



Dear friends,

Last week I was invited to speak to the Mothers Union on the theme of 'Lenten thoughts'. I explored a variety of ways that individuals and groups engage with Lent and then we discussed ways and resources we found help, as we are all different, and God comes to us in different ways.

One practice I find really helpful is Lectio Divina.

In Lectio Divina we repeat words of scripture slowly and prayerfully and allow God to highlight a particular verse and then speak to us particularly about the significance of those words for our lives.



Slowing ourselves down in the presence of the Spirit, is a way of humbly making ourselves available to God and offering ourselves into God's good hands to mould and shape us and be used to build up the Body of Christ to which we belong.

Whilst we come from dust and to dust we return, the Kingdom of God grows from glory into glory and we walk by faith in that confidence.

I find this prayer by Ann Weems helpful on my Lenten journey too.

Lent is a time to take time to let the power of our faith story take hold of us,

A time to let the events get up and walk around in us,

a time to intensify our living unto Christ,

a time to hover over the thoughts of our hearts,

a time to place our feet in the streets of Jerusalem

or to walk along the sea and listen to his Word,

a time to touch his robe and feel the healing surge through us;

a time to ponder and a time to wonder ...

Lent is a time to allow a fresh new taste of God!

Perhaps we're afraid to have time to think, for thoughts come unbidden.

Perhaps we're afraid to face our future knowing our past.

Give us courage, O God, to hear your Word and to read our living into it.

Give us the trust to know we're forgiven and give us the faith to take up our lives and walk.

May God bless you on your Lenten journey.

Ann, Rector

Sunday 26th March

10.00am Holy Communion Service, St James' Church, South Wraxall. Led by Revd. Tim Hawkings, keyboard David Ouston.

10.00am Holy Communion Service, St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh. led by Revd. Paul Batson, organist Keith Bennett.

10.00am Together in Worship service, St Nicholas Church, Winsley. Led by Revd. Ann Keating, Pippa and the music group, IT: Vernon.

10.30am Refresh Service, Christ Church, Bradford on Avon. Led by Cedric and Penny Pierce, Tricia and the music group.

Wednesday 29th March

6.00pm Compline Service, St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh. Led by Revd. Tessa Mann.

Sunday 2nd April—Palm Sunday

10.00am Holy Communion Service, St James' Church, South Wraxall. Led by Revd. Tim Hawkings, organist Keith Bennett.

10.00am Holy Communion Service, St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh. Led by Revd. Paul Batson.

10.00am Holy Communion Service, St Nicholas Church, Winsley. Led by Revd. Ann Keating, Pippa and the music group, IT: Geoff.

10.30am Holy Communion Service, Christ Church, Bradford on Avon. Led by Tessa Mann, organist Richard Thompson.

Monday 3rd April—Monday of Holy Week

6.00pm Compline Service, St James' Church, South Wraxall. Led by Revd. Tessa Mann (please note new time)

Tuesday 4th April—Tuesday of Holy Week

6.00pm A time for reflection with music from Taizé, St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh. Led by Paul Batson.

Wednesday 5th April—Wednesday of Holy Week

8.00pm Tenebrae – from light to dark, Christ Church, Bradford on Avon. Led by Revd. Tim Hawkings.

Thursday 6th April—Maundy Thursday

8.00pm A Service of Holy Communion with hand and foot washing, St Nicholas Church, Winsley. Led by Revd. Ann Keating and Revd. Tessa Mann, organist Keith Bennett, IT Richard M.

Friday 7th April—Friday of Holy Week

2.00pm The last hour, Christ Church, Bradford on Avon. Led by Revd. Ann Keating, organist Richard T.

2.00pm The last hour, St Nicholas Church, Winsley. Led by Revd. Tessa Mann, keyboard: David Ouston, IT Richard M.

2.00pm The last hour, St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh. Led by Revd. Tim Hawkings.

Sunday 9th April—Easter Sunday

10.00am Holy Communion Service, St James' Church, South Wraxall. Led by Revd. Bernard Hughes, organist Keith B.

10.00am Holy Communion Service, jointly with the Methodists, St Nicholas Church, Winsley. Led by Revd. Ann Keating, organist Richard T, IT Cedric P.

10.00am Holy Communion Service, St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh. Led by Revd. Tim Hawkings, keyboard: David Ouston.

10.30am Holy Communion Service, Christ Church, Bradford on Avon. Led by Revd. Tessa Mann, Trisha and the music group.

Wednesday 12th April

6.00pm Compline Service, St Nicholas Church, Winsley. Led by Revd. Tessa Mann.

