

# The Parish Church of St. Wilfrid, Mobberley



February 2023

# Church Diary for February 2023

Wed. 1st	Communion at the Beacon	10.00 a.m.
	Coffee Morning at the Beacon	10.30 a.m.
Thu. 2nd	The Beacon Drop-In	10.00 a.m.
	Doorway	7.45 p.m.
Fri. 3rd	Youth Club	7.00 p.m.
Sat. 4th	Men's Breakfast	9.00 a.m.
	The Beacon Drop-In	10.00 a.m.
	Choir Practice	12.00 p.m.
<b>Sun. 5th</b>	<b>The 3rd Sunday before Lent</b>	
	Said Holy Communion (BCP)	8.30 a.m.
	Sung Holy Communion	10.00 a.m.
	Choral Evensong (BCP)	3.30 p.m.
Tue. 7th	The Beacon Drop-In	10.00 a.m.
Wed. 8th	Communion at the Beacon	10.00 a.m.
	Coffee Morning at the Beacon	10.30 a.m.
	Movie Magic at The Beacon	1.30 p.m.
Thu. 9th	The Beacon Drop-In	10.00 a.m.
	Doorway	7.45 p.m.
Fri. 10th	Youth Club	7.00 p.m.
Sat. 11th	The Beacon Drop-In	10.00 a.m.
	Choir Practice	12.00 p.m.
<b>Sun. 12th</b>	<b>The 2nd Sunday before Lent</b>	
	Said Holy Communion (BCP)	8.30 a.m.
	Family Pet Service	10.00 a.m.
	Choral Evensong (BCP)	3.30 p.m.
Tue. 14th	The Beacon Drop-In	10.00 a.m.
Wed. 15th	Communion at the Beacon	10.00 a.m.
	Coffee Morning at the Beacon	10.30 a.m.
Thu. 16th	The Beacon Drop-In	10.00 a.m.
	Doorway	7.45 p.m.
Fri. 17th	Youth Club	7.00 p.m.
Sat. 18th	The Beacon Drop-In	10.00 a.m.
	Choir Practice	12.00 p.m.

<b><u>Sun. 19th</u></b>	<b><u>The Sunday Next Before Lent</u></b>	
	Said Holy Communion (BCP)	8.30 a.m.
	Sung Holy Communion	10.00 a.m.
	The Friends of St. Wilfrid's AGM	11.15 a.m.
	Choral Evensong	3.30 p.m.
Tue. 21st	The Beacon Drop-In	10.00 a.m.
Wed. 22nd	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	
	Morning Prayer	9.00 a.m.
	Communion at the Beacon	10.00 a.m.
	Coffee Morning at the Beacon	10.30 a.m.
	Movie Magic at The Beacon	1.30 p.m.
	Holy Communion & Ashing	7.30 p.m.
Thu 23rd	Morning Prayer	9.00 a.m.
	The Beacon Drop-In	10.00 a.m.
Fri. 24th	Morning Prayer	9.00 a.m.
	Youth Club	7.00 p.m.
Sat. 25th	Messy Church	10.00 a.m.
	The Beacon Drop-In	10.00 a.m.
<b><u>Sun. 26th</u></b>	<b><u>The 1st Sunday of Lent</u></b>	
	Said Holy Communion (BCP)	8.30 a.m.
	Family Service	10.00 a.m.
	Sung Holy Communion (BCP)	3.30 p.m.
Mon. 27th	Morning Prayer	9.00 a.m.
	PCC Standing Committee	7.30 p.m.
Tue. 28th	Morning Prayer	9.00 a.m.
	The Beacon Drop-In	10.00 a.m.

# The Rector Writes

Dear Friends,

You will see in this magazine an overview of a report from the Bishops of the Church of England on the Living in Love and Faith process undertaken by the C of E last year. As ever with these things there have been the predictable cries that it both goes too far but also doesn't go far enough.

To my mind this is indicative of a modern mindset that views, and judges, everything through one specific prism. There was a great example of this only today when the news filtered through that the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Jacinda Ardern, announced that she was going to stand down. When this was discussed on the breakfast television sofas, one commentator suggested she wasn't stepping down because she was exhausted following the Covid epidemic and the subsequent economic crisis, or because she was a principled politician who knew when they had given their all, no, she was stepping down because she was a woman and women have the common sense, lack of ego and disdain of power not to feel the need to cling on until forced out (any comment Margaret, Theresa, Liz?).

Getting back to the Bishops' report, those who view the world through the prism of biblical fundamentalism will refuse to recognise that our understanding of God-given human sexuality and biology have moved on in the last 2000 years; those who view the world through the prism of LGBTQ rights will see this as continued rejection and oppression and refuse to recognise the positive but difficult steps that have been taken to reach even this point.

