

BISHAM TOGETHER



The Monthly Newsletter
from All Saints' Bisham
March 2026

It feels like we've had more than our fair share of rain so far this year! The River Thames running alongside the church has been impressively high and fast—enough to make you double-check you've got your wellies before heading out. While the wet weather can be a bit of a challenge, it's also a reminder of the strength and persistence in the world around us.

With spring just around the corner, we're starting to see signs of new life everywhere—longer days, buds on trees, and the promise of warmer weather. Lent, too, is a time of waiting and preparation, guiding us gently toward Easter. Just as the river eventually settles and the fields dry, our Lenten journey leads us to hope and renewal.

Let's look forward to brighter and warmer days!

Carol

Interim Team Vicar



Church Life

Worship & Events:

- Every Sunday: 9.30am Holy Communion at All Saints Bisham
- First Sunday of every month: 8am Book of Common Prayer Service
 - *Please note there will NOT be an 8am service on 5th April, as this is Easter Sunday; we will be holding our 6.30am Sunrise Service instead.*

Easter Services across the Benefice:



Sundays at All Saints' Bisham

This month at All Saints' Bisham, our sermon series is called *Following His Lead, trusting when it doesn't make sense*, exploring the book of Exodus. From the parting of the Red Sea to the daily provision of manna and quail, and the giving of the Ten Commandments, we'll see how these stories encourage us to obey God and trust in His plan.

For Christians, obedience isn't about restriction or rules—it's a response to trust. We obey because we know God's ways are good, and His character—faithful, loving, and powerful—gives us the courage to step out in faith.

Whether you're new to the Bible or a lifelong reader, there's something in these stories to inspire and challenge you. Come along and join us as we discover how trust and obedience can transform our lives!

... and in other news this month

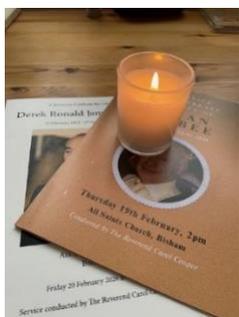
Our Ash Wednesday service was a meaningful start to Lent, with 22 people joining us as Rev Fiona Ellingham preached a thoughtful talk, encouraging us to find ways to deepen our faith, and reflect on how we can practise prayer, generosity, and self-denial—not for show, but from the heart.

Everyone had the opportunity to receive the imposition of ashes—a simple but powerful symbol reminding us that life is fragile, that we are called to turn back to God, and that His mercy is always available.

It was a wonderful way to begin this season of preparation for Easter.



In Loving Memory



This week we gathered as a church family to give thanks for the lives of two members of our community, Derek Oliver and Brian Kisbee, holding their funerals here at All Saints. These services are always both tender and hopeful occasions — a time to remember, to grieve, to share stories, and to commend those we love into God’s care.

We continue to hold their families and friends in our prayers.

Lent Bible Course!

We have begun our joint Bible Study course with St John the Baptist Church, meeting on Wednesdays at 3.30pm at Cliveden Manor Care Home. It’s proving to be a friendly, relaxed gathering, suitable for everyone, and it’s certainly not too late to join us.

We’re using the Church of England’s Lent resource, *Draw Near: Life-giving habits for Lent*, which encourages us to reflect on simple habits that help us grow as disciples of Christ: worship, prayer, engaging with the Bible, communion, service, and sharing the good news. Most importantly, it’s fun and non-threatening — a wonderful opportunity to meet and mix with people you might not yet know. You’ll be very warmly welcomed – it’s not too late to come along!



Celebrations and Thanks



Last Sunday was a joyful one for our church family as we took a moment to say a heartfelt thank you to Sean as he stepped down from his role as Chair of the Bisham Church Friends. We are so grateful for the time, energy, and dedication he has given, and for the many ways he has supported the life of the church.

We also had the pleasure of wishing Claire a very happy birthday, marking her special day together after the service.



It was a lovely reminder of the strength of our church community — sharing gratitude, celebration, and fellowship all in one morning.



Bisham Church Friends

History Coffee Mornings Begin



We were delighted to begin our History Coffee Mornings this week, and what a fascinating start it was! Over coffee and plenty of good conversation, we traced the story of our local area right back to the Domesday Book, discovering just how far our history stretches.

Our local historian, Sheila, led the talk with her usual enthusiasm and wealth of knowledge, bringing the past vividly to life for everyone. It was wonderful to see such interest and engagement as we explored the roots of our community together. Many thanks to the team who provided the wonderful cakes and coffee!

If you enjoy a bit of local history in good company (with coffee in hand!), do come along on 10th March at 10am, when we will be learning about the Hoby family. You will be very welcome!



Bisham CofE Academy



School Inspection

Our local school recently welcomed an OFSTED inspection. As always, the staff and pupils were friendly, prepared, and full of enthusiasm, and the visit went smoothly with no surprises.

We continue to hold the whole school community in our prayers, giving thanks for all they do to create a safe, caring, and inspiring place for learning.



Exploring Justice Together

This half term, the whole school is focusing on the theme of justice, and I've been into school to lead a couple of assemblies exploring what this means. Using the parable of the Workers in the Vineyard, I've been helping pupils see that God's idea of justice is about fairness and generosity, not just rules.

In school, this translates into everyday actions: being kind to others, sharing what we have, and looking out for anyone who might need extra support. It's a simple way for children to see how God's values can guide their daily lives.



Community Notices

Upcoming Dates:

- **6th March – World Day of Prayer: Marlow Methodist Church 11am**
 - *The service this year has been prepared by an ecumenical group of Christian women from Nigeria.*
- **10th March – History Coffee Morning: 10-12 noon**
- **26th March - BBO Big Band at the Rugby Club**
- **5th April - Easter services:**
 - **6.00am Sunrise Service**
 - **9.30am Family Communion**

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Community Gallery

A few moments from the life of our church and community this month.....



Coffee morning and cakes!!



Sean!

