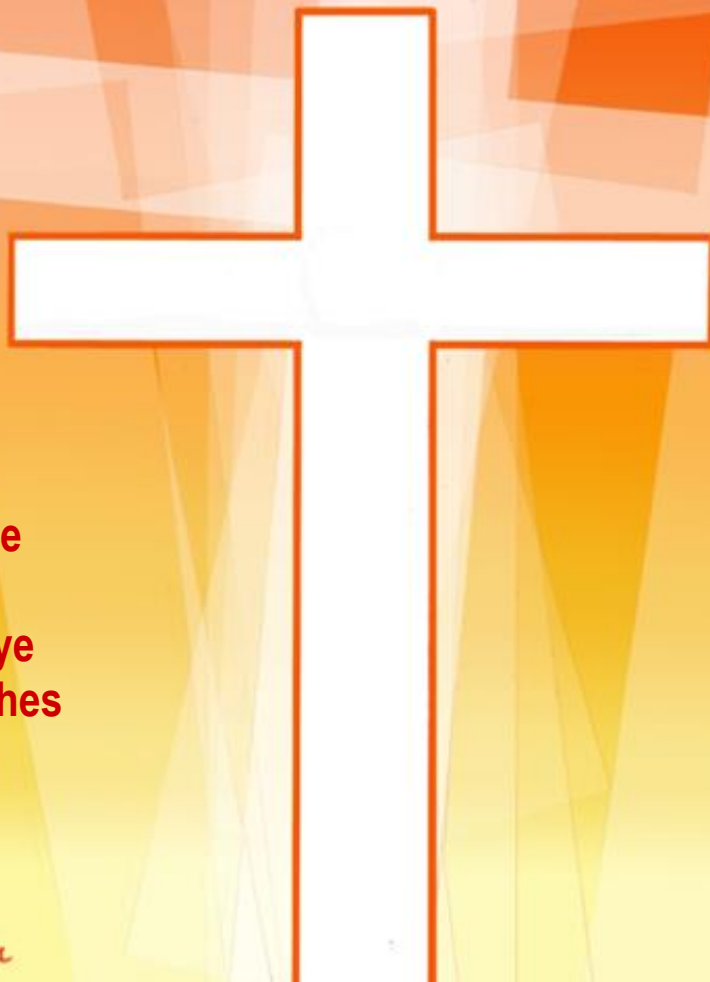


# ASPIRATION

IN SOUTH HEREFORD

Risen Christ,  
you filled your disciples with  
boldness and fresh hope:  
strengthen us to proclaim  
your risen life and fill us  
with your peace,  
to the glory of God the Father



The Magazine  
of  
The South Wye  
Hereford Parishes  
April 2025  
Price 50p

*Paul Judson*

## Hello and Welcome

Hello and welcome to this April edition of Aspiration. The unsettled March weather seems to have settled into bright Spring days that are dry, if not always warm, so that the blossoms, flowers and especially the bright new buds on the beech trees can shine against blue skies. It doesn't seem too hard to believe that Easter is on the way.

Our April edition looks forward to Holy Week and Easter, with the diary for services and events starting at 9am on Palm Sunday with the procession service from the Scout Hut to St Martin's. It's a great chance to make a public statement as we walk across the parish 'hosanna-ing' as we go. In the service itself the drama of the Gospel helps us to turn from celebration to preparation for the passion. On the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week, we are being church outside the Church again. Our regular livestreaming of Night Prayer moves from the various clergy sofas to the café area of Tesco. The shopping, scanning and packing in the main store don't stop any more than the traffic on Walnut Tree Avenue will stop as we sing hosannas at them on Palm Sunday, but praying for our community amongst our community matters.

We then enter the period traditionally known as the *Triduum*, the three days when our services mirror the events from the Last Supper, the betrayal and death of Christ and the joy and exultation of Easter morning. The services have dramatic gestures and echoes of those events – we wash feet as Jesus did, we wait and watch through the darkness, we stand at the foot of the cross and, at dawn we will welcome the risen Christ in another service which starts outside the Church building. And a bonfire at dawn on the Ross Road is a pretty effective way to draw attention to our faith!

Our busy lives may get in the way of easily marking every step of the Holy Week journey, but I hope that you are able to find ways that work for you – a moment of quiet prayer, following an online service or joining services within or outside of our church buildings.

*With every blessing,  
Anne*

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Copy for ASPIRATION should be sent to the Team Office to:  
[aspiration@stmartinshereford.org.uk](mailto:aspiration@stmartinshereford.org.uk)

All contributions are welcomed -

if submitting photos, please check that appropriate permissions have been given for publication



## St Peter's Bullinghope and St Martin's Ross Road



### **Service Pattern at St Peter's**

The PCC of St Peter's have recently proposed some slight changes to the monthly service pattern. Services will continue at 11:15am and, unless there is a special celebration, the fifth Sunday celebration will usually also be at 11:15am. Holy Communion will continue on the first and third Sundays and Morning Prayer on the fourth Sunday each month. Second Sundays will continue to be set aside for Baptism services. When there is not a Baptism on the second Sunday of a month, the church will be open for visitors and for reflective prayer between 11:15am and noon.

### **Hiring St Martin's Hall**

Are you planning a children's party, a jumble sale or a club committee meeting? St Martin's has a range of rooms available for hire, including the hall, a committee room and the Church narthex.

Contact the office for hire charges and availability.



## Regular Services and Events, South Wye Hereford

**Sung Communion at St Martin's**, Sunday mornings at 9:30am. Everyone is welcome to this service which is followed by refreshments in church.

**Sunday Worship at 11:15am at St Peter's Bullinghope** On the first and third Sundays of each month we celebrate Holy Communion. On the second Sundays we have Reflective Prayer - sometimes there is a baptism on the second Sunday - and on fourth Sundays we have morning prayer. When there is a fifth Sunday in the month we usually have a special service - check the magazine for details.

### **Chill'n'Church**

a group for people aged from 11-16, Thursday evenings in term time from 7pm - 8:30pm. Contact Rev'd Lauren or the office for a registration form.

**Young at Heart** - a group for older people. We meet twice a month - on the first Thursday each month for lunch and on the third Thursday for an afternoon meeting which might involve a talk, quizzes, games or Bingo. If you'd like to join, just drop in to a session or check with the office for dates.

**Coffee in the Narthex** - Tuesdays at 2pm we get together at St Martin's to share our news and stories over a cuppa - everyone is really welcome to join us.

Some of us stay around after 3:30 when the toastie maker comes out for anyone who needs a snack before they head home.

### **Messy Church**

At the Scout Hut at 3:30pm Friday afternoons monthly in term time.

Join us as we learn, worship, make and eat together.

