

Events This week

Sunday – Encounters 6.30pm Charlton, this week will be looking at Zacchaeus.

Tuesday 28th – Revd Trevor Lewis Licensing service St Peters Hurstbourne. 7.30pm

Wednesday 1st – Holy Communion Tangley 10am

Wednesday 1st – Ash Wednesday Service 10am - Smannell

Notices from around the Benefice...

Thank you to all those people who are faithfully saying the prayer from our Year of Prayer card each day - please keep it up! If you haven't got a prayer card as yet, please do pick one up at the back of church.

Friday 7th April Retreat Day at Penton Park to book your place please contact Judith on 07999 352585 by 28th Feb, spaces are limited.

Tuesday 28th February Revd Trevor Lewis licensing service St Peters Hurstbourne Tarrant

Tuesday 14th March Commissioning Service Holy Trinity Penton 7.30 pm

Friday 28th April Electronic Organ Concert – Charlton, please see posters in church or attached to the grapevine.

In your Prayers please pray for.....

Those in our schools, that they settle back quickly after half term.

Trevor's Licensing service on 28th February - may all be blessed especially Trevor, Margaret and family.

Those waiting for results from scans and tests - may the Lord hold them in peace.

Community Diary Dates

Woman's World Day of Prayer - Friday 3rd March at 10.30am at All Saints Church, Upper Clatford.

Passion Play – The High St, Good Friday, also at The Lights Monday 10th April 7.30pm

Coffee and Cake Mornings - Friday 3rd March at 10.30am, St. John the Baptist RC Church, in aid of Andover Food Bank.

Andover Saturday Club – 10.30 – 12.30 United Reform Church, pop in for a free taster session or call 01962 857099 for more info

Readings This Week

Exod. 24. 12-end Ps 2 or Ps 99
2 Pet. 1. 16 – end Matt 17. 1 - 9

Next Week

Gen. 2. 15-17; 3. 1 – 7 Ps 32
Rom. 5 12 -19 Matt. 4. 1 - 11

Words of Encouragement

Wednesday 1st March is Ash Wednesday, (the first day of Lent) which occurs exactly 46 days before Easter (including Sundays). The 40 days of Lent also recall the 40 days of fasting taken by Moses, Elijah, and also by Jesus when He went into the wilderness and was tested by Satan.

The tradition of Ash Wednesday originated around the 8th Century and goes back to Leviticus 16 when the Lord establishes an annual day of repentance for the Israelites by humbling Himself through fasting and prayer. The name, Ash Wednesday, derives from the practice of blessing the ash trees, using the ashes of branches of palm trees. The ashes symbolise death, mortality and sorrow for sin, and the marking of ashes on foreheads in the form of a cross symbolise that sins are forgiven through Jesus Christ's death and resurrection.

Ash Wednesday marks the start of the run up to Easter and is traditionally seen as a Holy day of fasting prior to the beginning of Easter, or the first day of the Lent period.

Many of us "give up" something for Lent - quite often it is chocolates, just as Jesus "gave up" eating while he was in the wilderness. Even if we don't "give up" anything for this period, Lent does remind us to think about Jesus and how He gave his life for us, and how He loves us and is always there for us.

Notes from Pastrow Admin

Please book for the Retreat day, as it is filling up fast.

To advertise your events on the Grapevine please forward copy to Judith.

Sainsbury Kids Vouchers – don't forget to save them.