

What's on

Coming Up

Concert - Saturday 28th March, St Mary's Church, Elmley Castle,
Music from Pershore Town Choir and the Harp and Vocals duo 'Stray Threads'. Tickets £10 from the Pershore Town Choir Website, or QR code from the poster or on the door which includes refreshments. Proceeds to Parish and West Midland Air Ambulance.

Good Friday - 3rd April

An Hour Before the Cross St Mary's Church 12pm
An hour of readings, music, silence around the cross will take place at St Mary's Elmley Castle at 12pm. A wonderful way to prepare ourselves for the Good Friday Service or to keep a Good Friday observance if one is unable to walk up Bredon Hill. All welcome.

Procession to Service on Bredon Hill

Walkers will depart from the St Mary's bottom gate at 1.15 pm for a slow walk up with Bishop Hugh who will be speaking at our Good Friday Service on Bredon Hill.
The ground is very soft on the Hill and no vehicles will be allowed on the site (except the musicians' mini bus). The Ashton bus and Overbury Land Rovers will be stopping either at Lalu Farm or at the gate to the site depending on the how soft the ground to turn on is. **Anyone getting a lift needs to be able to walk up to ½ mile** from the drop off point to the site of the service.

Please email content for the next Link News to rectoryoffice@btinternet.com by Wednesday 18th March 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 8th March, 3rd Sunday of Lent and Sunday 15th March, 4th Sunday of Lent, Mothering Sunday



Our sense of security has taken another hit with the unfolding events in the Middle East. How do we make sense of these things. How do we prepare ourselves to live fruitful lives in shifting sands?

God's call to Abraham, the father of the monotheistic faiths, is to be a blessing to all the families of the earth. God's people were meant to give all peoples a foretaste of heaven, of life without evil, tears, wars, death. God blesses Abram and Sarai with land, children, reputation so that they can bring life and good wherever they are, in how they live and work and play.

I have found this a useful lens to look at what is happening in the world. Are the decisions made by these politicians, rulers, business leaders, charity leaders, parents using the good in their power, their wealth and influence to be a blessing to all? Who benefits from their decisions? Is the good being shared with all?

Seeing the events of the last few days through this lens is pause for thought. The situations are complex, there are elements we may never hear about, but these are no excuse for our human responsibility to do good to our neighbours, even our enemies, to the planet on which we live.

How can we be a blessing to our neighbours in our villages? How can we do good with what we have? If we practice these principles in the small things of life, we're more likely to spot how they can be lived on the wider canvass of international relations.

I know that some leaders in the Middle East have been providing spaces and expertise in peace-making, in negotiating between conflicting parties all over the world. We pray that the investment over the past years succeeds in this crisis.

I was encouraged by words from our Celtic Prayer this week: We affirm God's good at the hear of humanity, planted more deeply than all that is wrong.

Every blessing!
Rev'd Katryn

*I Am
Blessed...
To Be A
Blessing*

Readings and Collects

Sunday 8th March

Readings

Exodus 17: 1 - 7

Psalm 95

Romans 5: 1 - 11

John 4: 5 - 42

Collect:

Eternal God

Give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us and to seek the perfection we are promised. In Jesus Christ our Lord

Sunday 15th March

Readings

1 Samuel 16: 1 - 13

Psalm 23

Ephesians 5: 8 - 14

John 9: 1 - 41

Collect:

Merciful Lord, you know our struggle to serve you: when sin spoils our lives and overshadows our hearts, come to our aid and turn us back to you again; through Jesus Christ our Lord

We pray . . .

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

- Rev'd Peter Mkengi
- Bob Davies
- Bill Ettridge
- Yvonne Seward
- All in residential and care homes
- All who live with chronic illness

We remember the loss of loved ones

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

John Cook

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

International Women's Day

*God of Justice and Compassion, we give thanks for women and girls everywhere. Bless all who work for equality and inclusion. Inspire us to give to gain, to share our time, skills and hearts, so that together we may build a world where every woman's gift is valued and every girl's future is bright
Amen*

Mothering Sunday

Loving God, we thank you for mothers and all who nurture us in faith and life. Gather us in your care and teach us to love as you love.

Prayer for Peace

*God of mercy,
Bring peace to the Middle East and Ukraine.
Protect the innocent, heal the wounded,
and comfort those who mourn.
Guide leaders to choose justice and compassion,
and let hope overcome hatred.
Amen*

For our Neighbours in Brookfield and Wick Road

Dear Lord, thank You for the people who live right next door to me. I pray for their well-being, families, and faith. I ask that they would feel Your presence in their homes and experience Your peace. Help me be a light on my street—someone who reflects Your compassion and grace. Use my relationships as a way to show Your love. In Jesus' name, amen.

Sunday 8th March

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 11th March

10.00 am **Little Comberton - St Cuthbert Morning Prayer**

Sunday 15th March Mothering Sunday

9.00 am Eckington - Holy Communion

10.45 am Bredon - All Age Family Service

10.45 am **Elmley Castle - Holy Communion**

3.00 pm Overbury - Messy Church

6.00 pm Beckford - Evensong

Wednesday 18th March

10.00 am **Little Comberton - Holy Communion**

An Invitation to Chrism Eucharist in the Cathedral from Bishop Hugh

Monday 30th March at 11.00 am

I am very much looking forward to being with you for this service for the first time. This service is the only time that all diocesan clergy gather to worship together during the year, and I very much hope that all licensed priests and deacons will be present and that you will choose to make it a priority. .

During the service, we will have the opportunity to renew the vows that we each made at our ordinations, and to reaffirm our commitment to the calls Christ has made on our lives as deacons, priests and bishops

The service is open to everyone, and you are very welcome to invite others to come. I realise that the service is at a difficult time for clergy and others in secular employment but if they are able to come, they will be doubly welcome.

I should be grateful if clergy and LLMs would robe. In this service we are affirming our relationship to one another as licensed and ordained ministers. Robing will happen in the Chapter House of the Cathedral. You are invited to wear either cassock, surplice and white stole/preaching scarf or a cassock-alb with white stole. Readers are invited to wear the equivalent with a blue scarf.

A simple lunch will be available after the service which will be in College Hall, off the Cloisters. Please would incumbents e-mail the information to Fleur Fisher on ffisher@cofe-worcester.org.uk by Friday 13 March

With every blessing

+Hugh