

The Lower Nadder Benefice Newsletter 6th March 2026

Lent 3

Parishes of: St Martin - Barford St Martin with Burcombe, St Editha - Baverstock, St Michael - Compton Chamberlayne, St Mary - Dinton, St George - Fovant, All Saints - Sutton Mandeville, St Michael and all Angels Teffont Evias with St Edward of Wessex Teffont Magna

Worship in the Benefice

8th March

0930 Barford St Martin Morning Prayer

0930 Sutton Mandeville Morning Prayer

**1115 Teffont Evias All Age Communion Refreshments
served from 10:45am**

**A prayer for the Middle East, adapted
by the Dean of Salisbury, Nick
Papadopoulos, from a prayer by the
Archbishop of Jerusalem.**

O God of all justice and peace.

**We cry out to you in the midst of the
pain, the trauma, the violence and the
fear which prevail in the lands of the
Middle East. Be with those who need
you in these days of suffering.**

**We pray for people of all faiths Jews,
Muslims, Christians and for all the
people of those lands.**

**And while we pray to you, O Lord, for an
end to violence and the establishment
of peace, we also call for you to bring
justice and equity to the peoples.**

**Guide us into you Kingdom, where all
people are treated with dignity and
honour as your children.**

**For to all of us you are our Heavenly
Father. In Jesus name we pray. Amen**



**A Pastoral Letter from Archbishop Hosam Naoum
Primate of the Province of Jerusalem & the Middle East
28 February 2026**

As you are all now painfully aware, in the early hours of this morning, February 28th, a coordinated and massive military assault was launched by the United States and Israel against numerous cities and installations within Iran. This operation, described by the leaders of the two nations as a “pre-emptive” attack, has brought fire and destruction to the heart of Tehran, Isfahan, and beyond, striking at the very centers of governance and civilian life. Moreover, just prior to these events, Israel had also “pre-emptively” attacked various targets in southern Lebanon, where the number of casualties has yet to be determined.

Tragically, the cycle of violence has expanded with terrifying speed. In the hours following, Iran launched a widespread reprisal, with missiles and drones targeting Israel and U.S. military assets across the Gulf—striking installations in Kuwait, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Kurdistan-Iraq, Jordan, and Qatar. Sirens also blared across the Holy Land, warning of incoming missiles from Iran. Suddenly, our people from the Mediterranean to the Persian Gulf find themselves once again huddled in shelters, fearing for their lives as the shadow of a total regional war looms over us.

These developments strike at the very soul of our Province of Jerusalem & the Middle East. Every single nation now engaged in this combat, and those bearing the brunt of the retaliatory strikes, resides within our ecclesiastical boundaries. Our brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Iran are currently enduring the terror of aerial bombardment; our members in the Diocese of Cyprus & the Gulf are witnessing the arrival of war at their doorsteps; and our faithful in the Diocese of Jerusalem—extending across Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria—face an unprecedented threat of military escalation.

In the face of such overwhelming force, we recall the words of our Lord Jesus Christ: “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God” (Matt 5:9). Today, that calling feels heavier than ever before. When the “spirit of fear” threatens to consume our hearts, we must anchor ourselves in the “spirit of power, and of love, and of a sound mind” (2 Tim 1:7).

First, I call upon the global Church to join us in urgent, unceasing prayer. We implore God to protect the innocent—the mothers, the children, and the elderly—who are caught in the crossfire of this “Operation Epic Fury” and the subsequent “crushing responses.” We pray specifically for a “sound mind” for the leaders of the United States, Israel, and Iran, that they might recognize the futility of this bloodshed and turn back from the precipice of a global catastrophe.

Second, we must offer each other the sanctuary of Christian love. I therefore urge our clergy and laity to be beacons of comfort. In a time of “regime change” rhetoric and military ultimatums, let our message be the unchanging promise of Christ’s peace: to build each other up (1 Cor 8:1), for our hope is not in the strength of armadas or missile shields, but in the Prince of Peace.

