

THE CHURCHES OF ALL SAINTS, WIGSTON MAGNA & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE, SOUTH WIGSTON

THE WIGSTON BENEFICE



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

WELCOME TO OUR SERVICES TODAY

SUNDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2026

10:00 AM SUNG MASS

ALL SAINTS, WIGSTON MAGNA

10:00 AM CAFÉ CHURCH

ST. THOMAS', SOUTH WIGSTON

The Week Ahead

Sunday 22nd February	The First Sunday of Lent 10:00 am Sung Eucharist 10:00 am Café Church	<i>All Saints</i> <i>St. Thomas'</i>
Monday 23rd February	Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c.155	
Tuesday 24th February	Feria 2:00 pm Stations of the Cross	<i>St. Thomas'</i>
Wednesday 25th February	Feria 10:30 am Said Eucharist	<i>St. Thomas'</i>
Thursday 26th February	Feria 10:00 am Said Mass 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross	<i>All Saints</i> <i>Zoom</i>
Friday 27th February	George Herbert, Priest, Poet, 1633 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross	<i>All Saints</i>
Saturday 28th February	Feria 10:00 am Morning Prayer	<i>All Saints</i>
Sunday 1st March	The Second Sunday of Lent 8:30 am Said Eucharist 10:00 am Morning Prayer 10:00 am Sung Eucharist	<i>All Saints</i> <i>All Saints</i> <i>St. Thomas'</i>

Notices and Upcoming Events

Welcome!

A very warm welcome to any guests who are joining us for our services.

Parish Giving

If you would like to give to support the life and work of our churches, you can use these QR Codes. All donations are very gratefully received, and help to keep us serving our communities.

**Give to
All Saints**



**Give to
St. Thomas'**



'Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.'

— cf. Matthew 6.19-21

Got a notice?

If you have a notice that needs including in our benefice bulletins, kindly send an email with the details to David. It would be helpful if you could flag your email with the word 'Notice' in the subject line.

Praise the Lord!

A gentle reminder as we enter into the season of Lent that we give up saying 'Alleluia'. The idea is that we strip the liturgy of the usual joy we encounter.

St. Thomas' Reordering Plans

Please do have a look at the proposed plans and drawings for the reordering,

which can be found on the board at the back of church. Please note that these are have gone out for consultation, and so are for information only.

Pancakes at St. Thomas'

Thank you to everyone who came to enjoy some pre-Lent pancakes at St. Thomas' on Saturday 14th February. Along with money raised after the services on Wednesdays, it has raised £317.50 for the Alzheimer's Society.

Coffee Morning at All Saints

Thank you to everyone who came along to All Saints coffee morning on Saturday 14th February. Together we raised £327.81. The date of the next coffee morning is Saturday 11th April.

Lent Course

Wednesdays | 2:00 pm | All Saints Church Room

This year's Lent course will be held in All Saints Church Room. Each of the four sessions will feature a talk on the life of Judas. Throughout we will ponder what we might learn about God's heart, revealed in the moments Jesus shares with Judas.

Owing to a clash with schools work, there will only be four sessions: 4th March, 11th March, 18th March and 25th March.

Bishops' Lent Appeal

22nd February—5th April

There are 2.5 million families in the UK who cannot afford a holiday. This is why the Bishops' Lent Appeal this year is for

the Family Holiday Charity, a charity that helps to restore hope and strengthen relationships by providing breaks for families facing severe challenges like poverty, illness and isolation. You can help by taking a box of smarties at the end of our services, eating the smarties (assuming you haven't given up chocolate for Lent), and filling the box with 20p coins (or a bank note). The boxes can then be handed back any time in the run-up to Easter Sunday.