You are welcome to join us for **Holy Communion at Belmont Community Centre** at 12:30pm on the second and fourth Fridays of each month, straight after Foodshare.

When the weather is fine, we worship outside.

### **Holy Communion at St**

**Martin's** at 10am on Thursdays - everyone welcome

### **Tuesday Study Group**

Our South Wye Tuesday bible study group meets at 1pm in the Narthex at St Martin's.

You are very welcome to join the group on site, but if that is difficult, please contact the office and ask for one of the study books to use at home.

We invite a donation of up to £5 towards the cost of the book, but this is entirely optional.

## **Annual Meetings and the PCC**

As we start a new year we are looking forward to our church Annual Meetings, at which PCC members and officers are elected. The PCC - the Parochial Church Council - acts as the executive committee of the parish and is responsible for the financial affairs of the church parish and the maintenance of its assets.

It also assists the clergy in the management of church affairs in the parish, and promoting the mission of the church.

Have you thought about joining the PCC? Talk to one of the clergy or the Churchwardens and keep an eye out for the nomination forms in church.

## **Electoral Roll Revision**

New Church Electoral Rolls are being prepared for both St Martin's and St Peter's. This happens every 6 years and is an entirely new roll, so that whether your name is currently on the electoral roll of your parish or not, you will need to complete an enrolment form this year. Enrolment entitles you to attend the annual parochial church meeting and to take part in its proceedings.

Under the Church Representation Rules, a lay person is entitled to have his or her name entered on the roll, if the person –

(a) is baptised,

(b) is aged 16 or over, and

(c) is either:

a member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with it and is resident in the parish.

*or*

member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with it, is not resident in the parish, but has habitually attended public worship in the parish during the preceding six months.

*or*

is a member in good standing of a Church which is not in communion with the Church of England but subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and is also a member of the Church of England and has habitually attended public worship in the parish during the preceding six months.

Forms are available in Church and from the parish office

## **Holy Week and Easter in South Wye**

### **Sunday 13th April Palm Sunday**

- 9am Procession from the Scout Hut  
9:30am All Age Communion at St Martin's  
11:15am Private Prayer at St Peter's Bullinghope

### **Monday 14th April Monday in Holy Week**

- 8pm Compline at Tesco, Abbotsmead

### **Tuesday 15th April Tuesday in Holy Week**

- 8pm Compline at Tesco, Abbotsmead

### **Wednesday 16th April Wednesday in Holy Week**

- 8pm Compline at Tesco, Abbotsmead

### **Thursday 17th April Maundy Thursday**

- 8pm Communion with Foot Washing at St Martin's followed by stripping the altars and Watch until 10pm

### **Friday 18th April Good Friday**

- 11am All Age Craft Workshop at St Martin's  
12 noon All Age Service at St Martin's  
1pm Stations of the Cross at St Martin's  
2pm Last Hour at St Martin's

### **Sunday 20th April Easter Sunday**

- 5:30am Vigil Service at St Martin's  
9:30am Easter Eucharist at St Martin's  
11:15 Easter Eucharist at St Peter's Bullinghope

### **Be In It to Win It!**

As you may know, the St Martin's Bonus Ball Draw has been running for almost five years. During that time, it has raised more than £7,000 for church funds, whilst also giving those taking part the chance to win cash.

We really appreciate the help of those who have supported the scheme, but we now find ourselves with a few unallocated numbers.

If you are interested in sponsoring a ball or would like to adopt a second (or third, or more!) number, then please contact the Parish Office, or speak to me.

Many thanks in advance,

*Sue Cockroft*

### **Help at St Peter's**

Could you help to maintain the churchyard at St Peter's, especially the areas with more recent graves and the area in front of the church - we would be very grateful for any help that anyone is able to give.

Could you 'adopt' a section of the churchyard or a group of graves? Do you have time to mow the front lawn once or twice a year in between the scheduled cuts? Please let the clergy or wardens know if you are able to help in any way.

Very many thanks

### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May**

**A commemoration  
of the Anniversaries of  
VE and VJ days**

3pm Service at St Martin's

4pm Afternoon Tea in St  
Martin's Hall – tickets £10

### **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May**

### **St Martin's Spring Fair**

**Stalls, Refreshments, Grand Draw**

### **27<sup>th</sup> April 2pm at St Martin's Mayoral Thanksgiving Service**

The Right Worshipful 643rd Mayor of Hereford Cllr Kevin Tillet is a steadfast supporter and volunteer with St Martin's FoodShare and we are very pleased to be hosting the Mayoral Service for Hereford this year.



## South Wye April Diary

<b>Tues 1st</b>	1:00pm	Lent Group in the Narthex
	2:00pm	Coffee in St Martin's Narthex
<b>Weds 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	10:00am	Quilting Group
<b>Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	10:00am	Holy Communion at St Martin's
	12:00pm	Home Instead Lunch (please call to book)
<b>Fri 4<sup>th</sup></b>	12:00noon	FoodShare at Belmont Community Centre
<b>Sun 6<sup>th</sup></b>	9:30am	Eucharist at St Martin's (livestreamed on FB)
<i>Lent 5</i>	11:15am	Eucharist at St Peter's Bullinghope Followed by St Peter's APCM
<b>Mon 7<sup>th</sup></b>	11:00am	FoodShare at the Scout Hut
	12:00	FoodShare at St Martin's
<b>Tues 8<sup>th</sup></b>	1:00pm	Lent Group in the Narthex
	2:00pm	Coffee in St Martin's Narthex
	7:15pm	St Martin's PCC
<b>Weds 9<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00am	Quilting Group in St Martin's Narthex
<b>Thurs 10<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00am	Holy Communion at St Martin's
<b>Fri 11<sup>th</sup></b>	12:00noon	FoodShare at Belmont Community Centre
	12:30pm	Holy Communion at Belmont Community Centre
<b>Sun 13<sup>th</sup></b>	9:00am	Procession from Scout Hut
<i>Palm Sunday</i>	9:30am	Eucharist at St Martin's (livestreamed on FB)
	11:15am	St Peter's Bullinghope open for prayer
<b>Mon 14<sup>th</sup></b>	11:00am	FoodShare at the Scout Hut
	12:00	FoodShare at St Martin's
	8:00pm	Compline
<b>Tues 15<sup>th</sup></b>	1:00pm	Lent Group in the Narthex
	2:00pm	Coffee in St Martin's Narthex
	8:00pm	Compline
<b>Weds 16<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00am	Quilting Group in St Martin's Narthex
	8:00pm	Compline
<b>Thurs 17<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00am	Holy Communion at St Martin's
<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	8:00pm	Holy Communion & Foot Washing at St Martin's

