

The Stourhead Benefice

Pew Sheet 22 February 2026

First Sunday of Lent

A warm welcome to all visitors to church on this day

Today's Services:

10am Sung Eucharist St Mary the Virgin Gt Bradley

3pm Lent Course "In the Dust of Jesus" St Peter and St Paul's Kedington, followed by

4pm Evensong St Peter and St Paul's Kedington

Services this week:

Evening Prayer Monday 5pm St Peter and St Paul's Kedington

Said Holy Communion Wednesday 10am St Peter and St Paul's Kedington

Services next Sunday

10am Sung Eucharist St Peter and St Paul's Kedington

3pm Lent Course "In the Dust of Jesus" St Peter and St Paul's Kedington

Ministry Team:

Fr Chris Giles 01440 762901

Jill Davis 01440 713137

Ruth Hopper 01440 783125

Peter Smith 01440 783278

Mary Upton 01440 706237

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Collect: Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

First reading Genesis 2 v 15 - 17 and 3 v 1 - 7
Second reading Romans 5 v 12 - 19
Gospel reading Matthew 4 v 1 -11

Hear The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

All Glory to you O Lord

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written,

"One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you", and "On their hands they will bear you up so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."

Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

"Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you O Christ

Post Communion prayer: Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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Evensong readings

Psalm 50 v 1 - 15

Deuteronomy 6 v 4 - 9 and 16 - end

Luke 15 v 1 - 10

Home Communion - 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.

Prayer List

Our prayers are asked particularly for:

Terry Chittock – Jacob and his family – Leo and Val Farthing – Rev Bob Torrens

Paul Allard – Steve Watts – Iris Eley – Frank Underwood – Orla – 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:

Richard Hart – Alan Hames – Patricia Boddington – Bryan Chambers – Sam Sheppard

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.

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.

TODAY – Gt Thurlow Hall Open Garden. 2pm until 4.30pm as part of the National Open Garden Scheme. Come and see the snowdrops. Adults £7, children free. Refreshments available.

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/>

