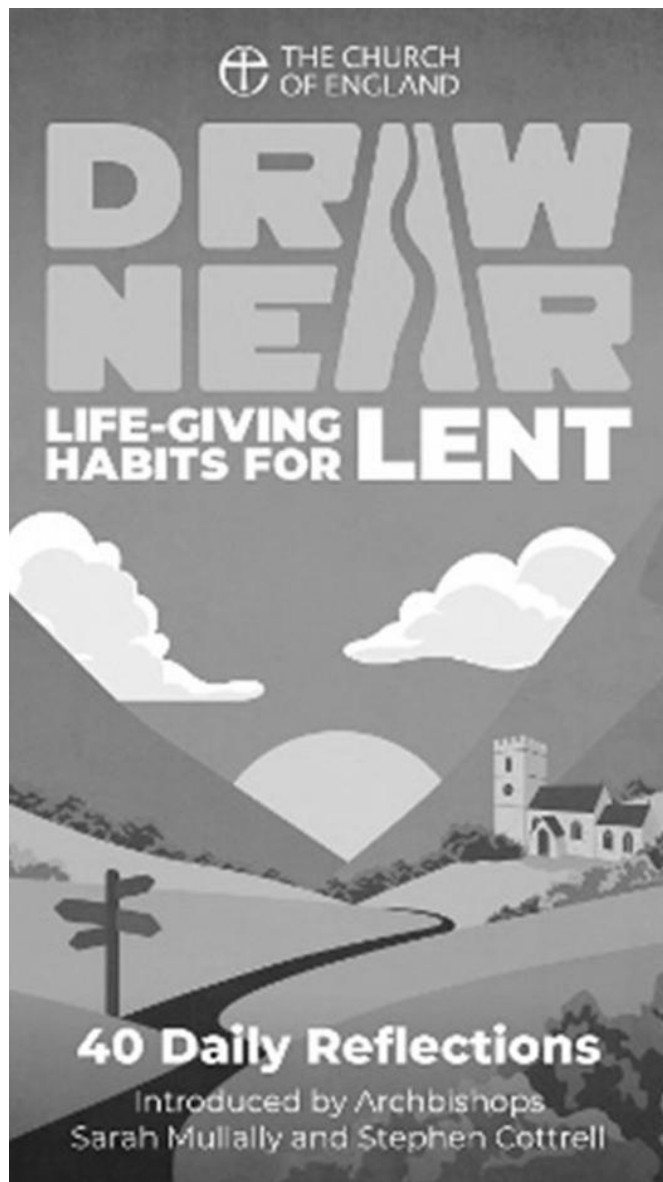
 hoskins-funerals-direct

## *Lent to Easter 2026*

We are now in the season of Lent; the time where we reflect on Jesus and his journey to the cross. This year we have a variety of services, events and activities to help us pray, contemplate and draw closer to God and to each other.

The Church of England's theme for Lent 2026 is **Draw Near: Life-giving habits for Lent**. The resources which support this have at their heart the theme of a 'rhythm of life' – habits and patterns which help us grow as disciples of Christ day by day, especially as we prepare to celebrate the great mystery of God's saving love at Easter.

Everyone is encouraged to take part in this theme. For example, the Church of England has prepared daily reflections. These can be accessed digitally via the Everyday Faith app and the Joint Council has purchased printed booklets, which



are available in church. Also, there will be a **weekly discussion group** on Sundays from 22nd February to 22nd March from 12noon to 12.15pm to discuss the previous week's reflections. This will be informal and there is no expectation to come every week, so come when you're able! There will be refreshments of tea, coffee & biscuits too.

Other activities include weekly **Lent lunches** each Wednesday raising money for the charity Maggs. During the school Easter holidays there will also be **Easter Crafts & Breakfast** at St. John's on Wednesdays 1st and 8th April where you can enjoy Easter-themed crafts, breakfast and an Easter-themed trail around the church.

There will be lots of special services during this important season and you are invited to come along to as many as you would like. In this month of March, there

will be a special **All Age Eucharist for Mothering Sunday** at St John's on 15th March with music led by the Music Group.

*Continued on page 19*

# Computer Problems?

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*Continued from page 17*

Recognising that this can be a difficult time for some people, on this day St Michael's will be hosting a **Eucharist for the Fourth Sunday of Lent** at 10.30am. On 22nd March there will be a **Service of Music and Readings for Passiontide** at 5.30pm. This can be thought of as a "carol service" in terms of the shape and flow of the service. Like the Advent Carol Service in December, there will be refreshments served beforehand from about 4.45pm.

Sunday 29th March then sees Palm Sunday where we have a joint **Palm Sunday Eucharist** for both St John's and St Michael's at St John's Church. This will be in the morning at 10.30am with a dramatic reading of the Easter story. Following this, in the afternoon at St Michael's at 3pm there will be **Café Church** where we'll be serving a free cream tea during which we will reflect on aspects of the Easter story.

At the end of March we reach the beginning of Holy Week with daily **Morning Prayer** (7.45am), short morning **Eucharists** (8am) and **Evening Prayer** (5pm).

Please find more information about these services on the following pages.

---

## *Long service recognised*

What a wonderful surprise I had on 18th January during the morning Eucharist service. I was presented with an RSCM (Royal School of Church Music) Long Service Medal for being a member of St. John's church choir for 50 years. When Gilly and my family came up to the altar, I wondered what was happening!

I feel very blessed to have been able to be part of the choir for that length of time.

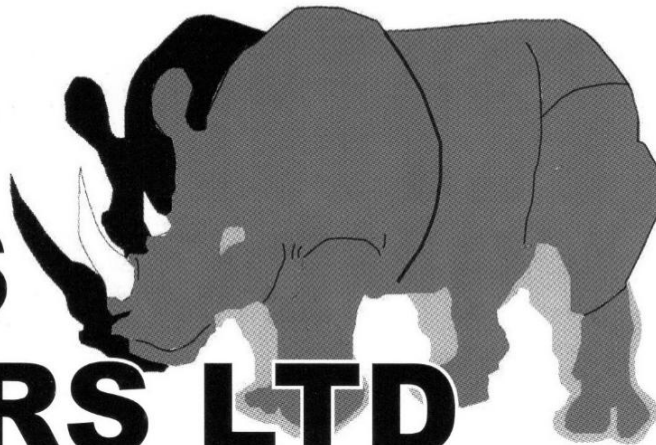


I joined in January 1976 during the interregnum between Malcolm Richards and Frank Bentley. During my time in the choir I have seen five vicars (Frank Bentley, John Green, Chris Pullin, Chris Stuart and Phil Bradford) and many curates.

When I joined I was one of many trebles. If my memory serves me correctly I think we had over 24 trebles. If a wedding requested to have a choir the trebles would be asked who was available to sing. Out of those who put their hand up, 12 would be picked. In those days the choir stalls were full and

*Continued on page 21*

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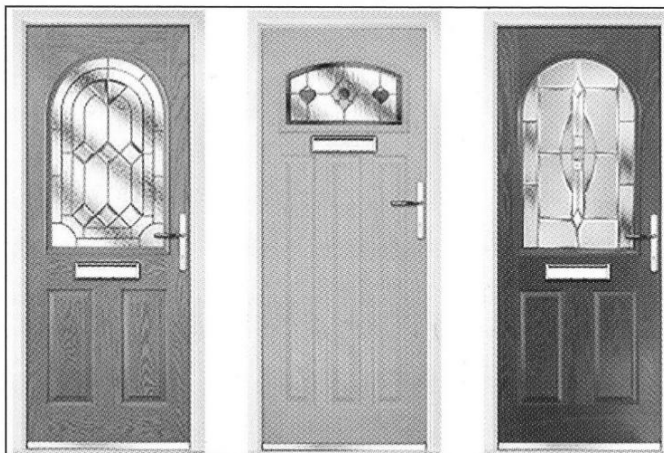
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*Continued from page 19*

we must have had about 40 people in the choir. I began as a treble voice and then went into the soprano section. At one point we were short on the alto line so I volunteered to help out and, to this day, I have continued to sing alto, which I really enjoy.



