

The Stourhead Benefice

Pew Sheet 8 February 2026

Second before Lent

A warm welcome to all visitors to church on this day

Today's Services:

8am Said Eucharist St Peter and St Paul Kedington
10am Sung Eucharist at St Peter's Little Thurlow
4pm Evensong All Saints Great Thurlow

Services this week:

Evening Prayer 5pm Monday St Peter and St Paul's Kedington
Wednesday 10am Said Holy Communion St Peter and St Paul's Kedington

Services next Sunday

10am Sung Eucharist St Mary's Great Wratting

Ministry Team:

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|----------------|--------------|
| Fr Chris Giles | 01440 762901 |
| Jill Davis | 01440 713137 |
| Ruth Hopper | 01440 783125 |
| Peter Smith | 01440 783278 |
| Mary Upton | 01440 706237 |

Collect: Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. **Amen**

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| First reading | Genesis 1 v 1 – 2 v 3 |
| Second reading | Romans 8 v 18 - 25 |
| Gospel reading | Matthew 6 v 25 - 34 |

Hear The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

All Glory to you O Lord

'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? 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? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. 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? Therefore, do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed, your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

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

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you O Christ

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

Home Communions - Pastoral Care:

The Blessed Sacrament is perpetually reserved for the Communion of the housebound, the sick and dying. Please inform Fr Chris or a member of the ministry team, of parishioners who are sick or in hospital, and of those who are in need of pastoral care. **The Sacrament of Reconciliation** by arrangement with the Rector.

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Prayer List

Our prayers are asked particularly for:

Terry Chittock – Jacob and his family – Leo and Val Farthing – Bryan Chambers – Orla
Rev Bob Torrens – Paul Allard – Steve Watts – Andrew Harrison – Iris Eley
Frank Underwood – Peter Phillips – Stephen Giles – Hannah Carpenter - King Charles

We also pray for others. Those who have asked to be remembered in our prayers in church and at home.

We pray for those that have recently died and whose loss we mourn:

Brian Watts – Richard Hart – Alan Hames

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord

All And let light perpetual shine upon them

May they rest in peace

All And rise in glory

An invitation: If you wish to receive communion please come forward when guided by the stewards. Members of other churches who usually receive communion are welcome to do so here. Those not wishing to receive communion are welcome to come for a blessing; it is helpful if you indicate this by bringing your service booklet with you. If you find it difficult to come to the altar rail, please tell this to the steward on duty, so communion may be brought to you in your seat.

Gluten free Communion wafers are available – please ask when you come up to the altar rail. If you do not wish to receive from the Chalice, please say 'Intinct' as the Priest approaches you, and they will intinct the wafer in Consecrated wine from a separate Chalice.

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Notices

Forthcoming events:

Please send me details of events you wish to publicise by email or phone, and I will do my best to include it (subject to space):

Fr Chris Giles – stourheadbenefice@gmail.com 01440 762901

Church Coffee Morning “Dolce Gusto” 10am until 12 noon every Tuesday at St Peter and St Paul’s Church in Kedington.

Saturday 21 February 2026 Quiz with Quizmaster Mike Morris. To be held at Kedington Community Centre, Arms Lane CB9 7QQ. Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start. Teams of up to 6. £5 entry fee per person. There will be a bar (cash or card payments) so please do not bring your own drinks but do bring your own snacks and nibbles. There will also be a raffle. Proceeds to be split 50:50 between St Peter and St Paul’s Church, Kedington and Kedington Community Association. To book a table contact Jill 07974 656813 or jill@gourmet-knights.co.uk **Only three tables left – don’t miss out!**

Lent Course “In the Dust of Jesus”. Sundays 22 February, 1 and 8 March. In St Peter and St Paul’s Church, Kedington. 3pm until 4pm. All are welcome to join this informal discussion group as we study the Bible together over tea or coffee. Each session stands alone; come to one or all.

Friday 6 March 2026. Little Bradley Quiz in The Garden Barn at Little Bradley. Arrive at 6.30pm for 7pm start. Teams of six. Prices: adult including meal, £17.50. adult without meal £10. child with child’s meal £10. Choice of fish, scampi or chicken with chips. Bring your own glasses and drinks. All tickets to be purchased from Mirjam Gault 01440 783756 mirjamgault@gmail.com All proceeds in aid of Little Bradley Church.

Safeguarding – Safeguarding is about caring for one another and our community. As Christians, this is something we all need to do. If you would like any training or have any questions; please contact Fr Chris or another member of the Ministry team. Benefice Safeguarding Officers are Naomi Shelmerdine and Ruth Hopper. Contact phone number 07405 624132

The Stourhead Benefice News is produced every other month. Hard copies are printed by the Barnardiston School. It is also available on the Stourhead Benefice page of **“A Church Near You”**: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/1948/news/notice-sheet/grid/>