<b>Fri 18th</b>		<b>*****Office Closed*****</b>
<i>Good Friday</i>	11:00am	Craft Workshop in St Martin's
	12:00noon	FoodShare at Belmont Community Centre
	12:00noon	All Age Good Friday at St Martin's
	1:00pm	Stations of the Cross at St Martin's
	2:00pm	The Last Hour at St Martin's
<b>Sun 20th</b>	5:30am	Dawn Vigil Service at St Martin's
<i>Easter Day</i>	9:30am	Easter Eucharist at St Martin's (streamed on FB)
	11:15am	Easter Eucharist at St Peter's Bullinghope
<b>Mon 21st</b>		<b>*****Office Closed*****</b>
	11:00am	FoodShare at the Scout Hut
	12:00	FoodShare at St Martin's
<b>Tues 22nd</b>	2:00pm	Coffee in St Martin's Narthex
<b>Weds 23rd</b>	10:00am	Quilting Group in St Martin's Narthex
<b>Thurs 24th</b>	10:00am	Holy Communion at St Martin's
<b>Fri 25th</b>	12:00noon	FoodShare at Belmont Community Centre
	12:30pm	Holy Communion at Belmont Community Centre
<b>Sun 27th</b>	9:30am	Eucharist at St Martin's (livestreamed on FB)
<i>2<sup>nd</sup> of Easter</i>	11:15am	Morning Prayer at St Peter's Bullinghope
	1:00pm	Baptism at St Martin's
	2:00pm	Mayoral Thanksgiving Service at St Martin's
<b>Mon 28th</b>	11:00am	FoodShare at the Scout Hut
	12:00	FoodShare at St Martin's
<b>Tues 29th</b>	1:00pm	Bible Study Group in the Narthex
	2:00pm	Coffee in St Martin's Narthex
<b>Weds 30th</b>	10:00am	Quilting Group in St Martin's Narthex
<b>Thurs 31st</b>	10:00am	Holy Communion at St Martin's

**Sunday 4th May 10:30am St Martin's APCM in Church**

## What am I reading on Sunday?

<i>Date</i>	06/04/2025	13/04/2025
<b>Celebration</b>	The Fifth Sunday of Lent	Palm Sunday:
<b>Colour</b>	Purple	Red
<b>First Reading</b>	Isaiah 43.16-21	Isaiah 50.4-9a
<b>Psalm</b>	Ps 126	Ps 31.9-16*
<b>New Testament</b>	Philippians 3.4b-14	Philippians 2.5-11
<b>Gospel</b>	John 12.1-8	Luke 23.1-49

<i>Date</i>	17/04/2025	20/04/2025
<b>'Sunday'</b>	Maundy Thursday	Easter Day
<b>Colour</b>	White	Gold/White
<b>First Reading</b>	Exodus 12.1-4 [5-10] 11-14	Acts 10.34-43
<b>Psalm</b>	Ps 116.1, 10-end*	Ps 118.1-2,14-24*
<b>New Testament</b>	1 Corinthians 11.23-26	1 Corinthians 15.19-26
<b>Gospel</b>	John 13.1-17, 31b-35	John 20.1-18

<i>Date</i>	27/04/2025	04/05/2025
<b>'Sunday'</b>	Second Sunday of Easter	Third Sunday of Easter
<b>Colour</b>	White	White
<b>First Reading</b>	Acts 5.27-32	Acts 9.1-6 [7-20]
<b>Psalm</b>	Ps 118.14-29 or Ps 150	Ps 30
<b>New Testament</b>	Revelation 1.4-8	Revelation 5.11-14
<b>Gospel</b>	John 20.19-31	John 21.1-19

**Sunday Readings:** As usual, it is important to check with the person leading your service that they are expecting you to read the lessons given here, especially if it is a special service or an evening service. If you would like to join the rota to read at St Martin's, please sign up on the rota in the Narthex. Just ask if you would like to practise with the microphone beforehand.

# Faith and Family



## *Holy Week with Children*

Some ideas to read, think about and do over the days before Easter.

### **Maundy Thursday** John 13.1-17

*Read* In Bible times the roads were very dirty and dusty. The people didn't wear shoes or trainers that covered their feet, they wore sandals. This meant that as they walked along their feet would get really, really dirty. When you got to the house that you were going to, the servants would wash your feet, which meant you didn't get the houses all dirty too. On Maundy Thursday we remember Jesus' command to love one another. Jesus showed his disciples how to love one another, by helping them, by being a servant. Jesus wrapped a towel around his waist and got a bowl of water and he washed all the disciples' dirty feet. Even though Jesus knew that something bad was going to happen to him, he wanted to do something for his friends. Instead of being worried by his own problems, he just wanted to show his love for everyone else.

*Think* Think about Jesus and how important he was. He had done miracles, and healed lots of people. Crowds of people had come to listen to his teaching, and everyone thought he was really important. Some had worshipped him. Was it a strange thing for someone so important to wash the feet of his friends? What might he have done for his friends if he had lived in our time and our culture?

*Do* Think of things that you could do today to help someone. Have you ever washed somebody else's feet? Has anyone ever washed your feet? Perhaps you could wash someone's feet today or ask them to wash your feet. Or, make a list of your family members, and then think of something you could do for each one of them today.

Draw around your feet on a piece of paper. Try to make about ten feet. If there are other people in your family, draw around their feet too. On a big piece of paper, stick the feet in a circle shape. In the middle of the circle write, 'Jesus washed his disciples' feet'.

## *Pray*

To remind you of today's reading, put your feet in a bowl of warm water as you say this prayer.

Dear God, thank you that Jesus did kind, good things for people.

Help me to help other people too.

Thank you that Jesus cleaned people's dirty feet to show that he loved them.

Thank you for loving me. Help me to love others. Amen.

## **Good Friday** John 18–19

*Read* Can you remember the story of Good Friday? This is the day when we remember that Jesus died on the cross. It was a horrible way to die. We know now that Jesus amazingly came alive again, but his friends did not know that would happen. They were very sad about it all.

*Think* Today, the cross is one of the world's most famous symbols – perhaps the most well known. You can find the cross on flags and badges, in schools, museums, on clothes and jewellery. When you see a cross, what does it make you think of?

The day on which Jesus died has been called 'Good Friday' by Christians for nearly 2,000 years. It seems a bit strange to call the day when God's son was horribly killed 'good'. Perhaps Bad Friday or Sad Friday seems more suitable. What would you call it? The reason it is called 'Good' Friday is because of the meaning of Jesus' death. He died to set us free from all that is bad in the world, our own badness, and that of other people. Think for a moment of things that you have done that are bad, and things in the world that are bad. These are the things that Jesus can make better because he died and rose again.