Graham and I were married by Frank Bentley in June 1982. We had the whole choir sing at our wedding and had wedding photos taken, surrounded by the choir.

I have many happy memories from my time singing in the choir, but the editor tells me we're running out of space to tell you more, so perhaps that will have to be a separate article in the next edition!



I am thankful that I can play a part in the overall worshipping life of the church. Singing with others can be so uplifting. As I said after receiving my medal. "It is very special and I shall treasure it always".

I can't end without a plug for the choir! Please think about joining us. We meet to practise on Thursday evenings at 7pm for an hour of singing.

*Sue Evans*

## Story time at Little Lambs



We love our books 😊 and have many favourites. The series of 'That's Not my plane/train/princess/donkey etc' books are popular and so are books with flaps, noises and interesting effects.

If anyone has a small bookcase that we could use to store our books that would be welcome.

About every two weeks I like to share one of our big books with the children and their adults. This activity is particularly planned for our older children, although of course all are welcome, and we enjoy the book together with lots of chat, actions and sound effects.



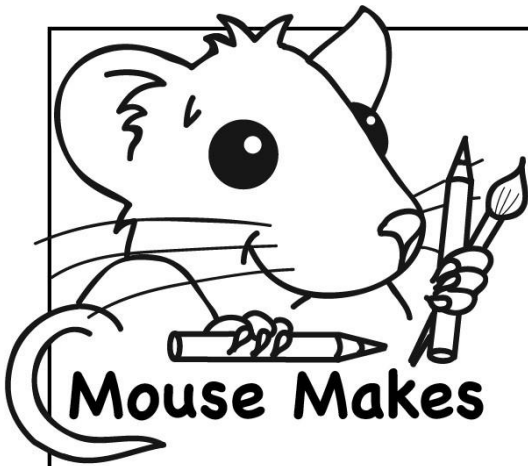
Thank you to Gail, one of our lovely volunteers, for our Valentine's heart card activity. The children were queuing up to make their cards and they loved the stickers we provided too. If anyone has any stickers they could donate our children will be very grateful.



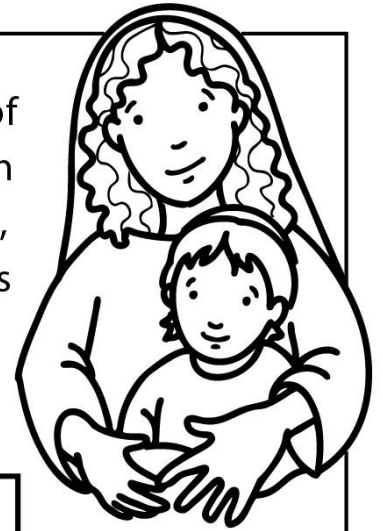
Our last meeting this term will be on Monday 23rd March and we will return on Monday 20th April. If anyone is available to help with our sorting out and cleaning session on Monday 13th April, anytime between 9.30 am and 11.30am, we would be delighted to see you.

Happy Easter everyone! Blessings from us all at Little Lambs.

*Sue Fairman*

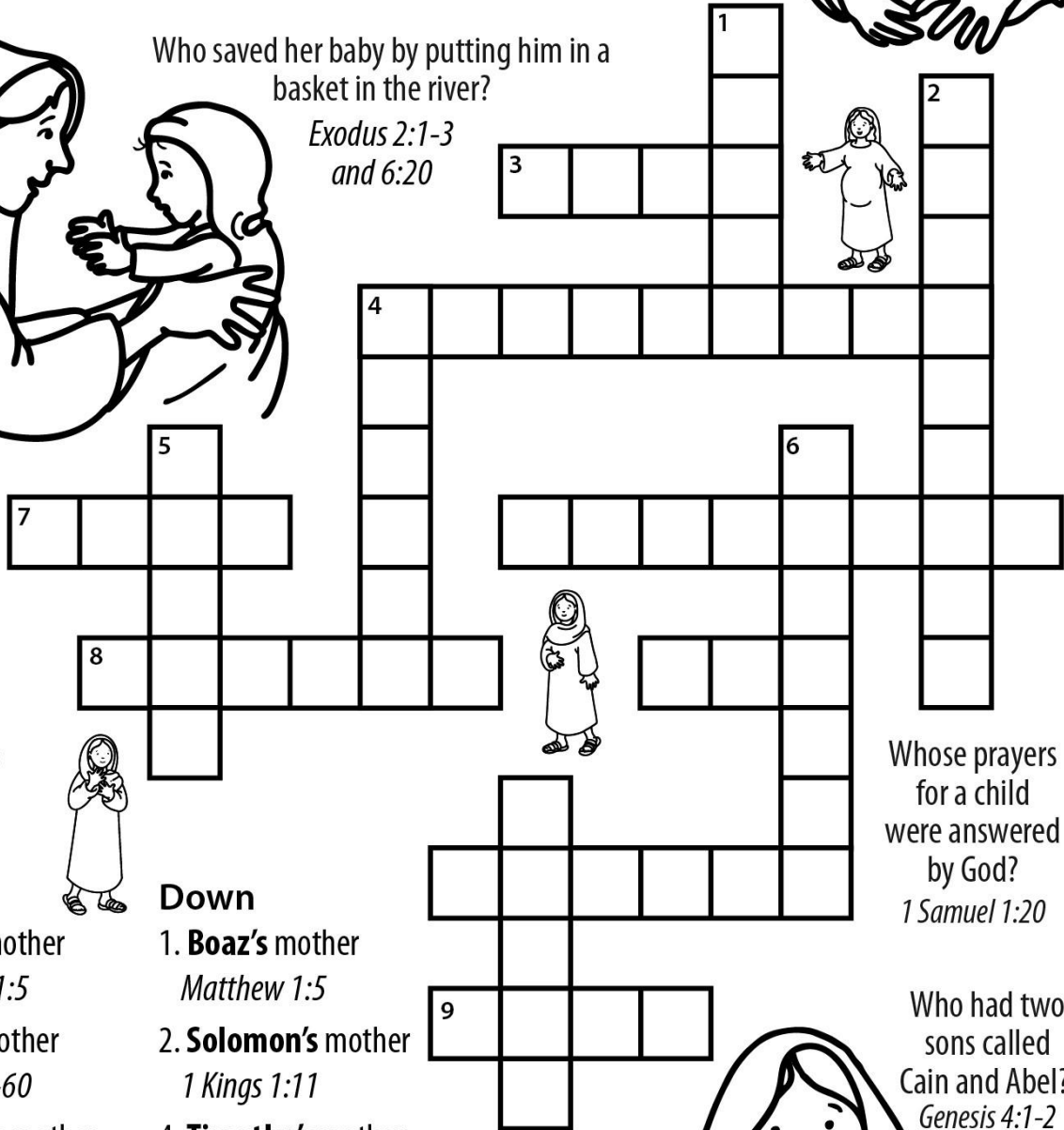


The Bible has many stories of mothers who had great faith in God. With their love, care, encouragement and prayers their children grew up to be great people of God.



Who saved her baby by putting him in a basket in the river?

