

Aston Botterell,  
Burwarton,  
Chetton,  
Cleobury North,



Ditton Priors,  
Loughton,  
Neenton,  
Wheathill.

**Revd Joe Simons, Rector**  
**The Vicarage, Ditton Priors, Shropshire. WV16 6SQ.**  
**01746 599217 / 07872 464276**

*...Jesus Christ is Lord, to the Glory of God the Father...*



*As a Church we pray for those who are ill and  
in need and for those recently departed and  
their families.*

*We especially pray for Margaret Griffiths in  
Bridgnorth Hospital.*

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Palm Sunday**  
**– Liturgy of the Palms – Liturgy of the**  
**Passion - Red**

10.00am – Group Holy Communion – Chetton  
**Hymns 11, 435, 148, 532**

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March**

6.00pm – Evening Prayer – Neenton

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

6.00pm – Evening Prayer – Aston Botterell

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April**

6.00pm – Stations of the Cross – Chetton

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

6.00pm – Maundy Thursday Passover Meal –  
Cleobury North Village Hall – Please see pew  
sheet for further details

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Good Friday**

6.00pm – Reflection – Ditton Priors

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April**

6.00pm – Compline Vigil – Ditton Priors

### **Activities & News**

#### **throughout the Benefice**

more info in Wheatland News  
or online at

[www.browncleebenefice.org.uk](http://www.browncleebenefice.org.uk)  
[www.achurchnearyou.com/Brown-Clee-Benefice](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/Brown-Clee-Benefice)

*Our last two Lent Course sessions will  
now run after Easter at a date to be  
advised*

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March, 8.30am**

**Now at Church House, Chetton!**

**Gentlemen's Breakfast** – please watch out for our  
April date!

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March, 10.30am – 12 noon.**

**Julia's Get together Coffee Morning at**  
**Cleobury North Village Hall.** All welcome.

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

**Chetton Breakfast at The Down, 9.00am**

Please let Sheila know if you would like to go on  
01746 789443

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 10.30am**

**At The Pavilion, Ditton Priors**

**Easter Coffee Morning, Egg Hunt & Decorated**  
**Easter Hat Competition**

We do hope you will be able to join us at this  
lovely Spring Event – see further on for details

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March**

**Don't forget to put your clocks forward  
as we spring into British Summer Time!!**

Benefice Office: Open Monday & Wednesday 9.30am – 1.30pm

Email: [browncleebenefice@outlook.com](mailto:browncleebenefice@outlook.com)

Website: [www.browncleebenefice.org.uk](http://www.browncleebenefice.org.uk) Facebook: [www.facebook.com/browncleechurches](http://www.facebook.com/browncleechurches)

### **Collect for the Day**

Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; 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**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you humbled yourself in taking the  
form of a servant,  
and in obedience died on the cross for  
our salvation:

give us the mind to follow you  
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**Amen**

### **Readings for Sunday 29th March** **Liturgy of the Palms**

**Psalm 118. 1 – 2, 19 – end**  
**(or 118. 19 – 24)**

**Matthew 21. 1 - 11**

### **Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem**

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey

tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately. This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, 'Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.' The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!' When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?' The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

### **Liturgy of the Passion**

**Psalms 31. 9 – 16 (or 31. 9 – 18)**

**Isaiah 50. 4 – 9a**

### **The Servant's Humiliation and Vindication**

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he

wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

### **Philippians 2. 5 – 11**

#### **Imitating Christ's Humility**

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue

should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### **Matthew 26. 14 – end of 27**

#### **Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus**

Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, 'What will you give me if I betray him to you?' They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

#### **The Passover with the Disciples**

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, 'Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?' He said, 'Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, "The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, 'Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.' And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, 'Surely not I, Lord?' He answered, 'The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.' Judas, who betrayed him, said, 'Surely not I,

Rabbi?' He replied, 'You have said so.'

### **The Institution of the Lord's Supper**

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, 'Take, eat; this is my body.'

Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you;

### **Matthew 27. 11 - 54**

#### **Pilate Questions Jesus**

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus said, 'You say so.' But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, 'Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?' But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

#### **Barabbas or Jesus?**

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, 'Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?' For he realized

that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgement seat, his wife sent word to him, 'Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.' Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them, 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?' And they said, 'Barabbas.' Pilate said to them, 'Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?' All of them said, 'Let him be crucified!' Then he asked, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, 'Let him be crucified!'

#### **Pilate Hands Jesus over to Be Crucified**

So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, 'I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.' Then the people as a whole answered, 'His blood be on us and on our children!' So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

#### **The Soldiers Mock Jesus**

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They

stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

### **The Crucifixion of Jesus**

As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, 'You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.' In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, 'He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is

the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, "I am God's Son." The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

### **The Death of Jesus**

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, 'Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'This man is calling for Elijah.' At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.' Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, 'Truly this man was God's Son!'

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

**at The Down, 9am**

**Chetton Breakfast** – please let Sheila know if you would like to attend on 01746 789443

**Friends of St John**

**The Friends support our church and look to fund projects such as the new toilet and drainage, and improve the heating. The annual subs are due and the Friends will be at our Spring Fete or pick up a form from the Church.**

**Chetton Coffee Morning**

**Wednesday 1 April 10am–1pm:**

Chat, coffee & cakes & Bric a Brac, everyone welcome! Please do let Lisa know if you would like to donate anything for the bric a brac table.

**Easter Coffee Morning, Egg Hunt and Decorated Hat Competition**

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March,**

**10.30am – 1.00pm at**

**The Pavilion, Ditton Priors.**

Last year was amazing! Wait until you see Revd Joe's 2026 Hat design! We can't wait to see yours! There will be stalls and delicious refreshments and a very egg-citing Easter Treasure Hunt! We do hope that you can join us!

*Please don't forget that St. John's monthly Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April due to Easter*

**Maundy Thursday Passover meal preparations!**

Revd Val would be grateful for help with the following:

- Setting up the hall-opening and closing, tables, chairs and heating
- A kitchen team to clear away afterwards
- Setting up a data projector, DVD player and screen for a DVD clip
- Food preparation
- Advertising in the Community
- 

Please do contact Revd Val on [revval14@gmail.com](mailto:revval14@gmail.com)

**Mobile: 07887245040 - use messaging, WhatsApp or phone 01746 861966**

or Emma at The Benefice Office by any of the usual ways!

Thank you very much.

# Brown Clee Churches

## Invitation to



## Join our Passover Meal

Maundy Thursday  
2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026 at 6.00pm  
Cleobury North Village Hall

You are warmly invited to bring the  
Family to join us as we bring  
The Last Supper to life through readings, songs and food.

**Featuring**  
Lamb hotpot  
(Vegetarian option available)

There is no charge – if you are able, please make a donation.  
Proceeds to support Brown Clee Benefice Mission.

RSVP – Booking essential for Catering Purposes.

Booking list at the back of church, or alternatively please contact the  
Benefice Office on 01746 599217 or [browncleebenefice@outlook.com](mailto:browncleebenefice@outlook.com)

**Please advise of any dietary needs**

## Thank you!

Thank you so much to Brown Clee YFC who organised the best Quiz & Curry Night on Monday at Ditton Priors Village Hall! We had such a great evening! All our churches were represented and we just want to thank everyone at Brown Clee Young Farmers for their hard work and preparation. There was a question for everyone! In addition they have raised an amazing £257.54 for Brown Clee Benefice. We can't wait for our next joint event!

## We need more tins for candle holders for Ukraine please!

Following the very successful collection of tins from the St. John the Baptist church porch we have been asked to continue supporting this wonderful cause! Please do eat as much soup, baked beans and everything else that comes in a large tin as possible!! They are vital to so many and are used as candle holders in Ukraine. All tins should be washed and labels removed. Please bring them to the collection point at Ditton Priors until the end of March.

Thank you, we are so grateful!

Aston Botterell Church

# FISH & CHIPS

at The Boyne Arms  
on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> of May 2026  
at 7.00pm



For further details and to book your team -  
please contact Anne Preece on 07966 459806