Whichever way the Bishops went it was always going to cause pain and highlight division, however, what should set us apart as Christians is not that we should pretend that we don't suffer these things but how we deal with it when we do. Jesus told his disciples on the night that he was betrayed that he had a new commandment for them, that they should love one another as he loves them. That ultimately has to be our way forward, that we show real, heartfelt, love, that we give without counting the cost, and that we hold on to one another resisting those things that seek to tear us apart.

I write all this keenly aware that I come from a position of heterosexual, white, male, privilege but then that's my point; other than love, that is all that I have.

Yours in Christ,  
Ian.

# Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday is so named after the historical and Biblical use of ashes to express grief (2 Samuel 13:19), sorrow (Job 42:3-6), and repentance (Jeremiah 6:26). In the Apocryphal Book of Maccabees ashes are used as a sign of humility and preparation before a great work (1 Maccabees 3:47). The Jewish practice of sprinkling yourself with ashes continued into the life of the early Church. Tertullian (c.160-c.225), a Father of the early Church, wrote that confession of sin should be accompanied by lying in sack cloth and ashes and Eusebius (340) wrote about a person covering themselves in ashes as a sign of their remorse and repentance.



The rite of Ashing continued in the Roman Catholic Church and the Church of England until the 17<sup>th</sup> century when the practice generally began to lapse. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century the practice was revived in part as a result of the growing ecumenical movement and many churches, and Christians, have had the opportunity to share in the this ancient and meaningful practice.

The imposition of ashes is a reminder of our mortality and of the fragility of life. At the same time it speaks to us of the value of our lives, that God so loves us that he sent his only Son into the world and that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. The imposition of ashes reminds us of our need for and dependence upon our heavenly Father who is the creator and sustainer of all life. It also serves as preparation for the keeping of a Holy Lent.



**Ash Wednesday**  
Holy Communion & Ashing  
22nd February  
7.30 p.m.



# Keeping a Holy Lent

Lent is traditionally a time of reflection, self-examination and repentance, and we do this not because we are worthless but because we know we



are so massively loved and seek to be worthy of and live up to that love. It is this love that the American hymnwriter Graham Kendrick wrote about, 'Such love, pure as the whitest snow, such love, weeps for the shame I know, such love, paying the debt I owe, O Jesus, such love.'

We try and use this time of Lent to grow in knowledge and understanding of our God and we do that through prayer and study.

## Lenten Compline



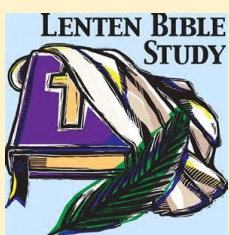
Every Wednesday in Lent after Ash Wednesday there will be a service of Compline in church at 7.00 p.m. The service begins with a reading from a learned book which this year is 'Private Passions' by the Welsh anthropologist and theologian Douglas Davies.

## Morning Prayer



Every weekday throughout Lent there will be a service of Morning Prayer at the Beacon at 9.00 a.m. This is an opportunity to offer your day to God, asking him to bless us in all that we say and do. This is a simple service lasting around 20 minutes.

## Study



Our regular Thursday night discussion group, Doorway, will be holding a Lent Study Group each Thursday in Lent from 7.45 p.m. at The Beacon. This is a chance to explore our faith more deeply and grow in our knowledge and love of the Lord.



## The House of Bishops' Response to

# Living in Love and Faith

You may remember that last year the Church of England undertook a nationwide discussion about issues relating to gender and sexual relations under the umbrella title of 'Living in Love and Faith'. There were workshops in most parishes, including here in Mobberley, as well as discussions at Deanery and Diocesan levels.

The results of those conversations were fed back to the House of Bishops and on Friday 20th January the Bishops released a statement (although it was sadly 'leaked' before the announcement.)

The main headlines from that statement are -

- The Bishops of the Church of England have issued an apology to LGBTQI+ people for the "rejection, exclusion and hostility" they have faced in churches and the impact this has had on their lives.
- The Church of England affirms its fundamental belief that the institution known as marriage exists only between a man and a woman.
- All congregations should welcome same-sex couples "unreservedly and joyfully" as they reaffirm their commitment to a "radical new Christian inclusion founded in scripture, in reason, in tradition, in theology and the Christian faith as the Church of England has received it"
- The Church of England is to produce a range of prayers and services of dedication, thanksgiving and blessing following on from a civil marriage or partnership.

The report will go before General Synod for further discussion.