*Exodus 2:1-3 and 6:20*



Who was 90 years old when she had her son Isaac?  
*Genesis 17:19*



Whose prayers for a child were answered by God?  
*1 Samuel 1:20*

Who had two sons called Cain and Abel?  
*Genesis 4:1-2*

**Across**

3. **Obed's** mother

*Matthew 1:5*

4. **John's** mother

*Luke 1:57-60*

7. **Reuben's** mother

*Genesis 29:32*

8. **Joseph's** mother

*Genesis 30:22-24*

9. **Jesus'** mother

*Acts 1:14*

**Down**

1. **Boaz's** mother

*Matthew 1:5*

2. **Solomon's** mother

*1 Kings 1:11*

4. **Timothy's** mother

*2 Timothy 1:5*

5. **Ishmael's** mother

*Genesis 16:15*

6. **Jacob and Esau's** mother

*Genesis 25:21-26*



Answer the questions then put them into the crossword

Mar26 © deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk

## *Varying degrees of energy required*

Thank you to everyone who came to the Burns Night Ceilidh! It was brilliant to see so many people enjoying themselves and great to see faces from last year returning once again. St Clement's School provided an ideal setting with a suitable 'dance floor' and stage for the band. The Whole Caboodle provided a wonderful evening of live music as we all danced to the caller's instructions (or in some of our cases – attempted to!) and had lots of fun along the way. From the traditional Gay Gordons to those made up by the band themselves, there were a range of dances with varying degrees of energy required.



Thank you to Gordon for his fabulous blessing of the haggis before we all ate! Attendees were a mix of regular congregation and those from the further afield – including Malvern – and covered a wide range of ages, from toddlers to octogenarians. Thank you for supporting the event if you were able to come along – we hope that you had a fantastic time.



We're now onto planning the next event. On Saturday 9th May, we'll be hosting The Film Orchestra Choir as they perform songs and music from a range of TV and film. If you would like to see a taster of the choir's repertoire, you can find videos from their latest concert on The Film Orchestra's Facebook page. More details about this are coming shortly – please do keep an eye out at St John's Church and on our website and Facebook page for these. We look forward to seeing you for an evening of beautiful music.

*Beth Broadway*

The  
Tale of the  
**TWO  
BUILDERS**



**JESUS OFTEN TOLD  
STORIES WITH  
HIDDEN MEANINGS**



**ONE WAS ABOUT TWO MEN WHO  
BUILT THEIR OWN HOUSES**



PROD!  
PROD!

**THE FIRST BUILDER SEARCHED HIGH  
AND LOW FOR A GOOD SOLID ROCK ON  
WHICH TO BUILD HIS HIS HOME.**

**AT LONG, LONG LAST HE  
FOUND THE IDEAL SPOT.**



**SO HE BEGAN TO BUILD.**

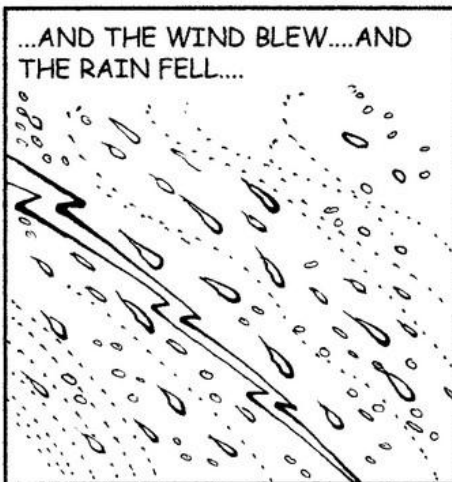


**THE OTHER BUILDER  
DIDN'T CARE WHERE HE  
BUILT HIS HOUSE**

**HE THOUGHT SOME NICE FLAT SAND  
WOULD BE AN EASY PLACE TO BUILD.**



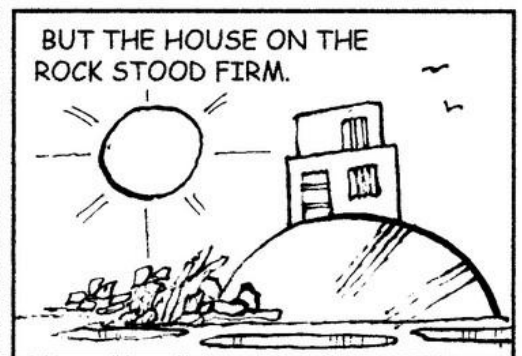
**BUT ONE DAY THE  
STORM CAME...**



**...AND THE WIND BLEW...AND  
THE RAIN FELL...**



**...AND THE HOUSE ON  
THE SAND COLLAPSED!**



**BUT THE HOUSE ON THE  
ROCK STOOD FIRM.**

**JESUS EXPLAINED -  
IT'S IMPORTANT OUR LIVES HAVE  
A FIRM FOUNDATION.**



# DRAW NEAR

LIFE-GIVING  
HABITS FOR LENT



## Our Lent & Easter events and services

We are offering lots of different services this Lent & Easter season.  
You are invited to join us at any of them.

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March

- St John's 10.30am **All Age Eucharist for Mothering Sunday** A celebration of the Eucharist for the whole family where we give thanks for all mothers and those who have been like a mother to us.
- St Michael's 10.30am **Eucharist for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

### Passion Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March

- St John's 10.30am **Eucharist for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent** A choral Eucharist.
- St Michael's 10.30am **Morning Prayer for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**
- St John's 5.30pm **Music & Readings for Passiontide** A reflective service of Bible readings, hymns, choral pieces and organ music. Hot drinks & cake served beforehand from 4.45pm.

### Palm Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> March

- St John's 10.30am **Palm Sunday Eucharist** We mark Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the start of Holy Week. The service begins with the Liturgy of Palms and blessing of Palm Crosses outside in the churchyard (weather permitting!), followed by a procession into church.
- St Michael's 3pm **Café Church** An informal service including the serving of a free cream tea during which we will reflect on aspects of the Easter story.

### Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday of Holy Week, 30<sup>th</sup> March-1<sup>st</sup> April

- St John's 7.45am **Morning Prayer**
- St John's 8.05am **Eucharist** A said service, lasting about 20 minutes.
- St John's 10am **Holy Communion** Tuesday only. A said service using traditional (BCP) language.
- St John's 9-11am **Easter crafts & breakfast** Wednesday only. Enjoy Easter-themed crafts, breakfast and an Easter-themed trail around the church.
- St John's 5pm **Evening Prayer**

 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND



## Maundy Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April

- St John's 7.45am **Morning Prayer**
- St John's 8.05am **Eucharist** *A said service, lasting about 20 minutes.*
- St Michael's 10.30am **Maundy Thursday Eucharist**
- St John's 5pm **Evening Prayer**
- St John's 7.30pm **Maundy Thursday Eucharist** *A sung Eucharist, concluding with the stripping of the altars. After the service, people are welcome to sit in silence in the darkened church for a time of personal prayer & reflection.*

## Good Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April

- St John's 9am **Morning Prayer**
- St John's 10-11.30am **Messy Church: Holy Week & Easter** *Crafts and activities based on the theme of Holy Week & Easter, followed by a short worship session. Doors open from 9.30am with hot drinks and snacks available.*
- St John's 12noon **Stations of the Cross** *A reflective service of meditations and music, following the fourteen stations which represent Jesus' journey from condemnation to burial.*
- St John's 1.30pm **The Liturgy of Good Friday** *A service of prayer, reading from John's Gospel, hymns & choral music, and veneration of the cross, concluding at 3pm as we leave in silence, the traditional hour of Jesus' death.*

