

Pew Sheet for 1st March 2026

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Saturday 28th February

5 – 7pm Youth Church at Woodford Halse

Sunday 1st March

9.30am Holy Communion at Boddington

10am BCP Morning Prayer at Eydon

10am Café Church at Woodford Halse

11am Holy Communion at Byfield

Tuesday 3rd March

3.30pm Lent Course at the Rectory

Wednesday 4th March

9.45am Holy Communion at Byfield

11.15am Prayer Group at Hinton Methodist church

Friday 6th March

2pm World Day of Prayer is at St Mary's Woodford Halse this year. There will be nice music and stories from Nigeria and refreshments. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Saturday 7th March

10am – 1pm Big Breakfast in Byfield village hall with last orders at 12.30pm.

Sunday 8th March

9.30am Holy Communion at Eydon

10am Morning Prayer at Boddington

11am Holy Communion at Ason le Walls

11am Café Church at Byfield

Wednesday 11th March

9.45am Morning Prayer at Byfield

11.15am Prayer Group meeting at St Mary's church

7pm Byfield PCC meeting in the Church

7pm Eydon PCC meeting

Saturday 14th March

10am – 12pm Daffodil Day at Holy Cross Church. Tea/Coffee and homemade cakes and a raffle with proceeds to Kathariine House.

10am-11.30am Churches Together Coffee Morning at Hinton Methodist Chapel.

5-7pm Youth Church at Woodford Halse

George Herbert

(3 April 1593 – 1 March 1633)

'King of glory king of peace', "Let all the world in every corner sing" and "Teach me my God and King": three rousing, traditional hymns that are well known and enjoyed in our churches. What is your favourite? More than ninety of Herbert's poems have been set for singing over the centuries: about 40 were used by the Wesley brothers in the Methodist Hymnal. In the twentieth Century Ralph Vaughan Williams, Edmund Rubbra, Benjamin Britten and Judith Weir have all included Herbert's Poetry in their works.

Herbert's poetry is not prolific: only one volume of his English poetry was published, in 1633, *The Temple: Sacred Poems and Private Ejaculations*, with a preface by Ferrar. Ferrar was an English scholar and ordained deacon. He set up an informal spiritual community following [High Anglican](#) practice, in Little Gidding, near Huntingdon. On his deathbed, Herbert sent Ferrar the [manuscript](#) of *The Temple*, telling him to publish the poetry if it might "turn to the advantage of any dejected poor soul." "If not, let him burn it; for I and it are less than the least of God's mercies." Ferrar published the verses in 1633; they remain in print nearly 400 years later.

The Temple had a very interesting structure. The first poem is "The Church Porch", they proceed via "The Altar" to "The Sacrifice" and so on. Some poems were written in a shape, for example 'The Altar'. In the case of "Easter Wings" words were printed sideways on two facing pages so that the lines there suggest outspread wings. Beautiful!

Sunday 1 March 2026 Second Sunday of Lent

COLLECT

Almighty God,
you show to those who are in error the
light of your truth,
that they may return to the way of
righteousness:
grant to all those who are admitted into
the fellowship of Christ's religion,
that they may reject those things that
are contrary to their profession,
and follow all such things as are
agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Genesis 12:1-4a

A reading from the book of Genesis.

The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

PSALM Psalm 121

R *The Lord shall keep you from all evil.*

I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?
My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth. **R**

He will not suffer your foot to stumble;
he who watches over you will not sleep.
Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep. **R**

The Lord himself watches over you;
the Lord is your shade at your right
hand,
So that the sun shall not strike you by
day,
neither the moon by night. **R**

The Lord shall keep you from all evil;
it is he who shall keep your soul

The Lord shall keep watch over your
going out and your coming in,
from this time forth for evermore. **R**

SECOND READING

Romans 4:1-5. 13-17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

What are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") – Abraham believed in the presence of the God who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

GOSPEL John 3:1-17

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of

God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

POST COMMUNION

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of
ourselves to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all
adversities which may happen to
the body,
and from all evil thoughts
which may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

