

What's on

Coming Up

Singers needed A smaller churches choir is going to be formed in the new year to sing at the Cathedral one weekend in April (Friday to Sunday). If you're interested, follow the link: <https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/diocesan-small-churches-choir.php>

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 in preparation for your Confirmation, or, the course may be a refresher about the Christian Faith for you. 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 in your parish before the Confirmation Service.) The course will comprise 10 one-hour sessions, from 7 - 8 pm, at Church House, next to All Saints Church in Evesham. Dates: 20, 27 April, 11, 18 May (missing bank holidays), 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 June, 6 July. If you are thinking of being Confirmed or you wish to do the course as a refresher, do speak to Rev'd Katryn.

Please email content for the next Link News to rectoryoffice@btinternet.com by Wednesday 21st January 2026. 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 11th January, 1st Sunday of Epiphany and Sunday 18th January, 2nd Sunday of Epiphany



And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied: "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way." So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night. And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day.

This verse was reputed to be part of our late Queen Elizabeth's favourite poem. Yet it was first broadcast as part of George VI Christmas message in 1939, when Britain stood in the midst of the Second World War. The words resonated with people at the time and they became a great source of comfort and encouragement during those early dark days of war.

Holding someone's hand as a child or adult gives an enormous sense of reassurance. Better still, to put a hand into the hand of God and enjoy the peace and confidence only He can give.

Let us hope that despite an inauspicious start, 2026 might not be a year filled with fear of conflict and mistrust, but whatever might happen, we are directed to put our trust in God for guidance through both the good times and the bad. May the year 2026 prove to be safe, fulfilling and a blessed time to us all.

Phil Airdrie

Readings and Collects

Sunday 11th January

Readings

Isiah 42: 1 - 9

Psalms 29

Acts 10: 34 - 43

Matthew 3: 13 - end

Collect:

Heavenly Father

At Jordan, you revealed Jesus as your son: may we recognise him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children
Through Jesus Christ our Saviour

Sunday 18th January

Readings

Isiah 49: 1 - 7

Psalms 40: 1 - 12

1 Corinthians 1: 1 - 9

John 1: 29 - 42

Collect:

Eternal Lord

Our beginning and our end, bring us with the whole creation to your Glory, hidden through past ages and made known
In Jesus Christ our Lord

We pray . . .

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

- Bob Davies
- Yvonne Seward
- Bill Ettridge
- All in residential and care homes
- All who are living with chronic conditions

We remember the loss of loved ones

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

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

Plough Sunday 11th January

We pray for all who work on the land, for farmers facing the uncertainties of weather and market forces and for those striving to preserve God's creation. May their labour be blessed and may we all recognise our role in caring for this beautiful world God has entrusted to us.

For our Community

Merciful Lord, we lift our community in prayer, entrusting its well-being into Your hands. Guide our leaders, inspire generosity, and grant us the wisdom to care for one another. May our community flourish and shine as a beacon of Your love.

For our neighbours

Our neighbours are people who God put into our lives. Good or bad, friendly or unfriendly, God has allowed us to be close to them and be involved in their lives.

Some of our neighbours may benefit from knowing us as friends, but there are probably many who live close by who we barely know. Some we may not want to know or may never have had an opportunity to meet

But, when Jesus gave the Great Commission to his disciples to go out into the world to spread the good news of his saving power, the first people he told them to tell were their next door neighbour and then the world!

National Human Trafficking Awareness Day 11th January 2026

A day dedicated to acknowledging the existence of human trafficking and taking action to combat this grave violation of human rights. It serves as a reminder that human trafficking is a pressing concern worldwide and that everyone has a role to play in its prevention and elimination.



January Services

Sunday 11th January

9.00 am Bredon's Norton - Holy Communion

9.00 am Bricklehampton - Holy Communion

10.45 am Eckington - Holy Communion

10.45 am Overbury - Holy Communion

10.45 am Bredon - Morning Praise

Wednesday 14th January

10.00 am Little Comberton - Holy Communion (in Church)

2.15 pm Bredon - Christingle with School

Sunday 18th January

9.00 am Eckington - Holy Communion

10.45 am Bredon - Morning Worship

10.45 am Elmley Castle - Holy Communion

3.00 pm Overbury - Messy Church

4.00 pm Eckington - Ordination of Rev Sooz Magee

6.00 pm Beckford - Evensong

Wednesday 21st January

10.00 am Little Comberton - St Cuthbert Morning Prayer (in Queens, Elmley Castle)

**** Please note that for the next few weeks, the Wednesday morning services at Little Comberton, will be held in The Queen's, Elmley Castle. The Holy Communion Service will be held in Little Comberton Church. ****

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.