## Holy Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> April

- St John's 8pm **Tenebrae** *('darkness' in Latin) is a quiet, moving, meditative service of readings, Taizé chants and silence as night falls. During the service candles are gradually extinguished and we leave in darkness, to mark the solemnity and despair of the disciples after Good Friday.*

## Easter Day, 5<sup>th</sup> April

- St John's 6am **Easter Liturgy** *A fire is kindled in the churchyard, from which the Paschal (Easter) Candle is lit and processed into church.*
- St John's 10.30am **Easter Choral Eucharist** *A celebratory Eucharist using the High Altar and music led by the choir and organ.*
- St Michael's 10.30am **Easter Eucharist**

### Lenten discussion group

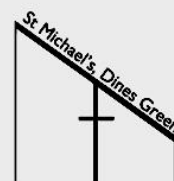
**St John's Church – Sundays 22<sup>nd</sup> February to 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 12noon**

*A weekly discussion group during Lent. We will be looking back at and discussing the previous week's daily reflections on the Church of England's theme for Lent 2026: "**Draw Near: Life-giving habits for Lent**". The sessions will last about 15 minutes and will be standalone with no obligation to attend every one. Join us when you're able!*



St John-in-Bedwardine  
Bromyard Road, WR2 5BS

**Want to know more about what the Bible has to say? Join us for our Bible Course starting 15<sup>th</sup> April. Pick up a leaflet to find out more.**



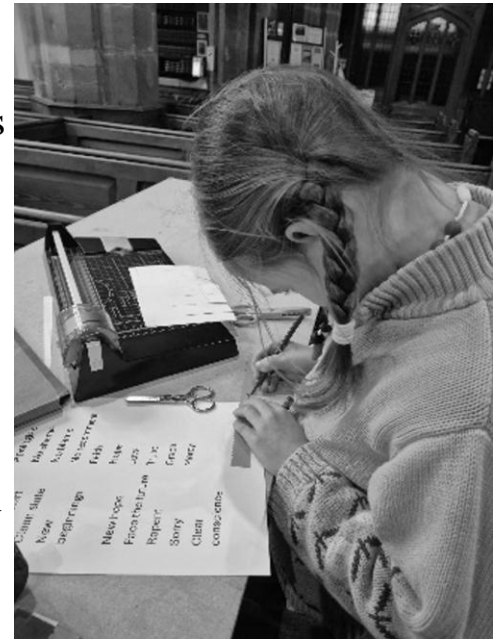
St Michael's, Dines Green  
Gresham Road, WR2 5QS



## *A New Start*

February's Messy Church explored the theme of forgiveness and new beginnings. With all of us having thoughts or actions that we might be sorry for, this month's session reminded us that Jesus offers us the chance to let go of the past and start anew.

The activities took inspiration from Luke 5:17-26, which tells the story of Jesus healing a paralysed man. Within the verses, Jesus says 'Friend, your sins are forgiven' and, when questioned by teachers and Pharisees, he responds with 'the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins'. He also told the paralysed man to pick up his mat and walk, which the man then did. This new start for the man was reflected through activities such as clockwork races. People attached a piece of material to their chosen clockwork toy, representing the mat of the healed man, and then raced their toys from the starting line. The new-start mat-weaving activity encouraged us to think about different aspects of forgiveness, with strips of paper featuring words like 'new hope', 'no blame', and 'clean slate'. These were woven together to create a mat connecting all these themes of forgiveness.



'Soap making' reminded us that forgiveness is like washing dirt away with soap, wiping away the bad things from the past. The soap was 'made' by carving or cutting soft bars of soap into new shapes or a collection of shavings to take home. Meanwhile, the gift box activity encouraged us to

think about whether it's easier to forgive someone or to ask for forgiveness. People made small clay hearts decorated with sequins and beads, placing them inside boxes padded with tissue paper. On the box we wrote 'Forgive as the Lord forgave you' (Colossians 3:13) – a reminder that these boxes could be given away as a sign of forgiveness, or kept as a reminder to forgive others.

Our worship focused on what we had been doing during the crafts, thinking about how, when we do something wrong, we can know that Jesus and God will forgive us and give us another chance because they love us.

The next Messy Church is on Saturday 7th March, where our theme will be Mary and Martha. Doors open at 3.30pm and Messy Church starts at 4pm. Please do join us.

**Advance Notice:** In April, Messy Church will take place in the morning on Good Friday (3rd April), rather than on Saturday.

*Beth Broadway*

## *Food for thought*

A grandmother took her young grandson for a walk in the park. The daffodils were in bloom, and it was a beautiful Spring day. Wanting to encourage her grandson’s spiritual understanding of the world, she said: “Doesn’t it look like an artist painted this scenery? Did you know God did all this?”

Her grandson replied: “Oh yes, and God did it left-handed, too.” In astonishment, the grandmother asked what he meant. “Well, he must have done,” said her grandson, “because we learned at church last week that Jesus sits on God's right hand.”

--- 000 ---

You know your child is growing up when he stops asking you where he came from and starts refusing to tell you where he’s going.

### *Sudoku Puzzle*

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*KrazyDad.com*

*The solution  
is on the  
inside back  
cover.*

2					3	4	1	
	1		8					5
		6		9				
5							6	
	2	4		7		8	3	
	6							2
				8		6		
6					4		2	
	4	1	9					8

# *Prayers Inspired by Prison Chaplaincy*

Reading - Matthew 25:31-46

God who walks beside the lost and the lonely,  
We bring ourselves into your presence now,  
aware of fear, suffering, and despair that is often hidden behind locked doors.  
Be with us as we think about truths that may disturb,  
truths that demand attention, compassion, and courage.  
Teach us to see your face in places of pain,  
and your Spirit at work in places of despair.

Lord in your mercy; hear our prayer.

Merciful God,  
We lament the lives marked by violence, self-harm, neglect, and despair.  
We remember those who are recalled to prison,  
those who struggle with addiction, poverty, or mental ill-health,  
and those who face long hours alone or in segregation.  
We cry out for those who die in custody  
and those whose release brings uncertainty and risk.  
Hold them, O Lord, in your unfailing love.  
Let them know that they are seen, known, and valued by you.

Lord in your mercy; hear our prayer.

God of strength and courage,  
We lift up chaplains, ministers of presence,  
and all who work in prisons and probation.  
Give them endurance when the weight of despair is heavy,  
wisdom when every decision matters, and compassion that is unwavering.  
Sustain them in the quiet, in the chaos,  
and in the constant moral and emotional pressure of their work.  
Bless them with hope, resilience,  
and the grace to witness your love in small but life-changing ways.

Lord in your mercy; hear our prayer.

God of justice and mercy,  
We pray for a system strained beyond capacity, for probation stretched thin,  
and for prisons where fear, overcrowding, and disorder are daily realities.  
Help us to remember that justice is not only punishment,  
and peace is not only the absence of conflict.  
Give us courage to speak truth to power, to advocate for dignity,  
and to work for systemic change that restores rather than destroys.

Lord in your mercy; hear our prayer.

God of boundless grace,  
Teach us to extend forgiveness where it is difficult, to recognise ongoing  
repentance where it is fragile, and to see hope where it is almost hidden.  
May we learn from those who understand dependence on you with clarity,  
and may our Church be shaped by the ministry of presence,  
listening, and patient love.  
Let our welcome be genuine, our boundaries wise, and our commitment to  
reconciliation unwavering.

Lord in your mercy; hear our prayer.

Holy God, who calls us to serve the least and the lost,  
Keep us mindful that the line between “us” and “them”  
is thinner than we like to admit.  
Shape us as a Church willing to refuse giving up on any life,  
ready to see Christ behind locked doors,  
and courageous in the face of systemic harm.  
Empower us to act, to pray, and to advocate;  
to embody grace, justice, and peace in our communities and beyond.  
Through your Spirit, may our hearts and our Church be shaped by your presence  
in the most difficult places.

