



*The Parish of
S. Philip & S. James
Up Hatherley*



Parish Magazine

March 2026



PRAY



FAST



GIVE

Lent

*S. Philip and S. James Parish Church,
Cold Pool Lane, Up Hatherley, Cheltenham, GL51 6HX.*

Parish Priest In Vacancy

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Church Centre

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Father's Mark...

“Give us this day our daily bread...”

I wonder what thought you have on hearing the word ‘bread’.

Does it conjure up a crusty loaf, pumpernickel, or maybe the smell is what comes to mind?

Each time we say the Lord's Prayer we ask to be given ‘our daily bread’, what do we mean by that? Is it the loaf or something else? Clearly it is asking that our needs for food are met but does it mean more? Could it be construed as a totally selfish plea that we are looked after? It is clear that bread matters to a Christian each week when we gather round the altar we share in the body of Christ through receiving the consecrated and transformed bread.

Several scholarly people have reflected on the translations of the Lord's Prayer from Aramaic, Greek and Latin into English. The Aramaic suggests that Jesus would have used the word ‘bread’ and ‘understanding’ as interchangeable. Thomas Aquinas suggests two meanings ‘bodily bread’ and ‘bread of wisdom’. This would make the bread petition our opportunity to ask for whatever we need, not only to survive but to fulfil our obligations and live out our vocations.

Gregory of Nyssa felt that by asking for ‘bread’ we were only asking for sufficient for our existence, not excesses that some crave. By insisting on the ordinariness of bread we are not taking anything away from God but draw us nearer to Him by asking for our ‘daily bread’.

We live in a time when food programmes and cookery books proliferate but there are huge negatives, the large rise in people needing to use food banks, the panic buying that took place whenever lockdown was mentioned highlights the importance of this word.

Jesus refers to himself as the bread of heaven and if we start from there maybe some of the world’s inequalities will rectify themselves. With Easter we are reminded of the sacrifice and the promise given to us by God through his Son Jesus Christ, maybe when we ask for ‘our daily bread’ we can stop and think more widely of His wonderful world.



Father Mark

Church Calendar

March 2026

SUN 1st	LENT 2
Mon 2 nd	S. David, B.
Tues 3 rd	Feria
Wed 4 th	Feria
Thurs 5 th	Feria
Fri 6 th	Feria
Sat 7 th	Ss Perpetua & Felicity Ms
SUN 8th	LENT 3
Mon 9 th	Feria
Tues 10 th	Feria
Wed 11 th	Feria
Thurs 12 th	Feria
Fri 13 th	Feria
Sat 14 th	Feria
SUN 15th	LENT 4 Mothering Sunday
Mon 16 th	Feria
Tues 17 th	S. Patrick B
Wed 18 th	S. Cyril of Jerusalem B, Dr.
Thurs 19 th	S. Joseph, Husband of the BVM
Fri 20 th	Feria
Sat 21 st	Feria
SUN 22nd	LENT 5
Mon 23 rd	Feria
Tues 24 th	Feria
Wed 25 th	ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD
Thurs 26 th	Feria
Fri 27 th	Feria
Sat 28 th	Feria
SUN 29th	PALM SUNDAY
Mon 30 th	in HOLY WEEK
Tues 31 st	in HOLY WEEK

The Parish
The people of Wales
Rural Communities
Medical Practitioners
Social Justice
The retired & elderly
Expectant mothers

The Parish
Farming & Fishing
Refugees
Christian Unity
Families & Young People
Work for Aid Agencies
Care of the Elderly

The Parish
Emergency Services
The people of Ireland
All God's Children
Fathers & Manual Workers
Victims of war & Terror
Those without Faith

The Parish
Reconciliation
The Oppressed
The Angelus
Those without hope
The Armed Forces
Leaders of the nations

Our Triumphant King
Courtesy & Compassion
The Contemplative life

SUNDAYS: 10:00 Parish Mass

WEEKDAYS: Said Mass on Thursdays at 10:00.

