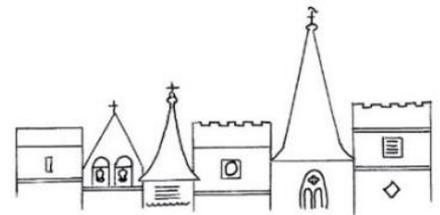


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The Churches of the Ridgeway Benefice

***Childrey & West Challow
Kingston Lisle & Sparsholt
Letcombe Regis
Letcombe Bassett***



Faith & Friendship along the Ridgeway

March 2026

Message from Arthur Marmont, Churchwarden, Kingston Lisle

March 1st is the feast of St David. David was born in Wales some time between 500 and 600 and a reasonable amount is known about his life from chronicles written some time after. Whilst he patently has turned his attention away from the national rugby team for the time being he is known for living a pious life and was made a saint when the ground he was preaching on rose up to form a hill (cynics suggested this was a most superfluous miracle in a place like Wales!).

David's last words, in a Sunday sermon before he died were: Arglwyddi, brodyr, a chwiorydd, Byddwch lawen a chadwch eich ffyd a'ch credd, a gwnewch y petheu bychain a glywsoch ac y welsoch gennyf i. A mwynhau a gerdaf y fford yd aeth an tadeu idi", which translates as, "Lords, brothers and sisters, Be joyful, and keep your faith and your creed, and do the little things that you have seen me do and heard about. And as for me, I will walk the path that our fathers have trod before us." "Do ye the little things in life" ("Gwnewch y pethau bychain mewn bywyd") is today a very well known phrase in Welsh

In the same way we can do little things in life that make a big difference: pick up a can on the Ridgeway, ring the bells at a church service, have a pint in a local pub, volunteer at a local school.

In a world where individuals can feel increasingly helpless these little things matter.

Cadwch y ffydd! (Keep the Faith)

Interregnum report from Paul Thompson

The first of the legal meetings relating to finding a new Rector took place on February 12th. The representatives from each church who will be involved in the interview process were elected.

The next official meeting will be on March 10th, after which our advertisement will be placed. If candidates apply, the interviews will be on May 22nd.

I am including here some words that we can use to frame our prayer to God for our interregnum.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the churches of this benefice, and thank you for the ministry of those who are taking our services and delivering your word in our villages.

We pray that you will guide us as we look for a new Rector, that we may work together to portray the essence of our churches and the opportunity that they represent.

Almighty God, enlighten with your holy wisdom those who are to choose a faithful pastor for this benefice; that we may receive one who will speak your word and serve your people according to your will.

We ask this in Jesus' name

Amen

Planning ahead.....

Holy Week Services in the Benefice

Palm Sunday 29th March	Kingston Lisle 10:15am
Maundy Thursday 2nd April	Letcombe Bassett: 7:00pm Holy Communion with foot washing
Good Friday 3rd April	Sparsholt: 2:00pm An hour of reflection on the Cross
Holy Saturday 4th April	West Challow: 7:00pm Service of Light
Easter Sunday 5th April	
Letcombe Bassett	9:00am Holy Communion
Kingston Lisle	9:00am Holy Communion
Letcombe Regis	10:30am Holy Communion
Sparsholt	10:30am Holy Communion
Childrey	10:30am: Easter Celebration

St Laurence's Pop Up Gallery 2nd – 10th May

Amateur art exhibition

Would you like to exhibit?

If so, contact 07827 973730 by **31st March**





Poems and Prosecco

Saturday 7th March 7:30pm St Mary's Childrey
An evening of poetry chosen by **YOU**
with a musical interlude by **Trio St James**
and interval refreshments. Free admission.



ART EXHIBITION

'An Invitation to Prayer'

by Cecily Dodwell

St Andrew's Church Letcombe Regis,
Friday 20th March 5pm - 7pm
Saturday 21st March 10am - 4pm
Sunday 22nd March 10am - 3pm
(church service 10:15am – 11:00am)

All paintings for sale

Acclaimed folk duo, *Ninebarrow*,
return to St.Mary's Church, Childrey on 28th March,
doors open 6:30pm, concert begins at 7pm, licensed bar.
Since their last visit, Jon and Jay's recent album, 'The
Hour of the Blackbird' won Best Album in the Cornucopia
of Folk Awards, and also won Best band in FATEA's
magazine 2025 awards.



Come along for a great evening's entertainment where you can judge Radio 2's
Mark Radcliffe view that they sound "like two halves of one voice".

Tickets available from www.ninebarrow.co.uk/gigs or jshkworth@gmail.com

St Michael's Lunch Bowl *All welcome*

You are invited to a free bread and soup lunch followed by a hot drink & cake.

12 noon – 2pm once a month on the third Thursday

in Letcombe Bassett Village Hall

19th March

16th April

21st May



Childrey Chillbusters continues to welcome you each Thursday
lunchtime until 26th March

for a simple bread and soup lunch with cake and a hot drink
in Childrey Village Hall 12 noon - 2pm

All welcome

No charge but donations are invited to support Village Charities and Groups

Sunday Services

	1st March	8th March	15th March	22nd March	29th March
	Lent 2	Lent 3	Lent 4 Mothering Sunday	Lent 5	Palm Sunday
West Challow		4pm Holy Communion		10:15am Worship & Prayer	
Childrey	9:15am * Breakfast Church		10:15am Holy Communion		
Kingston Lisle	10:15am * Holy Communion				10:15am Holy Communion
Sparsholt				10:15am Holy Communion	
Letcombe Regis		10:15am Holy Communion		10:15am Worship & Prayer	
Letcombe Bassett	10:15am Worship & Prayer		8:30am Holy Communion		

* 9:15am at Childrey: St David's Day themed Breakfast Church with refreshments.

10:15am at Kingston Lisle: traditional Welsh hymns, Welsh cakes and Welsh Mead afterwards - Wooden spoons optional!

Daily Prayer using the C of E Daily Prayer App on our phones or tablets.

Kingston Lisle 9:15am on Tuesdays 3rd March and 17th March

Said Evensong

St Andrew's Letcombe Regis 3:00pm every Monday

Taizé Service

St Laurence's West Challow 3:00pm on Wednesday 18th March
Taizé worship is renowned for its simple, gentle melodies that are easy to sing. You don't need to read music, and the worship fits beautifully with the tranquillity of St Laurence in West Challow.



Please send any items for Signpost by the **15th of each month** to the Benefice Administrator at benefice.ridgeway@outlook.com
Items in Signpost do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor