



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

Rector: Revd Juliet Jensen 01453 350810

Parish Office 01453 549280

www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk

Churchwardens

Parish of Uley

Moya Wallis 0771 9880451

The Church of St James the Great

Jan Vonberg 01453 519506 & Chris Tyler 01453 299162

**Services for Sunday 16th March 2025
Second Sunday of Lent**

St James Parish Centre

8am Said Holy Communion
Revd Ian Gardner

10am Reflective Worship "Today I believe"
Revd David Vonberg

St Giles

10am Parish Holy Communion
Revd Ian Gardner

St George's, Upper Cam

4pm Churches Together Lent Service

Collect

Almighty God,
you show to those who are in error the light of your truth,
that they may return to the way of righteousness:
grant to all those who are admitted
into the fellowship of Christ's religion,
that they may reject those things
that are contrary to their profession,
and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

First Reading: Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the Lord came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, 'I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.' But he said, 'O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?' He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not

cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

Psalm 27

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh - my adversaries and foes - they shall stumble and fall.
Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.
One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:
to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

'Come,' my heart says, 'seek his face!'

Your face, Lord, do I seek.

Do not hide your face from me.

Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help.

Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!

If my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will take me up.

Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence.

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

Second Reading: Philippians 3: 17-4.1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation so that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Holy Gospel: Luke 13: 31-end

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house

is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord."

Intercessions

We pray for those who are ill at this time or in other forms of need, especially those we know. We remember Richard, Marilyn, Edgar, Ruby, Tony, Carol, John, Sam, Jane, Paul, Edward, Ben, Paul, Phyllida and Rita. 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 Ben Johnson, Valerie Ford, Carol Thomas Don Binns and Sebastian Bullock, recently departed. We pray for their families and friends and all those who grieve.

We pray for Roland & Ruth; Lucy & Alex; Damien & Lauren; James & Rebecca; George & Chloe and Max & Georgina as we read their Banns of Marriage in preparation for their weddings in the coming months.

Post-communion prayer

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves:

keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all adversities
which may happen to the body,
and from all evil thoughts which may assault and
hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

This Week

Tues 18th March

10.30am Lent Prayer Course at Dursley Methodist
7.30pm Methodist Lent House group

Weds 19th March

2-4pm Ageing Gracefully Course at St George's,
Upper Cam
6pm Evening Prayer via Zoom

Thurs 20th March

9am Morning Prayer in The Parish Centre
10am Holy Communion in The Parish Centre
1.15pm Carol Thomas's funeral at Westerleigh
7.30pm "Difference" Lent Course via Zoom

Friday 21st March

11.30am Valerie Ford's funeral at St James
12pm Light Lent Lunch in The Parish Centre,
Dursley

Services for 23rd March 2025 3rd Sunday of Lent

St James Parish Centre, Dursley

10am Benefice Holy Communion

St Giles, Uley

4pm Churches Together Lent Service

Pastoral Care

Please let Revd Juliet (07776910890) 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 Nymphsfield.

You can also contact Clare in The Parish office-
ewelmebenefice@gmail.com 07778842060

Live Stream this week, will be from St Giles.

Collection of information for Ewelme Benefice Communications and New Electoral Roll 2025

From 9th March – 13th April, please can you either fill in a paper form or an electronic form for the collection of your data, so that The Ewelme Benefice has consent to communicate with you and apply to be added to the Parish Electoral Roll.

2025 is a renewal year for all church electoral rolls. Every PCC must remove all names from the roll and invite individuals to reapply, regardless of recent local electoral roll renewals.

Ideally The Ewelme Benefice would like to collect your data electronically, there is a QR code you can scan, which links you to the online form, there is also an online link.

If you find it difficult using technology or you haven't got any access then there will be help after church services. It is much simpler to add the information online as the data is added to a spreadsheet automatically, this saves time and is more accurate for administration.

Your personal information will only be used by The Ewelme Benefice for communication purposes, it will not be shared.



