ST MARY THE VIRGIN, WESTWOOD



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23 MARCH 2025 THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



Welcome to our Service today

And welcome if you are reading this at home

HYMNS FOR TODAY'S SERVICE

11.15am – Morning Prayer

- **120 -** Father hear the prayer we offer
- 287 Just as I am, without one plea (Saffron Walden tune)
- 145 Forty days and forty nights
- 231 I heard the voice of Jesus say

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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.**

PSALM 26

Of David.

- ¹ Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.
- ² Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and mind.
- ³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you.
- ⁴ I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites;
- ⁵ I hate the company of evildoers, and will not sit with the wicked.
- ⁶ I wash my hands in innocence, and go around your altar, O Lord,
- ⁷ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving, and telling all your wondrous deeds.
- ⁸ O Lord, I love the house in which you dwell, and the place where your glory abides.
- ⁹ Do not sweep me away with sinners, nor my life with the bloodthirsty.
- ¹⁰ those in whose hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes.
- ¹¹ But as for me, I walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me.
- ¹² My foot stands on level ground; in the great congregation I will bless the Lord.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55. 1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the

peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 13. 1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.'

Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."

NOTICES

NOTICES FOR WEEKLY BULLETINS –

please send any messages by the end of a Wednesday to Netty on: beneficeoffice@htboa.org

COPYING, PRINTING, POSTERS – please send to Netty on: beneficeoffice@htboa.org

WEEKLY PRAYERS at noon every Thursday in the Saxon Church for Israel and Palestine using prayer from Sabeel based in Jerusalem, 11.50 - 12.10. Everyone warmly welcome.

COMMUNITY CAFÉ – Wednesdays from 10am-12noon, Holy Trinity will be holding a weekly community café – coffee/tea and biscuits will be provided on a donation basis.

SUE RYDER GRIEF KIND SPACE AT THE HUB runs weekly on Thursdays from 2-4pm. It is a drop-in group so no need to register: just turn up on the day at any time during the 2-hour slot. You can find support and meet other people who are going through a similar experience.

WESTWOOD BELLS - Anne Willis has written a history of Westwood bells which can be found on https://sdgr.org.uk/westwood-bells

A LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS – Wednesday, 26 March, 6pm-6.45pm – a warm welcome and hot drink: readings, music and reflection in the Saxon Church.

LENT COURSES IN WINGFIELD AND WESTWOOD - Please do get in touch with Jenny if you would like to join one of the Lent Courses across the benefice, which run in every week of Lent between the week of March 9th - April 16th. You would be most welcome! There is a course at Holy Trinity on Wednesday mornings, at 10am; a course on Fridays at 2pm at Westwood (please email me for arrangements for that). There is room too for an evening course, for those who may find it challenging to make the daytime courses: please do be in touch with Jenny about this. If you would like to participate in a Lent group in Wingfield, please do let Jenny know. We look forward to seeing you. Yours, Jenny

MESSAGE FROM JENNY - We continue in Lent. How is Lent going for you? Are you managing some space for reflection? I look forward to hearing about that in our conversations. We're enjoying the Lent course at Holy Trinity and the House Group at Westwood, collectively, with 32 from across the Benefice now enjoying our exploration of The Lord's Prayer, deepening our relationship with God in Christ. Thank you to The Revd Canon David Driscoll for leading this week's session at Holy Trinity and for Suzie's considerable support in liaising with resources and prayers. Thank you for your commitment to all our teams and to those who sustain our hospitality and ministry of welcome. Thank you to our teams of bellringers and our brilliant tower captains. All you do as partners in the gospel is much appreciated. Thank you to our generous parishioners who give their time and energy to further God's mission. As we move forward in this new season, may we continue to grow. We place ourselves in God's hands, praying for His grace to bless our work and quide our efforts in His service.



ELECTORAL ROLL AND APCM - Thank you to our Electoral Roll Officers. Please do all sign up for the Electoral Roll. We look forward to your being with us. The Electoral Roll changes every six years, and those who are already on the Electoral renew and refresh their details at this time. If you are new to the community, please do sign up. Thank you. Our work towards the APCMs is underway and we look forward to sharing the details and news of the year to date, as well as looking forwards with everyone. Thank you. Yours Jenny

THIS WEEK @ HT

MORNING PRAYER – Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday @ 8.30am – everyone welcome



MAINLY MUSIC – Tuesday @ 10.30am – fun & friendship for pre-school families (contact Marlene on 864412 if you'd like to come)

SAXON CLUB – Tuesday @ 2.30pm – fun & friendship for 'seniors'.

COMMUNITY CAFE – Wednesday, 10am – 12noon, All welcome.

LENT COURSE – Wednesday, 10am-11.30am

MOTHERS' UNION MEETING – Wednesday @ 2.30pm with Bishop Robert Atwell



FUTURE EVENTS @ HT

TRIO PARADIS CAFÉ CONCERT -

Thursday, 3 April @ 10.45am. April's programme is inspired by the season of spring and includes the recently rediscovered Trio by Austrian Jewish composer Carl Frühling, Gaubert Spring Morning and works by Cécile Chaminade, Ivor Gurney, Frank Bridge and others. Concerts last c45mins. There's no need to book, just turn up early for best seats as these concerts are popular!

FOR OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for all who are sick, remembering especially: Bishop Robert, Lesley & David Chalmers, Betty & Doug Hancock, Mary Needham & Joan Windel.

Pray for all those who mourn and for those who have recently died.

Please *always* let Jenny or Sarah know of any pastoral need – any kind of pain or loss, illness, hospitalisation, loneliness – or simply cause for prayer.

FOR PRAYER THIS WEEK

- Fellowship around the world
- Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Hope for a sustainable future
- The homeless & victims of war
- Discipline of our Lenten journey
- Thanks for the love of mothers & families



We continue to work together in our shared commitment to Safeguarding: 'The Benefice of Bradford on Avon Holy Trinity, Westwood and Windfield takes its

responsibilities surrounding the safeguarding of children, young people, and adults who may be at risk, very seriously. We work in partnership with the Diocese of Salisbury to ensure that we work in accordance with best practices at all times.'

SAFEGUARDING - If you have any Safeguarding concerns please speak to the clergy or our Safeguarding Adviser for the Benefice:

Andrea Unwin 07553161654

Email: aandreab.unwinn@outlook.com
If you are concerned that someone you know
is at risk of or is being abused, or presents a
risk to others, please seek advice from:
safeguarding@salisbury.anglican.org
to speak to a caseworker, or the Diocesan
Safeguarding Advisor
01722 438651 and press option 3

NEXT WEEK – 30 MARCH MOTHERING SUNDAY

Sarah will be retiring on 30 March and we look forward to gathering together at 9.30am in Holy Trinity to give thanks for her ministry with us.

All are welcome

11.15am - Mothering Sunday Service

Readings:

Exodus 2. 1-10 Luke 2. 33-35