

## MAIN SUNDAY SERVICES

### Sunday 1st February

10.30am St Mary's United Parish Service with Bishop Michael (with Confirmations)

### Sunday 8th February

9.15am St John's Holy Communion  
9.45am Holy Trinity Holy Communion  
11.00am St Mary's Holy Communion  
11.15am St Leonard's Holy Communion

### Sunday 15th February

9.15am St John's Holy Communion  
9.45am Holy Trinity Holy Communion  
11.00am St Mary's Holy Communion  
11.15am St Leonard's Holy Communion  
4.00pm Holy Trinity BCP Compline

### Sunday 22nd February

9.15am St John's Holy Communion  
9.45am Holy Trinity Holy Communion  
11.00am St Mary's Holy Communion  
11.15am St Leonard's Holy Communion

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Our reader, Chris Prescott writes.....

### Embracing Renewal and Quiet Growth

February, often the shortest and most overlooked month of the calendar, carries with it a quiet invitation to pause, reflect, and prepare the heart for renewal. Nestled between the deep winter and the promise of spring, this month offers a subtle yet profound opportunity for spiritual contemplation and growth.



### A Time for Stillness

The chill of February reminds us that nature is still in a state of rest. Trees remain bare, fields often lie fallow, and the days, though slowly lengthening, still retain traces of winter's hush. Spiritually, this can encourage us to embrace stillness in our own lives—an invitation to slow down, listen more deeply, and reconnect with our inner selves.

### Renewal and Preparation

In many traditions, February is a time for preparing for new beginnings. Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday, and this year starts on 18th February, is a season of self-examination, cleansing, and setting intentions for personal and spiritual renewal —making space for new

growth, much like gardeners begin preparing soil for spring planting.

### Light in the Darkness

Each day in February, the sun sets a little later. The growing light is a subtle reminder that hope and change are on the horizon. Spiritually, this can encourage us to seek out the light within ourselves, even when life feels cold or dormant. It is a time to nurture hope, however faint, and trust that brighter days are ahead.

### Practices for February

- Daily Quiet Time: Set aside a few moments each day for silence or prayer, allowing yourself to listen to your heart and to whatever wisdom may arise.
- Journaling: Reflect on what is dormant in your life and what you hope will blossom in the coming months. What do you need to let go of? What do you wish to cultivate?
- Acts of Kindness: Even small gestures—writing a note, making a call, or simply offering a smile—can bring warmth to others and to yourself.
- Mindful Presence: Take time to notice the subtle shifts in the season: the return of birdsong, the first green shoots, the lengthening days. Let these signs inspire gratitude and hope.

February teaches us the value of patience and quiet perseverance. It encourages us to honour the rhythms of nature and of our own hearts. By embracing the stillness and subtle changes of this month, we prepare ourselves for the renewal that is sure to come. May your February be one of gentle reflection, spiritual growth, and the quiet anticipation of new beginnings.

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### Electoral Roll Revision.

We will be revising the parish electoral roll from **8–22 February**. The roll lists those eligible to vote on Church matters or stand for church councils or Deanery Synod. Being on the roll isn't required to be part of the church, nor does it involve any extra commitment or cost. It simply shows your support for the parish and helps reflect the church's strength locally.

To join, you must be baptised, over 16, and either live in the parish or have attended for six months.

If you would like to be added to the roll, please ask for a form in church or email [jo@telfordchurch.co.uk](mailto:jo@telfordchurch.co.uk) before **22 February**.

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### LENT 2026

Lent is soon approaching, inviting us into a season of reflection, prayer, and preparation as we journey towards the celebration of Easter.

### Shrove Tuesday – 17 February

Holy Trinity will hold its annual Pancake Day at **6.00pm**. All are warmly welcome.

### Ash Wednesday – 18 February

A service of Holy Communion will take place at **7.00pm** at St John's Lawley. Those who wish may receive the sign of the cross in ash as a reminder of our human mortality and dependence on God.

### Stations of the Cross – Sunday 22 March

A reflective service will be held at **4.00pm** at Holy Trinity, offering an opportunity to walk prayerfully through the events of Christ's journey to the Cross.

The Church of England's Lent theme for 2026, **Draw Near**, encourages us to adopt life-giving habits that help us grow in faith and draw closer to God. Daily reflection booklets will be available in church, and the Everyday Faith app will also provide the readings throughout Lent.

