

West Mendip Benefice-to-be



Praying for the Vacancy

God our Father,
You love us and you want us to be your body in this place.
At this time of change, please send us your Holy Spirit,
to fill us with vision, energy and a faithfulness in prayer;
that we may do as you desire and bring new life to our
community.
With your heavenly wisdom, guide those who are choosing
a new Vicar for our benefices.
May that person be a wise and gentle shepherd;
who is ready to serve us with joy;
to build us up in faith and to lead us by example,
in loving obedience to your son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen

Leadership team

Sue, Gary, Pam, Peter

Churchwardens, Treasurers, PCCs, Safeguarding Officers

All those supporting the church family and church buildings

Opportunities for rest and for sharing the load

Spiritual protection for all with leadership responsibilities

Weekly worship and fellowship meetings

Regular church attendance will continue and grow

Hearing God's voice through visiting clergy

Supporting laity in leading non-eucharistic services

New people will feel welcome

Home groups; meditation groups; prayer meetings; choirs

Reaching out to the community

Support for our schools' work

Links with Parish/Town councils and community groups

Strengthening pastoral care

Sue, Gary, Lay Pastoral Assistants, Prayer Chain, vergers

Lenny's; Warm Spot; Crook Peak Women's Fellowship;
Weare Coffee Morning.

Communication

Efficient and effective PCCs

Good communication between Churchwardens within the benefices

Good communication with congregations and communities on process of seeking a new priest

Preparing for inviting a new priest

The person God is calling will be open to God's voice, and their heart prepared

Parish profile team -

- will work together effectively across parishes to produce the profile

- have unity of vision, whilst representing diversity

Becoming one: four parishes - one benefice

Vision for the benefice, the priorities and potential opportunities

New benefice strategy group will work together effectively

Growing together in worship and prayer

(You may choose to focus on one of the 7 topic areas each day)

Blessing our communities

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of our community, and for placing us within it. We pray that you would bless our communities and protect our homes and families. Help us to be mindful of the needs of others, to offer support when it is needed, and to create spaces where everyone feels welcome and valued. May our communities be places filled with kindness, joy, and hope. Amen.

Closing Prayer

Beloved God,
You have welcomed each one of us in Jesus
and called us to be his body in this place.
We give you thanks for all that has been
and all that will be.
We ask for your guidance
as we work together in this time of vacancy:
guidance to be light in our community;
guidance to love and encourage one another;
and guidance to draw to us the person
that is right for us and our community.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen

