

**The Parishes of Adbaston, Gnosall, High Offley & Knightley,
Moreton and Norbury
Sunday 8th February. (2nd Before Lent)**

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.

Post Communion

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.**

Genesis 1: 1-2:3

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.' So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. The earth brought forth

vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.' So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

The Staffordshire Border Group of Churches are committed to Safeguarding and has adopted the National and Diocesan Safeguarding Policies. Our Benefice Safeguarding Officer is Adie Harris and can be contacted on 01785 284027.

In an emergency where there is imminent risk of harm to a child or vulnerable adult, please contact the police on 999 or your local social services department.

God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

Romans 8: 18-25

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 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. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; 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. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Matthew 6: 25-end

'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.

In our year's mind (St Lawrence, Gnosall) we

remember: Howard John Bache, Thomas (Tom) Richardson, John Phillips, Jennifer Tomkinson, Bryan Michael Morrison, Bertha Sutton, Margaret Alice Price, Gwennie Bates.

Notices

This Week's Services- 8th February

Gnosall 8am Holy Communion
10:30am Holy Communion
Knightley 9:30am Morning Worship
Adbaston 9:30am Family Communion
Norbury 11am Morning Worship
Moreton 11am Holy Communion

Next Week's Services- 15th February

Gnosall 8am Holy Communion
10:30am Holy Communion
4pm Messy Church
Knightley 9:30am Holy Communion
Norbury 11am Holy Communion



Gnosall



Adbaston



Norbury

Just Giving Pages

Coffee and Chat

All Welcome for Coffee and Chat 10:30-12:30 at St Lawrence Church. 1st Saturday of every month.

Bingo and Bangers

Saturday 28th February 7.15pm for 7.30pm start Norbury Village Hall. Admission £6.00 (children £3.00) Price includes 2 books and Hotdog in the interval. Please bring own drinks and glasses
Proceeds to Church funds
Contact 01785 284463 for further information

Lent Get-Togethers

Rachael would like to invite you to join her for coffee, cake and prayer at 11am on each of the Fridays during Lent. You would be welcome to come along to any or all of the sessions. There will be an opportunity to explore this year's theme of 'Life Giving Habits for Lent' and the sessions will include conversation, prayer and a short time of worship. Do come along!
Friday 27th February 11am Millennium Hall, Moreton
Friday 6th March 11am Jubilee Rooms, Adbaston
Friday 13th March 11am St Peter's, Norbury
Friday 20th March 11am Woodseaves Village Hall
Friday 27th March 11am The Vestry at St Lawrence

Lent Resources

The Church of England's theme for Lent 2026 is 'Draw Near: Life-Giving Habits for `Lent.' For each of the days of Lent, there will be a reflection exploring a different aspect of Christian discipleship, helping us to learn how we can cultivate the habits and practices that will draw us nearer to God. A booklet containing all 40 daily reflections is available from Church House Publishing. You can also download the Everyday Faith app to access free daily reflections. These are also complimented by the Archbishop of Canterbury's 2026 Lent Book, 'Dancing to the Heartbeat of God' (SPCK) which contains stories of discipleship from across the Anglican Communion. For more information, visit the Church of England website.

World Day of Prayer.

Friday 6th March, St Lawrence Church, 2pm.
The focus of this year's service is Nigeria and the theme is 'I will give you rest, come.' In our frantic and tired world, Jesus' invitation seems more poignant than ever. Do join us for this special service. All are welcome.

Ash Wednesday

Please join us for our special Ash Wednesday services. There are two services of Communion with Imposition of Ashes: Norbury at 11am, and Gnosall at 7pm. All Welcome.

Eco Tip of the Month

This Lent, take part in Climate Steward's Carbon Fast. Lent is a time when Christians traditionally fast and focus on God. The Carbon Fast will help you consider ways to live more simply, give you new ideas to cut your carbon footprint and invite you to focus on God and consider the whole of his creation. Beginning on 5 March, you'll receive a weekly email containing key facts, suggestions for how you could reduce your carbon footprint and a prayer to lead you through this Lenten season. Each week features a different theme designed to help us take climate action in manageable ways that bear witness to a God who has promised to restore all of his creation. Find out more and sign up at climatestewards.org/resources/carbon-fast/

Contact Details for the Church Office.

Phone: 01785 822820 Benefice Administrator: Victoria Hainsworth
Office email: churchofficegnosall@gmail.com
Office hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 9-12.00, Friday 9-1:00. When the office is not staffed, leave a message and someone will reply as soon as possible.



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