

NEWSWIRE: 27th February 2026



- Services on Sunday
 - Lent Resources and Book Reviews
 - APCM at St Peter's
 - Keswick Convention 2026
-

A message from Duncan

*“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.
Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ”*

Some of you will know that I have not been well. For the first time in a few years I was laid up in bed for a few days. It was just the flu that is going around but it always surprises me how useless one is during such times. The body and mind simply don't function in the ways we have come to expect and taken for granted.

It was ironic that it was over Ash Wednesday, at the beginning of Lent; a day when we particularly remember our mortality, our frailty and our limitedness, as a result of our fallen state. In the rush of everyday life it is not something we often consider and the words above, from the liturgy at the Imposition of Ashes, are an annual and striking reminder.

The imposition of ashes has had a mottled history in the church. It was banned in the Reformation as an act of external piety unproscribed in New Testament scripture. It was later reintroduced and features in the Church of England's Common Worship Liturgy. Before this, in the Book of Common Prayer, prayers of commination were used at the beginning of Lent. They are an uncomfortable read, reminding us, in no uncertain terms, of God's judgement of sinners, before going on to refresh us with the good news of Jesus in whom we find forgiveness and strength to lead lives of repentance.

So whichever way we turn, the beginning of Lent is an opportunity to face uncomfortable truths and bring our sinfulness and mortality into the cleansing, healing light of Christ. It is also a time to encourage one another to keep going in our Christian lives. This year, through illness, I missed the opportunity to look you in the eyes on Ash Wednesday and lovingly say, *“Turn away from sin and be*

faithful to Christ” and receive the same myself. So I think of you all now as I close this message and pray you will be spurred on in your faith in this season of Lent.

Come let us walk in the light of the LORD. (Is.2.5)

Grace and peace to you all,

Duncan

Collect for the second Sunday of Lent

Almighty God,
you show to those who are in error the light of your truth,
that they may return to the way of righteousness:
grant to all those who are admitted
into the fellowship of Christ’s religion,
that they may reject those things
that are contrary to their profession,
and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY

9.30am - Holy Communion at St Peter’s

Readings: Hebrews 2.5-18; John 12.27-33

10.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard’s and live streamed on [this link](#)

Readings: John 12:20-33; Hebrews 2:5-18



If you have difficulties accessing the service on the livestream link above, please try accessing [our youtube channel](#) directly.

7pm - Revive at St Leonard’s

NEXT WEEK

Monday 2nd March

Bump to One meet on Mondays from 10.30am to midday in St Leonard’s.

Walkie Talkies meet on Mondays (term time) from 10am to 11.30am in St Leonard's church hall.

Tuesday 3rd March

Tinies and Toddlers meet on Tuesdays (term time) from 1.30pm - 3pm in Cassington Village Hall.

Wednesday 4th March

Warm Welcome Wednesday from 10.30am to midday in St Leonard's Church

Men's Curry Night at 7.45pm on 4th March (see below)

NEXT SUNDAY

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

9.30am - Morning Worship at St Peter's

10.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard's

6.30pm - Shaped by the Word at St Leonard's

Looking further ahead

The funeral of the late Audrey Rowland will be held at St Leonard's at midday on Thursday 19th March.

The funeral of the late Anthony Hollis will be held at St Leonard's at 2pm on Thursday 26th March.

The next **Men's Curry night** will be at Ready Steady Spice on Wednesday 4 March at 7.45pm. There's no hidden agendas, just come along, enjoy a curry, a beer and a chat and hopefully have an enjoyable evening. If you'd like to join us please let Andy Greenwood know, by emailing Andy at AMG1954church@gmail.com

