

# CHURN BENEFICE



# LENT

2024


## † ECUMENICAL GROUP

**A Journey through the Psalms** led by the Rev. Josie Midwinter and Jenny Loder. Meeting on Fridays from 10.30 am - 12 noon at the home of Jenny Loder: 23<sup>rd</sup> February and 1, 8, 15, 22 March  
Please book with Elaine in the Office 01235 850267 who will also give you directions.




## † OUTDOOR CHURCH FOR LENT

- A short session of *ACTIVITY* for all ages *with pause for praise & prayer*. **Led by Revd Louise Butler**

 **Sunday March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 3pm Play Close, Blewbury, "Looking for Life"**. We shall be looking closely for signs of life – if you can, bring a magnifying glass, camera

 **Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup>, 3pm "Beauty in Nature"**.

3pm meet at the Benefice car park, Blewbury to visit the garden at Sawyers *By kind permission of the Hooper family*. A guided tour of the spring garden and opportunity to make flower posies for Mothering Sunday back in the Benefice Centre – scissors, string or ribbon will be useful

 **Good Friday March 29<sup>th</sup>, 10am "Making Easter Gardens" in Upton Churchyard**. 10am in St. Mary's Churchyard, Upton. We gather items to make Easter gardens – please bring a plate, tray or bowl

## † REFLECTIONS - a tour around our Churches led by Father Jason

**A series of reflections on our buildings, art and how they can help focus our prayers.** 3 – 4.30 pm Tuesdays

20 February: North Moreton

27 February: Aston Tirrold

5 March: Blewbury

12 March: Hagbourne

19 March: Upton



Father Jason will also lead an online version of this tour. Timings to be confirmed in the Churn. Do email Elaine in the office for the time and the link.

## † QUIET TIME

You may be unaware that every weekday at 8pm Monday – Friday there is a short service of night prayer online, traditionally called “compline. It lasts about 10 minutes and is a wonderful way of winding down at the end of the day.

Please use the link <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/312446493>

## Fellowship during Lent



There will be hot soup lunches served at St Andrew's Church on Saturdays between 12:30 – 2:00pm during Lent from the 17th February – 23rd March (inclusive). The lunch will consist of homemade soup, fresh bread and cheese, fruit and/or cake plus a cup of tea or coffee.

## Lent reflections

† **Father Jason's reflections continue during Lent.** You can sign up for the reflections by emailing the office or read them online at <https://www.churnchurches.co.uk/resources/rectors-reflections/>

### † **Watch and Pray**

The Church of England's **Watch and Pray** initiative invites us to seek God in both familiar and unfamiliar places this Lent: in darkness and in quiet; in movement and migration; in the healing and transforming work of the Spirit; in the weeping of Holy Week and in the joy of Easter morning. Resources include receiving a daily reflection email or a message via the free app for both IOS and Android. See

<https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-calling/what-we-believe/lent-holy-week-and-easter/watch-and-pray-resources-lent-2024>



## Books for Lent – some suggestions

**Tarry Awhile: Wisdom from Black spirituality for people of faith** – Selina Stone  
*The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent book 2024*

**Lent with the Beloved Disciple** – Michael Marshall

*"Lent with the Beloved Disciple plunges us into St John's Gospel in a devotional commentary that 'should be studied, as it was written ... the context of prayer'. ... He sees the Beloved Disciple... As the only disciple who was an eyewitness to every key event, and whose recollections, prayerfully reflected upon for many years..."*  
– Church Times, 19 January 2024

**Lent and Easter for Everyone** – Tom Wright  
*From Wilderness to glory*

**Journeying with God in the Wilderness** – Mark Broadway  
*A 40 day Lent devotional through the book of Numbers*

**Forty Women** – Ros Clarke  
*Unseen women of the Bible from Eden to Easter*

**In God's Hands** - Desmond Tutu  
*The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2015*

## Services during Holy Week



### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024 - Palm Sunday**

9.15am Eucharist: St Mary's Upton  
10.30am Eucharist: St Michael's Blewbury  
10.30am online service  
4pm Service of the word: All Saints' North Moreton  
6pm Service of the word: St Andrew's Hagbourne

### **Monday 25<sup>th</sup>**

7.15pm Candle-lit compline: St Michael's Blewbury  
8.00pm Online compline

### **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>**

7.15pm Candle-lit compline: St Michael's Blewbury  
8.00pm Online compline

### **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>**

7.15pm Candle-lit compline: St Michael's Blewbury  
8.00pm Online compline

### **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> - Maundy Thursday**

8pm Benefice Eucharist, St Michael's Blewbury with stripping of the altar, watch  
8pm Online compline

### **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> - Good Friday**

10am Outdoor church family activity to make Easter Gardens: St Mary's Upton  
12noon Hour at the Cross: Online  
2pm Hour at the Cross: St Andrew's Hagbourne  
2pm Hour at the Cross: All Saints' North Moreton  
2pm Hour at the Cross: St Michael's Blewbury  
8pm Online compline

### **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> - Holy Saturday**

8pm Benefice Easter Vigil service: St Michael's Blewbury

### **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> - Easter Day**

8am Holy Communion: St Michael's Blewbury  
9.15am Eucharist: St Mary's Upton  
10.30am Eucharist: St Michael's Aston Tirrold  
10.30am Eucharist: St Michael's Blewbury  
10.30am Eucharist: St Andrew's Hagbourne  
10.30am Eucharist: All Saints' North Moreton  
10.30am Eucharist & Egg hunt: St John the Baptist South Moreton  
10.30am Online service  
6pm Service of the word: St Andrew's Hagbourne