

wantage parish

SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT 8 February 2026

Holy Trinity Sung Eucharist: Mass of St Thomas (David Thorne)

Hymns: NEH 263 (omit *), 397, 285i, 414, 433

Parish Church Choral Eucharist: Holy Communion in C (John Ireland) **Gloria:** Gloria from the Mass of St Thomas (David Thorne) **Psalm:** 136.1-9, 23-end (John Ridgway) **Motet:** For the beauty of the earth (John Rutter) **Voluntary:** Andante Tranquillo Op.65 No.3 (Felix Mendelssohn)

Hymns: NEH 377, 263 (omit*), 397, 401

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Saturday 7 February 4pm Vigil Mass (Holy Trinity)

Sunday 8 February **SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

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

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

10.30am Choral Eucharist (Parish Church) *Preacher: the Vicar*

Monday 9 February 9.30am Eucharist (Parish Church)

Followed by Parish Breakfast

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

Tuesday 10 February 9.30am Old Testament Bible Study Group (*What's On Where*)

Wednesday 11 February 3pm-6pm Around Table (Holy Trinity) *Last orders at 5.30pm*

7pm Eucharist (Holy Trinity)

7.30pm PCC Meeting

Friday 13 February 12 noon Eucharist (Parish Church)

Saturday 14 February 4pm Evening Prayer (Holy Trinity)

Sunday 15 February **SUNDAY BEFORE 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*

Morning Prayer is 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:



PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Office telephone is currently out of order. Please email: administrator@wantageparish.com if you need to contact the Parish Administrator.

READINGS & PRAYERS

First Reading: Genesis 1.1-2.3

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.' So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.' So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.' So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus, the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

Psalm 136, 1-9, 23-end

Response: His mercy endures forever

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious,
for his mercy endures for ever.

Give thanks to the God of gods,
for his mercy endures for ever.

Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for his mercy endures for ever;
Who alone does great wonders,
for his mercy endures for ever. **R/.**

Who by wisdom made the heavens,
for his mercy endures for ever;
Who laid out the earth upon the waters,
for his mercy endures for ever;
Who made the great lights, for his mercy
endures for ever. **R/.**

The sun to rule the day,
for his mercy endures for ever;
The moon and the stars to govern the night,
for his mercy endures for ever. **R/.**

Who remembered us when we were in trouble,
for his mercy endures for ever;
And delivered us from our enemies,
for his mercy endures for ever;
Who gives food to all creatures,
for his mercy endures for ever.
Give thanks to the God of heaven,
for his mercy endures for ever. **R/.**

Second Reading: Romans 8.18-25

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope, we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Gospel: Matthew 6.25-end

Alleluia, **Alleluia**

We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Alleluia

Jesus said, 'Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore, do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed, your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

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

RIP: Abby Tren, Sr Valeria CSMV, Roland Jenkins, Pamela Hannaby

Memorial Service for Abby Tren is on Thursday 19 February at 11.30am in the Parish Church.

Sister Valeria's Requiem will be on Friday 20 February at 12 noon followed by a buffet lunch. Please confirm your attendance and any dietary requirements to welcome@csmv.co.uk.

Please also pray for: Parish Church Choir, the Director of Music and the Organist; the General Synod.

Readings & Hymns for next Sunday:

Exodus 24.12-end, Psalm 99, 2 Peter 1.16-end, Matthew 17.1-9

Hymns at HT: NEH 178, 339, 271, 295, 440

Hymns at PC: NEH 234, 400 (tune 311), 389, 494 (tune 413)

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MESSY CHURCH SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE PARTY: Tuesday 17 February 2pm-3.30pm at Holy Trinity.

An afternoon of craft, activities, pancakes and worship, talking about why we eat pancakes, exploring the meaning of Lent and making ash for Ash Wednesday. To book a FREE place, visit www.ticketsource.co.uk/wantage-parish, or see the link in the eNews/parish website.

PALM CROSSES: Please bring last year's palm crosses to church for burning for ash for Ash Wednesday; there are baskets in both churches, clearly signed.

LENT: The Lent schedule is now online at www.wantageparish.com.

Resources: Katherine and Frances are recommending the book **Songs of the Spirit by Megan Daffern** as a Lent resource this year, which is based around the psalms. There is a psalm, reflection, and question to think about for each day of Lent, as well as weekly themes which we will be using in our preaching. If anybody is interested in getting together to discuss the book as an informal Lent Group, please email Katherine who will put you in touch with each other.

Online Lent Retreat: Entitled: 'With all your heart: a retreat in preparation for Lent' run by the Church Times This will be screened at the Parish Church on **Saturday 14 February 9.45am-1pm**. Please email Susie (pdp@wantageparish.com) if you would like to come along, or see the link in the eNews or on the Church Times website (www.churchtimes.co.uk) if you wish to log on from home.

REPAIR OF CHURCHYARD FOOTPATH: The footpath on the south side of the Parish Church will be closed for repairs all day on **Tuesday 10 February**. Access to the church during the morning will be available via the porch at the west end. Keyholders will still be able to access the church via the vestry door. If the weather is too wet/cold, the work will be deferred.

SUSTAINABLE FLOWERS: One of the proposals to be debated at next week's general synod is on Sustainable Flowers and the use of floral foam. It's exciting that this parish has been a pioneer in something that's now getting national news coverage. Our flower guild is also proof that parish teams can be creative and resourceful and rise to a new challenge! Find out more at www.suschurchflowers.com (you'll recognise the front-page photo!)

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)

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Parish Administrator: Cathryn Stanton 01235 764533 administrator@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