Lord in your mercy; hear our prayer.

Merciful Father  
accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

*Gilly Maxim*

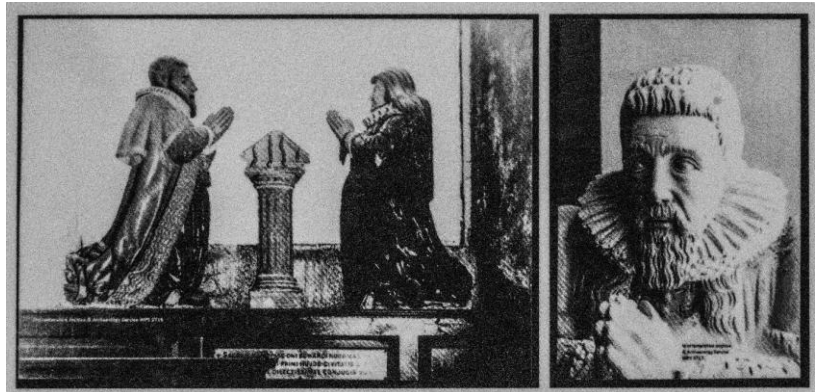
## *Famous Men of Worcester*



Around 75 people turned up to hear the talk on Famous Men of Worcester. Having done the famous women of Worcester last year, Paul Harding, from Discover History, decided to put the record straight by talking about famous men of Worcester. He said that he would not talk about Mayors of

Worcester or St Wulstan and St Oswald as they are subjects of other future talks.

The first person was Edward Hurdman, who became famous overnight in the 17th Century. He came from a humble background on the outskirts of Worcester. Even his parents did not appear to like him as all they left him in their wills was a small trinket



box. He moved to the city centre where he got involved in the wool trade. He married a brewer's widow, who lived in Cuckin Street, now Copenhagen Street, not a very good area of Worcester then. They moved to a much better house in Key Street near All Saint's Church. He became a member of the Guild, who met at the original Guildhall. He was able to join the Guild by taking the position of his wife's late husband's position in the Guild. In 1621 it was decided that Worcester needed a new charter and they had to petition King James I, who agreed and the city was given a new charter. This charter did away with the guild and bailiffs as leaders of the city and created a new single leader of the city: a mayor. Edward Hurdman was elected as the first Mayor of Worcester. In 2021, the city was going to celebrate the installation of him as mayor, but unfortunately Covid got in the way and the celebrations had to be cancelled.

The 2nd man was John Nash, and he was a Member of Parliament for the city in the 17th Century. He sided with Parliament during the Civil War. He did not get on with another Worcester man, Dud Dudley, who was a staunch Royalist. Dudley threw Nash out of his own house and moved in. However, at the end of the Civil War, when the Parliamentarians had won, Nash then threw Dudley back out of his house and moved back in. They both died within a very short time, and



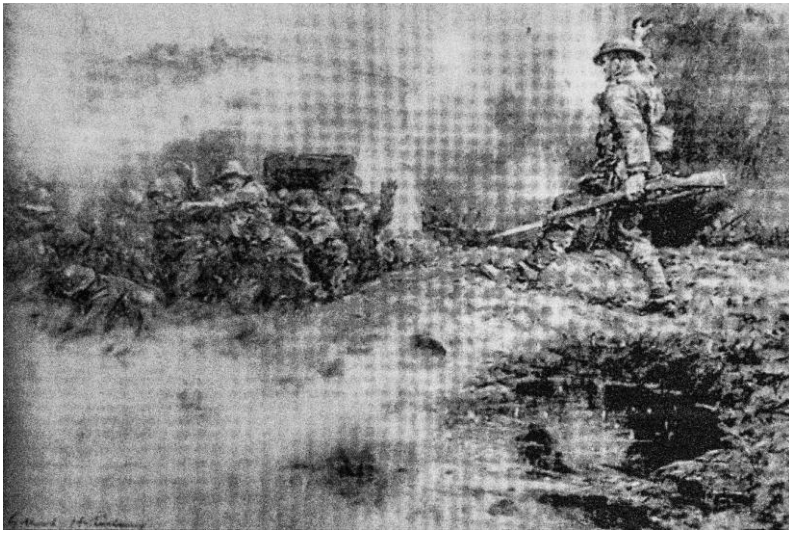
Mr Lea and Mr Perrins had chemist shops near each other. Lord Sandys wanted to spice up his bland English food after spending time in India. He handed them a list of ingredients that he had been given in India. It had a terrible taste, and it was put away into a barrel in the warehouse. Eighteen months later they found it again and on tasting found it to be very tasty. So, they sold it as a 'Cure All' and it became very popular. They made more and eventually built a factory in Midland Road.



Dr Charles Hastings did a lot of good for the health of people of Worcester and got hands on to help them. He coined the phrase Occupational Health, where certain diseases could be attributed to certain trades, such as Needler's Finger, a disease caused by the needle manufacturing process.



Sir Edward Elgar was obviously one of the greatest musicians of the country and was born locally at Broadheath. His family had a music shop in the city. He helped found the Three Counties Choir Festival.



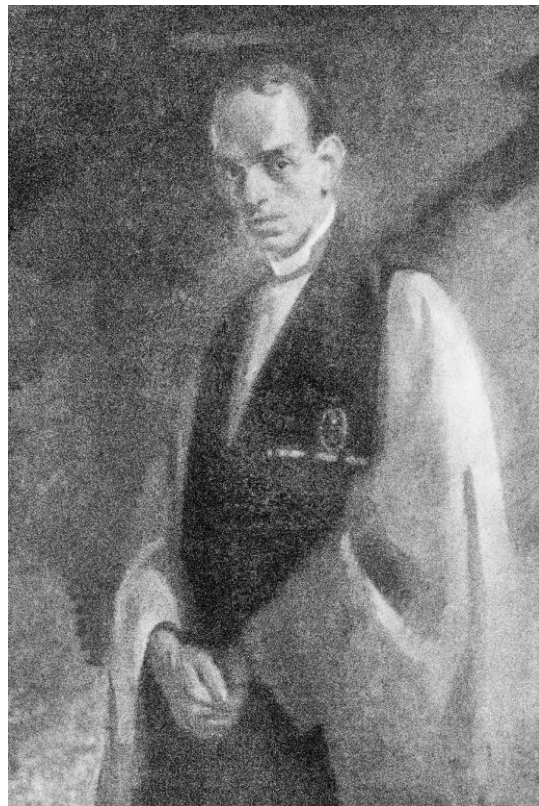
During the Great War there were many people who found fame, Private Dancox won the VC by attacking a machine gun nest and Pillbox. He escorted the prisoners back to British lines and then he went back to collect the weapons that had been left behind. A big celebration was planned for him in Worcester, but he did not get there

as he was put back into the lines and was killed. His medal is in the local museum, as it was bought by the Council and Museum.

Finally, Rev Geoffery Studdert Kennedy, “Woodbine Willie”, who is buried in St John’s Cemetery.

He was born in Liverpool, but he came to Worcester where he was vicar of St Paul’s, a very poor area. He became an army chaplain in the Great War and handed out bibles and Woodbine cigarettes to the troops in the trenches.

It was probably the Woodbines that they appreciated most! He won the Military Cross for attending to and rescuing the wounded under heavy fire.



As usual the ladies of the church had done us proud, and a fine display of very appetising cakes were on laid out for the audience, which all disappeared very quickly during the break.

