

**SUNDAY BEFORE LENT** 2 March 2025

**Choral Eucharist:** Mass for the Blessed John Henry Newman (James Macmillan) **Gloria:** Gloria from mass of St Thomas (David Thorne) **Motet:** My eyes for beauty pine (Herbert Howells) **Voluntary:** Prelude in C Major (J S Bach)

**Hymns at PC**: NEH 234, 400, 389, 377

**Hymns at HT:** NEH 234, 343, 400, 374, 377

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

**Saturday 1 March**  4pm Evening Prayer (Holy Trinity)

 2.30pm and 7pm Parish Panto *Dick Whittington* (Parish Church)

**Sunday 2 March** **SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

*Preacher at all morning services: the Curate*

8am Eucharist (Parish Church)

9.15am Sung Eucharist (Holy Trinity)

10.30am Choral Eucharist (Parish Church)

5pm Choral Evensong and Benediction (Parish Church)

**Monday 3 March** 9.30am Requiem Eucharist (Parish Church)

 7.30pm-9pm Home Group *(see What’s on Where)*

**Tuesday 4 March** **SHROVE TUESDAY**

9.30am Old Testament Bible Study Group *(see notice below)*

*No Bible Reading Book Club*

5.30pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party (Holy Trinity) *followed by*

7pm Eucharist (Holy Trinity)

**Wednesday 5 March ASH WEDNESDAY**

9.30am Eucharist with ashes (Holy Trinity)

3pm–6.00pm Around Table (Holy Trinity) *Last orders at 5.30pm*

7.30pm Choral Mass with ashes (Parish Church)

**Thursday 6 March** 7:30pm Lent Group - exploring faith through poetry *(see notice below)*

8pm Contemplative Prayer Group (online) see below

**Friday 7 March** **Perpetua, Felicity and Companions**

 12 noon Eucharist (Parish Church)

2.30pm World Day of Prayer service at St John Vianney RC Church

 9pm Compline (Parish Church)

**Saturday 8 March** 10.30am-3.45pm Spiritual Art Workshop (Holy Trinity) *open from 10 am*

 4pm Vigil (Holy Trinity)

**Sunday** **9 March** **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

*Preacher at all morning services: the Vicar*

8am Eucharist (Parish Church)

9.15am Sung Eucharist (Holy Trinity)

10.30am Choral Eucharist (Parish Church)

5pm Stations of the Cross (Parish Church)

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

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

READINGS & PRAYERS

**Collect**

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**First Reading****: Exodus 34.29-end**

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterwards all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

**Psalm 99**

**Response: The Lord our God is holy**

The Lord is king: let the peoples tremble;

he is enthroned above the cherubim: let the earth shake.

The Lord is great in Zion

and high above all peoples.

Let them praise your name, which is great and awesome;

the Lord our God is holy. **R/.**

Mighty king, who loves justice,

you have established equity;

you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

Exalt the Lord our God;

bow down before his footstool, for he is holy. **R/.**

Moses and Aaron among his priests

and Samuel among those who call upon his name;

they called upon the Lord and he answered them.

He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;

they kept his testimonies and the law that he gave them. **R/.**

You answered them, O Lord our God;

you were a God who forgave them

and pardoned them for their offences.

Exalt the Lord our God

and worship him upon his holy hill,

for the Lord our God is holy. **R/.**

**Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 3.12-4.2**

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. Therefore, since it is by God’s mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God’s word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

**Gospel: Luke 9.28-36**

Alleluia,

**Alleluia**

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

You have the words of eternal life.

**Alleluia**

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, ‘Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah’—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, ‘This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!’ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

**Post-Communion Prayer**

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**For Your Prayers:** Sarah Clark, Lizzie, Beth Hirst, Natalie, Rowland Jenkins, Sirma, Sybil Smith, Phoebe, Mary, Chris, Sharon, Glauce, Steve West, Pat and Dave, Amanda, Angela, Martin Law, Deirdre, Danielle, Alan and Dawn.

**Readings & Hymns for next Sunday**:

Deuteronomy 26.1-11, Psalm 91.1-11, Romans 10.8b-13, Luke 4.1-13

Hymns at PC: NEH 67, 383, 70, 74

Hymns at HT: NEH 67, 385, 383, 70, 74

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**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:

**SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE PARTY: Change of time!** This year’s Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party will be on **Tuesday 4 March** at Holy Trinity **\*starting at 5.30pm\*** Pancakes served until 6.45pm, followed by an informal Eucharist at 7pm and the burning of Palm Crosses to make ash for Ash Wednesday. *Please note there is no Bible Reading Group on this day*.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: Friday 7th March** at St John Vianney RC Church at **2.30pm.** 'I made you wonderful': a service written and arranged by the women of the COOK ISLANDS.

**SPIRITUAL ART WORKSHOP Saturday 8 March 10.30am–3.45pm** at Holy Trinity with the Revd Catherine Lomas. Learn about the history and spirituality of icons, with an opportunity to create our own artistic responses to scripture in the afternoon. There will be a service at 4pm for those who wish to stay. Cost £30 to include a light lunch and materials. Places are limited; contact the Parish Office (administrator@wantageparish.com) to book.

**WELCOMING A PREACHER ON PLACEMENT:** We will be joined for at least a couple of services during Lent by Robert Finch, mostly known as Bertie. He is currently a youth worker at Marcham parish, and is exploring ordination. He will be preaching on Sunday 6 April. Please keep him in prayer.

**PALM CROSSES:** Please bring last year’s palm crosses to church for burning for ash for Ash Wednesday; they can be left on either church welcome table.

**THURSDAY LENT GROUP** - Exploring faith through poetry. Thursdays at 7.30, 7 St Michael’s, Priory Road, OX12 9DE. More details from Frances at curate@wantageparish.com

**THE CROSS EXHIBITION**: Frances and Christopher Howson will be taking photographs of your crosses for the Passiontide Exhibition after mass at the parish church on **Sunday 2 March**, and at Holy Trinity on **Sunday 9 March**. Please bring your crosses with you to be photographed.

**SPARE NECTAR POINTS?** Recently, Around Table was donated nearly £40 of points. If you would like to donate them to Around Table email janet.churchwarden@wantageparish.com

**ONLINE PRAYER GROUPS**

**Contemplative Prayer** **Group:** Next meeting: **Thursday 6 March**. Meeting on Zoom **Meeting ID:** 786 0328 1776 **Passcode:** 7GvVWD

**Intercessory Prayer Group:**  Next meeting: **Thursday 20 March**.

For further information or to request the online links, contact Susie Lapwood at pdp@wantageparish.com.

CONTACT DETAILS

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