

In Touch with the Bourne Valley Churches

in the Parishes of Cholderton, Newton Tony, St Nicholas Porton & District, Winterbourne Gunner, Winterbourne Earls with Dauntsey, Ford and Hurdcott

Our new Benefice website: <https://bournevalleychurches.weebly.com>

Sunday 15th February 2026 – Sunday Next before Lent (Year A) (Green)

St Nicholas' Cholderton	11.00am Holy Communion (POE)
St Nicholas' Porton	9.30am BCP Matins (AD) (<i>Quinquagesima</i>)
St Mary's W Gunner	9.30am BCP Holy Communion (POE) (<i>Quinquagesima</i>)
St Michael & All Angels W Earls	11.00am Family Communion (DC)

Readings: (Psalm 99) 2 Peter 1: 16 – 21 Matthew 17: 1 – 9
(or as chosen by the preacher)

Collect **Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen**

Ash Wednesday, 18th February 10.00am Service of Holy Communion, with optional **Ashing**, at in **St Michael & All Angels, W Earls** as we start the season of **Lent** – please come along, and let's begin **Lent** in prayer and worship together.

Lent Study Groups After consultation, we hope to hold two 'in person' Groups to explore the Diocesan Lent Course: **Journeys and Resting Places**: one on Monday afternoons, and the other on Thursday evenings. If you would like join a Group, and haven't yet responded, please **reply** to me (Peter), by **Monday 16th February**, stating which Group you wish to join, then I will circulate details of timings and venues to those who will be participating. Rev'd Dorothy Pipet (Methodist Minister) is planning to offer a different Course, via Zoom on Wednesday evenings during Lent, so again, contact me for more details.

On **Sunday 22nd February**, the **9.30am Service at St Mary's W Gunner** will celebrate **Thinking Day** which marks its 100th Anniversary this year. **Guides, Brownies & Rainbows**, with their families and leaders, are particularly invited, but **everyone is welcome** (as always...!). In the Scout movement, this day is known as **Founders' Day** (so no doubt they will be celebrating too...!).

Sunday 22nd February 2026 – First Sunday of Lent (Year A) (Purple)

St Andrew's Newton Tony	9.30am Family Communion (DC)
St Mary's W Gunner	9.30am 'Thinking Day' Service (POE)
St Michael & All Angels W Earls	11.00am Holy Communion (DP)

NB: Service of **Night Prayer/Compline on Zoom at 8.30pm** (*led by David Mooney*)

Readings: (Psalm 32) Romans 5: 12 – 19 Matthew 4: 1 – 11
(or as chosen by the preacher)

Collect **Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen**

On Wednesday 25th February at 12.30pm there will be a **Lent Lunch** in **St Michael & All Angels, W Earls**, with **Rev'd Ron Hart**, who will speak about this year's **Deanery Mission Charity**, the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and Sudan University Partnership (ECSSUP). In the face of the desperate situation in Sudan and South Sudan, this Christian charity is seeking to bring hope through education to those who, we pray, will one day be able to contribute to rebuilding their war-torn countries. For more information visit: <https://www.ecssup.org/> Everyone attending this simple lunch of bread, cheese and fruit is asked to bring **donations** to support the fund raising, and to let the caterers know you will be attending by sending an email to Juliette Martin: jjudders@gmail.com Thank you

Winterbourne Glebe Hall 'Drop-In Cafe' is on from 2.00pm to 4.30pm on **Wednesday 25th February**. *Help with IT is available at the Cafe, if required – bring your portable devices, and just ask...!* Call 01980 611311 for more information...

Please remember the weekly **Peace Vigils** held at **5.00pm** on **Saturdays** in Salisbury, outside the library, at the edge of the market square. David Mooney (email: drsgmooney@gmail.com) regularly attends the Vigils and would be happy to provide more information, and offer a lift to anyone else who wishes to attend.

Club Friday (the Bourne Valley Day Centre) is still looking for **volunteers** to help put fun into the lives of its guests, who are retired people who remain fairly mobile and do not require personal care. Volunteers can help with a range of activities, and join in on a rota basis, to suit availability.

Club Friday meets on **Fridays** from 10.00am – 2.30pm in the **Idmiston Parish Memorial Hall** and currently has vacancies for **guests** (as well as volunteer helpers...!). Please contact **Niki Hetreed** on **07789 318759** or via email: bournevalleyclubf@gmail.com to find out more.

Looking for a welcoming **Friendship** group...? Over 50s are invited to contact **Amicus** on 07503 006284 or by email: amicusfriendshipgroup@gmail.com to find out more...

The **Bourne Valley Magazine** remains a great way to publicise YOUR events, or your business, in our communities, as 100's of people living locally subscribe. *Please renew your subscription now*, via your *local distributor*, or, if you don't yet subscribe, contact **Priscilla Park-Weir** by email: **pvpw71@gmail.com** and she can put you in touch with your *local distributor* so you can subscribe. All profits, from subscriptions and advertising, support the Parish churches in the Valley – thank you.

The **Salisbury Foodbank** (part of Trussell Trust) continues to value our support throughout the year, and you are welcome to leave donations in our **churches**, but the most effective way to donate is via **supermarkets**, as you do your regular shopping, because they match the value of donations placed in their own collecting 'bins' so the Foodbank benefits even more – thank you...

Please continue to keep in your prayers all for whom this is a difficult time, in whatever way, and particularly we remember those who have recently died, and all who mourn their loss.

Do make use of the **Bourne Valley Prayer Tree**, so called because it has branches (people who respond to the request to pray) spread throughout the Valley.

Contact: Ali Joyce on **01980 619195** or email: aliloujoyce@gmail.com to ask for prayer, and please let her know as and when the need for prayer changes – thank you

Benefice Prayer: *Be with us, Lord, in all we do and say,
Visit each home with your peace and love
Turn all hearts and minds to you, our loving God, in Jesus' name, Amen*

If you would like to receive this '**In Touch**' regularly by email, or wish to discuss anything relating to church or faith, please contact the Rector, Rev'd Peter Ostli-East on **01980 611350** at The Vicarage, Winterbourne Earls SP4 6HA or by email: revpeterbvt@gmail.com or bournevalleyoffice@gmail.com

NB: The **Benefice website address** has changed to: <https://bournevalleychurches.weebly.com> but details of our Parishes and Services can also be found using '**A Church Near You**' (ACNY) <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/34-032BW/> should connect you to the **Benefice** page. Go to 'Our Churches' (in the menu on the left of the Home page) for information about each of our Parishes.