

## WEEKLY REFLECTION

### Liturgical Reflection for 5th Sunday of Lent

The readings on this 5th Sunday of Lent tells us that God can bring us from death to new life. The First Reading tells us of God's desire to restore life in us. The Second Reading tells us that if Christ dwells in us, we will have new life as He does.

As we draw near to the end of Lent, today's Gospel clearly has Jesus' passion and death in view. The Gospel of John tells us about Lazarus' sister, Mary – that she is the one who anointed the Lord for burial (*John 12:3,7*). When Lazarus is raised, it is noticed that the tombstone is taken away, as well as Lazarus' burial cloths and head covering – these details are echoed with Jesus' empty tomb (*John 20:1,6,7*).

Lazarus represents humanity. He stands for a "dead man" – for all those Jesus loves and wants to liberate from the bands of sin and death. Lazarus' death is used by Jesus to reveal 'the glory of God'.

Jesus' command to 'rise from the dead' demonstrates his Lordship and that when we believe in Him, we are totally unbound and free from the things that bind us. If we believe, we will see that Jesus loves each of us as He loved Lazarus, that He calls us out of death and into new life. By His Resurrection Jesus has fulfilled Ezekiel's promise in today's First Reading. He has opened the graves that we may rise, put His Spirit in us that we may live. The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead will give life to we who were once dead in sin.

Faith is the key. If we believe as Martha does in today's Gospel, that Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life – even if we die, we will live. Let us, therefore, doubt no further and believe in Him!

*Written By Milly Tan*

### From the Bishops

Across our world prayers will be offered daily for lasting peace in the Middle East for all those affected by war and those with decision making power.

Archbishop Hossan of Jerusalem urges the Church throughout the world to offer prayers for peace, to be a source of consolation in time of war and to be bridge builders in our own communities.

If you are unsure what to pray perhaps you can pray the prayer written below by Bishop Guli of Chelmsford who originates from Iran and join her as we pray for peace:

Ever-loving God, who hears us in our anguish and distress, and longs for us to be free. We pray for the people of Iran and the wider Middle East, at this time of fear and uncertainty.

Be near to those who are anxious; bring comfort to all who are suffering. Guide those with the power to make decisions, and lead them in the ways of wisdom, compassion and moderation: that people of goodwill would seek harmony and reconciliation.

Join us with our Christian brothers and sisters in all places, in praying for peace with justice, through him who is the prince of peace,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

# SUNDAY SERVICES @ CHWCHURCHES

GLUTEN FREE? If you require a gluten free wafer for communion please let the sides people know when you arrive and inform the priest when you get to the altar rail.

**22nd March 2026 (5th Sunday of Lent)**

**ST. THOMAS' COLNBROOK**

**11.00 a.m. Joint 4th Sunday Communion Service**

**Service to be led by Revd Canon Christopher Bull**  
Associate Archdeacon of Buckingham

Readings: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Romans 8:6-11; Psalm 130; John 11:1-45

**NO MORNING SERVICES AT ST. ANDREW'S & ST. MICHAEL'S**

**29th March 2026 (Palm Sunday)**

**ST. ANDREW'S WRAYSBURY**

**11.00 a.m. Joint 5th Sunday Communion Service**

**Service to be led by Revd Patrick Samuels**

**NO MORNING SERVICES AT ST. THOMAS' & ST. MICHAEL'S**



**Upcoming COMBINED service April 2026 for your diaries:**

**2nd April St. Andrew's**

**(Maundy Thursday meal 6.00pm and service 7.00pm )**

**PLEASE NOTE: IF YOU REQUIRE TRANSPORT FOR THE COMBINED SERVICES, PLEASE  
EMAIL SUE ON [office@CHWChurches.org](mailto:office@CHWChurches.org) OR PHONE 07543 539569**

SAFEGUARDING ST. ANDREW'S, ST. MICHAEL'S AND ST. THOMAS' CHURCHES ARE COMMITTED TO THE SAFETY AND WELLBEING OF ALL CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE ADULTS WHO FALL WITHIN OUR CARE. A COPY OF OUR SAFEGUARDING POLICY MAY BE VIEWED ON OUR WEBPAGE. IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS AT ALL ABOUT THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN OR VULNERABLE ADULTS YOU CAN CONTACT OUR PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER, HEATHER HERMES ON 01784 391417 EMAIL: [SAFEGUARDING@CHWCHURCHES.ORG](mailto:SAFEGUARDING@CHWCHURCHES.ORG) ALTERNATIVELY YOU CAN CONTACT THE DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING TEAM, 01865 208295 EMAIL: [SAFEGUARDINGREFERRALS@OXFORD.ANGLICAN.ORG](mailto:SAFEGUARDINGREFERRALS@OXFORD.ANGLICAN.ORG) OR THE LOCAL AUTHORITY SOCIAL SERVICES TEAM ON 01628 683150.