*Do* Draw a cross on a sheet of paper. Write a prayer or prayers on to the cross, and draw pictures around it of some of the things that are mentioned in the Bible to do with Good Friday. The suggestions below come from John 18–19.

A cock – that crowed after Peter denied knowing Jesus three times (John 18.27).

A hammer and nails – used to hold Jesus to the cross (John 19.18).

A crown – the sign on Jesus' cross said 'King of the Jews' (John 19.19).

A die – used by the soldiers to see who would 'win' Jesus' clothes (John 19.24).

A sponge on a stick – used to give Jesus a drink of wine vinegar (John 19.29).

A spear – used to pierce the side of Jesus to check whether he was dead (John 19.34).

*Pray*

Lord, help me to look at your world, and the people in it, in the right way. Whenever possible help me to see goodness and make good what is bad. Amen.

Dear Jesus, thank you for dying for me, and thank you for loving me even though I do wrong things. Please help me to follow you more closely. Amen.

**Holy Saturday** John 19.38-42 The burial of Jesus

*Read* A man called Joseph, who had become a disciple of Jesus, asked Pilate (the Roman leader) for Jesus' body so that he could bury it. Pilate told some of his soldiers to take Jesus' body off the cross and give it to Joseph. A man called Nicodemus was helping Joseph. They wrapped strips of material and special spices around Jesus' body. Then they placed it in a tomb in the garden near to where Jesus had been crucified.

*Think* Try staying really still and quiet for as long as possible. How long did you manage? Was it difficult or easy? See if you can get some of your friends or family to play the party game 'Sleeping lions'. In this game you all have to be as still as possible. The winner is the person who is still the longest.

*Do* If you have a garden, or know someone who does, ask if you can dig up a little bit of earth. The earth on its own looks very ordinary. Perhaps you could say it looks dark and dead. Have a closer look. Can you find anything in the earth that is alive, a spider or an ant or a bulb that is starting to grow?

*Pray*

Dear God, thank you that when things look dull, dark and ordinary – even dead like earth – that you are still there and things are alive. Thank you for looking after Jesus' body in the tomb. Thank you for looking after me wherever I am. Amen.

## The Journey through the Bible in 3 1/2 Minutes

It's a big book – and as well as being a library, it's also its own story. The Bible Society have broken that big tale down into three parts, a Video Series all 3½ minutes long.

Explore The Old Testament Journey, The Journey of Jesus and The Journey of the Early Church – each in 3½ minutes – and give yourself an overview.

[biblesociety.org.uk/resources/the-journey-through-the-bible-in-3-minutes-series](http://biblesociety.org.uk/resources/the-journey-through-the-bible-in-3-minutes-series)



### Messy Church at the Scout Hut Fridays from 3:30pm

- 2nd May The Emmaus Road
- 6th June
- 4th July

## All Age Services and Events

### Palm Sunday – 13<sup>th</sup> April

9am Join us at the Scout Hut to process to St Martin's for an all age communion service celebrating Jesus' entry into Jerusalem

### Good Friday – 18<sup>th</sup> April

11am All Age Craft Workshop

12 noon All Age Service at St Martin's – a chance to think together about the events of the first Good Friday

Easter Sunday – the 5:30am vigil service is not officially 'All Age', but includes a bonfire, candles in the darkness, party poppers and ends with bacon sandwiches – if this sounds like something your family would enjoy, you'd be very welcome!

### Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

3:30pm Messy Church – we think about the story of the Road to Emmaus with crafts, story, prayer, worship and a shared meal.



On the cross Jesus opened wide his arms for us.  
Jesus put an end to death by dying for us,  
and showed us the resurrection to  
come by His raising to new life!



### Jesus is risen!

The angel said:  
"Jesus ...is not here, for He  
has risen, just as He said."  
*Matthew 28:6*



### Jesus is here

Jesus said:  
"Where two or three  
come together  
in my name I am  
there with them."  
*Matthew 18:20*



**READ** the story of  
the resurrection in:  
**Matthew 28:1-10**  
**Mark 16:1-19**  
**Luke 24:1-49**  
**John 20:1-29**  
**and 21:1-14**

R E D E E M E R  
E A S T E R P I  
S A V I O U R S  
U L T I M J A E  
R I E D E L I N  
R V J E S U S S  
E E W B S P E P  
C C L O I S S N  
T H O S A N N A  
I R R O H Y E U  
O I D N P P W S  
N S G O T E L L  
K T A F O A I O  
I Y O G J C F R  
N U J O Y E E B  
G O O D N E W S



### Jesus will come again!

Jesus said:  
"I will come back  
and take you to  
myself so that you  
will be where I am."  
*John 14:3*



JESUS • ALIVE • RISEN  
LORD • SAVIOUR • KING  
RESURRECTION  
PEACE • NEW LIFE • JOY • GOOD NEWS



MESSIAH • REDEEMER  
CHRIST • SON OF GOD  
HOSANNA • PRAISE  
GO TELL • EASTER





## For our Prayers

### Those who are ill or in need of your prayers, including:

Brenda Baylis	Maureen Gerard	Irene F	Margaret
Charlie	Irene Goodman	Sue	Ian
Mavis	Irene Mussell	Mike	

### Those who have died and those who mourn their loss:

Steve Miller..	Eileen	Brian
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### Those preparing for baptism or blessing, their families and Godparents

Alex Benas	Ollie	Reginald	Willow
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### Those preparing for marriage

Maxwell Anderson and Bethany Evans  
Miroslav Kuzmovic and Michelle Preedy

### An Easter Day Prayer

We exalt you, risen Lord.

We worship and adore you.

From cross to cave, beaten but not broken;

from thorns to throne; from grave to glory,

we exalt you, risen Lord.

We worship and adore you. Amen.

### Prayer Lists

If you would like anyone – including yourself – to be remembered by name in our intercessions, please could you let the office know in writing or by email to [office@stmartinshereford.org.uk](mailto:office@stmartinshereford.org.uk) or complete one of the forms in Church. Please include the name of the person to be prayed for, your name and a contact number or email address, the name by which the person would like to be referred to in the prayers ('Anne', 'Anne D', 'Annie', or 'Anne Dowdeswell', for example) and to which of the prayer lists the name should be added. Please ensure that anyone whose name is to go on the list has given their consent and do not include details of the nature of any illness or misfortune in your note.