For times of other services please see the church notice board or visit our parish website.

The church is open daily for Private Prayer and closes at 1500 (3pm).

The Years Mind



Every day the Church remembers and prays for the souls of those whose anniversary of death falls during the month. Below are those who we remember this month.

- 1st Eileen Tadjell
- 2nd Annie Grace Harrington, Linda McAdam, Geoffrey F. Haynes.
- 3rd Margaret Helen Wanless.
- 4th Brian Edward Torode (Pr).
- 6th Mathilda Louise Ricketts.
- 7th Charles Robert Wiseman, Richard Furley Mellor.
- 8th W.A. Green, Emily Phyllis Short.
- 10th Donald Mickley, Dereck Benwell, Barry Benwell, Susan Warwick.
- 12th Maggie Harrington, Mary Elizabeth Miles, David Philip Evans.
- 13th Ernest C. Perry, George Rome.
- 14th William Guest Sollors, E.F. John Hawkins.
- 15th Janet Laura Dyer, Ralph Bailey.
- 16th Brian John Wilkins.
- 17th Graham Bainbridge Campbell, Andrew Ransome.
- 18th Adam Richard Samuel, Theresa Sullivan.
- 19th Landis John Darks, Harold Leslie Pilkington.
- 20th June Postans.
- 22nd Dorothy Jennings.
- 23rd Amy Edwina Bridges.
- 24th Ernest Frederick Cole.
- 25th Samuel Charles Little.
- 26th Harold Charles Link
- 28th Alfred Charles Dodds, Alfred William Dodds.
- 29th Bella Jane Graham Simons, Mary Violet Walker, Donald Gordon Robert Stewart.

From the Diocese.

Caring for Creation together



Over the past 18 months, the Church House team has taken important steps towards caring more faithfully for God’s creation. This has included understanding our carbon footprint, strengthening net zero carbon governance, and connecting long-term ambitions with the everyday life of churches, offices, and communities.

The next stage is about turning these plans into practical, visible action. Across the Church of England, one of the main ways this happens is through the Eco Church and Eco Diocese awards. The Diocese of Gloucester achieved Bronze Eco Diocese in 2021 and is now working towards Silver Eco Diocese, aiming to reach it this year. A key part of this process is encouraging more churches, schools and diocesan teams to engage with Eco Church.

Throughout Lent, we will be sharing reflections on the recent move to the new Church House premises, including the challenges and opportunities involved in working towards an Eco Office Silver award for our building. There is much to celebrate in the environmental features built into the refurbishment, as well as opportunities to continue improving.

Each week we'll take a look at one of the five Eco Church categories: worship and teaching, land, buildings, community, and lifestyle. Each week will also include a simple three-level challenge, offering ideas for what can be done with just five minutes, half an hour, or half a day. These are small, practical invitations to pause, notice, and take part in caring for creation, and to discover the joy and encouragement that often comes with it.

Sometimes 'Eco Church' can sound like an extra project, but it is often about noticing and building on what is already happening. Caring for creation shows younger generations that the Church takes its responsibility seriously, and for Christians, it is embedded in worship, teaching, and everyday discipleship.

Here are some tips for getting started:

Work together: A small group of people with varied interests is enough to share ideas, plan actions, and encourage one another.

Track progress first: The Eco Church survey shows what is already in place. Celebrate current achievements and focus on next steps without pressure to do everything at once.

Five-minute challenge: Be still and thank God for the ways nature supports life.

30-minute challenge: Take a gratitude walk in a garden or park, noticing five things you see, four you hear, three you feel, two you smell, and one you taste.

Half a day challenge: Join a friend for a litter pick, taking time to observe the beauty of creation.

If you wish to continue reading about the Diocesan reflections, learning about the five Eco Church categories and trying some of the challenges, then visit the Gloucester Diocese website and click on ‘The Messenger’.



'STARTERS'

Our Sunday morning children's group
meets on the 2nd & 4th Sundays
at 10:00 in the Church Centre.