Minster Community Process

*Tuesday 24th February | 12.30 pm—
1.30 pm*

The Minster Community process continues to roll out across our diocese. You may have lots of questions around the process, such as what's happening, when, and why? Beth Cluer, the Facilitation Lead for Minster Communities, is holding some 'Check In and Chat' sessions online over Zoom. For more details, please email Beth: Beth.Cluer@LeicesterCofE.org

World Day of Prayer

*Friday 6th March | 2:00 pm | South Wigston
Methodist Church*

All are welcome to join this year's World Day of Prayer, hosted in South Wigston Methodist Church on Blaby Road. The theme for this year's service will be 'I will give you rest, come', and has been prepared by Christians in Nigeria. Please

note there will also be choir practices ahead of the service, which will be held at the Congregational Church at 2:00 pm on Thursday 26th February and Tuesday 3rd March.

Recently Departed

Please pray for the recently departed, and for all who mourn them:

Howard Riley ✚ Jane Harding ✚
Michelle Edwards ✚ Margaret Hatton ✚
Patricia Harriman

Find Our Churches

All Saints

*Moat Street, Wigston Magna, LE18 2BA
what3words ///tells.famous.apples*

St. Thomas the Apostle

*St. Thomas' Road, South Wigston, LE18 4TA
what3words ///lobby.organ.mining*

Clergy Contact Details

The Rector

The Revd. David Cowie

M: 07377 873837

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Please take this benefice bulletin
away with you and recycle after use.



Sunday 22nd February 2026

The First Sunday of Lent

The 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.**

(or)

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.**

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.'

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die."' But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also

gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 32

Refrain: Forgive me, O Lord, the guilt of my sin.

Happy the one whose transgression is forgiven, and whose sin is covered. Happy the one to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile. **R**

For I held my tongue; my bones wasted away through my groaning all the day long. Your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up like the drought in summer. **R**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you and my iniquity I did not hide. I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,' and you forgave the guilt of my sin. **R**

Therefore let all the faithful make their prayers to you in time of trouble; in the great water flood, it shall not reach them. You are a place for me to hide in; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with songs of deliverance. **R**

'I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye. Be not like horse and mule which have no understanding; whose mouths must be held with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you.' **R**

Great tribulations remain for the wicked, but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord. Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; shout for joy, all who are true of heart. **R**

Epistle Reading

Romans 5.12-19

A reading from the Letter to the Romans.

Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ,
King of eternal glory.
Blessed are those who have endured temptation;
they have stood the test
and will receive the crown of life.

**Praise to you, O Christ,
King of eternal glory.**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 4.1-11

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Prayer after Communion

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.**

*The Churches of All Saints, Wigston Magna
and St. Thomas The Apostle, South Wigston*

