



Sunday 1st March 2026

Lent 2

Theme: Welcome questions

Lectionary Readings

Romans 4:1-5,13-17

John 3:1-17

8am Holy Communion

Leader & Preacher: Rev Clare, Zoë and Annabelle
Supported by Alison

10 am All Age Worship

Leader & Preacher: Rev Clare Challis

Welcoming:

Prayers: Zoë

Readings: Daphne

Sound & Vision: John

Prayer Ministry: Mel

Refreshments: Jane & Jan

Thank you to Gill

This Sunday we will be saying a special thank you to Gill for her many years of excellent service as our administrator. Please do come if you are able as we wish her all the best for her future.

THIS WEEK

Monday

9-11am. Little Fishes - A very friendly Toddler group for all pre-school ages and expectant Mums.

Monday Evening Zoom Prayers

7.30pm – 8.15 ish.

Zoom ID 852 8403 5699 Passcode qtPJV

Wednesday

9am Morning Prayer in church.

New Office Opening Arrangements from 5th March

From next week, the Church Office will now be open on Thursday rather than Friday. Same time 9am – 12pm.

Verger Training – 6th March at 1pm

The role of a church verger plays a vital part in making sure that our services and events run smoothly, and provides a welcoming environment for visitors. If you would be interested in learning more about this paid role with a view to joining our verger team, primarily to attend weddings and funerals, we will be running an hour's informal training session on Friday 6th March in the church. Please contact Rev Clare for more information.

Lent Quiet Mornings

Saturday 7th March 9:30am-1pm at St Mary's Buriton

Rev Annie McCabe will be leading a Quiet Morning in the beautiful surroundings of St. Mary's.

Saturday 21st March 9.20am-1pm at St. John's

A further quiet morning here at St John's Church will also be led by Rev Annie.

All are welcome to either morning.

Hunger Brunch - Sunday 8th March

Join us next week for Hunger Brunch following the 10am service. Don't forget to bring cash/cards with you to support Tear Fund.

As well as the **brunch** after the 10am service. The 8am congregation will also be having a **brunch** together 9-10am. All are welcome.

Furniture at the back of church

Please note that will be clearing the section of furniture at the back of the church near the font for a trial period to create a flexible space to be used on a variety of occasions. Please do not replace the chairs without first talking to the vicar or church wardens. Many thanks.

8am Sound System

The 8am service will now use the PA system and microphones for both the leaders and the preacher to enable people to hear the service clearly.

Flower Bed Volunteer(s) Needed

A big thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who lovingly care for the church flower beds - they brighten the space for everyone!

We're currently looking for someone to look after the flower beds in front of the South Door. If you enjoy a bit of gardening and would like to help keep this area looking its best, we'd be delighted to hear from you. Please have a word with Andrew C or Ian if you're interested.



Spring Work Party 14th March

Following the great success of our Autumn Work Party, we're delighted to invite everyone to join us for a Spring Work Party at St John's Church.

Please sign up to the sheet on the table in church, or by the other methods noted below if you are able to help with tidying the churchyard, caring for the grounds and tackling some general maintenance. This year's work party will also prepare the churchyard for the Mothering Sunday Service on Sunday 15th March and the Easter weekend (3rd–5th April), both of which are always well attended and special occasions for our village.

The churchyard and car park are used daily by walkers on the public footpath, families on the school run and visitors to the village, so this is a wonderful opportunity to come together, lend a

hand and make a visible difference for everyone who enjoys this space.

There will be a wide range of jobs to suit all abilities, from light gardening and leaf clearing to small repairs and general maintenance. Following feedback from our last work party, tasks will be broken into manageable sessions, offering flexibility for anyone who can't stay all day or would prefer to work at a gentler pace.

Come for the whole day or just an hour or two — every bit of help really does count.

Refreshments and a light lunch will be provided, along with good company and plenty of fresh air.

When: Saturday 14th March, 9:30am–3:30pm

What to bring: gardening gloves, any tools you may have – particularly wheelbarrows - and a smile!

Sign-up: Please sign up in advance via our website so we know how many people to expect and can plan tasks, tools and refreshments accordingly. Turning up on the day without signing up makes this harder to manage:

Option 1: Sign up via your personal Church Suite account at:

<https://saintjohnschurch.churchsuite.com/my>

Option 2: Use this link to take you straight to the general booking page:

<https://saintjohnschurch.churchsuite.com/events/9kzouxpm>

Option 3: Go to our church website, and sign up at the bottom of the main page:

www.saintjohnschurch.org.uk

Spring Working Party Lunch

If anyone is willing to help with preparing the working party lunch, Marion would be very happy to hear from you.



Monday Maintenance

A group of people already do a wonderful job helping to keep our church and grounds in good order, and we're very thankful for them. We'd love to build on this by inviting a few more people to join

in, so the work can be shared and feel a bit more regular.

We're looking at making Mondays our maintenance day. In the morning, there's time for outdoor jobs while the building is in use with Little Fishes, followed by lunch together around 12 noon, and then an afternoon session from about 1pm before work inside. The emphasis is on the practical, hands-on tasks that help keep everything working well and safe for everyone. You don't need special skills—just a willingness to help and be part of a friendly team. Whether you can come regularly or just now and then, your time would be greatly appreciated. If this sounds like something you might enjoy, please have a word with Andrew C, or get in touch with the church office. We'd love to have you involved.

Church Centre Alarm Upgrade

Over the next few weeks, the security alarm system in the Church Centre will be replaced with a new and updated system. This will help us keep the building secure and ensure everything continues to run smoothly for the many groups and activities that use the space each week.



If you already have a key to the Church Centre, you will need an alarm code and instructions for the

new system, please get in touch with the church office by email (admin@saintjohnschurch.org.uk) or have a word with Andrew C. We'll make sure you have everything you need in good time.

Upcoming Bookings for Church Centre

If you plan to be using the church or church centre please make sure it is booked by emailing the Parish Office, so that we can ensure that there are no clashes of events. Please check the Churchsuite calendar [here](#) for full details of when the church and church centre are occupied.

PRAYER REQUESTS

If anyone has any prayer requests that they wish the whole church family to know about, please email the Parish Office or speak to Rev Clare on Sunday. Please continue to pray for

- Mandy and Terry, as Mandy undergoes chemotherapy.
- Alison and Graham. Graham has been discharged from hospital but is still very poorly and in need of care.
- Thank you to those who have been praying for a mum, caring for her young child and holding down a new job whilst looking after her partner who has been seriously ill in hospital. He is now continuing to recover at home and slowly returning to work.

Please send any news for next week's sheet to the Parish Office by Wednesday
admin@saintjohnschurch.org.uk