Sunday 16th April

10.00am Holy Communion Service jointly with Monkton Farleigh, St James' Church, South Wraxall. Led by Revd. Tessa Mann, organist Richard B.

10.00am Refresh Service, St Nicholas Church, Winsley. Led by Revd. Ann Keating, Pippa and the music group, IT Vernon.

Sunday 16th April (continued)

10.30am Holy Communion Service, Christ Church, Bradford on Avon. Led by Revd. Paul Batson, Tricia and the music group.

Funeral of the late Sheila Blethyn

**11am 30th March 2023 Christ Church,
Bradford on Avon**

Led by Fr Tom

Funeral of the late Emma Harrison

**2.00pm 1st April 2023 St Nicholas Church,
Winsley**

Led by Revd. Paul Batson

Funeral of the late Beatrice Kemp

12.15pm 28th March 2023

Haycombe Crematorium

Led by Revd. Ann Keating

Interment of ashes of the late John Martin

11am 1st April 2023

St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh

Led by Revd. Paul Batson

Funeral of the late Olive Kelson

10.45am 4th April 2023

Haycombe Crematorium

12.30pm St Nicholas Church

Led by Revd. Ann Keating

Wedding of Matthew Woodville and Sophie Francis

1pm Saturday 1st April 2023

Christ Church

Led by Revd. Tessa Mann

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS (APCMs)

This year's APCMs will take place in the four parishes, in the relevant church as follows:

Christ Church Bradford on Avon: 7.30pm Wednesday 26th April 2023

St James South Wraxall: To Be Confirmed

St Nicholas Winsley: 11.00 am Tuesday 18th April

St Peters Monkton Farleigh approximately 11am Sunday 23rd April (directly after the service).

As usual, these meetings will elect Churchwardens, PCC Members and this year Deanery Synod Representatives as well as receive the Annual Reports and Accounts. There will be opportunity to discuss the mission and work of the local parish with the Rector and PCC Representatives.

We hope that as many members of the congregations as possible attend their relevant APCM.

Book aid collection

9.30am—11am, Tuesday 25th April 2023

The Rectory, 6 Millbourn Close, Winsley

If you have any religious books/texts that you wish to donate to this charity we will be coordinating a collection for Book aid who donate religious books and bibles to people living in areas of the world where it is difficult to find or afford. The criteria are quite strict and can be found here:

[Donate Books - Book Aid Charitable Trust \(book-aid.org\)](https://www.book-aid.org)

Children & Families News


Good Friday Workshop
on Friday, April 7th at
Christ Church, Bradford on Avon
10.15am till Noon for children and families.

Join us for Easter themed activities, crafts, games, hot cross buns and more. Stay, or drop off your children while you join the Good Friday Walk from Westbury Gardens at 11am*

* please visit nboachurches.co.uk for more information/ or email zyeomans3@gmail.com



Good Friday 7th April
11.00 am Walk of Witness with Churches Together.
Revd. Ann and Revd. Tessa

Meet at Westbury Gardens at 11.00 am, ending at Christ Church for coffee and hot cross buns.

Children's workshop at Christ Church from 10.15am.

Christ Church Ark Toddler Group

Unfortunately the Ark toddler group will be cancelled on Thursday 30th March 2023 but the group will be back to welcome you on Thursday 20th April 2023.

MEN'S NIGHT

7.30 pm Wednesday 19th April 2023 in St Nicholas Church Hall, Winsley

THE LIFE AND EXPLOITS OF CAPTAIN JAMES COOK

A talk by the well-known local speaker, John Salvat. Supper will be a variety of Indian curry dishes (bring your own drink).

Please book with Paul Billingham as soon as possible to pre-order what you want to eat; (pr24bill@aol.com or 01225 722229)

Bell ringing at St Nicholas Church

We would like to increase the size of our team that rings the bells for weddings and major events such as the Coronation. There are just 3 bells and we 'chime' the bells not 'ring' which is probably what you will have seen on TV etc. There are no fixed times for practise although it is usually early evening. If you might be interested, please contact me and I can tell you more.

Alison Wells. Tel: 01225 723714

NewsLink

The next edition of NewsLink will be on **Sunday 16th April 2023**. Please email any relevant contributions to the Benefice Office at nboabenefice@gmail.com by **9.30am Tuesday 11th April 2023**. You can read the full version on our website at www.nboachurches.co.uk

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Christ Church: Hilary and Stephen Pike (782537)
South Wraxall: Dave Wyper (865384)
Valentine Thornhill (862552)
Monkton Farleigh: Rachel and Colin Exley: (851485)

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