*Anne*

## **The StowCape Singers present Judas**

**The Lady Chapel of Hereford Cathedral on Wednesday 2nd April at 7 pm.**

Was Judas Iscariot entirely to blame for Jesus's betrayal, arrest and crucifixion? Or might any of us have behaved in exactly the same way? As we approach Holy Week and Easter, the people of the StowCape group of churches between Hereford and Ross-on-Wye bring their powerful and dramatic re-telling of the story to Hereford Cathedral. Last year's performance of this production, based on the radio play by Lucy Gannon, was so well received in 2024 at Peterstow, that it is being brought to a wider audience this year. Accompanied by the music of Bach, Wesley and Victoria amongst others, all under the direction of Suzannah Pemberton, and with Crispin Pemberton as Judas the betrayer, this is the story of an outsider who does not fit with the other disciples but is drawn to follow Jesus almost against his will, with hopes that he will overthrow the Roman oppressors. Please note, the Lady Chapel is accessed by steps, if you have any accessibility requirements please contact us in advance. Free tickets are available to book via the cathedral website, the Events team via 01432 374 251/265 or email [events@herefordcathedral.org](mailto:events@herefordcathedral.org)

## **The Traherne Association 2025 Festival**

The Traherne Association's 2025 Festival will be held between 7 and 9 June in Herefordshire. Beth Dodd, Janet Wootton, Robert Walker and Richard Willmott will be the Saturday speakers, with music from Andrew Howse during supper. On Sunday Bishop David Thomson will preach at the Eucharist at All Saints, followed by a concert of Traherne-related recorded music compered by Ross Rosankiewiz, a lovely lunch from Bill's Kitchen, the AGM and then Choral Evensong, this year also in All Saints.

## **Three Choirs Festival 26 July – 2 August in Hereford**

Enjoy a superb selection of concerts at the 2025 Three Choirs Festival in Hereford, featuring the festival's own choirs, internationally-recognised soloists, and the world-renowned Philharmonia Orchestra. Experience our flagship evening concerts, laid back late-nights, daytime recitals, and lively family programme, and soak up the atmosphere between events in our festival village. The exciting programme for 2025 includes Mendelssohn's fiery *Elijah*, Howells' *Hymnus Paradisi*, and a thrilling daytime schedule with recitals from the Carducci Quartet, Roderick Williams, and the National Youth String Orchestra among others. Why not come along and see for yourself why so many people come back to us year after year? Full information available at [3choirs.org/hereford-2025](https://3choirs.org/hereford-2025) Tickets from 14 April [3choirs.org](https://3choirs.org) / 01452 768928

## David says Goodbye

So, after over 7 years I'm leaving St Martin's to develop my ministry in Leominster, where I live. Thanks for the kind send off, I will really miss being part of the St Martin's Community. Thanks for the space and support to develop Messy Church, Bible Club and FoodShare together along with the all the things we started and then stopped. It might have been frustrating at times, but it is part of my DNA as a Pioneer Minister to give things a go and see how they work out. It has also been a privilege to preach at St Martin's and St Peter's: thank you Rev Anne for giving me that freedom.

---

Whilst working part time at St Martin's I have continued to be part of the congregation and team of ministers at Leominster Priory with a particular focus on youth and community work. Over the winter Kathy and I had a contract to develop some new community work in a couple areas of Leominster. It became clear that there was a real need for youth and family support work that need to be continued and that God is calling us to do it.

---

Working in places without community buildings is tricky because relationships are best built over food and refreshments. We tried using a rented van as a base, which worked well but was a bit soul-less. We wondered if a simple campervan with space to make a hot drink, seats for a conversation and space to store games and sports equipment. So we've bought a 31 year old VW campervan as a base for our ministry including occasionally offering craft workshops at music festivals. I really don't know what the next few months will look like as we develop this ministry and look for funding. I would really appreciate your prayers as we start this exciting new phase of our lives.

---

Meanwhile, at St Martin's there are great teams leading Messy Church, Bible Club (Rev Andy Goode), Meals and FoodShare. I'm sure these ministries will go from strength to strength and I look forward from watching their development from the other side of Dinmore Hill.

---

Thanks again for you welcome, love, prayers and support over the last 7 years. Please stay in touch and I'm sure I will be back to visit.

*David*

---

# St Martin's Food Share

*Reduce Waste - Help Out - Share Joy*



## Volunteer with us

St Martin's Foodshare is a project run by St Martin's Church, Ross Road Hereford. We obtain surplus food from local supermarkets, the national charity FoodShare and other sources. We share this food with people in our local community.

### What We're Looking For:

- Drivers to collect food and to drive the Van
- People to sort collected food in the evenings and for share days
- People to clean equipment and the van

### Contact us

**Cat** 07581 141100  
**Graham** 07870 529129

**Find us on Facebook**  
St Martin's FoodShare



**Funded by  
UK Government**

# WE ARE FARMING MINDS



**We are Farming Minds** registered charity has been set up by farmers for farmers to tackle mental health in the farming community within Herefordshire.

## How can we help?

### 24 Hour Support Line:

We run a **FREE 24 hour Support Line 7 days a week** for farmers and their families within Herefordshire who are feeling distressed and need someone to talk to anonymously.

### Counselling:

We provide **fully funded counselling to anyone in the Herefordshire farming community** who may be in emotional distress.

### Training:

We offer **FREE mental health awareness training** to anyone living or working in or with the farming community in Herefordshire.

### Social Events:

We run a series of **FREE social events throughout the year** to break the isolation often felt by the farming community in Herefordshire.

### Befriending:

Befriending volunteers offer companionship and support to people who are isolated and lonely – they may visit you at home and/or phone for a regular chat. A befriender can offer conversation and a listening ear to those that need it.



'Taking the bull by the horns' to tackle Mental Health in the farming community

Call our Support Line:

**0808 802 0070**

Or text:

**07786 203 130**

General enquiries: [wearefarmingminds@gmail.com](mailto:wearefarmingminds@gmail.com)

