



# St Peter's Church Magazine



February 2026 issue ❖ 75p (£7 subscription for one year)  
St Peter's Church, Newlands Avenue, Didcot ❖ [www.stpeters-didcot.org.uk](http://www.stpeters-didcot.org.uk)  
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## Lent at Pooh Corner. By Rev'd Hannah Reynolds

Do you remember the Winnie the Pooh books? Kanga's insistence on Baby Roo's taking his Strengthening Medicine Kanga: "it's really quite a nice taste when you get used to it", she explained, although Baby Roo might not have agreed.

It can be helpful to think of Lent as a sort of medicine; an opportunity to strengthen us in the things that are good, rein in other facets of our personality, and reset the compass to the true North of following Jesus. A Spring-clean of the soul, if you like.

Baby Roo (and poor Piglet on the occasion he was used as a substitute to trick Kanga, when Rabbit tried to kidnap Baby Roo) found Strengthening Medicine not to their liking; we may groan inwardly at the thought of giving up something we enjoy for Lent. Think of what lies behind our Lenten 'giving up'. It's so that we may be strengthened, our character refined, our prejudices examined, our rubbish taken out, so that we come to Passiontide and Easter more fit

to walk the way of the Cross, and rise to new life with Jesus at His Resurrection.

Lent isn't just a case of giving up chocolate. One year I gave up Instagram for Lent, having spent far too much time scrolling through it. The time away from Instagram freed me to do other, more constructive things. If you can't think of something constructive to give up, why not take up something you've been meaning to do but never got round to; something life-affirming, something good for God.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which this year falls on 18<sup>th</sup> February. Many Christians go public with their intention to keep a good Lent by being "ashed" receiving the sign of the Cross the forehead in a mixture of ash and water. The ash is made from the burnt remains of the palm crosses from last year. Having been ashed, the intention of the 40 days of Lent is to maintain a steady course, closer to God, symbolised by the giving up of something (chocolate,

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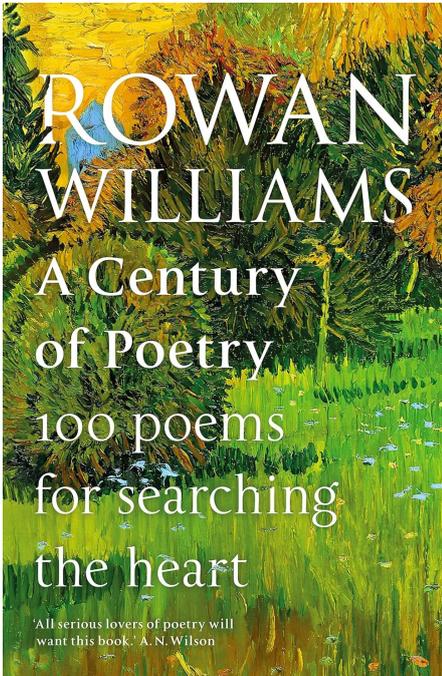
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caffeine, Social Media) which has a hold on us, or by taking up a spiritual practice. We walk with Jesus on the way of the Cross, mindful of the 'riches of God's kindness, forbearance and patience' as St Paul has it [Romans 2:4], and mindful too of Jesus' choice of the Cross as a way for us to enter those riches.

To face the immensity of Christ's sacrifice, and the immensity of God's riches made available to us in Jesus, we need all the Strengthening Medicine we can get.

Our Tuesday evening Lent Group is using Bishop Steven's 'Come and See' materials. See Tim Scane for more information.



Our Monday evening Lent Group is using Rowan Williams' book 'A Century of Poetry: 100 Poems for Searching the Heart.' Each member will pick one or two of the poems and Rowan's commentary to start a discussion. Starting 23<sup>rd</sup> February, at 7.30pm in church. See Revd Hannah for more information.

(I have one copy that can be borrowed if wanted).



## Discovering Jesus through the Eucharist

Explore the profound meal at the heart of Christian life - whether you're new to Christianity or have been coming to church for years.

Each Lent, we delve into a new aspect of Christian faith - **this year we're looking at the Eucharist - or Holy Communion.** It's perfect for new and old Christians alike,

The 'Come and See' Lent Group will be starting on Tuesday, 24th February.

We will meet in the Narthex, between 7:30 and 8:30pm.

