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## Glossop Parish Church of All Saints Newsletter: February 2026

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God of all blessing,  
in Christ you open for us a new way of living:  
purge us of our easy acceptance of the ways of the world,  
and forge in us the radical vision of your reign,  
that your will may be done on earth as in heaven;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

*COLLECT OF THE DAY for the 4th Sunday of Epiphany*

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### Vicar's Voice

As I write I am away for a few days in the Glencoe region of Scotland. Today the weather is wild—driving rain and storm-force winds—so I'm indoors enjoying the warmth and peace. Yesterday, by contrast, it was better and I had a good walk over the snow-covered mountains. The beauty was breath-taking; but climbing icy slopes and walking over steep sided ridges, sometimes buffeted by 50mph gusts of wind, was also a reminder of how fragile life can feel. The fact is that we never quite know what lies ahead or what challenges will meet us on the path.

As we move into February, the Church marks the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. Mary and Joseph bring the infant Jesus to be offered to God, an act full of hope and dedication. Yet the moment is made more profound by Simeon's words. He recognises Jesus as the light for all people, the one who brings salvation. But he also speaks honestly about the cost of that light—the struggles, the revealing, the piercing truth that will shape Jesus' life and the lives of those who follow him.

Our own journeys hold that same mixture of beauty and uncertainty. Perhaps Candlemas invites us to pay attention to the opportunities we have now: to bring light where we can, to shape our communities with compassion, and to live more fully into the values of God's Kingdom, whatever the weather around us may be.

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## Services

Sunday 1st February

**Candlemas** - Foodbank Sunday - Parish Eucharist 10.30 am

Wednesday 4th February

Mid-week Eucharist 9.30 am

Sunday 8th February

Racial Justice Sunday - Parish Eucharist 10.30 am

Wednesday 11th February

Mid-week Eucharist 9.30 am

Sunday 15th February

Parish Eucharist 10.30 am

Wednesday 18th February

Mid-week Eucharist 9.30 am

Ash Wednesday Eucharist 7.00 pm

Sunday 22nd February

Parish Eucharist 10.30 am

Wednesday 25th February

Mid-week Eucharist 9.30 am

**The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas) - Feb 1st** (from Common Worship intro to season): The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany 'The Feast of the Presentation (Candlemas). The child who has been manifested to the magi at his birth is now recognised by Simeon and Anna, when he comes to be presented in the Temple according to the Law of Israel. He is both 'a light to lighten the Gentiles' and 'the glory of God's people Israel'. But the redemption he will bring must be won through suffering; the

Incarnation is directed to the Passion; and Simeon's final words move our attention away from the celebration of Christmas and towards the mysteries of Easter.'

***Home Communion:*** *If you know of anyone who would like to receive Holy Communion in their own home, please contact a member of the ministry team.*

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## Lent

**Lent (the 40 days before Easter) is a journey of pausing, breathing, and making space for God.**

Lent is a Christian annual period that starts on Ash Wednesday lasting for 40 days (not including Sundays) representing the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness. This 40 day period for Christians is a time to reflect, fast, and give penance in preparation for the resurrection of Christ Easter Sunday.

### **Is Lent 40 days?**

Lent for Christians starts on Ash Wednesday and ends on either the evening of Maundy Thursday or on sun-down of Holy Saturday (day before Easter Sunday). However the practices of Lent do not end until sun-down on Holy Saturday for all Christian denominations. So it is 44 days from Ash Wednesday to Maundy Thursday and another two days with Good Friday and Holy Saturday added to give a total of 46 days for Lent. But Sundays are excluded from fasting during Lent and with 6 Sundays removed from the count we get lent being a 40 day liturgical period.

During Lent. there will be study groups offering the opportunity to explore our faith together. They will be looking at the Gospel of Matthew, which is the basis of our weekly Sunday readings.

The groups will meet as follows:

10.30am on Saturdays in **Old Glossop Vicarage** from 21st February for 5 weeks.

3.00pm on Sundays in **St Andrews Church** from 22nd February for 5 weeks

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## Action in Lent

**THE BIG LENT WALK - 200KM IN 40 DAYS FOR LIFE-SAVING WATER**

**Are you ready for a challenge this Lent?**

**Walk anytime, anywhere for 40 days – raise funds for life-saving water.**

As in previous years we are joining with our walking group to support Cafod who are raising funds for life-saving water.

You can either register individually with Cafod to record your own steps and make a donation or do as we have previously be part of the group and make a donation.

The ladies walking group will note their distances collectively.

Let's see what we can achieve together, calling all dog walkers and people who walk for fun to record your steps and make a donation.