### Lent Study Groups

**Wednesdays at 7.00pm** at The Vicarage (4, 11, 18 & 25 March), led by Revd Jo

**Thursdays at 11.30am** at Holy Trinity (26 February; 5, 12, 19 & 26 March), led by Revd Sue

All are invited to participate in this season of spiritual growth and preparation.

### St Leonard's Valentine Afternoon Tea

14<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 2.00pm

£5 for adults, £2.50 for children.

Please contact Lorraine for more information and tickets by 12<sup>th</sup> February (07805 841824)



### Fish & Chip Supper with Prize Bingo

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February Eyes down 7.00pm

Cost = £10 (Bingo games extra + Raffle)

Please book food with Mary by 25<sup>th</sup> Feb

Alternatives to fish can be ordered

01952 613653 [richmjs@icloud.com](mailto:richmjs@icloud.com)



### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2026

A service for everyone.

Friday 6th March 11am at Wombridge Parish Church, Wombridge Road TF2 6HT

Refreshments to follow. Further details contact: Mary Richards [richmjs@icloud.com](mailto:richmjs@icloud.com)

### Funerals/burial of ashes in January: "May they rest in peace and rise in glory"

Funerals: Gerald Buttery, Dianne Richards, John Cruise, Tony Morgan, Kathleen Hendy, Janice Porton

Burial of ashes: Hilda Dyson

**Contact:** Revd Prebendary Jo Farnworth (Team Rector)  
tel: 01952 416370 / 07562 739683  
email: [jo@telfordchurch.co.uk](mailto:jo@telfordchurch.co.uk)  
Revd Scott Edwards (Team Vicar)  
tel: 01952 504917  
Email: [scott@telfordchurch.co.uk](mailto:scott@telfordchurch.co.uk)

### Children and Holy Communion

Our churches allow baptised children to receive Holy Communion before confirmation, with parental consent and some preparation. We will soon offer sessions for children who wish to begin receiving Communion, aiming for their first Communion on Easter Day. These sessions are informal and help children learn about faith and the meaning of bread and wine. There is no minimum age, though many children are 7+.

If your child is interested, please contact Revd Jo by Sunday 15th February (07562 739683).

### February 2026

**Thursday 12th:** 7.00pm St Leonard's DCC, The Vicarage

**Saturday 14th:** 10.00am St Mary's DCC, in Church

**Saturday 14th:** 2.00pm St Leonard's Afternoon Tea (see above for details)

**Tuesday 17th:** 6.00pm Holy Trinity Pancake Party £3 adults; £1.50 children

**Wednesday 18th:** 7.00pm Ash Wednesday Service at St John's

**Saturday 21st:** 10.00am Messy Church at Holy Trinity

**Wednesday 25th:** 2.00pm All Friends Together at Holy Trinity

**Wednesday 25th:** 7.00pm St John's DCC, The Vicarage, Malinslee

**Friday 27th:** 7.00pm Fish & Chip Supper with Prize Bingo at St Mary's (see above for details)

**Saturday 28th:** 10.00am Holy Trinity DCC in church

### Weekly Activities in the Parish

#### Holy Trinity

*Wednesdays:* Trinity Tots 9.30 -

11.00 doors open at 9.00am (term

times only) *Thursdays:* Trinity Tots 9.30

- 11.00 (term times only)

For more information please contact Glenis [07513](tel:07513202282)

[202282](tel:07513202282)

#### St Leonard's

*Mondays:* 11.00 - 12.00 Drop in food bank - available for people struggling financially or for anyone who wants to help reduce food waste. Tea and coffee served

*Wednesdays:* 10.00 - 10.45am Malinslee Movers

Exercise Class £3 10.45 - 11.45 Healthy Minds, Healthy

Bodies Coffee Morning/Drop in.

*Last Tuesday of the month (Usually)* 9.30 - 11.30am

Chatty Club 1.30 - 2.30pm Baby Babble.

For more information, contact Jo 01952 416370



### A Safe Church

The parish of Central Telford is committed to the safeguarding of children, young people and adults. We follow the House of Bishops guidance and policies and have our own Parish Safeguarding Officer and Safeguarding Links for each church. More information about safeguarding can be found at [www.lichfield.anglican.org/safeguarding](http://www.lichfield.anglican.org/safeguarding)

If you have any concerns in the parish, please contact Revd Jo (07562 739683) or our Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator Hannah Yapp (07752 192175)