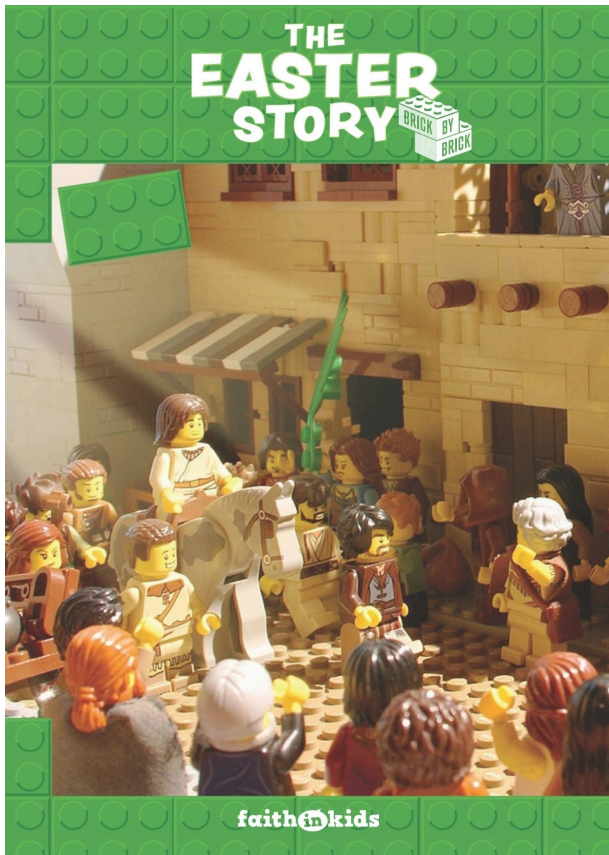
Mothering Sunday flowers - we need some men!

It has been our tradition on Mothering Sunday to honour all the women at our church, whether or not they are mothers, with a small posy of spring flowers. We also make enough posies for the women who are housebound and the new mums who bring their babies to Bump to One.

It would be lovely to find a few men to get involved in the buying and making of the posies on Saturday 14 March (exact time TBA).

Tasks required: buying some daffodils. making them into posies. Nathan Meango did this competently at age 8 last year so not being able to do is not an excuse!

All instructions will be supplied. Please let [Margaret Thornton](#) know if you can help.



The Easter Story - Brick by Brick

We are planning a special morning to invite families from the village to explore the Easter story. This year it will all be themed around Lego - there will be 15kg of Lego and lots of building fun for the families.

The activity will run on **Maundy Thursday (2nd April)** between **10am and noon** (most probably in the church hall).

Would you like to join in and help? There's help needed for setting up/clearing away, refreshments & food and of course helping out at the Lego stations.

Please get in touch with Rabea if you are able to help (slpfamilies@gmail.com).

Flyers to invite families will be available in the churches soon.

St Peter's APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) is being held on Sunday 26 April 2026.

In order to vote on any issues at the APCM you need to be included on the Church Electoral Roll. If you are not already included on the Church Electoral Roll and would like to be, please collect an application form available in the church and return to Jan Macdonald (Church Warden and PCC secretary).

There will also be vacancies to serve as PCC members. If you are interested in this role, please contact Duncan Fraser or any current member of the PCC for more information.

Keswick Convention 2026

Have you ever thought about having a week's holiday in the Lake district with some excellent teaching worship and spiritual refreshment ?

Just plan and book your accommodation, camping, holiday cottage or Airbnb in the Keswick area.

We generally attend the convention in the mornings and some evenings or you can dip in little as much as you want.

There is a group of us planning to attend week 2. 25th July - 1st August 2026. If you are interested in joining us or want any further information please contact us or find the cards at the back of St Leonard's church.

Sue Greenwood, Suzanne Cook, Ruth Webster and Jo Murrell.

LENT 2026

LENT group: If you have not managed to find some others to join with for Christian encouragement in Lent and would still like to, Duncan is able to host a simple gathering for four Wednesdays in Lent, around lunchtime at a venue to be confirmed. Please let the office or Duncan know by Sunday and he will confirm details concerning time and place.



This year's Lent resources from the Church of England have at their heart the theme of a 'rhythm of life' – habits and patterns which help us grow as disciples of Christ day by day, especially as we prepare to celebrate the great mystery of God's saving love at Easter.

Each week a different contributor



explores a different aspect of Christian discipleship – **worshipping** together, **praying**, **exploring the Bible**, sharing **communion**, offering **service** and **sharing the good news** with others.