Bishop Steven sets the scene, each week, with a short video, which we then discuss.

For more information speak to Tim, Anita or Alan

Everyone Welcome



# St Peter's Church Quiz & Chips

## Dates for 2025-26

2026  
21<sup>st</sup> February  
18<sup>th</sup> April  
16<sup>th</sup> May  
20<sup>th</sup> June

Contact [quiz@stpeters-didcot.org.uk](mailto:quiz@stpeters-didcot.org.uk), or Hugh on  
01235 811465.

The 2025/26 Quiz season resumed after Christmas with a good turn out in January.

The Quiz was again won by Gangreen (pictured here), with The Heretics just pipping The Choir for second place.

Do get in touch if you'd like to join in the February Quiz—there is still room for a few more teams.

In addition to the Fish and Chip Supper, there is a bar, which now serves beer from the local brewery, Love Beer, which is proving very popular!

There was an interesting talk by Andrew, from the Charity of the Month, Didcot Food Bank.

He spoke about the numbers of families using the Food Bank each month, and how they were referred to them.

His expressed his gratitude for the support the people of Didcot and our church had provided. This month we raised just over £400 for them.



## Prayer Intentions: February 2026

<p><b>1st: Candlemas</b> Readings: Psalm 48; Exodus 13: 1-16; Romans 12: 1-5.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Loyd Road; Elder Close. Those who read the Scriptures in Church.</p>	<p><b>2nd:</b> Readings: Psalm 1, 2, 3; Hosea 9; 1 Corinthians 12: 12-end.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Cockcroft Road; Mowbray Road. Willowcroft, Northbourne and Didcot Primary Schools, St Birinus School, their staff and pupils.</p>	<p><b>3rd: Anskar</b> Readings: Psalm 5, 6; Hosea 10; 1 Corinthians 13.</p> <p>9th Century Archbishop of Hamburg-Bremen. He was responsible for renewing Christianity in N. Europe.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Barnes Road, Barnes Close. The work of the Mothers’ Union worldwide.</p>	<p><b>4th: Gilbert</b> Readings: Ps 119: 1-32; Hosea 11: 1-11; 1 Corinthians 14: 1-19.</p> <p>Founder of the Gilbertine Order of double monasteries, initially based at his parish in Lincolnshire.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Edwin Road. Wednesday Church for adults with learning disabilities and their carers..</p>
<p><b>5th:</b> Readings: Pss 14, 15, 16; Hosea 11: 12-end of 12; 1 Corinthians 14: 20-end.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Green Road; Green Close. Those who put together the Church magazine and weekly news-sheets.</p>	<p><b>6th: Martyrs of Japan</b> Readings: Psalm 17, 19; Hosea 13: 1-14; 1 Corinthians 16: 1-9.</p> <p>More than 200 Japanese and other Christians were executed for their faith in 1597 &amp; following years.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Royal Berkshire Close; Beech Lane. Our Director of Music and the choir.</p>	<p><b>7th:</b> Readings: Psalm 20, 21, 23; Hosea 14; 1 Corinthians 16: 10-end.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Queensway; Hardings Strings. Those who are housebound and those who care for them.</p>	<p><b>8th: 2 before Lent</b> Readings: Pss 100, 150; Job 38: 1-21; Colossians 1: 15-20.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Tavistock Avenue; Bowness Avenue. Our Sides-people and Welcomers.</p>
<p><b>9th:</b> Readings: Psalm 27, 30; 2 Chronicles 9: 1-12; John 19: 1-16.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Warner Crescent; Morse Road. Pebbles Baby Church.</p>	<p><b>10th: Scholastica</b> Readings: Psalm 32, 36; 2 Chronicles 10: 1-11: 4; John 19: 17-30.</p> <p>Sister of St Benedict and Abbess at a convent near to her brother’s monastery at Monte Cassino.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> South Park Avenue; Downs Road. Wantage Convent and the sisters at Cuddesdon.</p>	<p><b>11th:</b> Readings: Psalm 34; 2 Chronicles 12; John 19: 31-end.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Newlands Avenue; Larch Drive. The former community of Alton Abbey and those living the Religious Life elsewhere.</p>	<p><b>12th:</b> Readings: Psalm 37; 2 Chronicles 13: 1-14: 1; John 20: 1-10.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Glebe Rd; Lynmouth Rd. Those who keep the church and grounds clean and tidy.</p>
<p><b>13th:</b> Readings: Psalm 31 2 Chronicles 14: 2-end; John 20: 11-18.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Craven Way; Hillary Drive; Lockinge Close. The Quiz and Chips Team.</p>	<p><b>14th: Cyril &amp; Methodius</b> Readings: Psalm 41, 42, 43; 2 Chronicles 15: 1-15; John 20: 19-end.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Cullen Place; Hanover Court. Theologians and those who teach and train our clergy.</p>	<p><b>15th: Next before Lent</b> Readings: Psalm 72; Exodus 34: 29-end; Matthew 17: 1-9.</p> <p>Born in England, Sigfrid was a Benedictine monk and 11th Century missionary to Sweden.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Clarence Pl; Frideswide’s Court. Those who provide after service refreshments.</p>	<p><b>16th:</b> Readings: Psalm 44; Jeremiah 1; John 3: 1-21.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Wantage Road; Colbourne Road. St Peter’s Outreach to the community.</p>

