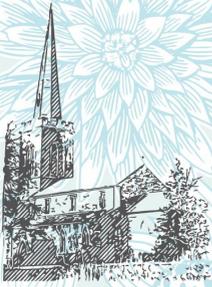


March 2026



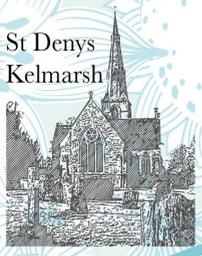
All Saints, Naseby



All Saints, Clipston



St Michael's Haselbech



St Denys  
Kelmarsh



*Dear March, come in!*

# The Magazine

*... How glad I am!  
Emily Dickinson*



Welford  
Congregational Chapel



St Helen's Sibbertoft



St Mary The Virgin, Welford



St Nicholas' Marston Trussell

## News & Views

Haselbech, Kelmarsh, Marston Trussell,  
Naseby, Welford, Sibbertoft & Clipston

## DIOCESE OF PETERBOROUGH

### United Benefice of Clipston, Haselbech, Kelmarsh, Marston Trussell, Naseby, Sibberton and Welford

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<b>Magazine</b>	Julian Howell-Jones, 83 West Street, Welford	575757

#### St. Mary the Virgin, Welford

Churchwarden	Gordon Ball, 11 Salford Close	575331
Treasurer	Julie Newman, 30 Wakefield Drive, Welford	<b>575335</b>
Secretary	Judith Chadwick, Mayfield House, Guilsborough	07790 906417
Organist	Alan Barraclough, 38 West End, Welford	<b>575269</b>
Tower Captain	Kelvin Broad, 3 Newlands Road, Welford	<b>575683</b>
Mothers' Union	Anne Wing, 8 Millers Road, Welford	571063

#### St. Helen, Sibberton

Churchwarden	Toby Jackson, Wry Furlong, Welford Rd, Sibberton	881091
Treasurer	Lesley Hartshorne, Roserie Cottage, Westhorpe, Sibberton	880112
Secretary	Viv Arrowsmith, 5 Beeches Close, Sibberton	880988

#### St. Nicholas, Marston Trussell

Churchwarden		
Treasurer	Chris Oatway, 9 Main Street, Marston Trussell	289516

#### **All Saints Clipson**

Churchwarden	Steve Carpenter, The Covers, Harborough Rd	<b>525120</b>
Treasurer/Organist	Julie Connell, The Wooden Owl, 10a The Green	525336

#### St. Michael's, Haselbech

Churchwardens	Tess Le Sueur, Haselbech	01604686266
	Michelle Jeffrey	07785 575169
Treasurer	Michael Hopkins Orton House, Welford Road, Naseby	01604740309

#### St. Deny's Kelmarsh

Churchwarden	Bob Swinfen Lyndale Rectory Farm, Kelmarsh	01604686676
Treasurer	Gina Hankins Scotland Wood Farm, Kelmarsh	01604686216

#### All Saints, Naseby

Churchwarden	Margaret Diack 11 Hall Close, Naseby	01604743820
Treasurer	Maurice Cave 84 Church Street, Naseby	01604740388

#### Welford Congregational Chapel

<b>Minister</b>	Rev. Tony Avery	07850 052541
<b>Treasurer /Secretary</b>	Denise Bolton, Copper Bottom, Northampton Road,	<b>575746</b>

**Dear Friends,**

Recently, the Naseby group has acquired an allotment for a new project to help us connect with God's creation and build community as part of our new 4pm service, which we're calling The Welcome Patch.

Standing at the gate of this newly acquired but long-neglected plot, I felt a mixture of hope and horror. Amongst the weeds and brambles, the abandoned chair and the broken fencing, lies a kind of blank canvas.

As we enter the season of Lent, it struck me that reclaiming an overgrown allotment is rather good metaphor for the spiritual journey towards Easter.

Both require a sharp spade, a bit of sweat, and the courage to look at what has been growing in the dark.

## **1. Confronting our inner lives**

The first stage of Lent, much like the first weekend on a new plot, is assessment. You look at the weeds and realise they didn't get that big overnight.

In our spiritual lives, Lent invites us to look more deeply and attend to the weeds that may have taken root. Resentment, unhelpful habits, misplaced priorities.

It requires digging deep to pull them up by the roots. But just like clearing an allotment, the effort is worth it as we enter into the future hope of fruitfulness.

*Continued overleaf*

*Continued from previous page*

## **2. The wait in the wilderness**

There's always a period in March when the allotment looks worse than when you began. The weeds are gone, but the ground is bare, brown, and cold. This is the wilderness of Lent. It requires patience. We long for tomatoes and sunflowers, but the soil needs time to breathe.

