



# Church News

## SERVICES THIS WEEK

<b>8 February 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent</b>	9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Bowerchalke	Kate Woolven
	9.30am	Family Communion (CW)	Nunton	Alison Waterhouse
	10.30am	Worship Together	Broad Chalke Hub	Janet Roe
	11.00am	Parish Communion (CW)	Homington	Ruth H-S
	11.00am	All Age Service	Alvediston	Biddy Trahair
	3.00pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)	Fifield Bavant	Biddy Trahair
	4.30pm	Evensong (BCP)	Charlton All Saints	Ruth H-S

### It's snowdrop season again!

I love these flowers, a sign of hope emerging from the cold dark earth as the days become almost imperceptibly longer. We are still in the grip of winter in these first days of February but there are certain small signs that point to a move towards Spring.

We celebrated Candlemas this week. On 2nd February the church marked the end of the 40 days of the Christmas season and moves our focus away from the cradle and the wonders of the incarnation towards the cross and the life Christ in the world. Candlemas, or The Feast of the Presentation of Christ at the Temple, offers us the image of the old meeting the new – the place where Old Testament meets New Testament, when new life meets old in the encounter between the elderly prophets and the baby Jesus. Simeon and Anna recognise the reality of salvation in the infant Jesus, the promises of God fulfilled. It is moving in image and in impact. It is grounded in deep faithfulness and prayer, in patient waiting on a promise. Both Simeon and Anna had been promised that they would see The Messiah before they died and after decades of waiting they were still alert enough to notice the significance of the Christ child and the Holy Family.



To mark this point in the church's calendar, candles are lit which symbolise Jesus as the light of the world, and as the fulfilment of the law. God keeps his promises Candlemas tells us.

As banks of snowdrops emerging every year promise better weather and brighter days to come, we can remember and be thankful for the promises that God has made – that whatever befalls us, He will never leave us, He will always be Emmanuel – God With Us. Let us, like the faithful Simeon and prayerful Anna be alert enough to notice these signs of promises fulfilled and hold the light of Christ before us as guide, comfort and strength, to sustain us through this coming year and beyond, whatever it holds.

Revd Maggie Metcalfe

### Readings for Sunday 8th January - Second Sunday before Lent:

**Old Testament :** Genesis 1 v 1 to 2 v 3 **New Testament :** Romans 8 v 18 - 25

**Gospel:** Matthew 6 v 25 - end **Psalm:** 136 v 1 - 9





This year's Lent project is to support the work of The Bridge Youth Project, a Salisbury-based Christian charity offering chaplaincy in local schools.

Our aim is to raise sufficient funds to support a school chaplain at Longford CofE Primary School for half a day a week for the next two academic years.

## LENT COFFEE MORNING

10.30am - 12noon  
Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March  
at "Bow Meadow" (SP5 5EN)  
(home of Julian and Julia Thomas)



Donations will go to the Lent project,  
The Bridge, which takes Christian Teaching into  
our schools.

coffee/biscuits/cake/raffle



COOMBE BISSETT WITH HOMINGTON

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR  
4 INFORMAL LUNCHES,  
DURING LENT

To raise money for  
**The BRIDGE YOUTH PROJECT**

\*The Bridge Youth project works with young people locally. They currently provide chaplaincy support to Broad Chalke school. This year, we are aiming to raise £10,000 to enable a chaplain to visit Longford Primary School for half a day a week for the next 2 academic years.

**ALL ARE MOST WELCOME**

Working from home? Take a break!  
Just fancy a change of scene - come along!  
4 days when you won't have to think 'what's for lunch?!!'  
Last minute 'Drop in's' welcome,  
however, places are limited to 16 per lunch.  
Preferable to book to avoid disappointment!

11th, 18th,  
25th March &  
1st April

12.15 - 2pm  
Lifts available

Homemade soup,  
crusty rolls, fruit  
& coffee

Specific dietary  
requirements catered for -  
please let us know.

Recommended  
donation for  
lunch £8

Electronic payments  
available.

