



## Parishes of

Alfrick-w-Lulsley; Crown East, Rushwick; Suckley;  
Leigh & Bransford; Lower Teme Valley; Martley and  
Wichenford

## Pew Sheet for 14th January 2024

### 14th January 2024—Epiphany 2

9.00 am Bransford BCP HC (said)

10.30 am Wichenford CW HC

10.30 am Crown East Morning Worship

3.00 pm Knightwick Evening Worship

### 21st January 2024—Epiphany 3

9.00 am Alfrick Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion

10.30 am Suckley Morning Worship

10.30 am Broadwas Common Worship Holy Communion

10.00 am Martley Café Church

6.00 pm Leigh Evensong

### 28th January 2024—Epiphany 4

9.00am Alfrick Common Worship Holy Communion

10.30 am Martley Common Worship Holy Communion

10.30 am Broadwas Morning Worship

10.30 am Crown East Common Worship Holy Communion

4.00 pm Cotheridge Evensong

### 4th February 2024—2nd Sunday before Lent

10.30 am Leigh Common Worship Holy Communion

10.30am Martley Common Worship Holy Communion

10.30 am Broadwas Worship for all

4.00 pm Suckley Informal Worship

6.00pm Alfrick Evensong

## **Collect for the Second Sunday of Epiphany**

Eternal Lord, our beginning and our end: bring us with the whole creation to your glory, hidden through past ages and made known in Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Readings for the Second Sunday of Epiphany**

1 Samuel 3.1-10[11-20], Psalm 139.1-5,12-18\*, Revelation 5.1-10, John 1.43-51

## **Encouraging Generosity in 2024**

Now we are in January and the busy-ness of Christmas has come to an end, many churches begin planning for the year ahead. Making sure that generosity and stewardship are a part of that plan can be very important in helping your church and community to go forward with confidence this year, improving health and sustainability. The Diocese has produced some advice that might help.

For further details see here:

<https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/encouraging-generosity-in-2024.php>

## **Act on Poverty this Lent**

As the UK gears up for a much-anticipated General Election, Christian Aid has formed a new partnership with churches and other organisations - including the Baptist Union, Methodist Church, United Reformed Church, Church Action on Poverty, and the Trussell Trust.

Together, they have launched a course called Act on Poverty.

More details can be found here: <https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/act-on-poverty-this-lent.php>

## **Communicating with God—An article by Archdeacon Mark**

Part of our calling as Christians is to constantly examine and deepen our relationship with ourselves, the Gospel and with God, I suppose you could say to continually develop our communication skills. You could say that God is the most effective communicator there is, because if we are tuned in right – God can communicate to us through everything that exists. The Jewish writer Martin Buber points this out in his book *I and Thou*, he wrote that ‘every “thou” is a gateway through to the Eternal Thou’ – for him a tree was just as much a ‘thou’ as a cat or a human being.

The traditional Christian word for the communication between God and human beings is of course Prayer. But so often we find it hard to pray, particularly in the light of all the world's problems! So how do we do it? What do we say?

I'm reminded of a tale I heard about an old man who has gone into the local church each and every day for many years, not a religious man, yet without fail he was there. One day his mate says to him.

*Ere Alf, what do ya when ya goes into Church?*

*He says – I pray*

*What do ya say*

*He says, I don't say nothin*

*What do ya do then?*

*Well – I just sits there and looks at im and he looks at me,*

Unknowingly that old man had a very special prayer life- one based on giving time to gaze and listen. When we get right down to it, prayer is not about place, posture or eloquence. Prayer is essentially about being together with God and if our relationship with God is to grow, then just as in our earthly relationships, we need to make time to be in God's presence and of course we need to listen!

This making time and taking time to listen is at the heart of our Christian discipleship and there have been many tomes written in order to help Christians to make time, to listen and to pray. One writer of such books is Sister Lavinia Byrne. 'Listening is all' she says; 'and we can listen anywhere, in stillness or in the reality of the business of everyday life. But listen!'

## **Opening times of church buildings for private prayer**

**Crown East** - Closed

**Suckley**— Open 10am to 5pm Weds, Sat and Sun in term time, and daily in the holidays

**Alfrick** - Everyday

**Leigh** - Everyday 10am - 4pm

**Broadwas** - Everyday 11am—5pm

**Cotheridge** - Everyday 9am - 5pm

**Wichenford** Everyday 10am—4pm

**Martley** - Everyday

## **Contact details for the Clergy:-**

Team Rector:

Rev Anne Potter 01886 832355 [revannepotter@gmail.com](mailto:revannepotter@gmail.com).

Team Curate:

Rev Sally Knowles, 07702 727449 [sallyp88@btinternet.com](mailto:sallyp88@btinternet.com)

Assistant Priests

Rev Jennifer Whittaker 01886 833897 [jenmwhittaker@icloud.com](mailto:jenmwhittaker@icloud.com)

Rev Mike Gardner 01905 957266 or 07546112841

[revd.mike@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:revd.mike@yahoo.co.uk)

If you have an administration query or would like something added to A Church Near You please contact

Alison Khan on 07984 748059 or [leighrectory@outlook.com](mailto:leighrectory@outlook.com)

For those of you with computers, iPads or other such 'modern technology' you will continue to find worship through our youtube [wwrtlive1](#)

Other information can be found on individual church pages on A Church Near You and our Facebook pages [www.facebook.com/Worcesterwestruralteam](http://www.facebook.com/Worcesterwestruralteam) [www.facebook.com/suckleychurch](http://www.facebook.com/suckleychurch)