Lent teaches us that growth often happens underground long before we see a single green shoot. It invites us into stillness, trusting that God, the Good Gardener, knows what he is doing. All of this is preparation for the harvest - and the hard work of Lent is worth it.

## **3. Spurred by hope**

And standing at the threshold of the new allotment, I am excited about what will happen here and the transformation that will take place.

There are several opportunities to engage with others during Lent. Our Lent Group will run in March in Welford and Clipston (don't worry if you've missed the first session - we'd love to see you at any point - more details are in the magazine).

The end of March also leads us into Holy Week, offering further opportunities to attend to our inner lives. More information is available on our website and will appear in April's edition of the magazine.

Every blessing,  
Revd Tom

# The Welcome Patch

**The Welcome Patch is the Naseby Group's new community allotment – a shared green space to grow food, enjoy nature, and connect at our monthly 4pm service.**



**Join us at The Welcome Patch!  
We're seeking adult volunteers to help tidy the site and refresh the fencing as we get ready for spring.**

**Working Group Dates:**

**Friday 27th February, 10am–12pm**

**Saturday 7th March, 2–4pm**

**Saturday 14th March, 10am–12pm**

**Whether you can spare an hour or an afternoon, every helping hand makes a huge difference.**



**CONTACT JO GRANT: 07974296727**

## Lent Groups: Step into the Wilderness this Lent



Most people avoid the wilderness. They call it empty, harsh, lonely. But those who choose to dwell there often discover something deeper: In its simplicity and silence, there is space for God to speak.

This Lent, you are invited to journey into that same wilderness. Inspired by the Desert Fathers and Mothers, early Christian pioneers who left behind compromise to seek holiness in the Egyptian desert.

Our 5-week Lent Groups will draw on their experiences along with our bible readings to help us reflect on our own lives and explore the metaphorical deserts we all face . seasons of challenge, waiting and transformation.

Travel into the wilderness this Lent and rediscover what really matters.

**Welford:** Starting Wednesday 25 th February, 10:30 . 12noon @ Quarry House, 2 West End, Welford, NN6 6HJ.  
Contact: Sarah McSharry . [scmcsharry@gmail.com](mailto:scmcsharry@gmail.com) / 07767303082

**Clipston:** Starting Thursday 26 th Feb, 1:30-3pm @ Orbell Room, All Saints Church.  
Contact: Rev<sup>d</sup> Lesley Tomalin . [lesley@nasebygroup.org](mailto:lesley@nasebygroup.org)

WADS  
**The Whitby Rebels**  
a play by Bea Roberts



This story was inspired by a real life madcap voyage in the 1990`s.  
Let yourself be transported to Whitby Harbour, a caravan park,  
a pub bar, a magistrates court and the ocean.....mostly the ocean.  
3 sailings are planned for 25th, 26th & 27th March.  
We look forward to welcoming you on board on the spring ☺de!  
Tickets available from Chris Brown  
[Chrisbrowny55@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Chrisbrowny55@hotmail.co.uk)  
01858575494

**Welford WI - February Meeting**

32 members and 4 guests enjoyed a very informative talk and demonstration on resuscitation and defibrillators by villager Danielle Mason. She was thanked by Jeanne Rae.

The raffle was won by Catherine Digby, Mary Crowther and Denise Bott, and the competition for a vintage first aid item was won by Jane Cottrell, Catherine Digby and Lynne Sharpely. Teas were provided by Mary Crowther, Sue Greeves and Jean Baker.

The monthly craft afternoons resumed from a break over Christmas on February 23rd and the coffee meet up this month was held at The Red Barn near Spratton on February 25th, as was a skittles evening at Sue Walton's.

The Spring lunch will be at The Bull's Head, Clipston on April 22nd and the next meeting on March 12th will include the annual meeting and a talk by Kylie Ball on tea light making.  
The competition is a candle holder.  
JC



Mothering Sunday, which is celebrated on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent, is a historic observance with centuries of tradition rooted in the Christian calendar, particularly in the United Kingdom and Ireland.,unlike the commercialised “Mother’s Day” known in countries such as the United States

Mothering Sunday originated as a religious event but has since evolved into a heartfelt celebration of mothers and maternal figures.

Mothering Sunday has its origins in the 16th century, when Christians in the UK would return to their “mother church” – the main church or cathedral in their home area or the church where they had been baptised. This pilgrimage home became a rare opportunity for families to reunite, particularly for those working in domestic service or apprenticeships far from home. As family members came together, the day naturally became associated with celebrating mothers.

Children and young people often picked wildflowers along the way to give to their mothers, a tradition that continues today.

Over time, the day expanded in meaning and began to include tokens of appreciation such as cards, gifts, and the sharing of traditional treats like Simnel cake, a fruitcake topped with marzipan and symbolic of the Lenten season.

