



# Benedict and Bede

NEWS and VIEWS

March 2018



**This year's Bishop's Lent Appeal  
will focus on supporting families in need – both at  
home and abroad.**

Times are hard for many. In our Diocese there are families who are struggling because of financial pressures, especially with the stagnation in wages and the introduction of Universal Credit. Other families need to escape violence or abuse. Still others need support in building strong relationships and improving parenting skills, often in adverse circumstances. We will be looking to support families in difficulty in the Diocese and, through Let The Children Live! in South America.

Bishop Michael says: "Families come in all shapes and sizes, from the simple unit of mother and child to complex networks of kinship and relation. They are the places where we find support and nurture but can also be places of struggle, pain, and brokenness. All relationships of love help bring us closer to the love that is God in Trinity. I believe that we need to support families as a way of helping others into that love that we as Christians have found for ourselves.

Please do open your hearts and wallets this Lent to support families in need in this Diocese and beyond."

# HOLY WEEK SERVICES



## Palm Sunday 25th March

9.00am at the Venerable Bede

10.30am at St Benedict's

Parish Communion with the distribution of Palms and a dramatic reading of the Passion.

We celebrate the start of Holy Week by remembering how Jesus entered the Holy City on a donkey and how the people tore down palm branches from the trees to welcome him. Our Palm crosses remind us of how easy it is to turn from celebration to tragedy.

6.30pm

A journey to the Cross. Bible readings and meditations on Jesus' final few hours using art.

## Maundy Thursday 29th March

7.30pm at St Benedict's Parish Communion with the footwashing, stripping of the altar and the Watch of the Passion.

A very moving service during which we remember Jesus at the Last Supper and how once the meal was ended Jesus went out into the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. While he was praying Judas leads the soldiers to arrest him and his ordeal begins.

## Good Friday 30th March

2.00pm at St benedict's The Good Friday Service

A solemn day when we remember Jesus death. Our church looks bare and is dominated by a large wooden cross that reminds us of the cost of love.

## Holy Saturday 31st March

8.00pm The Easter Vigil

After a day of waiting and preparation we gather in the darkness as we wait for news of resurrection.

The Easter Fire is lit, our Easter Candle is blessed and we process into a dark church to begin our celebration of resurrection with the great Easter hymn of praise.

## Easter Day 1st April

8.00am Holy Communion at S Benedict's

9.00am Parish Communion at the Venerable Bede with the renewal of baptismal Vows.

10.30am Parish Communion at St Benedict's with the renewal of baptismal Vows and an Easter Egg hunt for our younger members.

We celebrate on this the holiest day of the year.



## Easter Collection

### Supporting our Guides

Our Brownies and Guides meet at the Guide hut in Mill Lane, not very far from the Wombrook. Sadly the hall is in need of repair as cracks have appeared in the walls and the roof leaks. Our Easter Collections will support their appeal for funds to carry out these very necessary repairs.

Paul Brown

## The Pulpit

During February Geoff Yates has been painstakingly removing layers of paint from the pulpit at St Benedict's. Dating from the early 1960's it is an important part of the rebuilding of our church to the designs of G E Street.\* One of George Street's most famous churches is All Saints Denstone, a few miles from the famous Alton Towers. All Saints is well known for the very skilled way in which Street used the different colours of sandstone that were available from the nearby Hollington Quarry giving, with some Derbyshire marble a gentle polychromy.