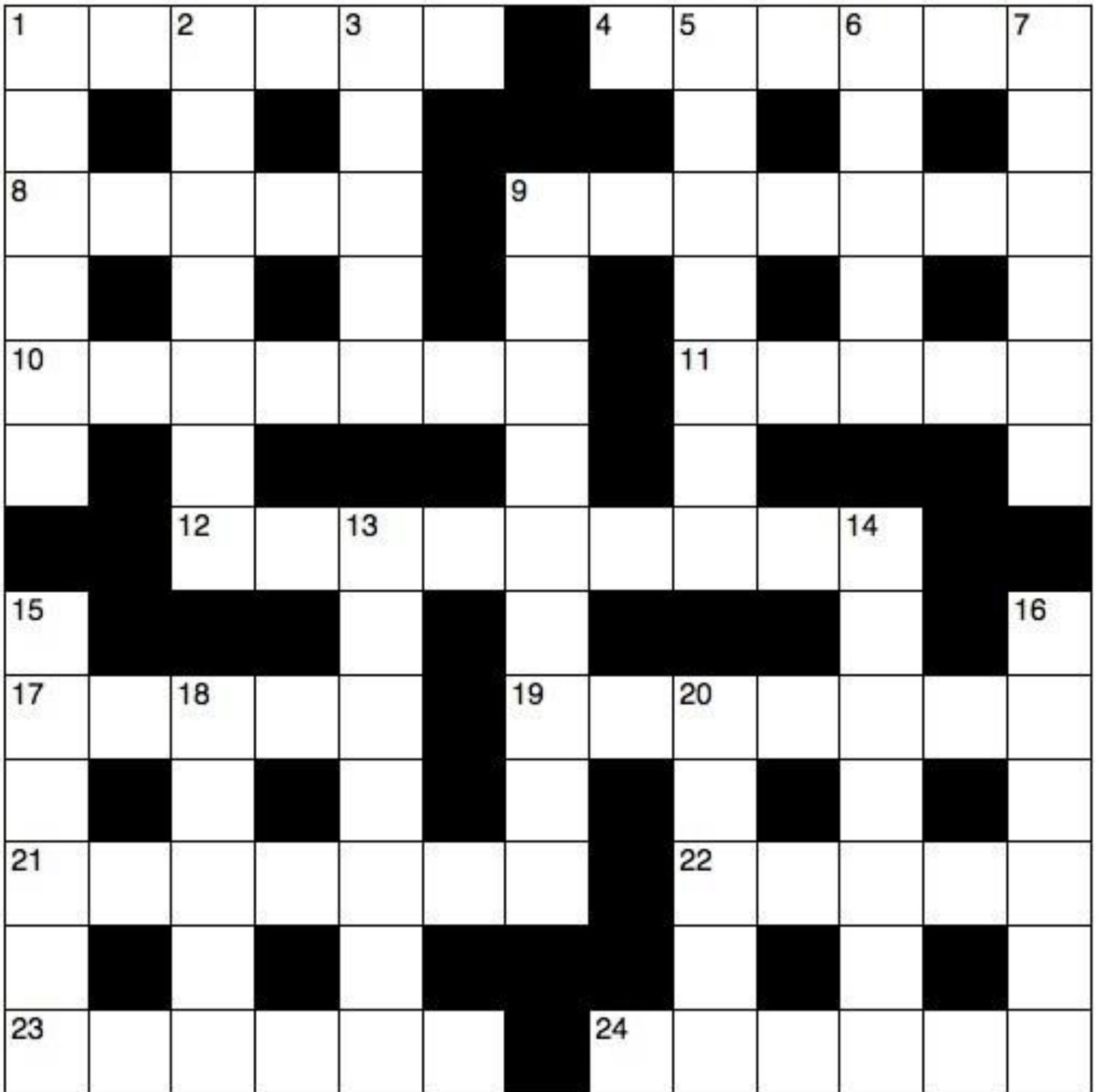
[www.wearefarmingminds.co.uk](http://www.wearefarmingminds.co.uk)

Registered charity number: 1191461



WeAreFarmingMinds

# Coffee Time



Doodle Box

## Across

- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)  
 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)  
 8 'Unless I see the nail marks — — hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3)  
 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)  
 10 Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry — (7)  
 11 'Look, here is — . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5)  
 12 Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)  
 17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3-4) (5)  
 19 'Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had spoken with the Lord' (Exodus 34:29) (7)  
 21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7)  
 22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)  
 23 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the - apostles' (Acts 1:26) (6)  
 24 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in — and you came to visit me' (Matthew 25:36) (6)

*Last Month's Solution*

## Down

- 1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)  
 2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)  
 3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)  
 5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)  
 6 11 Across is certainly this (5)  
 7 He reps (anag.) (6)  
 9 Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)  
 13 Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)  
 14 They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)  
 15 The human mind or soul (6)  
 16 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is — ' (Graham Kendrick) (6)  
 18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not — ' (Matthew 11:17) (5)  
 20 Bared (anag.) (5)

	D	E	T	R	A	V	E	H	D	N	I	K	
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## Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Lutheran pastor and martyr

On the 9<sup>th</sup> April we remember Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Standing up to tyrants, no matter what the cost. That kind of courage has been in the headlines since the war in Ukraine began, as many brave people have defied Putin's oppression. Dietrich Bonhoeffer did not have Putin to contend with, but Hitler. Bonhoeffer did not back down either, when the time came.

Bonhoeffer grew up with no thought of ever defying the leader of Germany. Nothing could have been further from his mind or background. Born at Breslau in Silesia (now the Polish city of Wroclaw) in 1906, Bonhoeffer was the son of an academic. In 1912, his father was appointed to be Professor of Psychiatry and Neurology at Berlin university, and so the family moved to Berlin.

Bonhoeffer never even considered going into politics. Instead, he studied theology in Tübingen, Berlin and New York, before returning to Berlin as a lecturer in theology in 1931. But though Bonhoeffer did not chase political trouble, it soon came to him. For on 30<sup>th</sup> January 1933 Adolf Hitler, leader of the National Socialist German Workers' Party, had come to power. His totalitarian approach left no room for anyone in public life to disagree with him. Including anyone in the two major churches - Lutheran and Catholic. But Bonhoeffer refused to be compliant, and joined the Confessing Church, which had formed in opposition to the takeover of the Lutheran Church. The Confessing Church also opposed Hitler's attempts to force antisemitism on the church and society.

Bonhoeffer was in America when war broke out in 1939, but he returned to Germany. He said: "I shall have no right to participate in the reconstruction of Christian life in Germany after the war, if I do not share the trials of this time with my people." Back in Germany, he joined the underground anti-Nazi opposition and worked hard to oppose Hitler. In 1943 he was arrested and imprisoned at Tegel prison in Berlin. The involvement of many of his contacts in the July 1944 plot to kill Hitler may well have sealed his fate. He was finally moved on to Flossenberg concentration camp. In April 1945, as American troops were approaching the camp, Bonhoeffer was hanged. The last words of this brilliant and courageous 39-year-old opponent of Nazism were: "This is the end - for me, the beginning of life." Bonhoeffer left a great legacy behind him. His writings, and especially his *Letters and Papers from Prison*, have inspired many trying to make sense of persecution and needless suffering. His 1937 book *The Cost of Discipleship* is described as a modern classic.



