

Parish of Curdworth, Middleton and Wishaw

NEWSLETTER

Sundays 15th and 22nd March 2026

**Fourth and Fifth Sundays of Lent – Mothering
Sunday and Passion Sunday**



Welcome to this edition of the Newsletter

Sunday 15th March – Fourth Sunday of Lent – MOTHERING SUNDAY

- Family Communion at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw** – The Rector
- Service of the Word at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth** – Mrs Lisa Wilcox
- Holy Communion at **11.15am** at **St John's, Middleton** – The Rector

Sunday 22nd March – Fifth Sunday of Lent – PASSION SUNDAY

- Holy Communion at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw** – The Rector
- Family Communion at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth** – The Rector

Sunday 29th March – Sixth Sunday of Lent – PALM SUNDAY

- Holy Communion at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw** – Rev James Parry
- Family Communion with Baptism at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth** – The Rector
- Music and Readings for Holy Week at **6.30pm** at **St John's, Middleton** – Rev James Parry

Sunday 5th April – EASTER DAY

- Family Communion at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw** - The Rector
- Holy Communion at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth** – The Rector
- Holy Communion at **11.15am** at **St John's, Middleton** – Rev James Parry

DIARY

Date	Time	Event	Note
Sunday 15th March	9.30am	Family Communion	St Chad's, Wishaw
4th Sunday of Lent	11.15am	Service of the Word	St Nicholas', Curdworth
MOTHERING SUNDAY	11.15am	Holy Communion	St John's, Middleton
Purple			
Tuesday 17 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer	St Nicholas' Church
	7.30pm	Middleton Choir Practice	St John's Church
Wednesday 18 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer	St Chad's, Wishaw
	7.15pm	Choir Practice	Curdworth Church Hall
Thursday 19 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer	St John's Church
Sunday 22nd	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Chad's, Wishaw
5th Sunday of Lent	11.15am	Family Communion	St Nicholas', Curdworth
Passiontide begins	7.00pm	LENT GROUP	Curdworth Church Hall
Purple			
Tuesday 24 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer	St Nicholas' Church
	7.30pm	Wishaw DCC	The Cock Inn at Wishaw
Wednesday 25 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer	St Chad's Church
	7.00pm	Choir Practice	Curdworth Church Hall
Thursday 26 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer	St John's Church
	7.30pm	Middleton Choir	St John's Church
Sunday 29th	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Chad's, Wishaw
6th Sunday of Lent	11.15am	Family Communion with	St Nicholas', Curdworth
PALM SUNDAY		Baptism	
Purple	6.30pm	Music and Readings for Holy Week	St John's, Middleton



LENT

You are invited to this year's Lent Group continuing
on Sunday 22nd March
from 7.00pm to 8.30pm in
Curdworth Church Hall.

Light refreshments will be served.

Discussions will focus on chapters from St John's Gospel.

All welcome.



PALM SUNDAY 29th March

A Service of Music and Readings for Palm Sunday and Holy Week

Leading us from the triumph of Palm Sunday to the desolation of
the Crucifixion, with Middleton Choir at St John's, Middleton

“God so loved the world”

6.30pm

Wednesday 1st April – 7.30pm
Holy Week and Easter Music and Readings
at St Nicholas' Church Curdworth



Follow in the steps of Christ,
leading to the Crucifixion and Resurrection
with St Nicholas' Choir

Mission Planning Event

This event was held on Saturday 7th March at Curdworth Church Hall, involving this parish and the parish of Castle Vale with Minworth. It was led by Rev Catherine Grylls, who invited us to say who we were and consider the positive features of our churches. We considered our vision to be growing churches at the heart of our communities.

As churches, we are always encouraged to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and help our churches to grow in numbers and in what we can offer in our communities. Here is the LyCiG (Leading your Church into Growth) prayer. It emphasises the qualities needed for growth.

God of Mission, who alone brings growth to your Church, send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our action, and power to our witness. Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to your local community, Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE
WHO SUPPORTED THE



Irish Night

on **SATURDAY 7TH March 2026**

Middleton Village Hall

And to Ruth McFarland for organising the evening

Thank you!

ReminderDATES FOR YOUR DIARY.....

2026

Ceilidh.....Saturday, 18th April at Curdworth Village Hall

Spring Fair.....17th May at Wishaw Church and grounds



Watch this space for news about a proposed **“Games Night”**. It promises to be a lot of fun!

Lent, Holy Week and Easter

There is a full range of services planned for the weeks of Lent. Sunday 15th March is Mothering Sunday and all three churches will have services, at the usual times, focusing on the themes of the day. Sunday 22nd marks the beginning of Passiontide and on Sunday 29th, Palm Sunday, all three churches have services – Wishaw at 9.30am, Curdworth at 11.15am (preceded by a procession from the Village Green following the donkey up to church) and 6.30pm at Middleton sees the service of music and readings for Palm Sunday and Holy Week described earlier in this Newsletter.

