

wantage parish

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 8 March 2026

Holy Trinity Sung Eucharist: New People's Mass (Dom Gregory Murray)

Hymns: NEH 333, 337, 383, 382, 376

Parish Church Choral Eucharist: Mass for five voices (William Byrd) **Motet:** Sicut cervus (Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina) **Voluntary:** Tranquilly (C.H.H. Parry)

Hymns: NEH 333, 360 (3i), 379, 437

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Saturday 7 March

4pm Vigil Mass (Holy Trinity)

Sunday 8 March

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

8am Eucharist (Parish Church) *Preacher: the Curate*

9.15am Sung Eucharist (Holy Trinity) *Preacher: David Richardson*

10.30am Choral Eucharist (Parish Church) *Preacher: David Richardson*

3pm Vigil of Lament (Market Place West End by Marmalade)

Monday 9 March

9.30am Eucharist (Parish Church) *Followed by parish breakfast*

3.30pm-4.30pm TBG: Teens' Bible Group (Parish Church)

Tuesday 10 March

9.30am Old Testament Bible Study Group (*What's On Where*)

Wednesday 11 March

3pm-6pm Around Table (Holy Trinity) *Last orders at 5.30pm*

7pm Eucharist (Holy Trinity)

Friday 13 March

12 noon Eucharist (Parish Church)

9pm Compline (Parish Church)

Saturday 14 March

4pm Vigil Mass (Holy Trinity)

Sunday 15 March

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8am Eucharist (Parish Church) *Preacher: the Vicar*

MOTHERING SUNDAY

9.15am Sung Eucharist (Holy Trinity) *Preacher: the Vicar*

10.30am Choral Eucharist (Parish Church) *Preacher: James C*

5pm Taizé (Parish Church)

Morning Prayer is usually said in the Parish Church at 9am Monday-Friday

Eucharist at the Convent Tuesday-Saturday at 10am, all welcome (space permitting).

What's On Where: For information about regular church groups and activities, see the church noticeboard, the link in the eNews, or scan the QR code:



READINGS & PRAYERS on the following pages

First Reading: Exodus 17.1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

Psalm 95

Response: O come let us sing unto the Lord.

O come, let us sing to the Lord Let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving and be glad in him with psalms. **R/.**

For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods. In his hands are the depths of the earth and the heights of the mountains. are his. **R/.**

The sea is his, for he made it and his hands have moulded the dryland. Come, let us worship and bow down and kneel before the Lord our maker. For he is our God and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his flock. **R/.**

O that today you should listen to his voice: "Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, on that day at Massah in the wilderness. "When your forebears tested me and put me to the proof, though they had seen my works. **R/.**

"Forty years long I detested that generation and said, "This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways." "So I swore in my wrath, "They shall not enter into my rest." **R/.**

Second Reading: Romans 5.1-11

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Gospel: John 4.5-42

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

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. **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.' Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.' Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.' Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

For Your Prayers: Sarah Clark, Lizzie, Beth, Natalie, Sirma, Chris, Pat and Dave, Alan and Dawn, Rachel, Niamh and Orlaith, Aubrey, Kathryn, Becky, Pat, Suzan Clark, Diane Dyche, David, Gordon, Peter, Alastair, Joe, Peter, John, Elda, Karen, Angela, Tracey.

RIP: Vernon Brett, Michelle Wilkins, Bishop of Guildford Andrew Watson.

Please also pray for: Our flower team, the Parish Pilgrimage.

Readings & Hymns for next Sunday:

8am: 1 Samuel 16.1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5.8-14; John 9

9:15am and 10:30am: Exodus 2.1-10; Psalm 127; Colossians 3.12-17; John 19.25b-27

Hymns at HT: NEH 185, 459, 484*, 84, 461

Hymns at PC: NEH 336 (descant JPR), 185, 66, 186

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

VIGIL OF LAMENT: All are invited to gather **outside Marmalade at 3pm on Sunday afternoon** for a short act of reflection with the mayor and the vicar. We will light candles and the bellringers will toll 27 times for the local people who died in the pandemic. In light of recent events in the middle east, this is also an opportunity to come together in grief and prayer for everything in our world that is scary right now.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE: The first group of pilgrims sets out for Canterbury from Winchester this Tuesday, with further groups setting out from Southwark on Thursday and from Rochester on Monday next week. Please pray for them as they pray for the mission of the parish and for the new Archbishop of Canterbury.

EASTER FLOWERS & EASTER FIZZ: Donations invited towards our Easter celebrations, as well as towards Easter eggs for the children! Please make donations to [*include details*]. If you would like your donation to be in memory of somebody special, please email the parish office.

ELECTORAL ROLL & ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING: The annual meeting with election of churchwardens and PCC members is taking place in May. If you are new to the congregation, or have not yet signed up on the electoral roll, please do so **between 13 March and 23 April**. Application forms will be available in both churches.

PEWS FOR SALE: The PCC has a number of redundant pews available for disposal. Varying in cost (30% discount for members of the congregation) look for blue posters at both churches to see what's available or contact Vince Wilkins buildings@wantageparish.com Sales start from noon on Sunday 7 March 2026 on first come first served basis.

CARITAS CHILDREN'S CHOIR: Spring Concert at Wantage Methodist Church on **4pm 14 March**. Tickets: Adults £10 (£5 under 15) - available from Sheenagh at church or ring 07387 791932.

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar: Revd Katherine Price (Rest Day: Tuesday) 01235 768806 vicar@wantageparish.com

Curate: Revd Frances Caroe (Rest Day: Friday) 07856 278983 curate@wantageparish.com

Children & Young People's Minister: James Clarke (Rest Day: Tuesday)

cyp.minister@wantageparish.com

Parish Administrator: Cathryn Stanton 01235 764533 administrator@wantageparish.com

Event Bookings: Cathryn Stanton 01235 764533 bookings@wantageparish.com

Churchwardens: Alastair Hunter alastair.churchwarden@wantageparish.com

Janet Kingdon janet.churchwarden@wantageparish.com

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Klara Ignell safeguarding@wantageparish.com

Director of Music: Phil Johnson music@wantageparish.com

Personal Discipleship Plan: Susie Lapwood pdp@wantageparish.com

Parish Website: www.wantageparish.com