Worship & activities before joining
the adults in Church
for the rest of the Mass.

Go to our website:
www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14268
for weekly children's activity sheets.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO
WELCOMING YOU.**

Puzzle Time

Contents of Baking Cupboard

E	C	G	O	A	S	T	R	E	A	C	L	E	S	S	C
N	P	A	E	R	C	E	D	A	D	E	V	P	G	G	I
F	O	B	M	P	H	L	I	D	P	A	R	S	H	N	B
C	O	G	R	P	O	I	W	R	N	C	C	O	M	I	G
P	I	N	C	U	C	E	C	I	R	D	N	U	O	R	G
M	O	I	I	G	O	O	L	E	R	E	E	P	O	U	L
T	M	P	F	Y	L	L	F	D	Y	S	H	U	A	O	E
N	A	I	B	K	A	T	F	F	C	P	N	C	N	L	E
I	P	P	S	P	T	I	E	R	E	D	A	E	G	O	P
M	L	P	O	R	E	I	A	U	G	E	T	A	E	C	D
R	E	D	W	O	P	G	N	I	K	A	B	G	L	N	E
E	S	C	E	A	U	E	N	T	S	A	E	Y	I	O	X
P	Y	D	E	S	Z	G	Z	S	A	O	C	O	C	T	I
P	R	M	I	X	E	D	S	P	I	C	E	O	A	P	M
E	U	M	A	R	Z	I	P	A	N	C	X	D	I	T	E
P	P	A	P	E	R	C	A	S	E	S	U	R	C	W	S

- | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| Angelica | Colourings | Maple Syrup | Peppermint |
| Baking Powder | Dried Fruits | Marzipan | Piping Bag |
| Camp Coffee | Flour | Mixed Peel | Sugar |
| Cherries | Ground Ginger | Mixed Spice | Treacle |
| Chocolate | Ground Rice | Oats | Vanilla Pods |
| Cocoa | Honey | Paper Cases | Yeast |

Up Hatherley Parish Council

This month, I would like to pay tribute to all the people who make the Parish Council such an excellent body. Serving as a Parish Councillor is entirely voluntary – no salary or allowances are paid, but over the years many people have stepped up and carried out the role.



I will start with Peter Worsley – who has served as Vice Chairman since 2006 – and has edited the Parish magazine producing 19 editions to date. A retired secondary school teacher and is a lifelong supporter of the YMCA, he has given his services for free, and despite ill health continues to work on the next edition.

Adrian Bamford has served on the Parish Council since 1987, has been Chairman and Vice Chairman as well as leading both the Environmental and the Highways group – that's quite a record – and he has only just celebrated his 70th Birthday. He has served as a Borough Councillor since 2022. Yvonne Doane has recently rejoined us having previously served on the council in the 1980s and later.

Dave Willcox has served for over 10 years and leads our Footpaths and Open Spaces group. He has led many initiatives including public rights of way and improvements to parks and open spaces. He is a regular participant in the weekly health walks which were initiated over a decade ago by another councillor Ashley Houlton. Ann Duignan is a walk leader too.

Most of our councillors are involved in other bodies, with Andy Ponting who leads our Police and Community group and Michael Ede giving their time to the YMCA.

John Furley lends his IT skills to our Communications group and Stephen Gutteridge, another regular participant in the weekly health walks, looks after the Village Hall, tending the garden and recently restoring the front window.

Julie Sankey and Roger Whyborn also serve as Borough and

County Councillors, with Roger starting the local foodbank Lakeside Community Project when he was mayor in 2021. Noreen, Roger and I are all involved as volunteers with the project.

Our Community Engagement group oversees the weekly 2 o'clock club and special events such as the Carol singing. Noreen Holden leads the group and Angela Goldsby, Ann Duignan as well as former Parish Councillor Maz Reynolds and Lesley Wells are key to the success of the group.