### Venue

Vine Cottage, Barbers Lane,  
Hornington  
Susan Majury  
01722 718715

CHALKE VALLEY BENEFICE

LENT 2026



## LENT LUNCH

The Radnor Hall, Bodenham  
Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February  
12noon - 2pm

contact: Debby Underhill  
dunderh942@btinternet.com



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the work of The Bridge Youth Project,  
a Salisbury-based Christian charity  
offering chaplaincy in local schools.  
Our aim is to raise sufficient funds to  
support a school chaplain at Longford  
CofE Primary School for half a day a  
week for the next two academic years.

www.chalkevalleychurches.org



## CHRISTIAN QUIET DAY

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026

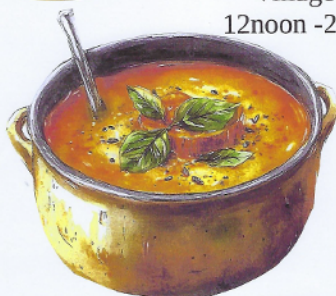
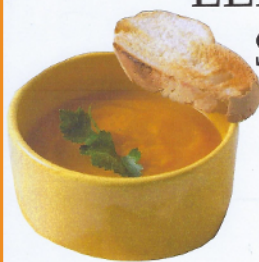
at  
Lodge Farmhouse, Broad Chalke, SP5 5LU  
10:30am - 4pm  
Coffee/Tea/Biscuits/Cake provided

Stay all day, or drop in for the odd half hour  
(if staying all day, please bring your lunch)



## LENT SOUP LUNCH

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March  
in  
Broad Chalke  
Village Hall  
12noon - 2.30pm



Donations will go to the Lent Project,  
The Bridge, who take Christian Teaching into our  
local Schools.

## MID WEEK LENT COMMUNION

Every Thursday during Lent

12 noon

26 February - Alvediston

5th March - Bowerchalke

12th March - Bishopstone

19th March - Coombe Bissett

26th March - Nunton

*all welcome*

CHALKE VALLEY BENEFICE

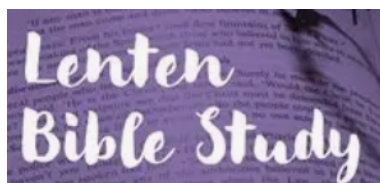
LENT 2026



## LENT LUNCH

Bishopstone Village Hall  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March  
12.30pm - 2pm

contact: Sally Leaver  
dauidsallyleaver22@btinternet.com  
01722 780447



The Barker Room  
Nunton

3.30pm - 5.00pm

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February  
Mondays 2,9,16,23 & 30 March  
contact DEBBY UNDERHILL  
dunderh942@btinternet.com



If you are unable to attend a service  
in church this Sunday, there are services on the radio ...



**8.10am BBC Radio 4  
Seats of Wisdom**

A service from Exeter Cathedral as part of the  
Northern European Cathedrals Conference

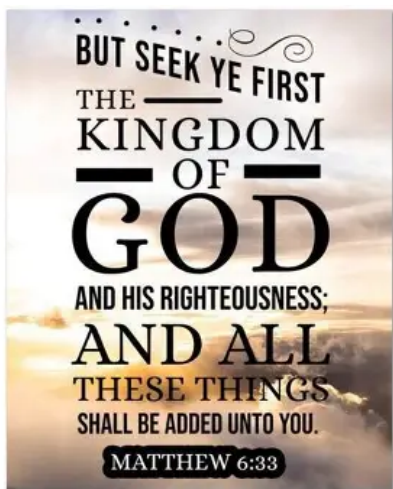


**3.00pm BBC Radio 3 Choral Evensong**

Choral Evensong live from Exeter Cathedral

**The Gospel reading for Sunday 8th February**

**Matthew 6 v 25 -34 - Do Not Worry**



"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life?

And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

"So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.



**WORSHIP TOGETHER**

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026  
10.30am at The Hub, Broad Chalke



**BE ALERT!**  
The lord  
will come  
unexpectedly  
and in  
unexpected  
places

Worship Together is a lay-led ecumenical  
service and all are welcome



**Sunday Praise**

A Church service with a difference.

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 4pm

Commencing February 15<sup>th</sup> 2026

Coombe Bissett Church



A short service with tea  
& cake suitable for all  
ages.



**ALL WELCOME**

**Clergy Contacts & Working Days**

Please note that the clergy team is available throughout the week and a member of the team is always available in an emergency or for an immediate pastoral need.

Revd Ruth Tel: 01722 697022 - Revd Ruth's non-working day is a Monday.

Revd Alison: 01722 697404 or 07904 034221 - Revd Alison's non-working day is a Friday.

Revd Kate: 07754 582395

Revd Maggie: 01722 325825