Lent Course



Kiss of Judas | Master Trecentesco of Sacro Specol

Journeys with Judas

*Exploring the stories of Judas
to discover more about God's generous heart.*

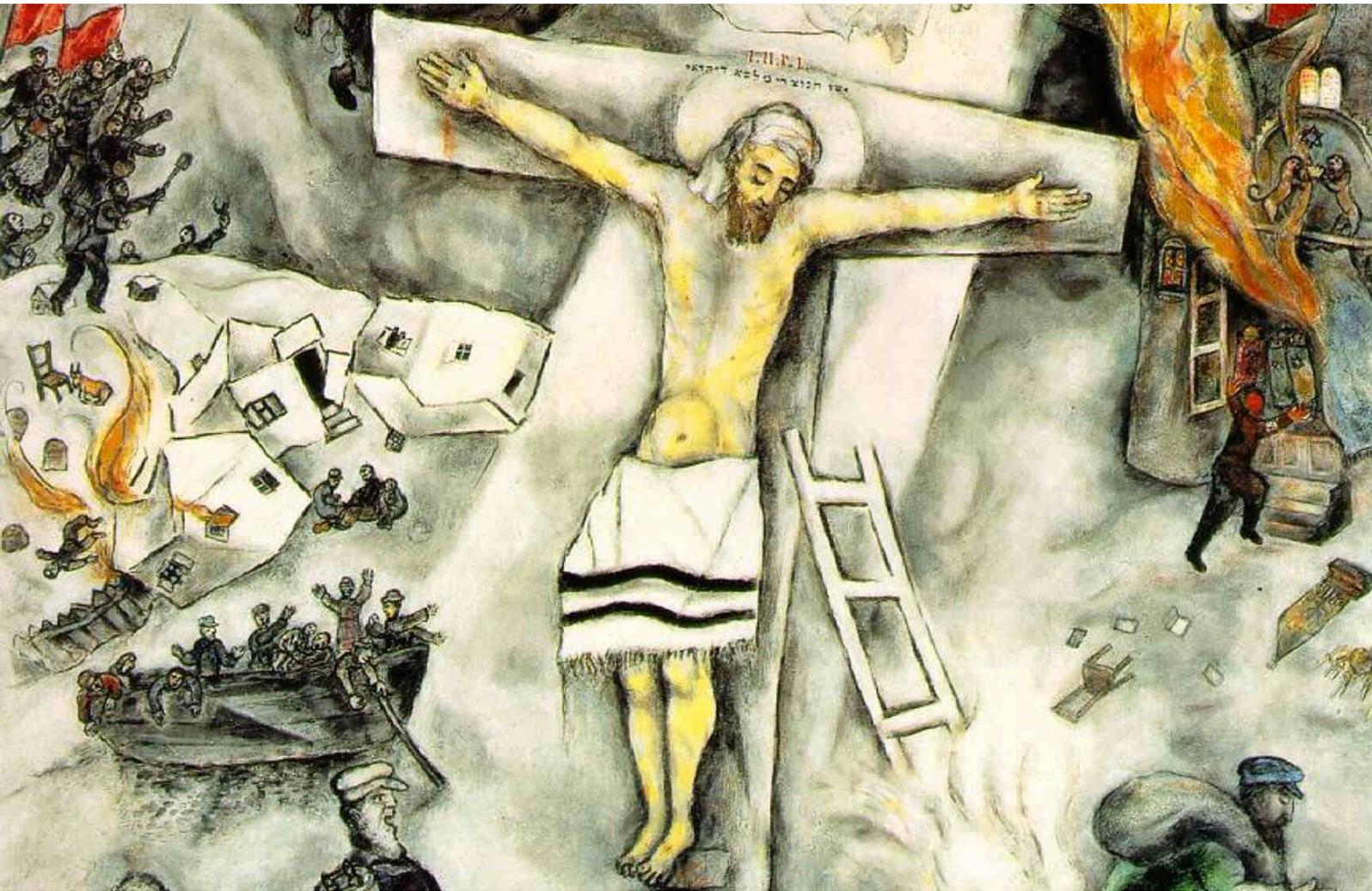
Wednesdays | 2:00 pm | All Saints

4th March | 11th March | 18th March | 25th March

For more information:

07377 873837 | rector.wigston.benefice@gmail.com

Stations of the Cross



The White Crucifixion | Marc Chagall

*Quiet and reflective services,
following Jesus on his journey to the Cross.*

Tuesdays | 2:00 pm | St. Thomas'

24th February | 3rd March | 10th March | 17th March | 24th March

Thursdays | 7:00 pm | Zoom

26th February | 5th March | 12th March | 19th March

Fridays | 7:00 pm | All Saints

27th February | 6th March | 13th March | 20th March | 27th March

For more information, including Zoom details:

07377 873837 | rector.wigston.benefice@gmail.com



Oadby & Wigston Civic Orchestra

Conductor: *Keith Smith*

60TH

Anniversary Festival Concert

Programme includes:

Overture: 'Meistersingers', Wagner;

Symphony No. 2 'Little Russian', Tchaikovsky;

Finlandia, Sibelius; Violin Concerto in A Minor, Glazunov

Soloist: John Mills

Beauchamp College, Oadby

Saturday 28th February 2026 7.30pm

Tickets at the door: £12, OAP & student concessions £10, School students free