

CHURN BENEFICE



LENT

2025

† THE FASCINATING WORLD OF MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS

Father Jason will be leading a tour around the churches looking at church monuments and the stories they tell. There will also be a short online session earlier in the week using the compline link <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/312446493>



Monday 10th March 7.15pm online and in person on Thursday 13th March 3-4.30pm **St Andrew's Hagbourne**

Monday 17th March 7.15pm online and in person on Thursday 20th March 3-4.30pm **St Mary's Upton**

Monday 24th March 7.15pm online and in person on Thursday 27th March 3-4.30pm **St Michael's Blewbury**

Monday 31st March 7.15pm online and in person on Thursday 3rd April 3-4.30pm **St Michael's Aston Tirrold**

Monday 7th April 7.15pm online and in person on Thursday 10th April 3-4.30pm **All Saints North Moreton**

† CHURCHES TOGETHER LENT GROUP 2025

Led by the Rev. Josie Midwinter and meeting at Jenny Loder's house, 75 Loyd Road in Didcot, on Friday mornings from 10.30 am - 12 noon, beginning on Friday 7 March. We shall be studying the Lent course **Fleeting Shadows: How Christ transforms the darkness** by Malcolm Duncan, exploring and reflecting on the connection between Psalm 23 and Jesus as the Good Shepherd in St John's Gospel. The events around Easter inevitably lead us to reflect on how God can turn darkness into light. Draw closer to God and be reminded that no matter how dark things might seem, God is closer than you think. Contact Jenny on 01235 510199

† HOME GROUP TASTER SESSIONS

with refreshments! Sessions led by Revd Louise on **four** **Ws**

Welcome, Worship, Word and Witness

Wednesday 12th March

Theme: **BEGINNINGS**. *Optional* - bring a photo or memento of your youth

Wednesday 9th April

Theme: **EASTER weekend**. *Optional* - bring a picture or object that tells an Easter Story

TIME: 7.30pm - 9pm

VENUE: The Charity School House, Church Road, Blewbury OX11 9PY by kind permission of Joss & Julia Saunders. If you come by car, please park in the benefice car park and walk to the south side of the church

† **QUIET TIME – ONLINE COMPLINE** Every weekday Monday to Friday at 8pm there is a short online service of reflective night prayer or “compline”. It lasts about 10 minutes and is a wonderful way of winding down at the end of the day. Join <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/312446493>. *There will be 3 in person candle-lit compline services during Holy Week - see back page.*

† **Fellowship during Lent** There will be hot soup lunches served at St Andrew’s Church on Saturdays between 12:30 – 2:00pm during Lent from 8th March – 12th April (inclusive).



The lunch will consist of homemade soup, fresh bread and cheese, fruit and/or cake plus a cup of tea or coffee. The last soup lunch (12 April) will be in aid of Sobell House.

† **Living Hope** is the Church of England’s theme for Lent 2025. Booklets for adults are available in most churches (suggested donation £2.50). Booklets for children (£2) will also be available at St Andrew’s or from Elaine. Add donations to the collection plate.



† **Father Jason’s reflections continue during Lent.** You can sign up for the reflections by emailing the office or read them online at <https://www.churches.co.uk/resources/rectors-reflections/>

Books for Lent – some suggestions

***Searched Me Out and Known Me: Journeying Lent with the Psalms* by Charlie Bell** £10.39 from <https://chbookshop.hymnsam.co.uk/>

Charlie Bell is an Anglican priest and academic clinical fellow in psychiatry. He sums up the aim of this Lenten journey as “to re-situate ourselves within the divine life to which we are called . . .” “This is rich fare, indeed: food for the journey and nourishment for the soul.” - *Review by The Rt Revd Dr John Saxbee*

***Lent and Easter for Everyone: From Wilderness to Glory* by Tom Wright** £9.99 from www.standrewsbookshop.co.uk

Join Tom Wright on a journey through the New Testament as he explores the meaning of Jesus: the highs and lows of his earthly life, the power of his teaching and his victory over sin and death. Tom Wright combines scholarship with an ability to communicate warmly with non-specialist readers.

***A Prayer Book of Days: With saints through the ages* by Gregory Cameron** £11.69 from <https://canterburypress.hymnsam.co.uk/>

Popular author and illustrator Gregory Cameron offers 31 daily prayers from the treasury of Christian spirituality through the centuries. The prayers included some from some giants of the faith – St Augustine, Patrick, St Benedict, Julian of Norwich, Francis of Assisi, Clare – and also lesser known figures right up to recent times who nevertheless left a legacy of prayer that continues to nourish faith and practice today.

Services during Holy Week

Sunday 13th April 2025 - Palm Sunday

9.15am Eucharist: St Mary's Upton

10.30am Eucharist: St Michael's Blewbury

10.30am Online Eucharist

4pm Service of the word: All Saints' N. Moreton

6pm Palm Sunday service with the benefice choir: St Andrew's Hagbourne



Monday 14th April

7.15pm Candle-lit compline: St Michael's Blewbury

8.00pm Online compline

Tuesday 15th April

7.15pm Candle-lit compline: St Michael's Blewbury

8.00pm Online compline

Wednesday 16th April

7.15pm Candle-lit compline: St Michael's Blewbury

8.00pm Online compline

Thursday 17th April - Maundy Thursday

8pm Benefice Eucharist, St Michael's Blewbury with washing of feet and watch, stripping of the altar

8pm Online compline

Friday 18th April - Good Friday

2pm Hour at the Cross: Online

2pm Hour at the Cross: St Andrew's Hagbourne

2pm Hour at the Cross: All Saints' North Moreton

2pm Hour at the Cross: St Michael's Blewbury

8pm Online compline

Sunday 20th April - Easter Day

8am Holy Communion: St Michael's Blewbury

9.15am Eucharist: St Mary's Upton

10.30am Eucharist: St Michael's Aston Tirrold

10.30am Eucharist: St Michael's Blewbury

10.30am Eucharist: St Andrew's Hagbourne

10.30am Eucharist: All Saints' North Moreton

10.30am Eucharist: St John the Baptist South Moreton

10.30am Online service

6pm Service of the word: St Andrew's Hagbourne