*Colin Nash*

Peter

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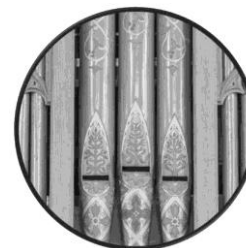
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out more*



## *Organ Update*

As mentioned last month, the parts of the organ which need to be repaired were removed and taken to the repairer's workshop at the beginning of January.



At the end of January we received the following report:

*We are now around a month into the workshop phase of the project, and good progress is being made on the contracted works. The re-leathering of the five reservoirs is now well underway, with careful removal of the existing materials, preparation of the structures, and the fitting of new leather to ensure long-term reliability and stability of the wind supply.*

And on 10th February this further update:

*We are due back on site on Monday 2nd March, and we have allowed approximately two weeks for completion of the works. I'm pleased to say that everything is currently progressing exactly to plan.*

*In the workshop, four of the five reservoirs have now been fully completed, with the final reservoir nearing completion. All work is progressing well and entirely in line with expectations for components of this age, with nothing arising that would affect the agreed programme and completion anticipated around mid-March.*

There are some pictures from the workshop on pages 39 and 41.

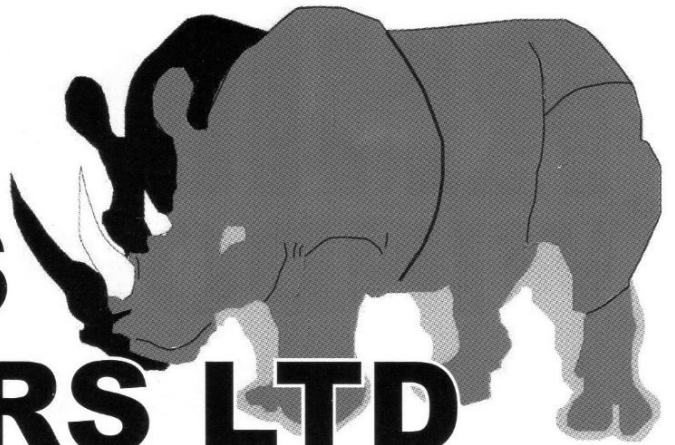
## *Finances*

There's still a funding gap! Please tell everyone you can about the organ appeal and make a donation if you can.

- Donate via the **card machine** at the back of St John's Church or **online** at <https://givealittle.co/c/Organ2025>
- Donate **by cheque** by sending it to the Team Office (1a Bromyard Road, St John's, Worcester, WR2 5BS)
- Donate by **bank transfer** to:  
Account number: 20150628                      Sort code: 82-12-08  
Account name: WORCESTER ST JOHN-IN-BEDWARDINE AND ST M  
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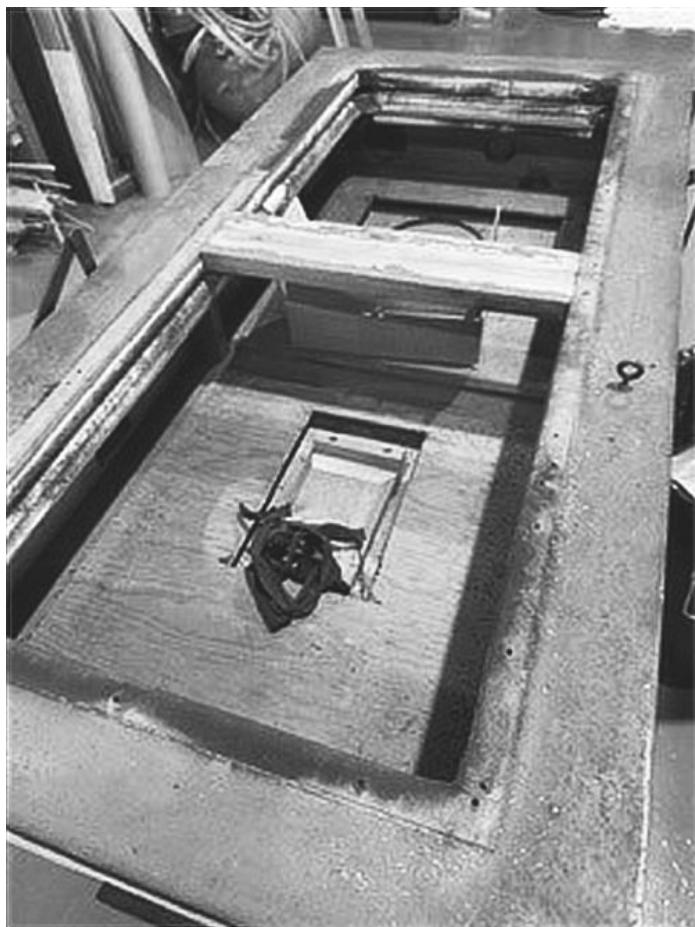
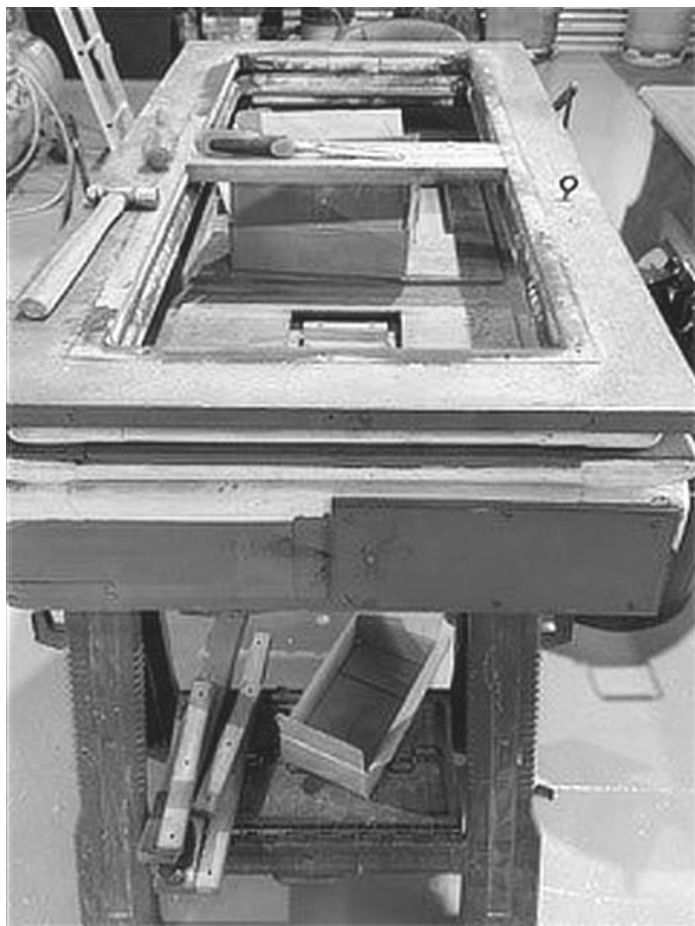
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*More on page 41.*