Finally, we must remain “Bridge Builders.” Even as diplomatic windows seem to slam shut, the Church must keep the doors of reconciliation open. We refuse to see our neighbors as enemies, whether they be in Tehran, Tel Aviv, or the military bases of the Gulf. I extend an urgent invitation to the wider Anglican Communion and all people of goodwill: Intercede for us now. The hour is late, and the danger is great. We remain “battered and bruised, but not defeated.” May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Pray for peace where war and violence continue, especially in the Middle East, Ukraine, and other troubled regions. Pray for wisdom for leaders and protection for civilians. Pray that nations will seek justice, cooperation, and understanding rather than division.

Pray for those facing hunger, displacement, and poverty around the world, for aid workers who continue to provide relief for those suffering.

Pray for wisdom and integrity for our government as they make decisions that affect the nation. Pray for our armed forces.

Continue to pray for the Upper Nadder Benefice as they seek a Rector.



Collect of the week
Eternal God,
give us insight to discern your
will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we
are promised in Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen

Verse of the week

John 4:13-14

Jesus said to her, Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.



Chalke Cueibet Partnership

March 2026

Prayer for Lent in Cueibet

Almighty God help us to support the work of the Christian leaders in South Sudan with prayer. Give strength in humility to Archbishops Justin Badi and Alapayo Kuctiel and that they will soon send a new Bishop to guide your flock in Cueibet Diocese.

We thank you Lord for the work of the Mathetes trust, in training new Sunday school teachers- and for the Mothers Union: may they grow in love for your people and during these forty days they may follow in Jesus' footsteps and know his power to save. Amen

Lower Nadder Benefice Worship

**Lower Nadder Benefice
Service**

**St Michael
Compton Chamberlayne
March 15th 10am**

**All Age Communion
Service for
Mothering Sunday**

All Welcome



22nd March

0930 Barford st Martin BCP Parish Communion

0930 Dinton Morning Prayer

0930 Fovant Parish Communion

1115 Teffont Magna All Age Communion

29th March Palm Sunday

1000 Benefice Communion Service ST Michael and All Angels Teffont Evias

Services in Holy Week

Wednesday April 1st 1830 St Martin Barford St Martin - Compline

Maundy Thursday April 2nd 1830 Teffont Vi llage Hall- AGAPE meal with Communion

Good Friday April 3rd 1400 St George Fovant - An hour at the Cross

Dates for your Diary

15th March - Mothering Sunday

19th March - 2-4pm Tea and Chat Barford St Martin

29th March - Palm Sunday

3rd April - Good Friday

5th April - Easter Sunday

14th May - Ascension Day

17th May 2-5 pm Hydes House Dinton open Gardens

24th May - Pentecost

14th June 12-5pm St Mary's Dinton, Open Gardens & Summer Teas

20-21 June Benefice Flower Festival

18th July 12-4 The Badges Fete

12th September (t.b.c.) Ride and Stride



St Martin
Barford St Martin

Tea and Chat
Thursday 19th March
2-4pm

Brian Percey will talk about the work of the Salisbury Street Pastors who provide a non-judgmental, caring presence, offering practical support, listening ear, and helping hand to those who are vulnerable, or in need of assistance during a night out

There is no charge but donations welcome for the ongoing work of the church



National Garden Scheme

Hydes House
Open Garden
(next to St Mary's Church)

17th May 2026
2-5pm

Adults : £8.00
Children : Free
Cashless payments
available

Refreshments in aid of
St Mary's Church
Home-made teas at
Thatched Old School Room
with outside tea tables.



Benefice Services 2026

10am

March 15th Mothering Sunday

St Michael - Compton Chamberlayne

March 29th Palm Sunday

St Michael and All Angels - Teffont Evias

April 19th

St George - Fovant

May 17th Rogation Sunday

All Saints - Sutton Mandeville

May 31st

St Martin - Barford St Martin with Burcombe

June 21st

St Mary - Dinton

July 19th

St Editha - Baverstock

August 16th

St Michael - Compton Chamberlayne

August 30th

St Michael and All Angels - Teffont Evias

September 20th

St George - Fovant

October 18th

All Saints - Sutton Mandeville

November 15th

St Martin- Barford st Martin with Burcombe