

What's on

Coming Up

Saturday 29th November 12.00 pm - 4.30 pm Elmley Village Hall

Christmas Gift and Craft Fayre. Followed by Christmas Light switch on in Village Square

Mum's Aloud Concert Thursday 18th December, St Mary's Church, Elmley Castle

Please email content for the next Link News to rectoryoffice@btinternet.com by Wednesday 26th November 2025. Contributions from all villages welcomed. Thank you.

Please note that the rectory office is manned on Wednesday mornings 9.00 am - 1.00 pm

Weddings, funerals and baptisms

Enquiries should be made to Alison Khan, Administrative Co-ordinator, Bredon Hill Group (tel. 07984 748 059)

Link News is sent to all Church members whose email addresses we have. If you would like to forward it to a friend, please feel free to do so. If you know of someone who would like to be included in the mailing list, please ask

Sunday 16th November, 2nd Sunday before Advent and Sunday 23rd November, Feast of Christ the King



The Feast of Christ the King.

This feast, of Christ the King, is one which often passes without much recognition. Perhaps we are too tuned in to the commercial drive of Xmas. Maybe the idea of Christ as a king leaves us thinking about wealth and palaces. Doing a little research I discovered that this feast day was instituted by Pope Pius XI one hundred years ago this year in 1925. It was intended to remind Christians that their allegiance was to their spiritual ruler in heaven. It seems this was a direct response by the Pope to the growing fascist movement in Europe and in Italy to Benito Mussolini who proclaimed himself Dictator in 1922 and then Duce or "Leader".

You do not need me to draw the parallels with today's fevered politics across the northern hemisphere. I have no doubt we as Christians should engage with the political process and challenge our elected representatives and those who so aspire. But too close a concentration on today's leaders can become somewhat depressing

Many churches, including the C of E who faced the same challenges then embraced the Feast of Christ the King. The old chorus once sung at many a house party or youth camp fire has it about right with its call to

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in his wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace.*

A group from All Saints, Pasadena "discussed Jesus standing against the empire and what that leadership looks like. We admitted our human response to someone of great spiritual authenticity is to venerate them – even if titles and hierarchies are not important to them. Our findings led us to conclude that Jesus "kingship" does not involve domination or triumphalism – but the radical, all-powerful compassion and love of Jesus seeking justice for all."

So here's the Collect of the Day they pray on Christ the King Sunday

Most Gracious God, who in Jesus of Nazareth showed us an alternative to the kings, queens and emperors of history, help us to revere and emulate Jesus' leadership: To love, and to seek justice for all people. Help us to recognise the true grandeur and life-changing power based in loving you and all of our neighbours. In Christ Jesus with you and the Holy Spirit, may we co-create a world ruled not through domination, but in that radical and all-powerful compassion and love. Amen.

Peter Hayes

Readings and Collects

Sunday 16th November

Readings

Malachi 4: 1-2a

Psalm 98

2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13

Luke 21: 5-19

Collect:

Heavenly Lord

You long for the World's salvation
Stir us from apathy, restrain us
from excess and revive in us new
hope, that all creation will one day
be healed
In Jesus Christ our Lord

Sunday 23rd November

Readings

Jeremiah 23: 1-6

Psalm 46

Colossians 1: 11-20

Luke 23: 33-43

Collect:

God the Father

Help us to hear the call of Christ
the King and to follow his service
whose Kingdom has no end, for he
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit
One God one Glory

We pray . . .

For all in our community who are sick or in long term care:

- John Sharpe
- Helen Richards
- Bob Davies
- Yvonne Seward
- All in residential and care homes
- All who are living with chronic illness

Lord, we pray that You will grant them the peace that surpasses all understanding, guarding their hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. May Your loving presence surround them, removing any fear, anxiety, or doubt.

Let them feel Your powerful embrace, knowing that You are with them every step of the way.

We remember the loss of loved ones

Those who have died recently and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time.

William Steele

Colin Edwards

*May the souls of the faithful departed,
Through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

Safeguarding Sunday, 16th November

Loving God

You call us to protect the vulnerable and speak out for justice. Strengthen us in our safeguarding work, that we may reflect Your love in action and build churches of safety and grace.

For our neighbours in Wick Road and Pool Close, Little Comberton

Holy Father,
we humbly lift our neighbours before You. May Your love shine upon them, bringing peace, joy, and unity to our community. Help us to build bonds of kindness and support. Grant us the grace to uplift one another, reflecting Your light in our hearts and homes. Amen.

COP30 will take place from November 6 to 21, 2025, in Belém, Brazil, focusing on global climate action and the need to limit temperature increases to 1.5°C.

"As Christians, our faith tells us that creation is precious to God, yet it's being damaged by human choices. We are called to love and protect God's creation - a beautiful yet broken world made through and for Jesus. There's also an issue of justice. Those least responsible for the climate crisis are suffering the most from its effects. As God's image-bearers, we are called to act with compassion towards our global sisters and brothers. To follow Jesus today means caring for both people and the planet God made."

(Jo Chamberlain, the Church of England's National Environmental Policy Officer)

November Services

Sunday 16th November

9.00 am Eckington - Holy Communion

10.45 am Bredon - Holy Communion

10.45 am Elmley Castle - Holy Communion

3.00 pm Overbury - Messy Church

6.00 pm Beckford - Evensong

6.00 pm Bredon's Norton - Evensong

Wednesday 19th November

10.00 am Little Comberton - Iona Holy Communion

Sunday 23rd November

9.00 am Great Comberton - Holy Communion

10.45 am Defford - Holy Communion

10.45 am Ashton-under-Hill - Holy Communion

10.45 am Bredon - Village Worship

3.00 pm Elmley Castle - Messy Church

Wednesday 26th November

10.00 am Little Comberton - Iona Morning Prayer

10.00 am Overbury - Iona Holy Communion

Holland House

Morning Prayer (Celtic and other) at Holland House on: Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9.15 am. There will be a Eucharist at 12 noon on Wednesdays.

Confirmation Preparation 2026

Confirmation preparation for 2026 will be done in the Deanery (Rev'd Katryn will be involved). Confirmation courses are a wonderful opportunity to explore Christian faith over ten weekly sessions, together with others.

The course may be a refresher for you or in preparation for your confirmation. A Confirmation Service is a service where the promises made at your baptism are now affirmed by you as an adult and you receive the laying on of hands and anointing with oil by a bishop confirming you in the Christian faith. (If you have not been baptised, this may happen during the confirmation service at Worcester Cathedral on Easter Eve or in your parish.)

If you are thinking of being Confirmed, do speak to Rev'd Katryn