## Life & Learning at Hereford Cathedral 2025

Life & Learning is the adult education arm of Hereford Cathedral, working to broaden understanding and debate in theology, social issues, and the arts. It offers a wide range of opportunities for study and learning, and for experiencing the Christian faith in many aspects. Open to all people, regardless of religious affiliation, it aims to be a forum of honesty and engagement. This year's programme features a diverse range of lectures, workshops and events which explore the Old Testament as well as other topics ranging from music and theology to the medieval Jewish history of Hereford. You can download a copy of the 2025 brochure from the Cathedral website and physical copies can be collected from the cathedral and Reading Room

The Revd Canon James Pacey, director of the Life & Learning programme says; "I am excited about the breadth of topics and the diversity of our speakers during 2025. So often, the Old Testament is approached with a degree of wariness and misunderstanding: this year gives us an opportunity to delve deeply into its riches and discover God's grace afresh."

All of the events within the Life & Learning programme, including those listed below, are available to book now from the cathedral website or the cathedral library on 01432 374 225 or [library@herefordcathedral.org](mailto:library@herefordcathedral.org).

**Old Testament bible study** Bishop Donald Allister, Monday 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 June at 7 pm Online (Zoom) – this course is free. Two and a half thousand years ago, God's people had lost the plot. The rich were getting richer and the poor were getting poorer. Those who were living comfortably were oppressing those who weren't. The nation was under threat from its neighbours. Then the lion roared: God spoke to his people, a message for all time, words of judgement and of hope.

**Swords into ploughshares?** The Old Testament and War, Dr Andrew Mein, Tuesday 17 June 7 pm at College Hall (£10) In this session we will look at some key texts of war and peace which arose out of Israel's long and often bitter experience of warfare. These texts not only tell us about war in the ancient contexts for which they were originally written, but can also provide a lens through which we can look at our own complex assumptions about violence, war and the Bible, and help us think through difficult questions in a world still scarred by conflict and looking for peace. Dr Andrew Mein is Director of Research at the Queen's Foundation, Birmingham, where he also teaches Old Testament/Hebrew Bible

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— Diocese of —  
Hereford

## **Bishop's Teaching Event 1**

ST GEORGE'S PONTESBURY

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### **Bishop's Teaching Event 1**

**31st May 2025 - 9:30am - 1:00pm, St George's Pontesbury**

This event will include a teaching session from Bishop Richard on proclaiming our faith to others. The event will begin at 9:30 am and end at 1:00 pm with repeated workshops, allowing participants to choose two of the three workshops. The three workshops will explore the five marks of Anglican mission:

**TELL** - To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom

**TEACH** - To teach, baptise and nurture new believers

**TEND** - To respond to human need by loving service

**TRANSFORM** - To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation

**TREASURE** - To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth

*Workshop 1* is expected to focus on schools, education, youth, children and families. Our Intergenerational Mission lead, Elizabeth Hackney, will lead it in partnership with our Education Team.

*Workshop 2* will focus on the environment and how we can care for God's creation. Our diocesan mission enabler, Revd Steve Hollinghurst, will lead this

*Workshop 3* will focus on Caring for those in need and how we can work for justice. Our diocesan Messy Church lead will lead this, Kathy Bland who is also the Chair of Trustees for the Leominster Foodbank and has set up a foodshare project in the community.

If you're looking to join us at this event, please register for a place via the Diocesan website.

## St Martin's Eco Church Team

### The Big River Watch - 25th April – 1st May

This a survey run twice a year by The Rivers Trust. Everyone can take part in a simple activity that helps build a picture of river health across the UK and Ireland. Our rivers are far from healthy. They're polluted with sewage, plastic, chemicals and nutrients, and just 15% of river stretches in England are in good overall health. To restore them, they need more information about how the rivers are doing. You can help The River Trust by downloading the Big River Watch app, pick a riverside location, spend 15 minutes observing, and answer the questions in the survey. The survey will ask you about what you see - from wildlife and plants, to the flow speed of the water and any signs of pollution. The handy in-app pollution and wildlife guides can help if you're not sure what you're looking at. Then our river specialists will analyze the results. The app and survey are open year-round, so you can keep recording useful information about your local river at any time, if you wish.



### Water Quality in the River Wye

The Welsh and UK Government have announced a new £1 million joint research initiative to tackle water quality issues in the River Wye.

The comprehensive cross-border research programme will:

1. Investigate the sources of the pollution and pressures affecting the river.
2. Study the impacts of changing farming practices and land management.
3. Develop and test new ways to improve water quality.
4. Examine what's driving wildlife decline and water flow-the movement and quantity of water which is crucial for habitats and water species.

The programme will work closely with established organisations including the Wye catchment partnership, the Nutrient Management Board, and farming organisations like Herefordshire Rural Hub and Farm Cymru.

Local farmers, environmental groups, and citizen scientists will play a crucial role in gathering evidence and shaping the research priorities.

*(Herefordshire Council 11 March 2025)*

# Spring Plant Fair



**30th April 2025 10.30am– 4.00pm**

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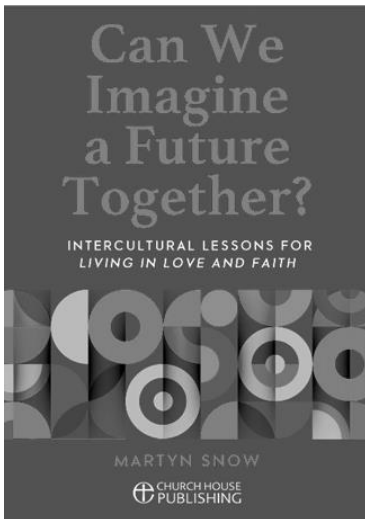
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## From the National Church



Martyn Snow, the Bishop of Leicester and lead bishop for the Living in Love and Faith (LLF) process, has released a new book, entitled 'Can We Imagine a Future Together? Intercultural lessons for Living in Love and Faith'.

In the book, released today (Monday 3 March), Bishop Martyn asks those on different sides of the LLF debate whether they want to remain together as one church, and how that might be possible. Having served as a vicar in Guinea in West Africa, and now working with interfaith communities in Leicester, Bishop

Martyn draws on his background in the world church to invite readers to use an intercultural model, combined with gift exchange, when having challenging conversations around LLF.

The Diocese of Leicester developed its work around interculturalism after recognising that despite living in a culturally diverse city, worshipping communities were largely homogenous, and church leaders did not feel confident in navigating cultural differences. Interculturalism acknowledges these differences – and the power dynamics involved when cultures interact – whilst encouraging engagement with often marginalised communities.

Bishop Martyn said: "Despite the great depths in our disagreements over Living in Love and Faith, I believe there is still a longing for unity among most of us in the Church of England. "I hope that by applying an intercultural approach to our profound differences, we might be able to navigate a new path in our LLF journey. Far from attempting to offer a quick fix solution, this book explores how we might imagine a new future together, and maintain unity across a variety of theological differences. As we enter this new season of discernment together, we will require prayer, listening and practical acts of kindness, as we re-imagine how we heal a divided church and live out Jesus's call to proclaim the Good News."