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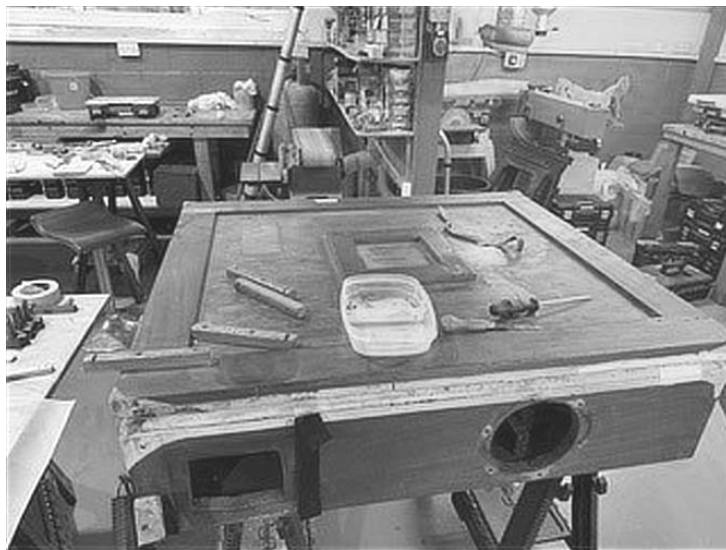
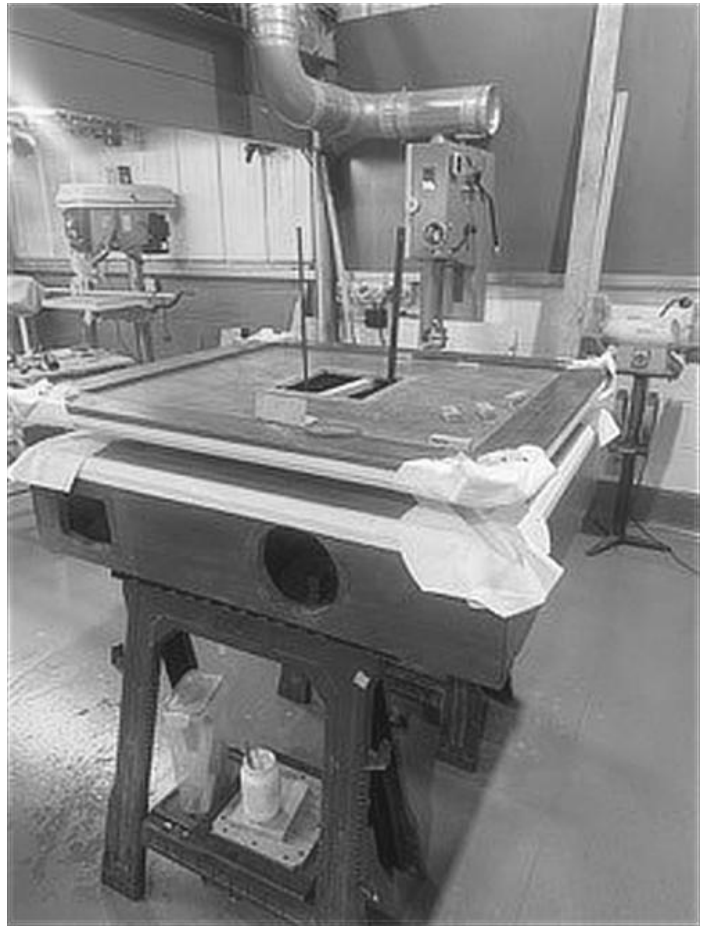
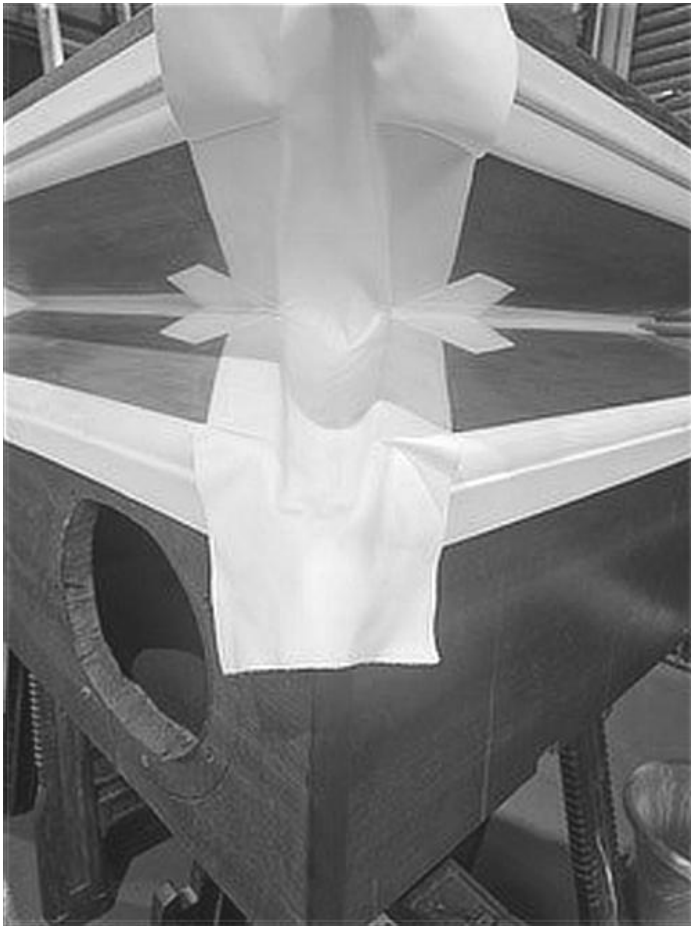
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## *Hello from the Lake District!*

Hello from the Lake District! I'm writing this not long after Candlemas and everywhere we look there are snowdrops; which I learned some years ago are traditionally associated with that festival. Spring is my favourite season and although we're only in February, seeing those flowers, plus all the buds on the trees and the daffodils starting to shoot up, is a wonderful reminder of what is to come; that sense of rebirth and renewal which will of course come at Easter. But despite it being a long dark and very cold winter (the temperature in the church during one carol service we went to, was actually below zero) we have been settling into the house and the church community.

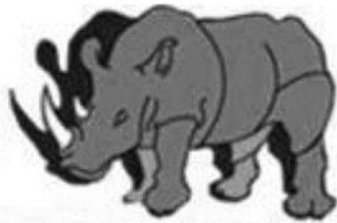
I am now on the reading rota and Ellen leads intercessions and is helping with the admin. Last week I led a Bible study at our house. The theme of the course is Galatians 5.22-26 - The Fruit of the Spirit - and last week was about "goodness" using Psalm 107 as our inspiration. It was great to get back into the practice of researching for a session like that...reading books and articles and watching videos of various theologians, looking for the angle that resonates. The session went really well (I think the presence of two dopey greyhounds helped put everyone at ease) and we had some great conversations and people really opened up. I concluded with a lovely prayer from a book I was given at my licensing (thanks Jenny and John!) and I think I shall be leading some of the Lent reflection course too.

I may have mentioned before that the curate here is a former vet. We invited him round for dinner a couple of weeks ago and he had some hilarious (and eye watering) stories. He knows the warden of readers up here and introduced me to her. I am also going to be dusting off my preaching hat and will deliver the sermon at St Patrick's Bampton and St Peter's Askham in a few weeks. Assuming nothing goes too badly awry, that should be a big step towards starting the process of becoming licensed up here.

While there are subtle differences between St Peter's Askham and St John-in-Bedwardine, it is funny to see how some things seem to be the same throughout the church of England. There is currently much activity as we try and source a Donkey for Palm Sunday; horses, deer, longhorn cows and even llamas we have in abundance but the limited pool of donkeys is in demand. I'll let you know how it turns out!