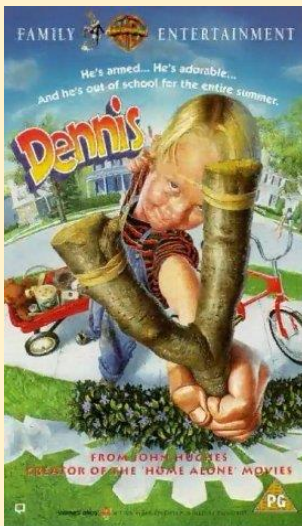
# The Magic of the Movies

Starting in February we will be holding 'Movie Magic' days twice a month at The Beacon.

On the **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month** (alternating with 'Knit & Natter') we will be showing films old and new and enjoying a brew and a chat with friends, before and after the film obviously.

## Wednesday 8th February

### 'Dennis'

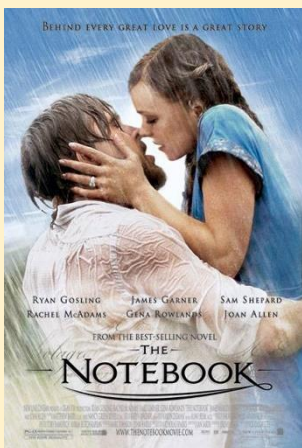


A comedy about the misadventures of a mischievous 5-year old child who wreaks havoc on his next door neighbour George Wilson, played by screen comedy legend Walter Matthau.

'Dennis' is a feel-good comedy that all the family can enjoy.

## Wednesday 22nd February

### 'The Notebook'



A complete change of pace for our second offering. 'The Notebook', a 2004 romantic drama starring Ryan Gosling and Rachel McAdams with a supporting cast including the late James Garner.

Critics wrote, "'Gosling and especially McAdams give all-star performances, doing just enough to hand the reins over to the pros, who take what's left of the film and finish the audience off with some touching scenes that don't leave a dry eye in the house.'"

The films are completely free to watch, although of course donations are always welcome, and the doors open at 1.30 p.m. and the films start at 2.00 p.m.



# PCC Report

At the January meeting the PCC -

- Received a report on the Christmas services, some of which had recovered well since 2021 although others were still worryingly down.
- Agreed a date of 8th July for a summer event at the Rectory.
- Agreed to reduce our monthly Parish Share payments prior to discussing full payment later in the year.
- Received report from our Safeguarding officer. All PCC members have now been DBS checked and most have undertaken the basic online Safeguarding training.
- Approved, in principle, the renewal of the Mode Cottage covenants subject to a discussion with the solicitor prior to any sale.

## **THE FRIENDS OF ST WILFRID'S CHURCH**

(RESTORE, PRESERVE, ENHANCE)

Do come to the Friends' AGM on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February, 11.15am in Church. All members of The Friends are invited to attend.

The ancient Grade 1 Listed Church building needs constant care and attention, and various necessary works are in the pipeline. Annual subscriptions of £20 are now due, but we would ask you (even if you are a Life Member) to please consider a further donation if possible.

We would welcome some new faces on the Friends' Committee if you and your friends are interested. It's not too arduous a task – in recent years we have only organised one event per year, not only to raise funds but just to maintain a profile. This year we are hoping to hold an Open Gardens event again in June.

Please come and support us – we look forward to seeing you on 19<sup>th</sup> February.

# From St. Wilfrid's Registers –



## **Funerals in December**

23rd Anthony Bernard Webster Queensway, Heald Green Alt. Crem  
 23rd Philip Hadfield Wood Lane, Mobberley Church

## **Year's Mind in February**

Albert Bennett	Mary Chester	Bernard Williams
Joseph Brocklehurst	Scott Blake	Carrie Denerley
Alistair Birch	Doreen Smith	David Hughes
Stephen Porter	Charlie Daniel	Arthur Dutton
Doreen Martin	Joyce Randle	William Blockley
Phillip Wilding	Arnold Groves	Ethel Brereton
Howard Randle	Rose Taylor	Bernard Parker
Ivy Southworth	Raymond Worsley	Peter Davies
Susan Nancarrow	Stanley Adair	Daisy Williamson
Thomas Wright	Hugh Mais	Harry Grange
Ethel Hough	Geoffrey Daniel	Peter Long
Joyce Sproson	Elsie Gathercole	Joyce Renshaw
Robert Taylor	Jennie Tuck	George Coleman
Dorothy Kennerley	Arthur Biddle	Nellie Dean
Baby Jane Williamson	George Aitken	Mary Armiger
Frank Williamson	John Knox	Donald Blake
Edie Reid	Yvonne Tindell	Rene Jenkins
Harold Lane	Hilda Kennerley	Harry Rose
Daisy Taylor	Frederick Wilkinson	Clifford Holt

**Please pray for the above, that God might shelter them in their joy and comfort them in their sorrow.**