

SUNDAY 1st MARCH 2026 (Second Sunday of Lent, Lectionary Year A)

COLLECT

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's
sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

LESSON: GENESIS 12:1-4a

Now 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 121

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not suffer your foot to stumble; he who watches over you will not sleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.
- 5 The Lord himself watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, neither the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord shall keep you from all evil; it is he who shall keep your soul.
- 8 The Lord shall keep watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth for evermore.

ROMANS 4:1-5,13-17

(A reading from a letter of Paul to the Romans)

What then 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 does not work but 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. For 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 transgression. For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, 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)

Now 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 unless God is with that person." 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 the 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.

(This is the Gospel of the Lord)

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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.
Amen

NOTICES FOR SUNDAY 1st March 2026

CHRISTIAN WORSHIP for SUNDAY 8th MARCH – 3rd Sunday of Lent

- 9.30am Boylestone Morning Worship (Archdeacon Nicky)
9.30am Hatton Morning Worship (Rev Ed)
11.00am Church Broughton Holy Communion (Archdeacon Nicky)
11.00am Hilton Morning Worship (Rev Ed)

READINGS: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

EVENTS AND SERVICES FOR WEEK OF THE 1st MARCH

- Tuesday 1.15pm: Little Saints, All Saints' Hatton
- Tuesday 5.30pm: Dove Club, All Saints' Hatton
- Wednesday 9.30am: Mid-week Morning Prayer at All Saints' Hatton
- Friday 10.00am – 2.00pm: Hub Community Café, at All Saints' Jubilee Hall, Station Road, Hatton
- Saturday 10.00am – Noon: Boylestone Big Breakfast

APPLETREE CHURCHES MORNING PRAYER

Zoom morning prayer will usually be held on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings at 8am. On Wednesdays Morning Prayer will be held at All Saints Church, Hatton at 9.30am. Once a month at 9.30am there will be a service of Holy Communion.

The Zoom link for Morning Prayer can be found in the Teamup entry, or contact Vickie for the link. If you would like help with setting up Zoom for Morning Prayer, please also contact Vickie: vickie@appletreechurches.org / 07977 067 585.

All are welcome.

BISHOPS LENT REFLECTIONS

Friends,

Throughout Lent, Bishop Libby and Bishop Malcolm will host a series of Lent Reflections with Bible Study and prayer. Each week will reflect on the Gospel for the following Sunday.

The reflections will be held online over five weeks, starting on Monday, 23 February 2026 / Tuesday, 24 February 2026. The Monday reflections will start at 8 am, with the content repeated on Tuesdays at 8 pm.

All sessions will be live and not pre-recorded.

Please do join the sessions using the links below:

Monday sessions (8 am)

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/37907295559995?p=h7tFVg5Fuh3rIqOJ12>

Tuesday sessions (8 pm)

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/35193554707774?p=WCGv8wZSYfy2Y4kZsK>

The sessions should last approx. 50 minutes.

BOYLESTONE BIG BREAKFAST SATURDAY MARCH 7th

The second of the Boylestone BIG BREAKFAST events is approaching following a very successful first event on February 7th. All are welcome to come along on for breakfast on Saturday 7th March, starting at 10am and finishing at noon, where Boylestone are offering their usual hearty Full English breakfast, accompanied by unlimited toast and hot drinks.

All this for the bargain price of £8 per adult (half price for children under 12). A Vegetarian option is also available.

A raffle will also be held, all is in aid of church funds.

MAUNDY THURSDAY PASSOVER SEDER MEAL, ST MARY'S SCHOOLROOM, THURSDAY 2nd APRIL

A date for your diary on Maundy Thursday, 2nd April.

All are welcome to come together to mark the eve of Good Friday and imagine something like a Passover meal, but as a Christian 'Agape Meal' event. The evening starts with a Seder meal, and some fun and worship, including Communion. The service concludes with Tenebrae, a service of shadows, where with readings and silence and semi-darkness the story of Christ's passion is traced. As candles are extinguished, all are invited to ponder the depth of Christ's suffering and death, and then leave in silence and meditation.

The Passover Seder Meal is on the evening of Thursday 2nd April between 6.30pm to 8.30pm at the Schoolroom at St Mary's Hilton with Marston on Dove; this is a family event and all are welcome.

Tickets for the event are £11 for adults £5.00 for children (to cover the food etc).

Contact Vickie at office@appletreechurches.org or 07977067585 if you'd like more information or you would like to book.

Please also let us know of any allergies or dietary requirements.

PAUL BROWN SKYDIVE AUGUST 2026

Paul Brown is planning a skydive in August of this year to raise money for Derby Children's Holiday Centre. His aim is to raise over £500 – please see Paul if you'd like to make a donation (Paul worships at St Mary's Hilton with Marston on Dove).

You can also donate via Paul's Just Giving page:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/paul-brown-1-skydive?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

PRAYERS

Please pray for Julian and Dulcie who are to be married at Church Broughton Church in April.

Prays also for the Churchwardens and PCCs as they prepare for the Archdeacon's Benefice visit on March 10th.

We continue to pray for the family and friends of all who are considering Baptism or Confirmation at this time and those preparing for their weddings later in the year.

VISITING PARISHIONERS

Do you know anyone who would like a visit from Rev Ed? If yes, please can you let Rev Ed know. Ed's contact details are at the top of the page.