## Prayer Intentions: February 2026

<p><b>17th: Janani Luwum</b> Readings: Psalm 48, 52; Jeremiah 2: 1-13; John 3: 22-end.</p> <p>Archbishop of Uganda 1974-1977, and one of the most influential Church leaders in Africa, he was murdered by Idi Amin's regime.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Barleyfields; Elbourne. Persecuted Christians throughout the world.</p>	<p><b>18th: Ash Wednesday</b> Readings: Psalm 38; Daniel 9: 3-6, 17-19; 1 Timothy 6: 6-19.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Drake Avenue; Collingwood Avenue. That all at Peter's might have a holy Lent.</p>	<p><b>19th:</b> Readings: Psalm 77; Jeremiah 2: 14-32; John 4: 1-26.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Park Road; Park Close. The work of Train and ECHO Trust with young people in the area.</p>	<p><b>20th:</b> Readings: Psalm 3, 7; Jeremiah 3: 6-22; John 4: 27-42.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Garden Close; Rutherford Place. Didcot Library, its users and the staff who provide such essential services.</p>
<p><b>21st:</b> Readings: Psalm 71; Jeremiah 4: 1-18; John 4: 43-end.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Norreys Road; Norreys Close. The International Café, Dorcas Dress Project and First Steps Baby Bank.</p>	<p><b>22nd: Lent I</b> Readings: Ps 50: 1-15; Romans 5: 12-19; Matthew 4: 1-11.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Meadow Way; Brunel Road. Our Sunday School leader and supporters.</p>	<p><b>23rd: Polycarp</b> Readings: Psalm 10, 11; Jeremiah 4: 19-end; John 5: 1-18.</p> <p>Thought to be a disciple of John the Apostle, who consecrated him Bishop of Smyrna. One of the three greatest Apostolic Fathers. Martyred c155.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Portway; Wheatfields. Didcot Police Station, our PCSOs.</p>	<p><b>24th:</b> Readings: Psalm 44; Jeremiah 5: 1-19; John 5: 19-29.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Cromwell Drive; St Ann's Court. Didcot Community Hospital, all who use the facilities and who work there.</p>
<p><b>25th:</b> Readings: Psalm 6, 17; Jeremiah 5: 20-end; John 5: 30-end.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> St Hilda's Close; St Hugh's Rise. Those who prepare intercessions and lead us in prayer in our worship.</p>	<p><b>26th:</b> Readings: Psalm 42, 43; Jeremiah 6: 9-21; John 6: 1-15.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Campion Hall Drive; Pebble Drive. Our communications team, and those posting to our Facebook page.</p>	<p><b>27th: George Herbert</b> Readings: Psalm 22; Jeremiah 6: 22-end; John 6: 16-27.</p> <p>Metaphysical Poet and Anglican priest (died of TB, aged 39).</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Stonesfield; Mansfield Gardens. Our Church Wardens.</p>	<p><b>28th:</b> Readings: Psalm 59, 63 ; Jeremiah 7: 1-10; John 6: 27-40.</p> <p><b>Prayer intentions:</b> Linacre Close; Balliol Drive. Didcot Emergency Food bank and its volunteers, clients and supporters.</p>



