



**Churches of St Giles, Holy Cross & St Bartholomew  
Churchwardens**

Moya Wallis 0771 9880451 & Pauline Thomas 01453 860047

**The Church of St James the Great  
Churchwarden**

Jan Vonberg 01453 519506

Parish Office 01453 549280 [www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk](http://www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk)

**Services for Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024  
Sunday before Lent**

**St James**

**10am**

Parish Holy Communion  
*Canon Richard Morgan*

**St Giles**

**10am**

Parish Holy Communion  
*Revd Ian Gardner*

**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: 2 Kings 2: 1-12**

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them,

and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

**Psalm 50: 1-6**

The mighty one, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.  
Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.  
Our God comes and does not keep silence, before him is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around him.  
He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people: 'Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!'  
The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge.

**Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6**

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

**Holy Gospel: Mark 9: 2-9**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

**Intercessions**

We pray for those who are ill at this time or in other forms of need, especially those we know. We remember Jacquelin, Paul, Malcolm, Pauline, Phyllida, Kate, Raymond, Ann, Joyce, Bobbie, Les, Paul, Beryl, Julie, Robert, David, Mel, Janet, Jean, Bernard, Rita, Norma, Joan, Marion, Rose, Francis, Sue, Tina, Lottie, Rory, Tommie & Jenny. Be with them in their suffering, support and comfort them and give them peace of mind in times of trouble.

We ask for your prayers for Romala Vaisey, Ray Smith & Richard Smith, recently departed. We pray for their families and friends and all those who grieve.

## 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**

## Service Sheet for Worship at Home

If you are unable to join the Sunday services, please do make use of the reflective service for use at home alongside the prayers and readings for the day which can be found on this pew sheet. If you would like a copy please contact the office [ewelmebenefice@gmail.com](mailto:ewelmebenefice@gmail.com)

## Pastoral Care

Please let Chris Raffle (01453 545684 or 07517 380772), or Revd Jane Wood (07983 623525) know of those who need to be contacted or are in hospital and we will get in touch. Moya Wallis (01453 861675) and Pat Jones (860696) are happy to be contacted for Uley, Owlpen and Nympsfield.

You can also contact Clare in The Parish office-  
[ewelmebenefice@gmail.com](mailto:ewelmebenefice@gmail.com) 01453 549280

## Churchwardens-

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## This Week

### Lent Begins.

#### Weds 14<sup>th</sup> February

**9am** Morning Prayer via Zoom  
**12pm** Communion with ashes at St Giles  
**6pm** **NO Evening Prayer**  
**7.30pm** Communion with ashes at St James

#### Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> February

**9am** Morning Prayer in St James  
**10am** Holy Communion at St James

#### Sat 17<sup>th</sup> February

**9.30am** Spring cleaning at The Parish Centre  
**7.30pm** Short Elbow, live music at Uley Village Hall

## Services for 18<sup>th</sup> February 2024

### First Sunday of Lent

#### St James

**8am** Parish Holy Communion  
**10am** Service of The Word

#### Holy Cross

**10am** BCP Parish Holy Communion

#### Dursley Methodist Church

**6pm** United Lent Service

**Live stream today will be from St Giles, the next will be 25<sup>th</sup> February from St James**

To read the weekly diocesan update please click on this link- <https://gloucester.anglican.org/>

## Morning and Evening Prayer in February

**Morning Prayer** Wednesday via Zoom at 9am, in person at 9am on Thursdays in St James.

**NO Evening Prayer** this Wednesday evening because it's Ash Wednesday.

The link can be found by going into our website-  
[www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk](http://www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk)

**Zoom Meeting ID: 893 3298 0143 Passcode: 899154**



## Ash Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February

Communion services will be at 12noon in St Giles, Uley & 7.30pm in St James, Dursley.

**Please return last year's Palm Crosses to be burnt to make the ashes.**

**Please can everyone start to think and pray about finding a second Churchwarden at St James, Dursley.**

**We would like to appoint one at our APCM in May.**



## Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February

**We will be meeting at 9.30am to clean the Parish Centre, in readiness for the upcoming interview day. Please volunteer so that our buildings look shiny, loved and welcoming for our prospective new Rector.**



The first united service for Lent will be at 6pm on 18<sup>th</sup> February at Dursley Methodist Church.

All are welcome



## The Church of England's Prayer for Our King.

**Father of mercies**

**grant to Charles our King**

**comfort and sure confidence in you,**

**and keep him in perpetual peace and safety,**  
**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen**

**QUIZ NIGHT**

With celebrity quiz master-  
*Matthew Fort*

**7PM SATURDAY 2ND MARCH**  
**Uley Village Hall**

**TICKETS £10 AVAILABLE IN ADVANCE FROM ULEY COMMUNITY STORES TO INCLUDE SNACKS**

**Cash Bar**      Proceeds in aid of Church Funds

**SHORT ELBOW & DJ BUMBLE**      **AT ULEY VILLAGE HALL**



**TICKETS £10 FROM ULEY COMMUNITY STORES**

**IN AID OF THE CHURCH WALL FUND AND THE LANTERN FESTIVAL**

**17TH FEBRUARY 2024 FROM 7.30PM**

**BAR SERVING ULEY ALE & WINES**

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024**  
**FRIDAY 1 MARCH**  
A SERVICE FOR EVERYONE!

I beg you, bear with one another in love

**PREPARED BY THE CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF PALESTINE**

**Friday March 1st 2.30pm**  
**The Tabernacle (URC) Church**  
**Parsonage Street Dursley GL11 4BJ**

**Speaker: Revd Simon Helme**

**Followed by refreshments**

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**Maundy Thursday Service at Gloucester Cathedral**

**Chrim Eucharist on 28<sup>th</sup> March at 11am**

Around 400 clergy and lay ministers will come together for the Maundy Thursday service, where they will process through the Cathedral. They will then renew their vows of ministry.

Everyone is welcome to attend this special service. The service, called the Chrim Eucharist, includes the blessing of holy oils used in well-known church ceremonies. These are: Chrim Oil, which is used at ordination and confirmation services; Catechumens Oil, used at baptisms and Oil of Healing, which is used when ministering to the sick and dying. The clergy will take the blessed oils back to their parishes for use throughout the next year.