### [The Big Lent Walk 2026](#)

<https://parishes.walk.cafod.org.uk/teams/glossop-ecumenical-churches-together>

This fulfils the second mark of mission: To respond to human need by loving service.

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### [A Rocha UK's Easy Eco Tips 2026](#)

#### **FEBRUARY**

This Lent, take part in Climate Steward's Carbon Fast. Lent is a time when Christians traditionally fast and focus on God. The Carbon Fast will help you consider ways to live more simply, give you new ideas to cut your carbon footprint and invite you to focus on God and consider the whole of his creation. Beginning on 5 March, you'll receive a weekly email containing key facts, suggestions for how you could reduce your carbon footprint and a prayer to lead you through this Lenten season. Each week features a different theme designed to help us take climate action in manageable ways that bear witness to a God who has promised to restore all of his creation. Find out more and sign up at

[climatestewards.org/resources/carbon-fast/](https://climatestewards.org/resources/carbon-fast/)

This fulfils the fifth mark of mission: To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

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## Imbolc (Saint Brigid's Day)

**1st Feb 2026**

Imbolc is a Gaelic traditional festival marking the start of spring, and for Christians is the feast day of Saint Brigid, Ireland's patroness saint. Held on the 1st February, about halfway between the winter solstice and the spring equinox.

**Imbolc Celtic Gathering - Saturday 31st January - 4.00pm All Saints Glossop**

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## February 8th Racial Justice Sunday

Racial Justice Sunday takes place on 8th February. It is a day for churches to reflect on racial justice, celebrate diversity, and commit to ending racism and discrimination. This year's theme, "Love Your Neighbour", calls us to live out Christ's love in practical, courageous ways.

Find ideas and resources here [↓](#)

<https://www.manchester.anglican.org/racial-justice-sunday->

This fulfils the fourth mark of mission: To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation.

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## Show the Love

♥ Save the date! ♥ Show the Love is back on 14 February 2026

Every February, people across the UK make and share green hearts to show what's at the heart of the future they want to protect. This year, we're coming together again – to

celebrate the places we live, the people we love, and the progress already happening across our communities.

On 14 February, we'll invite you to send a green heart to your politician: a simple act of care that shows what matters most in your community.

Full details coming soon. For now, pop the date in your diary and get ready to Show the Love. 

Green Christian are encouraging everyone to do three things :

1. Get all our churches praying for climate and nature on Sunday 15 February – we are putting together a new page of prayers for you to use so check back soon
2. Ask church members to email their MPs – all you need to do that is coming soon
3. Get a group together to make green hearts, or postcards, to post to our MPs, calling for care of climate and nature – info and suggested text coming soon

[Show The Love - The Climate Coalition](#)

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### Coffee morning for Swift Project - Glossop Parish Church - 21st February 10.00-12.00noon

We are hosting a coffee morning on February 21st 10.00 - 12.00 noon.  
Proceeds in aid of Old Glossop Swift Box Fundraiser.

Tea, coffee and delicious cakes.

Update on Swifts and wildlife in Old Glossop last year.

Proceeds to Old Glossop SWIFTS & WILDLIFE PROJECT.

Please support and find out more.

British birds are short of nesting holes, and there are many reasons why. Anyone with a garden can help by putting a nestbox, which will attract interesting birds to your garden too. This week is devoted to encouraging people to put up nestboxes.

This fulfils the fifth mark of mission: To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

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### Ladies Walking Group

Monica and Sue used to walk together and often talk about their churches and faiths and whether they should start a walking group and, one day, they did. It was always informal and open to everyone of faith or not.

The Ladies Walking group is now celebrating its 20th anniversary.

This group has been a life-line to many women through the dark times in their lives, just somewhere to go, someone to talk to, someone who may just listen, no questions asked.

There are many that have walked with us and we now love but see no longer.

The walking group has always supported our coffee afternoons in aid of Fairtrade and Christian Aid.

The group meet every Tuesday, outside the Parish Church at 12.30pm.

Walks end with a cup of tea or coffee.

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### News from the Bellringers

On the afternoon of January 4th, the Sunday closest to the feast of Epiphany, the bell ringers rang a Quarter Peal, the first by a mostly tower band in a very long time. This was a moment of huge excitement for all the ringers at the tower, for such a feat has not been attempted, let alone attained by the tower band for at least half a century.

Quarter Peals are a recognised achievement in the world of bell ringing. A record of them is still publicly kept, and they are published by the main ringing journal, *The Ringing World*. Today they are probably the most common way of celebrating ringing, and approximately 420 Quarter Peals were rung last year across the county of Derbyshire, and about 16,000 nationally in the UK.