New members are always warmly welcomed to join (first visit is 'free to see') and chat over tea and biscuits at the monthly meetings are held on the **third Tuesday of every month** for this nationwide self-help teaching and learning organisation in the **Didcot Civic Hall, meetings start 2:30 pm.**

**Meetings for the coming months in 2026 will include;**

**February 17th** - Women and the Victorian Army - Dan Allen

**March 17th** - 'On top but never in control!' a talk from botanist by Timothy Walker about gardening.

**April 21st** - A talk from a former forensic expert - Haley

For further information concerning all matters u3a and wishing to 'Learn, Laugh, Live' . . . then go to the **NEW WEBSITE:** [didcot.u3asite.uk](http://didcot.u3asite.uk)

**'Learn, Laugh, Live!'**

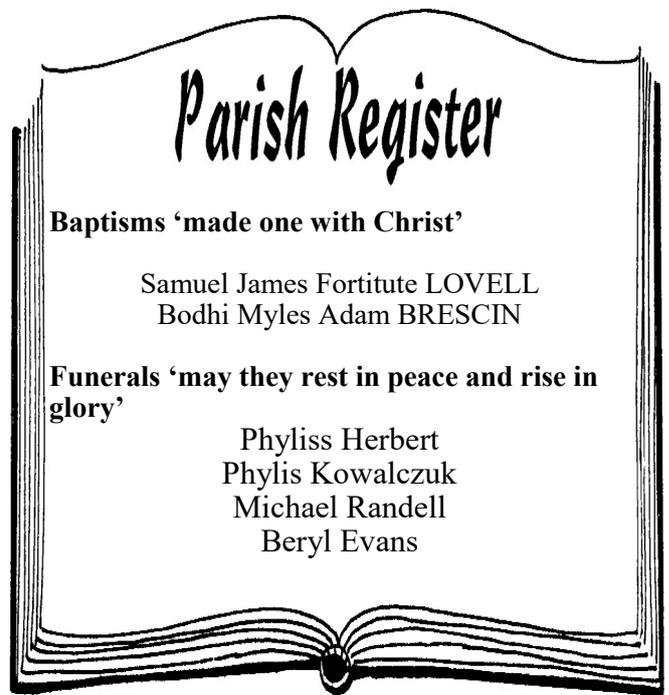
**Thank you all once again for your support throughout 2025 !**

## Portrait

A teacher told her young class of children to try and draw the portrait of someone they knew. While they worked, she walked about, keeping an eye on their progress.

One little girl was working diligently, and the teacher asked who she was drawing. The child replied: "I'm drawing God."

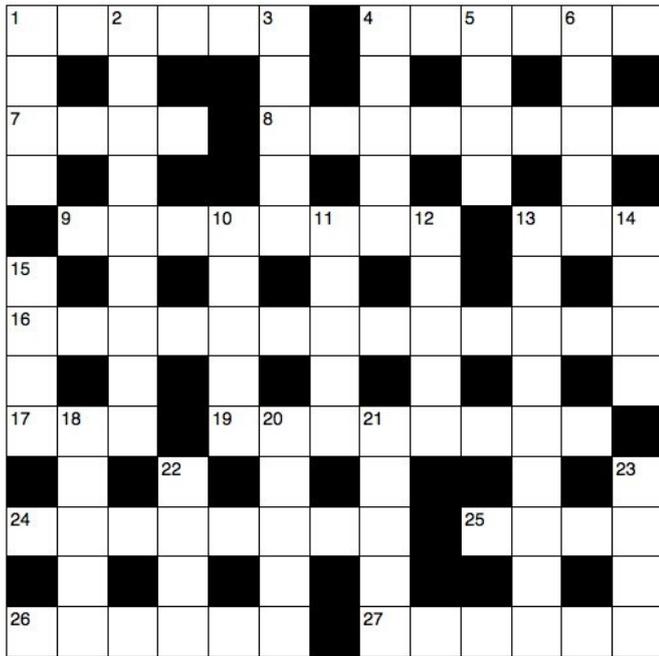
The teacher protested that no one knows what God looks like. Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."