# CHURCH NEWS

## Are YOU on the Church Electoral Roll?



The Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCMs) are coming up shortly for all three churches where the Church Electoral Roll will be updated.

Joining your church's Electoral Roll is a meaningful way to say "*this is my church*" and to take an active part in its life. It allows you to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, stand for roles such as the PCC and help shape the future of our parish. Enrolling doesn't create extra obligations, but it does recognise that being part of a church family involves offering what we can—our time and talents to support worship, community life, and the mission of the church.

It's a simple way to strengthen your connection to the parish and our ability to serve the community.

EMAIL FORM TO [OFFICE@CHWCHURCHES.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@CHWCHURCHES.ORG)

## PRAYER

### Come Together To Pray

#### WEEKLY IN EACH CHURCH

FOR APPROX. 20 MINS

Monday St. Michael's Horton 9:10 a.m.

Tuesday St. Thomas' Colnbrook 9:10 a.m.

Wednesday St. Andrew's Wraysbury 9:10 a.m.  
(TERM TIME ONLY)

#### MONTHLY COMBINED PRAYER

First Tuesday of every month

Next meeting:

7th April 2026 7:30 p.m. St. Andrew's  
Rotating to Wraysbury, Colnbrook, Horton



#### FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Paul Friar, Annie, Mark Blackman, Greg Scott, Judy Osborne, Olga Cheeseman, Bea Tucker, Sue Wynne-Davies, Roy Talbot, Kelly Hughes, Sue Waller, Margaret Lenton, Pauline Blackman, George Blackman, Alison, Joan Poole, Jilly and her family, Louise Swanston, Carole, Peter and Shirley Lane, Matt.

#### OUR MISSION PARTNERS

- Open Doors, serving persecuted Christians and churches worldwide
- Learning 4 Life Foundation, The Kitchen, Zanzibar
- Wraysbury and Horton Voluntary Care
- Alexander Devine Children's Hospice
- Canaan Ministries and Bookshop in Staines

# DURING THE WEEK @ CHWCHURCHES

## Monday 23rd March

- 09.10 Morning Prayer at St. Michael's
- 10.00 Horton Community Coffee Morning at Champney Hall
- 16.00 Memorial Service for Monica Taylor, St Andrew's Church
- 19.30 "Come & See" Lent Course in St. Andrew's Annexe

## Tuesday 24th March

- 09.10 Morning Prayer at St. Thomas'
- 14.00 St. Andrew's Cafe in St. Andrew's Annexe

## Wednesday 25th March

- 09.10 Morning Prayer at St. Andrew's
- 10.00 Little Lambs Mums & Toddlers in St. Andrew's Annexe
- 19.00 Connect Youth Group at St. Thomas'
- 19.30 Bell Ringing Practice at St. Andrew's

## Thursday 26th March

- 13.30 **EARLIER TIME** "Come & See" Lent Course in St. Thomas' Colnbrook

## Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March

- 11.00 Funeral for Timothy Whittick, St. Michael's Church

## Saturday 28th March

- 9.30 Church Clean Up, St. Thomas', any help appreciated, jobs for everyone
- 10.00 Men's Breakfast in St. Andrew's Annexe
- 10.00 Stitch in Champney Hall
- 13.00 Crafty Church in Champney Hall

## CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION

Vicar: Rev. Patrick Samuels  
Mobile 07349 037437  
Vicar@CHWChurches.org

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Admin: Sue Britton  
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Office@CHWChurches.org

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Community Cafe &  
Contemporary Services  
Tony Hermes  
Tony.hermes@CHWChurches.org

Connect Youth Group & All Age Services  
Rev. Sheila Samuels  
Sheila.samuels@CHWChurches.org

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Safeguarding:  
Heather Hermes  
Safeguarding@CHWChurches.org

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Little Lambs:  
Becky Webb  
LittleLambs@CHWChurches.org

# THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

April - June 2026

## PASTORAL CARE COURSE

Online and Onsite Learning

Run by the Diocese of Oxford Learning Hub

All Christians care for others, but some discover a particular gift or ministry in this area. This course is for people already involved in pastoral care or those wanting to discover more about this ministry.

Bookings close this Friday  
27th March

For more info and to sign up,  
click here:



Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August  
HOLIDAY AT HOME

A fun week for the older members  
of the community

CAN YOU HELP?

For one off events or a few  
days - up to you

Phone Patrick 07349 037437