Our only employee is our part time clerk Kathryn Oakey, who does a superb job for us and has been our clerk since 2003. She keeps us in line and is resourceful in bidding for funds to ensure that the Parish accesses sources of funding to make projects possible. The bench for the front of the hall is the latest example.



Sarah Bamford (Chair)

Citizens Advice provides an appointment only advice service on Thursday morning at the Up Hatherley Library.



**citizens
advice**

Please call 01452 527202 to arrange an appointment:

Free confidential advice on issues including:



**citizens
advice**

*Benefits * Employment
*Housing * Debt * Family * Consumer



The winners of the February Draw were

1st Prize = Guy Mewha-Williams
2nd Prize = Lois Hall
3rd Prize = Lesley Harris

The next Draw will be held on
8th March 2026

Gardening News



Rain, rain go away, at least for a day or two. What an extraordinary journey, after the total desiccation that was last summer, the ground is now so wet and there is surface water everywhere. As we well know, the natural world is fickle and who knows what tomorrow will bring, sooner would be good. As gardeners the journey has been compromised, with ground waiting to be worked, moss turning up in the spaces from last year's drought and much to catch up on. So, here's hoping that March will offer the opportunity. onions, shallots, garlic, rhubarb and horseradish will all be happy to get underway and towards the back end of the month, seed potatoes can go in too (chitted or not). That said, I have planted seed potatoes in May and still had a result, but early planting should bring early harvesting, and the arrival of new potatoes is very uplifting. If you have never bothered before, then do try two or three in a large flowerpot. If you use an early variety, you could find a few new spuds within twelve weeks.

Hopefully we can get some seed sowing done now as well. If the weather remains rough, then do resort to seed on the windowsill. Sown in pots or In drills across a seed tray and then covered with polythene for a few days you'll soon see results. The great thing about small managed containment is that you don't end up overloaded with seedlings to waste (there is always an inclination to plant the entire contents of a packet once open). There are some things that don't enjoy the technique and certainly root vegetables are happier, being sown into the ground. Many of the winter roots have a long growing season too. Commercially celeriac is sown in March. Quite a number of hardy annuals can also be sown in open ground now, just check packets for guidance.

With sap about to rise, this is the final call for pruning, so roses, climbers, unruly fruit and shrubs can all be tidied up. Don't be too brutal with spring flowering items or you'll lose the flowers.

And finally, the door will close this month on bare root planting, so if you have hedging, roses or fruit that is not pot grown, get it in or pot it.

Happy Gardening

Chris Evans

Recipe for the Month

Garlic and Herb Salmon

50 g white bread crumbs

A few chopped chives

Zest of a lemon

4 Salmon Fillets

100 g Philadelphia Garlic and Herb Cream
Cheese

Preheat the oven 160c gas 4

Mix the Bread Crumbs with the lemon zest and
chives

Place the Salmon on a baking tray, spread the
cheese on top of the fillets and top with the
Bread Crumb mixture lightly pressing down.

Put into the oven and cook for 15-20 minutes
until cooked, serve with new potatoes and a
green salad.

CHURCH CENTRE HIRE



We are pleased to be able to offer the following availability for the regular hire of our Church Centre:

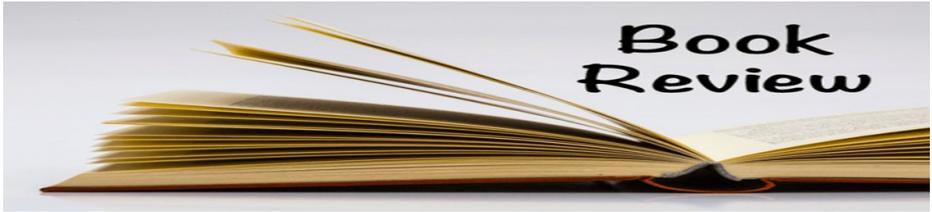
Mondays: from 09:00 – 16:00.

Wednesdays: from 09:00 - 16:00.

Thursdays: from 13:00 – 21:00.

Fridays: from 16:00 – 21:00.