*"Can We Imagine a Future Together?"* is published by Church House Publishing, Official Publisher of The Church of England. It can be ordered direct from the Church House Publishing from booksellers (ISBN 978 1 78140 513 0, RRP £4.99).

### **Conclusion of Makin Review four-step process**

In February, the National Safeguarding Team announced the conclusion of the work to review all clergy under the authority or oversight of the Church of England who are criticised in the Makin review, published in November. The review was commissioned to look at the Church's handling of the allegations of the horrendous abuse by the late John Smyth.

This has been a rigorous and independent process to look at whether those named present any immediate risk and consider whether there is a case for disciplinary proceedings for clergy, under the Clergy Discipline Measure. This has been undertaken in line with the process announced in December with recommendations of an independent panel and reviewed by an independent barrister. Following this, the National Safeguarding Team will now seek to bring disciplinary proceedings under the Clergy Discipline Measure against 10 named clergy. In all cases, the CDM will be 'out of time' and so the permission of the President of the Tribunals will need to be sought to bring such cases. This will be done by the National Director of Safeguarding, Alexander Kubeyinje. In reaching its conclusions, the Stage 3 panel has considered the safeguarding policies and guidance which were in force at the relevant time, the facts of the particular case, the relevant legal considerations and whether there is sufficient evidence to justify proceedings. There are two priests criticised in the report whose actions have not yet been reviewed as they are subject to other live, ongoing, processes. Once these have concluded, they will be reviewed following the 4-stage process. Victims and survivors and all those criticised in the Makin review have been informed and support offered.

Alexander Kubeyinje, the Church of England's National Director of Safeguarding, said: "We must not forget that at heart of this case are the survivors and victims who have endured the lifelong effects of the appalling abuse by John Smyth, we are truly sorry. Today we have announced next steps in the process looking at both risk and disciplinary processes. We know this will never undo the harm caused but the Church is committed to taking very seriously its response to the findings of the review as well as responding to its recommendations."

## **From the National Church**

### **No, we're not banning 'gluten-free' bread or 'non-alcoholic' Communion wine**

Contrary to recent reports following a question asked by a General Synod member, the Church of England is *not* banning 'gluten-free' wafers nor 'non-alcoholic' wine at Holy Communion.

A spokesman for the C of E said that Anglican churches across the country "routinely offer 'gluten-free' bread or 'non-alcoholic' wine at Holy Communion." He said: "Many professional ecclesiastical suppliers have long provided wine or bread which may contain tiny traces of alcohol or gluten which can legitimately be considered non-alcoholic or gluten free."

### **Survivor Framework**

The Church of England has launched the National Survivor Participation Framework. It is a guide for all Church bodies and any victim or survivor who currently participates – or wants to participate – in the safeguarding work of the Church. The development of the Framework started with a survey which heard from 171 victims and survivors. It went on to include safeguarding professionals in dioceses and cathedrals, the National Safeguarding Team, subject experts in the NCIs, and external experts. Deputy Lead Bishop for Safeguarding Julie Conalty thanked all who were involved, "particularly victims and survivors. This framework brings much needed clarity and helps us to create safe spaces."

### **Archbishop of York leads fifth anniversary of National Online Service**

Since its inception during the first COVID lockdown, the service has become a key lifeline for many worshippers, especially those unable to attend church buildings due to illness, remote living, or other circumstances, offering a vital sense of community and connection. During the past five years the online service has reached millions, providing a spiritual gathering for individuals who are housebound, in care homes, working irregular shifts, in prisons or living in areas with limited access to local churches. Last year alone, the service saw over 21 million views.

With its mix of traditional and contemporary worship, the service continues to reflect the breadth of worship within the Church of England, which is also encapsulated in numerous local weekly online services.

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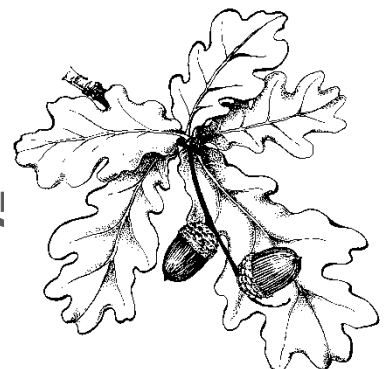
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# Monthly Lunch Club on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month at noon.

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St Martins Church, Ross Road Hereford, HR2 7RJ



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Reserve your lunch by calling Home Instead  
on 01432 804000 or emailing [info.hereford@homeinstead.co.uk](mailto:info.hereford@homeinstead.co.uk),  
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## Bayley Brothers

Central Branch

23-24 Gaol Street, Hereford, HR1 2HU

Tel. 01432 273736

## Bayley Brothers

17-19 Cotterell Street, Hereford, HR4 0HH

Tel. 01432 272465

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Team Rector. Hereford South Wye  
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07864 938898



**Lauren Bell**  
Assistant Curate  
curate@stmartinshereford.org.uk  
07429 862444



**Barry Stevens**  
Chaplain to the Hereford Academy  
BStevens@theherefordacademy.org.uk



**Sharron Brown**  
Administrator  
office@stmartinshereford.org.uk

**TEAM OFFICE** (at St Martin's Church)  
**89 Ross Road, Hereford HR2 7RJ**

**OPENING HOURS** Mon - Fri 8.30 am - 12.30 pm  
phone us on 01432 353717 or email office@stmartinshereford.org.uk

**Website:** [www.stmartinshereford.org.uk](http://www.stmartinshereford.org.uk)

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# Holy Week and Easter in South Wye

## **Sunday 13th April      Palm Sunday**

- 9am                      Procession from the Scout Hut  
9:30am                 All Age Communion at St Martin's  
11:15am                Private Prayer at St Peter's Bullinghope

## **Monday 14th April      Monday in Holy Week**

8pm                      Compline at Tesco, Abbotsmead

## **Tuesday 15th April    Tuesday in Holy Week**

8pm                      Compline at Tesco, Abbotsmead

## **Wednesday 16th April   Wednesday in Holy Week**

8pm                      Compline at Tesco, Abbotsmead

## **Thursday 17th April    Maundy Thursday**

8pm                      Communion with Foot Washing at St Martin's  
                                 followed by stripping the altars and Watch until 10pm

## **Friday 18th April      Good Friday**

11am                     All Age Craft Workshop at St Martin's

12 noon                 All Age Service at St Martin's

1pm                      Stations of the Cross at St Martin's

2pm                      Last Hour at St Martin's

## **Sunday 20th April      Easter Sunday**

5:30am                 Vigil Service at St Martin's

9:30am                 Easter Eucharist at St Martin's

11:15                    Easter Eucharist at St Peter's Bullinghope