

The Benefice Bulletin

8th February 2026 – Second Sunday before Lent

The Vicarage, Church Lane, Barton under Needwood DE13 8HU



Please take this bulletin home with you

Here for the first time? Relax. Please make yourself at home and please sit where you feel comfortable. Those who greeted you, our wardens, or the clergy will answer any practical questions that you may have. Posture notes on the service sheet and verbal instructions are intended for those who can comfortably follow them. We hope you enjoy worshipping with us.

Services this week

Sunday 8th February

09:00 Holy Communion

St Michael's, Tatenhill

10:30 Second Sunday Service

St James', Barton

16:00 Evening Prayer

St Mary's, Dunstall

Wednesday 11th February

09:15 WoW Wednesday

including informal worship at 10:00

St James', Barton

Thursday 12th February

09:15 WoW Thursday

including informal worship at 10:00

Tatenhill Village Hall

Readings and Prayers for the Second Sunday before Lent

Readings

Psalm 136

Old Testament Genesis 1.1-2.3

New Testament Romans 8.18-25

Gospel Matthew 6.25-End

The Collect

Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Post Communion Prayer

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Clergy	Revd Andy Simpson ☎01283 712359	✉ vicar.bundtbenefice@outlook.com
	Revd Liz Chamberlain ☎07917 077014	✉ lizchamberlainuk@yahoo.co.uk
Coordinator	Beth Flashman ☎07464 835189	✉ coordinator.bundtbenefice@outlook.com
Churchwardens:		
St James'	Ray Holder ☎01283 327814	✉ rayholder2006@gmail.com
St Mary's	Angela Moffat ☎01283 713735	✉ rangelamoffat@icloud.com
St Michael's	Phil & Emma Coleman ☎01283 538983	✉ stmtatenhill@gmail.com

Romans 8.18-25

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Matthew 6.25-End

²⁵ 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" ³² For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

³⁴ 'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

For your prayers

The World: We pray for His Majesty King Charles and Queen Camilla, and the wider Royal Family. We pray for all areas of the world where there are conflicts, poverty, drought, disaster, terrorism, and humanitarian crisis.

The Anglican Communion: Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui

Our Diocese: We pray for Bishops Michael and Matthew and Archdeacon Megan

Our Deanery: Along with our deanery, we pray for all the parish of St Modwen's, Burton and all who minister and worship there.

Our Benefice: We pray for those who live and work on Barton Gate, Forest Road and Scotch Hills Road in Barton, Scotch Hills Road in Dunstall and Central Main Street in Tatenhill. May God be with all those who live and work in these places as they go about their daily lives this week.

Those who are not well: Heather S, Lesley S-D, Shirley, Phillipa, Tim S, Sara, John G, Brian, Rosemarie, Jess, Cliff, Rebecca, Viv.

Those who have died: Frank Clarke, Geoffrey Wright, Foster Rogers, Carol Billings, Mike Storr, Monica Chamberlain. We pray for all those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

In Benefice News...

- Rev Andy will be running a joint **Lent Group and Confirmation Class** this year on each Monday during Lent. The sessions will look at the foundations of our faith and the Eucharist. The sessions will run at 19:00 starting on Monday 23rd February at St James' Church. All are welcome to join.
- If you are interested in being **confirmed**, then please speak to Rev Andy for more information. The confirmation class will run jointly with the Lent Group on Monday evenings at 7:00pm.
- There will be **no Home Group** in March due to the Lent Course running. Please do feel free to join the Lent Group that week instead.
- **Tea and Chat** returns on Monday 9th February, starting at 13:30 at St James' Church Hall. Tickets will be available for Afternoon Tea in April at this session.

If you would like a home visit from the Ministry or Pastoral Visiting Team, please contact the Benefice Office on 01283 712359 to arrange a time.

Diary Dates for the Week Ahead

Monday 9th February

13:30 Tea and Chat

St James' Church Hall

Tuesday 10th February

Wednesday 11th February

09:15 WOW Wednesday

including informal worship at 10:00

St James', Barton

Thursday 12th February

09:15 WOW Thursday

including informal worship at 10:00

Tatenhill Village Hall

Friday 13th February

17:00 Music Group

St James', Barton

Saturday 14th February

Sunday 15th February

09:00 Holy Communion

St Mary's, Dunstall

10:30 Lay Led Service

St James', Barton

Future Dates

Tuesday 17th February

13:30 Funeral of Foster Rogers

St James', Barton

Wednesday 18th February

19:00 Ash Wednesday Holy Communion
with imposition of Ashes

St James', Barton

Friday 20th February

14:30 Funeral of Michael Storr

St James', Barton

17:00 Music Group

St James', Barton

Monday 23rd February

11:00 Barton Pancake Races

Main Street, Barton

18:00 Lent Time and Space

St James', Barton

19:00 Lent & Confirmation Group

St James' Church, Barton

Tuesday 24th February

19:00 Barton PCC

St James', Barton

Wednesday 25th February

14:30 Funeral of Carol Billings

Bretby Crematorium

Hello All,

Consider the lilies of the field! What on earth is Jesus asking of us? Surely there are so many more important things to Consider: world peace, poverty, the health service, immigration, the cost of living, affordable housing, cultural dilution, potholes, inconsiderate parking! It is so easy to be enslaved by worry and anxiety about all manner of things! Things we can rarely control and when we do try to control them, we make things worse than they would have been if we just hadn't bothered. Stop and look, take note of the lilies, take note of the birds of the air, be present in this moment and that is where you will find the Kingdom of God and "added unto you" will be both the liberation from fear and effective responses, from a place of peace, to things that once enslaved you!



Yours in Christ, Rev Andy +