Holy Week:

- Monday 30th March 9.00am at Middleton – Morning Prayer
- Tuesday 31st March 9.00am at Curdworth – Morning Prayer
- Wednesday 1st April 9.00am at Wishaw – Morning Prayer
- Wednesday 1st April 7.30pm at Curdworth – Music & Readings for Holy Week and Easter
- Maundy Thursday 2nd April 7.30pm at Curdworth – Eucharist and Vigil
- Good Friday 3rd April Walk of Witness from Middleton (1pm) and Curdworth (1.30pm) to Wishaw (3.00pm)
- Good Friday 3rd April 8.00pm at Curdworth – Music and words from Tenebrae
- Easter Eve Saturday 4th April 7.30pm at Curdworth Bonfire and blessing of the Paschal Candles
- Easter Day Sunday 5th April – services at all three churches at the usual times.
- N.B. All information correct, but may be subject to change.

Morning Prayer – don't forget.....

Rev James Parry is leading Morning Prayer at **9.00am** on Tuesdays at St Nicholas' Church, Wednesdays at St Chad's Church and on Thursdays at St John's Church. All are welcome.

Also.....The Rector invites you for coffee and cake in the Church Hall, Curdworth on Wednesdays from 10.00am
N.B. On the Wednesdays of Lent there will also be a Lent Lunch available – homemade soup and bread roll

EASTER LILIES –If you would like to remember a loved one by giving a donation towards the cost of the lilies, please put your donation in an envelope. Mark the envelope "Easter Lilies" and put a note inside with the name(s) of those you would like to remember. Names will be read out in church on Easter Day.

You can hand your envelope to Isabel Potter at St Nicholas', Margaret Allen at St Chad's and Jo Hollis at St John's. Please see below in this Newsletter for payee details if you wish to donate by cheque. You can also donate by bank transfer.



Finance – Here are the bank details for each church for your reference:

St Nicholas': 30-92-75 00610273 (PCC of St Nicholas Curdworth)

St John's: 05-09-42 57896460 (St John the Baptist PCC)

St Chad's: 30-98-37 00152981 (Parochial Church Council Wishaw)

The Newsletter – if you would like anything added to the Newsletter, here are the details you need: margaret_allen69@yahoo.co.uk 07778 458 789 or n.w.phillips@live.com 07498 202 262

PRAYER LIST



Please remember in your prayers all who are sick and those who mourn the loss of a loved one.

Prayers for the sick			
Curdworth	Roy Allen Sharon Brown Adrian Cionnagh <i>Amanda Emerson</i> <i>Isabella Murphy</i> Tim Rawson <i>Cody Smith</i> <i>Philip Walsh</i> Barry Wiltshire	Gary Baker Sandra Bullivant <i>Claire Eldridge</i> Barbara Ingram <i>Helen Parry</i> Ellie Reeves <i>Clare Tillson</i> Betty Waters	<i>Barbara Blaber</i> Louise Christoforou <i>Jean Eldridge</i> Caroline Lee <i>Jenny Phillips</i> Sue Shelley <i>Charlotte Twamley-Hayes</i> <i>Peter Wiggins</i>
Middleton	Jo'anne Cole <i>Alan Cochran</i>	<i>Peter Hancock</i> Clinton Smith	<i>Jean Nixon</i>
Wishaw	Colin Philpott Pauline Nelmes	Joyce Simmons Cae Hayes	Rachel Way
For the departed	Margaret Turner	Betty Ansell	Ann Bachelor

Readings for Sunday 15th March 2026

Fourth Sunday of Lent – Mothering Sunday

Collect

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:
strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence
to bind together and to heal;
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

The Old Testament Reading

is from Exodus chapter 2

¹A man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ²The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. ³When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. ⁴His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. ⁵The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. ⁷Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?'

⁸Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. ⁹Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because,' she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The New Testament Reading

is from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians chapter 1

2 Corinthians 1.3-7

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, ⁴who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. ⁵For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. ⁶If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. ⁷Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Gospel

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 2.33-35

³³The child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about Jesus.

³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed - and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Post communion

Loving God,

as a mother feeds her children at the breast

you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life:

help us who have tasted your goodness

to grow in grace within the household of faith;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Readings for Sunday 22nd March 2026

Fifth Sunday of Lent – Passion Sunday

Collect

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
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

The Old Testament Reading

is from the book of Ezekiel chapter 37

¹The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, ‘Mortal, can these bones live?’ I answered, ‘O Lord GOD, you know.’ ⁴Then he said to me, ‘Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.’

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, ‘Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.’ ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹Then he said to me, ‘Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, “Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.”

¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my

spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The New Testament Reading

is from Paul's letter to the Romans chapter 8

⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Gospel

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 11.1-45

¹A certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' ⁸The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' ⁹Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' ¹¹After saying this, he

told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' ¹²The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.'

¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.'

¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.

¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home.

²¹Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' ²³Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' ²⁴Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' ²⁵Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' ²⁷She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him.

³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' ³⁷But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.'

⁴⁰Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.'

⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Post communion

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters
we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

Amen