As the paint was removed from our pulpit different colours of sandstone and marble have been revealed, suggesting a similar design to that of All Saints. It is also possible, given the quality of the stiff leaf carving, that the stone carver was Thomas Earp.\*\*

### *Editors note :*

*\*George Street, 1824-1881 English architect a leading practitioner of Victorian Gothic revival, but mainly an ecclesiastical architect*

*\*\*Thomas Earp 1828-1893, architectural sculptor best known for his work with G E Street who employed him regularly during the period 1860-1870*

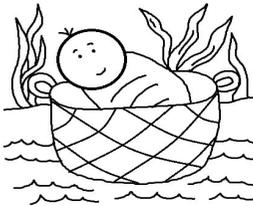
*n.b. Did you know that the pulpit used to be on the opposite side of the church.*



3.30pm till 5.00pm

At

**The Venerable Bede**  
**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March**  
**Moses**



Fun with  
Mud pies, pyramid  
building,  
DIY boils and plague  
pictures

# Good Friday

## Workshop

30th March at 11am  
At St Benedict's Church

Have fun with masking  
tape cross banners, fizzy  
heart prayers and the  
challenge of constructing  
a peg cross.



To book places please contact  
Sarah 07702 376 169

## Learn in Lent @ St. John's-Swindon

Be inspired on St Patrick's Day –17th March 2018

CANON MICHAEL MITTON

Will be exploring early Christian faith in Britain and Ireland at St John's 10.00 am–4.00pm

7.00-9.00pm Michael will introduce his latest book  
'Seasoned by Seasons'

Book your place now

A donation of £10 to cover a delicious lunch from Kinver Deli and to help with costs will be greatly appreciated

For more information contact Revd Charmaine Host  
12, St John's Close Swindon Dudley DY3 4PQ

tel. 01384 298627

e-mail:

charmainehost@btinternet.com

## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN WOMBOURNE

Lent Lunch at The Venerable Bede  
Tuesday 6th March 2018

**12.30 pm** Meditation **1.00pm** Lunch

*All money raised will be donated to charity  
Everyone welcome*

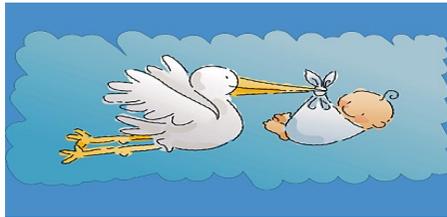
**St Benedict's and the  
Venerable Bede  
Mothering Sunday**



11th March

9.00am Family Communion with the blessing of flowers  
at the Venerable Bede

10.30am Family Communion with special activities in Sunday  
Club and the blessing of flowers at St Benedict's.



Henry Firth was born at 1.30a.m on Saturday 17th February At  
Kings College Hospital London. Mum and Dad (Alice and Alan)  
and baby Firth are doing well.

My first Grandchild!! - Paul.

**Congratulations to all.**

**A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

Full afternoon tea at the Bede on 19th April at 2.30pm. £7.50.

A fundraising event for the forthcoming Flower Festival.

We will also organise a raffle on the day.

To book a place contact **Anne Freeman 01902 895075.**

## BENEDICT and BEDE NEWS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE

Items for inclusion in the **May 2018** bulletin must reach us by Sunday 22 April

Please contact: **Sylvia Cowling - 01902 892691** or **Joyce Hodgetts: 01902 894758**

We welcome items by email but please send only Publisher, Word or plain text.

*wombournebulletin@gmail.com*



St Benedict's School End of  
Term Service  
1.45pm Maundy Thursday  
At St Benedict's

## Christian Aid Week

Commencing 12th May 2018

Volunteers are desperately  
needed to collect for this  
charity.

If **YOU** could help please  
contact:

Bryan Johns or  
Carol Porter



### CHURCH CONTACT NAMES AND NUMBERS (01902 except as indicated)

Revd Preb Paul Brown 892234

Revd Charmaine Host 01384 298627

#### *Childrens worker*

Sarah Mullen 07702376169

#### *Church Wardens*

Roy Wootton 896937 (BB)

Derek Bryant 896991 (BB)

Peter Cartwright 895765 (VB)

Margaret Springthorpe 893116(VB)

Laurie Gainer (Reader) 895849

Susan Williams (Reader) 326529

#### *Parish Administrator :*

*Maxine Banner* 897700

#### *PCC Secretary :*

Shirley Wall

#### *PCC Treasurer :*

Martin Garrington