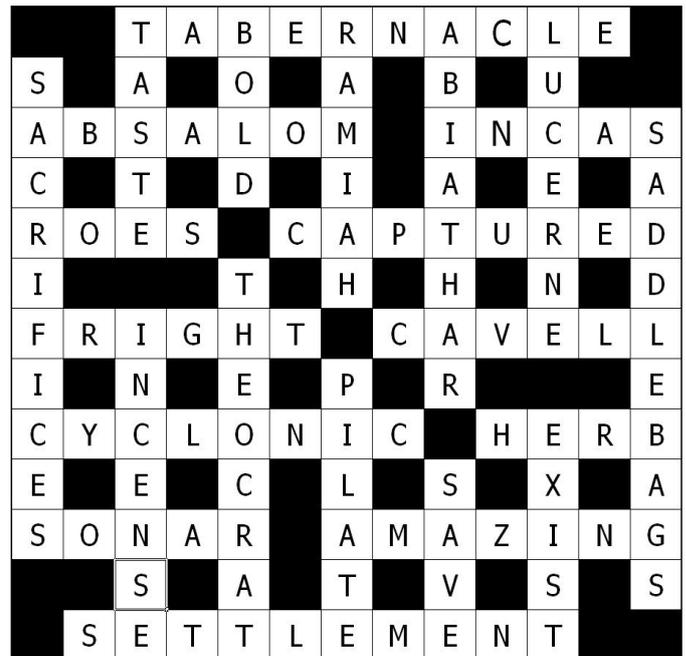
## Year's Mind for February

- |    |                   |    |                        |
|----|-------------------|----|------------------------|
| 1  | Frank Allen       | 19 | Clive Hawyres          |
|    | Ethel Bridgewater |    | Gwendoline             |
|    | June Edwards      |    | Brocklehurst           |
|    | Fred Snell        |    | Reginald Darby         |
|    | Dorothy Allen     |    | Florence Burrows       |
| 2  | Magdalene Purdy   |    | Frederick McIntyre     |
|    | George Lewington  |    | Gwen Lewis             |
|    | Arthur Oliver     |    | Edith Milton           |
|    | Leslie Bateman    | 20 | Albert Gurry           |
| 3  | Alice Large       |    | Linda North            |
|    | Eva Cobb          |    | Winifred Archer        |
| 4  | Audrey Cooke      |    | Alfred (Jim) Griffiths |
|    | Arthur Burge      |    | Alan Marshall          |
| 5  | Charles Talbot    | 21 | Mabel Akers            |
|    | Linda Charlton    |    | Lilian Hayter          |
|    | William Turner    |    | Norman Dance           |
| 6  | Elsie Cox         |    | Edwin Marks            |
| 7  |                   | 22 | Peter Walker           |
| 8  | Marjorie Palmer   |    | Kathleen Glenn         |
|    | Ronald Tredwell   |    | Norman Warwick         |
|    | Axel Johansen     | 23 | Edna Barnes            |
| 9  | Amy Hemmings      |    | Eva Brown              |
| 10 | David Griffiths   |    | Tina Talmange          |
| 11 | Jason Belcher     |    | Florence Taylor        |
| 12 | Geoffrey Clarke   |    | Gordon Soul            |
|    | Ian Whittern      | 24 | Rose Fernback          |
| 13 | Alfred Burrows    |    | Ian Humphries          |
|    | Brenda Wells      |    | Robert Jepson          |
|    | Victor Polley     |    | Mary Potter            |
| 14 | Eric Rees         |    | Philip Humphreys       |
|    | Lydia Robinson    |    | Enid Pointer           |
|    | Stanley Johnson   | 25 | Alice Knapp            |
|    | Fred Watts        |    | Ethel Berry            |
| 15 | Elizabeth Edmonds |    | Alice Cooper           |
|    | Eric Blake        |    | Nancy Spindler         |
| 16 | John Peace        |    | Norman Edge            |
|    | Sarah Sheard      | 26 | May Burnage            |
|    | Irene Roberts     | 27 | Leonard Price          |
| 17 | James Gorton      |    | Edith Jones            |
|    | Cecil Burrows     | 28 | Florence Miles         |
|    | Mabel Thompson    |    | Amelia Brown           |
|    | Ruby Austin       |    | Milun Spasojevich      |
| 18 | Alfred Humphries  |    |                        |
|    | Alice Burrows     |    |                        |

Have gone back to a crossword this month, but please let me know if you like the puzzles, and which you prefer