To ring a Quarter Peal demands a series of 1,260 unique changes among the bells, and usually takes around 45 minutes to complete, without interruption. Each Quarter Peal follows a couple of clear rules, well known to ringers, but few outside of ringing circles, of which the main ones are: the ringing has to start and end in what is called 'rounds', the bells sounding 1-2-3-4-5-6; in-between those rows of rounds, each row of the 1,260 'changes' cannot be repeated; and all of this has to be rung from memory, without visual aids.

Our Quarter Peal of Plain Bob Minor—a well-known method—lasted about 50 minutes, and was rung on the 'back bells', the heaviest of our quite heavy 8 bells. Father David

rang the Tenor, as well as conducted us through the performance, calling the other bells into position. Upon leaving the church at 4pm, having drafted a dedication to accompany the performance, the six ringers, emerged into the dusk, elated, relieved, and amid a light dusting of early January snow.

It might interest to know that the longest peal ever rung at All Saints' Glossop took place in 1885 and consisted of 10,176 changes (of Kent Treble Bob), lasting over 6 hours. I suspect it will have to remain for at least another half century before that record is matched.

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## **Tubs2pubs**

Congratulations we have saved nearly 400 plastic tubs from landfill.

Glossop Parish Church has been the collection hub for these tubs and church members, local community and the wider community have all contributed to this amazing collection. Thank you.

All proceeds from the recycled plastic tubs will be donated to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Greene King pubs are collecting these tubs Nationwide.

Over the past five years, Tub2Pub has collected 26,253 kg of plastic—that's around 230,000 tubs—raising £23,908 for our charity partner, Macmillan Cancer Support. You can find out more about our work with Macmillan.

[Tub2Pub | Greene King for Good](#)

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## **Recital in aid of A Rocha — Sunday, 1st March**

Adrienne Pyne, SOPRANO Sarah Keith, MEZZO SOPRANO, Stephanie Leung, PIANO

**Join us at Glossop Parish Church**  
Church Street South, Glossop, SK13 7RU  
on **Sunday 1 March 2026 at 4:00pm**

Admission to the Recital is free, and donations are in aid of A Rocha, a Christian charity working to protect and restore the natural world. An important aspect of the work of A

Rocha in the UK is the Eco Church programme which equips churches to care for creation.

Please Join us after the concert for tea and cake.

Donations in aid of ARochaUK - Eco Church.

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## A Rocha UK

Ten years ago, Eco Church was launched together by us, the Church of England, Methodists, URC, Tearfund and Christian Aid!

In that time, over 9000 churches have got involved - that's around 23% of churches across England and Wales! Over 4,500 churches have achieved Eco Church awards, demonstrating their commitment to care for creation. If your church isn't yet one of them, it's free and easy to register on our website.

We're going to be celebrating throughout the year and looking at the impact Eco Church is having. Look out for more information to come, with some key regional events and services, and resources to help you share and celebrate your church's Eco Church journey.

[A Rocha UK – Caring for creation](#)

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## Easy fundraising

Help raise much needed funds for Glossop Parish Church.

When you shop online with participating retailers, they'll donate part of what you spend to your chosen cause. Whether you shop on your phone, laptop or tablet, you can earn free cashback donations for your cause.

[Glossop Parish Church Fundraising | Easyfundraising](#)

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***Home Communion:*** *If you know of anyone who would like to receive Holy Communion in their own home, please contact a member of the ministry team.*

### **Ministry Team**

**VICAR:** The Revd David Ridley  
(davidridley@btopenworld.com)  
Tel: 07887 880272

**Honorary Assistant Priest:**  
The Revd Norman Shaw

### **Readers:**

John Roberts  
Margaret Roberts  
Vince Ryder

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For more information about our activities please see A Church Near You.

St Andrew's, Hadfield  
<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13287/>

All Saints', Glossop  
<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13286>

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For ***Peace and Quiet*** and more information of events, please visit:  
[A Church Near You, Glossop Parish Church of All Saints.](#)

Peace and Quiet is offered online as an opportunity, whenever you need it, to take time out from the daily tasks, worries and fears which are our common experiences of life. Through words, music and pictures we encourage a time of calm 'mindfulness' and renewed hope.

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### **The Middle East Crisis**

The Archbishop of Jerusalem, Hosam Naoum has offered us this prayer:

*O God of all justice and peace, we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land. Be with those who*

*need you in these days of suffering; we pray for people of all faiths – Jews, Muslims and Christians and for all people of the land. While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment of peace, we also call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples. Guide us into your kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and honour as your children – for to all of us, you are our heavenly father. In Jesus' name Amen*

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