

Sunday 8 March 2026
Third Sunday of Lent
The Barton Benefice

Sunday 8 March Third Sunday of Lent

*Thanks to The Reverend Canon
Dr Andrew Bunch for leading services today*

**9.30am Eucharist (said with hymns),
Steeple Barton**

11.00am Eucharist, Duns Tew

Readings

Exodus 17. 1-7
Romans 5. 1-11

Psalm 95
John 4. 5-42

Hymns are on the Readings & Collects Sheet.

Rotas are now compiled by Jennie Barry & Deborah Bailey. For any requests or changes, please email beneficerota@gmail.com

Please send notices to Clare by Tuesday evening. Clare works Wednesday lunch time and Thursday morning. Please also include any topics for our prayers enquiries.bartonbenefice@outlook.com

Details of services are on noticeboards & the website achurchnearyou.com/barton-benefice .

Lunchtime prayers continue on Fridays at 12.15pm.

On 6 March at 4 Pound Bank Sandford Saint Martin (Ed's). On 13 March at 13 Marshall Crescent, Middle Barton (Sam's).

Join in person or on www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/prayer-during-day (scroll to find the Prayer during the day on a Friday for Lent).

Recruiting Jane's successor

Diocese representatives met the churchwardens and other PCC members on 24 Feb and outlined the timetable for recruiting Jane's successor. This set out the formal meetings, and a proposed date for interviews on 4 Sept. There is much to do before then! One of the first jobs will be for each parish to elect representatives to compile the benefice profile by the end of June and another group of parish representatives for the interviews. Churchwardens will be arranging PCC meetings for this purpose in the next few weeks.

Meetings

Westcote Barton PCC Fri 6 March 6pm The Manor WB Deanery Synod 11 March 7.30pm St Mary's Wootton Duns Tew PCC Wed 18 March 5.30pm at Carol's

Jane's Licensing

as

Priest-in-Charge

on Monday 9 March 2026 at 7.30pm
St. Peter & St. Paul Church, Shiplake, RG9 4BS

You are also invited to the Rectory from 5 onwards for tea and cake before the service. There will also be refreshments in church after the service.

Parking: All parking is at Shiplake College RG9 4BW. **N.B.** there is no parking by the church. There are a couple of spaces for anyone with reduced mobility. Please let Deborah know. Further directions/parking details including a map are also available from Deborah.

Please R.S.V.P. to deborahbailey46@hotmail.com indicating the number of seats required for the service and whether you are planning to come early for refreshments with Jane and Alan in Shiplake.



Barton Benefice

Mothering Sunday Services

Sunday 15 March 2026

9.30am Eucharist

Nether Worton Church – with posies

11.00am Family Worship Benefice Service - for all ages and families

Sandford St Martin Church

Posies at the service and refreshments after

5.00pm Informal Service

Alice Marshall Hall

Posy making in Sandford Church

Sat 14 March 2.30-4.30pm



**Posy Making for Mothering Sunday
Saturday 14 March, 2.30-4.30pm
Sandford Church**

Posy making in Sandford Church, ready for the Benefice Service on Sunday 15 March. All help, including flowers and foliage welcome!

Please Pray for ...

For a peaceful resolution to the war in the Middle East and for lasting peace throughout the world and restraint where there is threat of war and unrest.

For all who are experiencing hardship of any kind, in this country and beyond.

For all who are persecuted for their faith.

Take a moment to reflect on things in the news or whatever is on your mind right now.

Local Prayers:

For Jane ahead of her Licensing next week in her new benefice. And for Jane and Alan as they settle in the Benefice of Shiplake, Dunsden and Harpsden.

For all preparing for baptism, marriage and funerals.

For families who have recently held a funeral or are preparing for one in the coming days.

For all who are unwell .

For all who are awaiting test results, and those receiving or recovering from treatment, giving thanks for all who are healing or feeling better after a period of illness.

For all who have died recently in our communities and beyond .

All who are mourning the loss of a loved one, whether recently, or whose anniversary falls at this time.

CONTACT INFORMATION DURING THE VACANCY

Email:

From 18 February the new Benefice email is bartonbenefice@gmail.com

Please note Jane's email: clergy.bartonbenefice@gmail.com will be discontinued from 18 February.

Tel:

From 18 February the new Benefice phone number is 07752 763912

The Rectory Landline Tel 01869 340510 and Mobile 07840 319850 will not work from 18 February.

These contact details are also on the website.

Wednesday Lunch Club every week 12-2pm in the Alice Marshall Hall. 2 course lunch for £7 Raising funds for local churches and charities. All welcome

The Destiny Breakfast Saturdays 9.30 -12.00 Alice Marshall Hall. From full English to pastries and lots in between. Raising money for the Destiny Fund supporting local children's events. Everyone welcome



Lent Lunches and Study Groups

Lent Study Groups on Tues 17 March and Weds 1 April, all at 5.30pm at 34, Duns Tew. The theme is the Nicene Creed: getting to grips with what we say we believe.

The theme for this year's **Lent Lunches** is religious paintings. Please arrive at 12.15 for 12.30pm soup lunch. 1.15 talk followed by questions, finishing at 1.45pm. Please book by emailing:

sara.cunningham3@btinternet.com

Next lunch on Thursday 12 March at Alice Marshall



Hall, Middle Barton 'The descent from the cross' (Steeple Barton hosting)

Friday 20 March at Sandford Village Hall

Blake's 'The Entombment', which is on Tate Britain

website. (Sandford St Martin hosting)

Further dates on the leaflet.

Download the leaflet with full details here:

[1f54820-d197-4b7c-bbc6-501e6553a3f6.pdf](https://www.bartonbenefice.com/files/1f54820-d197-4b7c-bbc6-501e6553a3f6.pdf)

Great Tew Lent Course: We have also been invited to participate in the Lent Course in Great Tew which will explore the authorship of the four Gospels. Details also on the leaflet above.

The next one is Tues Mar 10, The Vicarage 7-8.15pm

The Gospel According to St Mark

Simple refreshments will be served.

Sunday 15 March Fourth Sunday of Lent / Mothering Sunday

9.30am Eucharist Nether Worton – with posies

11.00am Benefice Family Worship, SSM with posies and refreshments

5pm Informal Service, Alice Marshall Hall

Readings

1 Samuel 16. 1-13

Psalms 23

Ephesians 5 8-14

John 9 1-41

To speak to someone or for prayer requests, please contact Susan 01869 340455 or Steph 01869347350 stephanielacey34@icloud.com

For admin enquiries, please email Clare Harper, Benefice Administrator enquiries.bartonbenefice@outlook.com [facebook.com/bartonbenefice/](https://www.facebook.com/bartonbenefice/) [achurchnearyou.com/barton-benefice](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/barton-benefice)