Answers to Dec/Jan Crossword



- 1 'If you love those who love you, what — is that to you?' (Luke 6:32) (6)  
 4 'They threw the ship's — overboard' (Acts 27:19) (6)  
 7 The first murderer (Genesis 4:8) (4)  
 8 He was the head Levite in charge of the singing when the ark of God was brought back to Jerusalem (1 Chronicles 15:22) (8)  
 9 Samson was noted for this (Judges 16:6) (8)  
 13 Solicit money or food from passers by (Acts 3:2) (3)  
 16 What William Booth's Christian Mission became in 1878 (9,4)  
 17 Alliance of Religions and Conservation (1,1,1)  
 19 'I will praise your name for ever and ever. — — I will praise you' (Psalm 145:1-2) (5,3)  
 24 Simon had (anag.) (8)  
 25 Desperate (Deuteronomy 28:48) (4)  
 26 Elisha witnessed the boy he was seeking to resuscitate do this seven times before opening his eyes (2 Kings 4:35) (6)  
 27 The belly and thighs of the statue in Nebuchadnezzar's dream were made of this (Daniel 2:32) (6)
- Down
- 1 'Before the — crows, you will disown me three times' (Matthew 26:75) (4)  
 2 Relating to the books of the Bible between Acts and Revelation (9)  
 3 'They have — the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!' (John 20:2) (5)  
 4 Belief (5)  
 5 'Take the following fine spices: ... 250 shekels of fragrant — ' (Exodus 30:23) (4)  
 6 'Do not — Jerusalem, but wait for the gift' (Acts 1:4) (5)  
 10 A seer (anag.) (5)  
 11 'Even there your hand will — me' (Psalm 139:10)

- (5)  
 12 The wild variety was part of John the Baptist's diet (Mark 1:6) (5)  
 13 A non-Greek speaker who was looked down on by civilized people (Colossians 3:11) (9)  
 14 Famous 1950s musical whose characters included members of  
 16 Across, — and Dolls (4)  
 15 The province from which Paul wrote to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 16:19) (4)  
 18 'He was standing in the gateway with a linen cord and a measuring — — his hand' (Ezekiel 40:3) (3,2)  
 20 'Today, if you hear his — , do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion' (Hebrews 3:15) (5)  
 21 The Jericho prostitute who hid two Israelite spies on the roof of her house (Hebrews 11:31) (5)  
 22 'And now these three remain: faith, — and love. But the greatest of these is love' (1 Corinthians 13:13) (4)  
 23 'God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end' (Daniel 5:26) (4)

*If you would like to write an occasional front page article for the St Peter's Magazine, please talk to Revd Hannah.*

## Next issue

Wednesday 25 February 2026 is the next magazine deadline. Please email the editor with any articles—  
 Se.scane@ntlworld.com

# Church Calendar for February 2026

## SERVICES IN CHURCH THIS MONTH

### Sunday 1

10.00AM *Candlemas*

### Wednesday 4 *Gilbert*

10.00AM-Wednesday Church

### Thursday 5

9.30AM—Said Mass

### Sunday 8 *2nd before Lent*

10.00AM—Parish Mass

### Monday 9

9:15AM- Pebbles Baby Church

### Thursday 12

9.30AM—Said Mass

### Sunday 15 *Next before lent*

10.00AM—Parish Mass

### Wednesday 18 *Ash Wednesday*

9.30AM—Mass and Ashing

7.30AM—Mass and Ashing

### Saturday 21

7.30PM—Quiz 'n' Chips

### Sunday 22 *Lent I*

10.00AM—Parish Mass

### Thursday 26

9.30AM—Said Mass

### Thursday 30

9.30AM—Said Mass



### Vicar

The Revd. Hannah Reynolds  
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Didcot  
01235 812114

Email:

hclairereynolds@gmail.com

### Associate Minister



The Revd. Fran Childs  
01235 816166

### Safeguarding Officers



Gail & Paul Hedley  
07775 675401

### Church Wardens



Alan Wilson  
07817 061752



Tim Scane  
07785 308160

## ONLINE SERVICES AND EVENTS THIS MONTH

Monday - Thursday & Saturday  
9.00AM Morning Prayer

Sunday

10.00AM - Parish Mass—live streamed from church