# CHAPEL COMMENT



## Rejoice With Nature

The lambs are in the meadow,  
The buds are on the tree,  
And hope is blossoming around -  
It's there for you and me.  
The daylight growing longer,  
The sunshine growing strong,  
And all our winter hopes and dreams  
Have carried us along.

As we step forward through the year,  
The darkness left behind,  
New optimism touches souls  
And comforts heart and mind.  
So as the weeks go slipping by  
And time just steals away,  
Enjoy the beauty nature gives,  
Rejoicing every day.

**Iris Hesselden**

DIARY DATE

## **Friday 6th March 2026 – World Day of Prayer**

We welcome you to join us in this service which encircles the globe in a wave of prayer, being held in Welford Congregational Chapel at 2pm. This years' service has been prepared by Christian women from Nigeria, who share their stories and is entitled "I will give you rest, come." For more details or to take part, please contact Rachael Heard on 07808 656831 email [rheard@live.co.uk](mailto:rheard@live.co.uk) or more information on the World Day of Prayer can be found on the website [www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk)

## **Good Neighbours Coffee Morning**

**March 3rd 2026**



The March Good Neighbours Coffee Morning will be on Tuesday March 3rd from 10.00-12.00 in Welford Village Hall. Cost £1.50 for coffee/tea, biscuits and refills.

The usual books (£1) and jigsaws (£2) will be for sale. All proceeds to our new charity, yet to be announced. All are welcome. We look forward to seeing you. Jane, Sue & the team.

### **PSALMS AND READINGS – March**

#### **Sunday 1st 2nd of Lent**

Psalm 121  
First Genesis 12, 1 to 4  
Second Romans 4, 1 to 5 and 13 to 16  
Gospel John 3, 1 to 17

#### **Sunday 8th 3rd of Lent**

Psalm 8  
First Exodus 17, 1 to 7  
Second Romans 5, 1 to 11  
Gospel John 4, 5 to 42

#### **Sunday 15th—4th of Lent**

Psalm 122  
First 1 Samuel 16, 1 to 13  
Second Ephesians 5, 8 to 14  
Gospel John 9

#### **Sunday 22nd—5th of Lent**

Psalm 61  
First Ezekiel 37, 1 to 14  
Second Romans 8, 6 to 11  
Gospel John 11, 1 to 22

#### **Sunday 29th—Palm Sunday**

Psalm 24  
First Isaiah 50, 4 to 9  
Second Philippians 2, 5 to 11  
Gospel Matthew 26, 14 to end

## SIBBERTOFT

	<b>Lesson Reader</b>	<b>Intercessions</b>	<b>Sidesman</b>
15/03	OT Jenny Lloyd	Caroline Jackson	Caroline Jackson
	NT Lesley Hartshorne		
	Eucharistic Assistant	Sue Clarke	

## WELFORD

	<b>Lesson Reader</b>	<b>Intercessions</b>	<b>Sidesman</b>
1/3	OT C Horner	S Lees	C Horner
	NT J Horner		
15/2	OT G Newman	S Bevin	G Newman
	NT J Newman		
22/3	OT A Barraclough	J Newman	M Broad
	NT W Lees		
	Eucharistic Assistant	22/3 Kelvin Broad	

## WELFORD CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL Services at 10.45am

	<b>Preacher</b>	<b>Flowers</b>
1/3	Rev Tony Avery	Miss R Heard
8/3	Steve Morrow	Mrs J Bale
15/3	Rev Tony Avery	Mrs W McCullagh
	Mothering Sunday	
22/3	Bobbie Wakeleigh-Jones	Mrs M Curtis
29/3	Songs of Praise	Mrs S Lees
	Come and sing your favourite hymns	
5/4	Rev Tony Avery	Mrs D Avery

# March Services in the Naseby Group

## Morning Stream (10:00am)

Date	Service	Location
1st March	Holy Communion	Naseby Methodist Chapel
8th March	All Age Service with Communion	Clipston Church
15th March	Holy Communion	Sibbertoft Church
22nd March	Holy Communion	Marston Trussell Church
29th March	All Together Palm Sunday	Haselbech Church

## Fun@4 Stream (4:00pm)

Date	Service	Location
8th March	Café Church	Welford School Hall
15th March	The Welcome Patch	Naseby Methodist Chapel
22nd March	Pizza and Praise	Clipston Village Hall

## Evening Stream (6:15pm)

Date	Service	Location
1st March	Evensong	Welford Church
15th March	Evensong	Welford Church
22nd March	Holy Communion	Welford Church

*For the most up to date list of services please see: [nasebygroup.org](http://nasebygroup.org)*

### The Magazine.

If you would like an entry in the April edition of the magazine please  
Send copy by 15th March to [jules1044@gmail.com](mailto:jules1044@gmail.com)