Aldermaston and Woolhampton Benefice News

**(the parishes of Aldermaston & Wasing, Beenham, Brimpton, Midgham and Woolhampton)**

# **Sunday 16th February 2025: The Third Sunday before Lent**

**COLLECT** Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

(or) Eternal God, whose Son went among the crowds and brought healing with his touch: help us to show his love, in your Church as we gather together, and by our lives as they are transformed into the image of Christ our Lord.

**FIRST READING** *1 Corinthians 15.12–20*

As we heard last Sunday from this letter, our Christian faith rests on the fact of Christ’s resurrection. Paul now expands this truth which makes all the difference. We would be misguided to believe something that is not true, but the fact is that Christ was indeed raised, and therefore so are we.

**GOSPEL READING** *Luke 6.17–26*

Our readings continue week by week Luke’s account of the Gospel events. Very many people demanded the healing touch of Jesus. The troubled and the poor heard his promise of blessing in his kingdom.

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**  Merciful Father, who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life, that those who come to him should never hunger: draw us to the Lord in faith and love, that we may eat and drink with him at his table in the kingdom, where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

**Services this Sunday**

St Mary’s, Aldermaston 10.45am Holy Communion

St Mary’s Beenham 9.15am Morning Praise

St Peter’s, Brimpton 9.15am Morning Praise

St Matthew’s, Midgham 9.15am Holy Communion

St Peter’s Woolhampton 10.45am Holy Communion

**Services on 23rd February: The Second Sunday before Lent**

St Matthew’s, Midgham 4pm Sung Evensong

St Peter’s, Woolhampton 10.45am Benefice Holy Communion

**Ash Wednesday 5th March 7pm** Service of Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes at St Nicholas, Wasing

**Benefice Lent Course** – please see attached poster

**Jane is on leave** until Sunday 23rd February

**Prayers and Pastoral Care** In the Benefice we seek to offer care for everyone in our churches and our communites, especially when they are in a difficult period in their lives. If you need to talk to a someone or would like a home visit, please contact the Rector on 0118 9712 891

You might just need to talk to someone in complete confidence about a personal or family crisis. We will always listen and help if we can. If you would like prayers included in our services on a Sunday for someone who is ill or in need, (providing the person is aware that they are being prayed for), has recently died or on the anniversary of their death, please do let me know. Revd Jane

We pray for those who are ill at this time and remember those who

have recently died and pray for those who grieve

**Sheila Dunford**. Sheila’s funeral will be at West Berks Crematorium on 26th February at 2pm. Our prayers are with George and the family.

**Richard Hunt** We pray for Sue and the family. Richard’s funeral will be at St Peter’s Brimpton on Friday 7th March at 1.45pm

Please print this newsletter and hand on to anyone you know who does not have internet access

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