There are various resources to help explore these themes as part of your own Lent journey, with those you live with, or with a friend or an informal group:

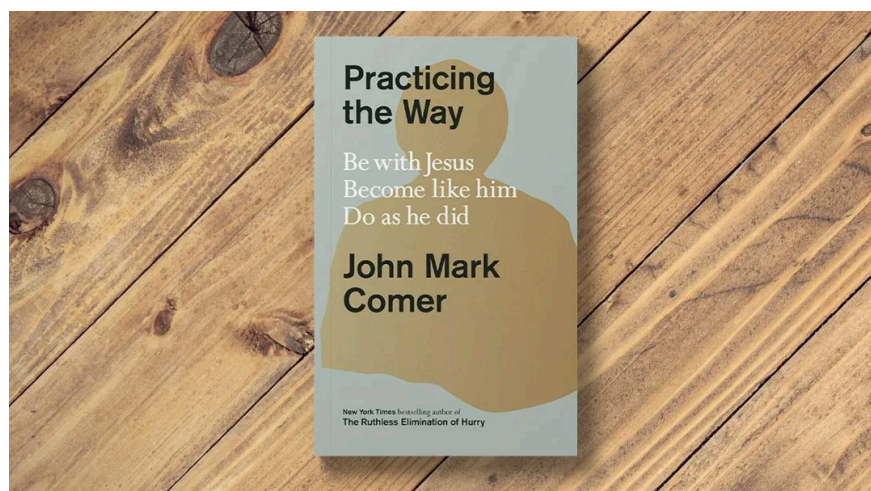


Daily Reflections: You will be able to sign up for daily emails or you can download the new Church of England devotional app [Everyday Faith](#). There is also a [printed booklet](#) and you will find copies in both churches.

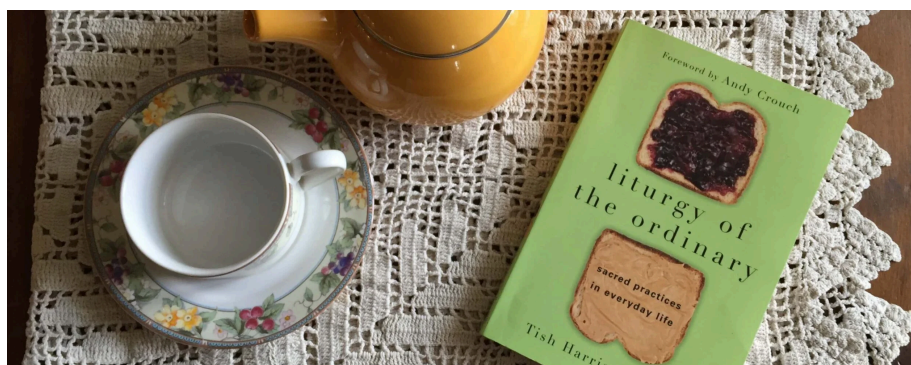
Resources for a group [can be found here](#). A very simple resource, with an accompanying video, to allow you to chat about the theme of the week with a friend or a small group. It is great to use alongside the daily devotions

[Daily Reflections for family](#) encourage a family to reflect on a bible verse along with something to put into practice each day. Speak to Rabea if you would like to see a copy.

Book Reviews for Lent



This year we will be recommending three books to help those who would like to read a book during Lent. You can see Margaret's review of "Practicing the Way" by John Mark Comer [here](#).



Duncan introduces 'The Liturgy of the Ordinary: sacred practices in everyday life'. [Click here to see the video](#).

Please pray for:

- Dave following his move to a care home.
- Ben and healing for his mental health.
- Scarlett's recovery from long Covid.

- Katie suffering with epilepsy. Please pray that the right medication be found to control her seizures.

To add names to the prayer list, please contact the Church Office (stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com) Names will be added to the list by express permission, and only first names will be published.

www.stleonardseysham.org.uk | www.stpeterschurchcassington.org | [Youtube channel](#) | [facebook page](#)

Church Office - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am – 2pm

Tel: 01865 883325 E-mail: stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com

Revd Duncan Fraser: 07810 324088 (Day off – Friday)