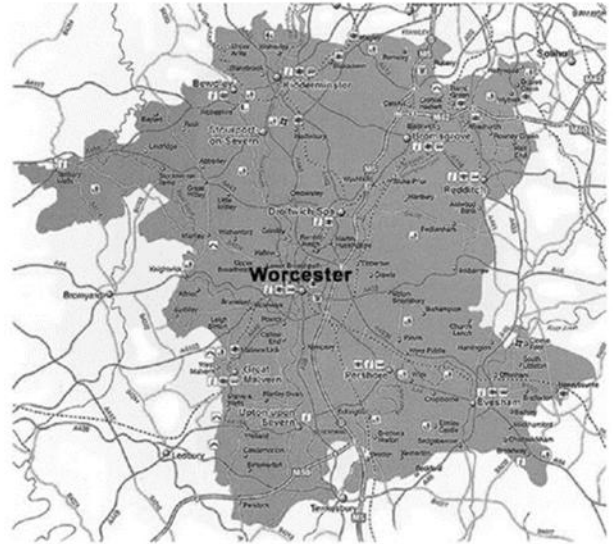
That's all for now but I am sure there will be plenty going on around Easter and some nice pics of Lakeland daffodils to share!

*Lots of Love, Rob and Ellen Little*



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## *Behind the scenes...*

There was a huge amount of behind-the-scenes activity ahead of Bishop Hugh's welcome service on 17th January as a small team from the bishops' offices, cathedral, archdeacons' office and diocesan office gathered in the Chapter House



to pack nearly 1000 individual refreshment bags to give out at the end of the service.



We hope you enjoyed your pear juice and cake!

*Worcester Diocese*

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## ST JOHN'S LIBRARY

### *Usual opening hours*

#### Libraries Unlocked

Monday - Saturday: 8am - 8 pm

#### Core (staffed) opening times:

- Monday: 2pm - 5pm
- Tuesday: 10am - 5pm
- Wednesday: 10am - 1pm
- Thursday: 2pm - 5pm
- Friday: 10am - 5pm
- Saturday: 10am - 1pm

### *Events at St John's Library*

#### Weekly events:

- Creative Tales, weekly every Monday, 3:30pm to 4:15pm.
- Chess Club, weekly every Tuesday, 2:00pm to 4:00pm.  
*Arguably the greatest strategy game of all time. Come along to St John's Library and enjoy a game of Chess. Cost 50p which can be paid on arrival.*
- Crochet and Chat, weekly every Wednesday, 10:00am to 12:00pm.  
*Do you enjoy crotchet, knitting or sewing? Do you enjoy meeting similar people and having a good yarn? They why not join us every Wednesday and enjoy doing the crafts that you like to do. No teaching, just a warm, welcoming and friendly environment. No booking required.*
- Storytime and Song, weekly every Friday, 11:00am to 11:30am.  
*Join us to share a fun story, a little colouring and some of your favourite songs and rhymes. For children aged 0 to 4 years. No booking required.*

#### Other regular events:

- Classic Film Club, alternate Thursdays, 5 & 19 March, 2:00pm to 3:30pm.  
*Enjoy watching classic films, meeting new people and chatting about your favourite films? Join our friendly group of individuals fortnightly in the library.*
- Crime Readers' Group: First Friday of each month (6 March), 12:00pm to 1:00pm.
- Photography Group: Third Friday of each month (20 February), 2:00pm to 3:00pm.

***The information above is from the County Council website on 9th February.***

- Councillors' Surgeries: First Saturday of each month (7 March), 10:00am to 12:00pm.
- Meet your local policing team: Tuesday 31 March, 10:30am.



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*From the magazine archive, March 1930*

### **Miss Moses.**

Miss Moses has felt it her duty to leave Worcester, and to make her home with a relative in Devonshire. Her departure is a severe loss to our parish. She gave herself up to all manner of good works amongst us, and it will be no easy task to carry on without her help, so willingly and so kindly given. The Mothers' Union will very especially miss her, but I shall miss her more. Miss Moses carried on the business of the Vestry Clothing Club, she did a lot of sick and other visiting, she attended to the choir robes, and to the altar linen, and in many other ways also gave freely of her time and service. Thank God for all her many labours and gifts. It goes without saying that I shall be truly thankful to receive offers of help in the above-mentioned departments of parochial work. May many such be forthcoming and that right soon.

### **St. John's Sidesmen.**

The Sidesmen on duty during March are Messrs. Repton, J. Roberts, P. J. Roberts, Severn, and Townsend.

### **Devotional Services.**

(1) For confirmed lads and young men in Church on Thursday, February 27th, at 8 p.m. to prepare for Corporate Communion on Sunday, March 2nd. (2) For confirmed girls and young women in Church on Thursday, March 6th, at 8 p.m., to prepare for Corporate Communion on Sunday, March 9th.

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## NOTES

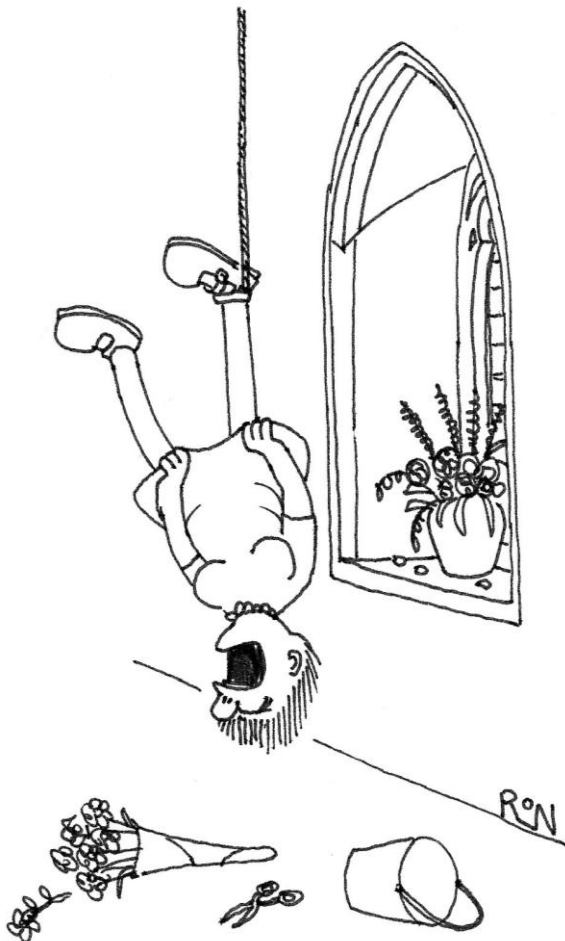
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4. Please notify the charity if you change your name or address.



## *Puzzle solution*

2	9	8	7	5	3	4	1	6
3	1	7	8	4	6	2	9	5
4	5	6	2	9	1	7	8	3
5	7	9	3	2	8	1	6	4
1	2	4	6	7	5	8	3	9
8	6	3	4	1	9	5	7	2
9	3	2	5	8	7	6	4	1
6	8	5	1	3	4	9	2	7
7	4	1	9	6	2	3	5	8

*And finally....*



From a church  
nowhere near here...

Mrs [REDACTED] always  
did the flowers  
in the South window,  
as Mrs [REDACTED]  
soon learned.

## Sunday Services – March 2026

	<b>St John's</b>	<b>St Michael's</b>	<b>St David's</b>
<b>1st March</b>	10.30am Eucharist 5.30pm Evensong	10.30am Eucharist	4pm Patronal Eucharist
<b>8th March</b>	10.30am All Age Eucharist 5.30pm Evening Prayer with Bible study	10.30am Morning Prayer	4pm Evening Prayer
<b>15th March</b>	10.30am All Age Eucharist for Mothering Sunday	10.30am Eucharist for Lent 4	4pm Eucharist
<b>22nd March</b>	10.30am Eucharist	10.30am Morning Prayer	
<b>29th March</b>	10.30am Palm Sunday Eucharist	3pm Café Church	
<b>5th April Easter Sunday</b>	10.30am Eucharist	10.30am Eucharist	4pm Eucharist

In case there are any changes to the above, please watch the weekly church newsletters and websites for the latest information.