St James

Data Collection & Electoral Roll

Hold your phone's camera over the QR code
and click on the prompt to the online form



Uley with Nymphsfield and Owlpen

Data Collection & Electoral Roll
Hold your phone's camera over the QR code
and click on the prompt to the online form

Online Link-

DURSLEY

<https://ewelme-benefice.myknowchurch.co.uk/form/load/N2tkSWJ5NWhLeF1zVnJDbE9icjNlalpNelZOR3hxNTIRaFBWb2NINGtoRIptaTB2dnVLY2FUY0tZWGY2>

ULEY, NYMPFIELD & OWLPEN

<https://ewelme-benefice.myknowchurch.co.uk/form/load/UnJyYWgrdWhHMjVFajJ6QjdmUisxelpNelZOR3hxNTISaFBWb2NINGtoRIptaTB2dnVLY2FUUUtaM2Y2>

****Please be sure to use the correct QR Code/Link for the Parish Electoral Roll you wish to be included on****



New Boiler at St James Update

Merrett Heating Ltd have started to install the new boilers at St James. They have estimated that it will take 3-4 weeks to install. Therefore we will still hold our services in The Parish Centre for the time being.

Ageing Gracefully Course at St George's, Upper Cam.

You are invited to join in with the Ageing Gracefully course. It starts on **March 5th and will run for 6 weeks from 2pm to 4pm, during Lent.** The course is led by Ian Donald, a retired Doctor and Christian. It is designed for those who are ready to confront the process of ageing, blending medical expertise with biblical insight and practical Christian wisdom. For more information please look at this link, <https://gloucester.anglican.org/2024/ageing-gracefully-course-practical-theology-of-later-life/>

The Ewelme Benefice
The power of faith in a conflicted world

Lent Study Course

A Church of England course on the theme of difference and how we work with that in our faith and in our contemporary world.

The five themes:

- 1 God's call
- 2 Crossing divides
- 3 Navigating disagreement
- 4 Practising forgiveness
- 5 Risking hope

Via Zoom on Thursday evenings on 13th, 20th 27th March, 3rd and 10th April. 7.30pm and lasting about an hour to an hour and a half.

Zoom Details-ID: 893 3298 0143
Passcode: 899154

For more details please contact David Vonberg - revdavidvonberg@gmail.com

BLESSED

LENT SERVICES ON THE BEATITUDES

SUNDAYS AT 4PM DURING LENT ALL WELCOME

MAR 9th - DURSLEY TAB URC GL11 4BW
MAR 16th - ST GEORGE'S CAM GL11 5PQ
MAR 23rd - ST GILES ULEY GL11 5SN
MAR 30th - DURSLEY METHODIST GL11 4BS
APRIL 6th - ST BART'S CAM GL11 5JX

Join

Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85056474793>
Meeting ID:850 56474793

Ewelme Benefice St James, Dursley

Light Lent Lunches 2025

Starting on 7th March, from 12 noon in St James Parish Centre, Dursley.

Soup, bread and tea or coffee will be served each Friday during Lent.
All are welcome.

All donations will be donated to our nominated charities (James Hopkins Trust, Julius and Dora Orphanage, Medecins Sans Frontiere, Longfield Hospice).



Posy making for Mothering Sunday at St James will be at 10am in the church on Saturday 29th March.

Please can you donate lots of greenery too.



There is a lovely article by Janet Bannister on the weekly Diocesan bulleting.

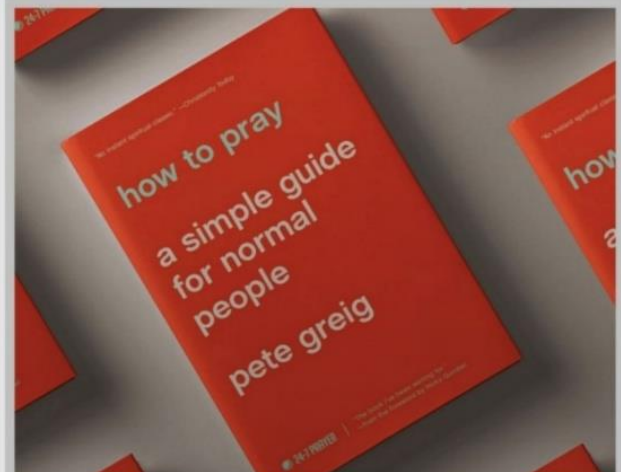
'Online church live streams and Zoom got me through those difficult days'

Please take a look.

https://gloucester.anglican.org/2025/online-church-live-streams-and-zoom-got-me-through-those-difficult-days/?utm_source=Diocese+of+Gloucester&utm_campaign=9c059f4da8-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2025_03_11_12_12&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-9c059f4da8-149199229

LENT PRAYER COURSE

6 SESSIONS
LED BY
REVD JIMMY
CULLINGFORD



MEETING EACH TUESDAY
STARTING 4TH MARCH

10.30am DURSLEY METHODIST CHURCH
7.30pm HOUSE GROUP

for more details contact
Revd Jimmy Cullingford
01453 542565

The Prayer Course is an six-week journey through the Lord's Prayer, with 24-7 Prayer founder Pete Greig and co-host Poppy Williams.