For full details of availability and features please contact Father Mark, Parish Priest, on **01242 704837**.



The Life Impossible by Matt Haig 2024

Matt Haig is a writer of fiction and non-fiction and I greatly enjoyed his previous novel “The Midnight Library”, so was tempted to read his latest work.

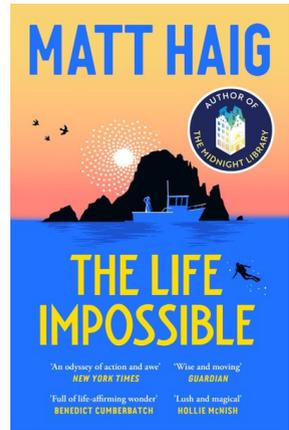
The central character in the story is Grace Winters, a 72 year old retired Maths teacher, who has suffered the loss of her son and her husband and is consumed by loneliness, as well as guilt surrounding the accidental death of her son.

She is unexpectedly left a property in Ibiza by a former work colleague and, although initially sceptical, decides to travel to Ibiza to follow this up.

What unfolds is a tale that involves a bit of magic, but it is essentially a voyage of self-discovery. Grace finds purpose and meaning in life and her transformation unfolds not just in what happens in Ibiza, but in her correspondence with Malcolm, a former student in Lincolnshire who has reached out to Grace as his life is unfolding.

It's a heart-warming story – with some magic thrown in – I do like a happy ending!

Sarah Bamford



The Church Centre...



*... is the ideal venue for...
your children's party, work's conference,
friends get together & concert performance
or that extra special occasion ...*

*Wedding breakfast &
Anniversary celebration*

*With fully equipped kitchen,
tables & chairs, disabled access
& outside space.*

*Room for Bouncy Castles, DJs
& Children's Entertainers.*

Free car parking

For further details telephone

01242 704837

What's On at our Church Centre

Mondays: 18:00-19:00 Balance of Life Pilates.

Tuesdays: 09:30-11:30 Child Minders
Pre-School Group

13:30-16:00 Strength & Balance

Wednesdays: 16:15-21:00 Slimming World

Thursdays: 09:30-12:30 Jo Jingles Play Group

Fridays: 09:30-10:30 Balance of Life Pilates.

For further details of all these activities please see
the noticeboards in the Centre lobby or contact
Father Mark on 01242 704837.



BABY CLASS RE-OPENING!



**Saints Philip and James
Church Centre,
Cold Pool Lane,
Up Hatherley**

**Thursdays
at 11:45am**



Click on the link in the post to book or
contact Gill for more information at
gillb_jojingles@hotmail.com
www.jojingles.com/centralglos

MAINTENANCE OF BURIAL & INTERMENT PLOTS

What is permitted:

Permanent stone vases are only those authorized and have permission granted, and only fresh flowers (out of their wrappings), or cuttings from shrubs and bushes, may be placed in them.

Grassed interment plots are enclosed by a band of paving. Vases should be placed on this and not on the grass, both to respect other plots and to facilitate the maintenance of the churchyard.

Small spring bulbs may be planted (from **September to October**), under the grass of a grave with minimal disturbance to the turf.

Poppies (or small wooden remembrance crosses) at the time of Remembrance Sunday. To be removed by **30th November**.

Christmas wreaths of natural foliage are welcome from mid-December. To be removed by **31st January**.

What is not permitted:

No artificial flowers of any kind. The only exception to this is for poppies on Remembrance Sunday.

No trees, shrubs, or roses are allowed to be planted.

No individual gardens are permitted.

Items not allowed because they are dangerous, interfere with grass cutting, will get damaged or are out of keeping with the churchyard, include such items as:

glass or other breakable or sharp items; chippings or gravel; pictures, portraits or photographs; statues or ornaments; lights (candles, solar or battery); plastic bowls, birdbaths; kerbs, railings or chains; windmills, wind-chimes, cards, animal figures, angels, etc.

The PCC retains the right to remove anything from the churchyard which does not comply with these or other regulations.