

**CHURCH OF ST BENEDICT BISCOP and
THE CHURCH OF THE VENERABLE BEDE**

Our Churches are members of the Smestow Vale Team Ministry

TEAM RECTOR: Revd Preb Paul Brown (01902) 892234

Team Vicar Revd Susan Watson 07932 175846

Licensed Readers: Laurie Gainer, Susan Williams

Children's Worker Sarah Mullen 07702 376169

Churchwardens: Roy Wootton (01902) 279411

Derek Bryant (01902) 896991

Peter Cartwright

Director of Music: to be appointed

Parish Administrator: Maxine Banner (01902) 897700

Notice Sheet Co-ordinator: Freda Taylor wns@stbenedictbiscop.org.uk

Church website: www.stbenedictbiscop.org.uk

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The Third Sunday of Lent– 24th March 2019

WELCOME

If you have come to a communion service and you are accustomed to receive in your own church or chapel, you are very welcome at our altar. If you are not a communicant member of a church but would like an individual blessing, please bring a service booklet to the altar rail at the time of communion.

CHURCH OF ST. BENEDICT BISCOP

8.00am Holy Communion (said)

10.30am Parish Communion

Hymns

584

Sunday Club: 10.15am at the Hand-in-Hand

156

Lay Assistants (8) Rosemary Griffiths (10.30) Nigel Welch, Anne Freeman

676

460 c

Servers (10.30) Rachel Mountford, Colin Prior

464 c

Sides (8) Joy Capewell, Liz Richardson (10.30) Martin Garrington, Hilary Moore, Allan & Pat Roberts

707

Offertory Jim & Pat Griffiths **Intercession** Joy Waistell

OT Lesson Angela Pickering **NT Lesson** Roy Wootton **Gospel** Rachel Mountford

Please join us for coffee after the 10.30am service

CHURCH OF THE VENERABLE BEDE

9.00am Parish Communion

Lay Assistant Brian Glover Gainer

Intercession Laurie

Sides Kathleen Ogden, Dorothy Brewerton

OT or NT Lesson Peter Cartwright

Gospel Clergy

EASTER LILIES

Forms are at the back of church to fill in if you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one; or speak to Chris Welch. (suggested donation £2 per lily)

Forms must be returned by Palm Sunday 14th April to Chris, Pauline Haycock, or Maxine Lockhart (at 8.00am)

Orders are being taken for the **Real Easter Eggs**

If you wish to place an order please see Sarah as soon as possible.

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. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 55:1-9 (NRSV)

The Lord says this: Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

This is the word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Lesson 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (NRSV)

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, 'The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.' We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer.

These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

This is the word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory. The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice. Harden not your hearts.

All: Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 13:1-9 (NRSV)

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

There were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them -

do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.’ Then he told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, “See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?” He replied, “Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.”’ *This is the Gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, O Christ.*

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Morning Prayer Monday to Saturday **9.00am** at St Benedict’s
(Wednesday: prayer for individuals on sick list)

Holy Communion 9.30am Tuesday at St Benedict’s

11.00am Thursday at the Venerable Bede

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY, 31ST MARCH 2019 – MOTHERING SUNDAY

St Benedict’s: 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Communion with special activities in Sunday Club and the blessing of flowers

The Venerable Bede: 9.00am Family Communion with the blessing of flowers

Sunday Club: 10.15am - Hand-in-Hand

Thank you to everyone who supported our very successful
Messy Church last Sunday

“The National Flute Orchestra” Conductor : Tony Bridgewater
7.30pm at St Benedict’s on Saturday 30th March
Tickets £8 from Taylor’s Greengrocer, Pat Roberts 896211,
Nigel Welch 324111 and Hilary Moore 892856

A notice from Sarah

I am asking for volunteers to help me with setting up a group to run ‘Open the Book’ in the Primary Schools in Wombourne. I attended a training session during half term which was very encouraging and it would be wonderful if we could get a team together. I need at least 4 people who are willing to act out bible stories and have fun with the children. It’s a very good way of bringing the bible into our local schools. *sarah@stbenedictbiscop.org.uk*

PLEASE TAKE THIS NOTICE SHEET HOME AND PRAY WITH US

Pray for a right reaction to tragedy

“Unless you repent, you will all perish as they did.” Luke 13: 3 (NRSV)

Jesus tells off those who want to dwell on evil and the sins of others. Pray that when tragedy strikes, we may respond with love, and see in it a call to amend our own ways.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Andrew & Lily Powney, Diana, Tiana Willetts, Rosie, Chris Davies, Chris Pool,
Thelma, Joyce Hodgetts, Brian Edwards, Heather Gent, Helen Whatmore,
Sarah Stephenson, Maureen Gaskin, Joy Capewell and Helen Murray.

*Those who have died recently and their families: Betty Gough, Iris Winifred Mackveley
and Karl Daniel Pugh.*

*If you, or one of your family or a friend would like visiting by the clergy or prayers to be
said in connection with any matter which is causing anxiety, such as illness,
bereavement or a moment of crisis, please contact the Rector.*

EVENTS THIS WEEK

9.00am Monday to Saturday - Morning Prayer at St Benedict's

Mon 25	The Annunciation 10am Little Fish at St Benedict's 12.30pm Iris Mackveley's funeral in church <i>PB</i> 3.00pm Betty Gough's funeral in church <i>PB</i> 7.30pm P.C.C. at the Venerable Bede 8.00-9.30pm Bell Ringers meet
Tue 26	9.30am Holy Communion at St Benedict's Lent Lunch at the URC (meditation 12 noon lunch 12.30pm)
Wed 27	9.00am Morning Prayer with special prayers for the sick – St Benedict's No young people's Confirmation Preparation tonight
Thurs 28	11.00am Holy Communion at the Venerable Bede 7.30pm Adult Confirmation Preparation at the Vicarage 8.00pm Wives' Group at Bede - 'Buddy Bags' (Mr John Wilson)
Fri 29	7.00pm Choir practice at St Benedict's
Sat 30	7.30pm National Flute Orchestra Concert with Tony Bridgewater (see p.3)

Stewardship Renewal

Thank you to everyone who has brought their Stewardship Promise Envelope back today. If you have forgotten yours it can be taken to the Parish Office, the Vicarage or given to Nigel Welch.

Deeper and Wider-- A Lent Study Day with George Fisher

on Saturday 6th April * 10.00am till 4.00pm at St John's Swindon
Please book a place with Charmaine at: charmainehost@btinternet.com

Little Brothers of the Good Shepherd care for the homeless by providing food and shelter. They are in great need of food items. Could you please help by bringing tea, coffee, sugar or just a tin of soup, beans etc.
The collection will be on Passion Sunday, 7 April. Thank you. (Janet Lailey)