Each session includes a video, a guide for small group discussion and practical ideas for prayer.

The Prayer Course is based on Pete Greig's book *How To Pray: A Simple Guide for Normal People*.

St Giles Church, Uley

presents

Music for a Sunday Afternoon

featuring

The Butcher's Ukes Ukelele Group

Sunday 16th March

3pm

A free informal concert in church followed by refreshments & a chance to chat

Donations welcome for the upkeep of the church



French Cafe Music

Uley Village Hall

29th March 7.30 for 8pm.

Ticket £12 to include Cheese and Biscuits Licenced Bar.



On behalf of The Friends of St Giles

Ewelme Benefice

St James The Great, Dursley Coffee, Cake and Music 2025

April 26th	Claire Hobbs
May 31st	Keith Hearnshaw
June 28th	Martin Bell
July 26th	Pavlos Triantaris
August 30th	John Pennington
September 27th	Nigel Davies
October 25th	Jonathan Hope

Coffee and homemade cake will be served from 10.30am.
The music begins at 11am and last for 30-40 minutes



There is no charge, but a retiring collection will be taken, the proceeds of which go to the work of St James' Church

Monday April 7, 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm
Monday 7 April – Monday 7 July

2025 (no session 21 April / 5 May / 26 May) (possibility of some sessions via Teams by arrangement)

@ 7.30pm – 9.00pm in The Monastery', (old House of Frazer Building) near Cirencester Parish Church, Market Place, Cirencester, GL7 2NX.

This free course is for lay church members seeking to be licensed for Funeral Ministry. Also suitable for Readers or ordained ministers wishing to refresh their funeral ministry. The course will cover topics such as leading funeral services, listening skills, the impact of grief / self-care for those in funeral and pastoral ministry.

Course Leader – Nick Partridge, Diocese of Gloucester Funeral Lead and Interim Warden of Readers

Nick Partridge manages Diocese of Gloucester Funerals, its development and growth and Funeral and Bereavement Ministry Training

If you would like more information about the course, please contact -

Nick Partridge: ku.gro.coidsolg@egdirtrapn

If you would like to register for this course, please talk with your Incumbent / Minister first and then book.

HOW TO SET UP GIFTING THROUGH THE PARISH GIVING SCHEME

The Parish Giving Scheme is the best way for your church to benefit from your generous donations. Donations can be made on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis by Direct Debit. Even though the donations are made to the PGS, donations are transferred in full to the parish and cannot be used elsewhere. The gift aid associated with the donation is automatically transferred to the parish account avoiding the need for the treasurer to make a separate claim. A unique feature of the scheme is the option for the donor to commit in principle to increase their gift annually in line with inflation. Whilst this is a voluntary decision, it is one that could potentially have a huge impact on the life and future of our church.

Setting up a gift is really easy. All the information you need is on the Parish Giving Scheme website

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/setting-up-your-gift/>

You can either do it on line or over the phone.

By phone:

You will need to have your personal bank account details, church/parish name and

Then simply give them a call on 0333 002 1271, Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm, and they will take down all the information they need to complete your Direct Debit instruction for you. They will also ask about your preferences for opting in to Gift Aid, if you are eligible, and whether you would like to increase your gift annually by the rate of inflation.

The call usually takes about 10 minutes to complete. They will then send you a confirmation of your new gift by post or email

Online

For St James –

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/dursley-silver-street/>

For Uley, with Nympsfield and Owlpen-

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/uley-with-owlpen-nympsfield-dursley/>



Helpers are needed, please.

See Edwina Walton or Anne Shipton to volunteer.

Safeguarding Officers

Heather Arnold

Safeguarding Officer for the Parish of Dursley
07757 468371

Email: arnoldheather@icloud.com

Pat Jones

Safeguarding Officer for the Parish of Uley, with Nympsfield and Owlpen
01453 860696



Dursley & Caldicot Male Voice Choirs

DURSLEY METHODIST CHURCH

**Saturday 22nd March
at 7.00 pm**

Tickets £15 (U18 £5)
from:

Durcans, Dursley
Cam Post Office

At the door or on line www.cammethodists.org.uk

