

NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St John's
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist	St John's
	10.00am	Sung Mass	St Francis'
	11.30am	Holy Communion	St Stephen's
Monday	1.30pm	Funeral – Jennifer Sears	St John's
	7.30pm	Holy Communion	St John's
	8.00pm	Lent Course Wk 1 – Christ: God incarnate is born	St John's
Tuesday	9.30am	Tiny Tots – Stay & Play & Service	St John's Hall & Church
	11.00-4.00pm	Warm-Space – Open and warm church	St John's
St David	10.00am	BCP Holy Communion <i>followed by coffee</i>	St John's
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	St Francis'
Thursday	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Stephen's
	10.00am	Lent Course Wk 1 – Christ: God incarnate is born	St Stephen's
Friday	7.00pm	Choir Rehearsal	St John's Hall

SUNDAY 5 MARCH

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St John's
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist	St John's
	10.00am	Sung Mass	St Francis'
	11.30am	Morning Worship	St Stephen's
	11.30am	Burial of Ashes – Jill Lamb	St John's

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

the peoples of Ukraine – those defending their land; those made refugees; those in positions of leadership

those who are ill: Isabel Abbot, Lynsey Abbott, Delia Aylott, Andrew, Becky, Matt Blake, Brenda, Catherine, Peter Clayton, Jean Dawkins, Michele Finch, Ruth Goatly, Annetta Gray, Dave Harvey, Angie Jackson, Janice, Paul Kessell-Holland, Alan Kirtley, Lizzie, Anne Lyne, Paul McCormick, Elizabeth McDonald, Pamela, Godfrey Rock, Jane Rombout, Stanley Rose, Guy Wyatt;

those with ongoing needs: Anthony, John Bery, Richard Berry, Val Darvill, Peter Davis, Gill Dow, Pam French, Derek Frost, Josie Gower, Andrew Gunning, Margaret Gunning, Matt, Sharon & family, Jean Harries, Pam Hart, Anne Hosier, Elizabeth Jones, Sheila Lewis, Samuel & James Lockyer, Rev'd Rex Merry, Ruth Merry, Gladys Mimer, Steve Randall, Marion Roff, Beryl Taylor, Jayne Taylor, Jim Taylor, Christine Wilson, John Wilson, Mike Winch;

If you wish to be remembered at Morning and Evening Prayer only, please contact the Vicar.

Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead:

For all Christians as they journey through Lent;

those who have died recently and we pray for their families and friends:

Jennifer Sears funeral: 27 February, 1.00pm, St John's Church
Brian Laidlaw, Bob Reiss – priest, Gillian Strange, Eileen Pemberton;

those whose Years mind is this week: 26 February – 4 March:

Baby Saskia (26.2.18), Anne Frogley (26.2.18), Sylvia Shaw (26.2.20), John Sweet (28.2.19), John Wright (4.3.22).

Parish Office: 01442 260299 office@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk <https://www.stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk>

The Parish Office will be closed until Tuesday 7 March.

PARISH NOTICES

LIVE STREAMING – THIS WEEK: The Parish Eucharist at 10.00am will be live streamed this week. This can be joined at: www.stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk/live-streamed-services - we apologise in advance if our internet connection fails! A recording will be uploaded as soon as possible if this happens. Thank you for your understanding.

EARTHQUAKE DISASTER: Thank you for contributions received so far. We have collected £600 for the Disasters Emergency Committee appeal for the people affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. There is still time to raise more towards this appeal.

LENT COURSE: Images of Christ: The story of Jesus in the Arts: Explore how the Gospel narrative has been interpreted in Art, Word, and Music and the response we have to it. 5 sessions, repeated twice each week (St John's on Monday evenings and St Stephen's on Thursday mornings). See poster and Magazine for more details. All welcome.

NEXT SUNDAY: The 10.00am at St John's next Sunday will be a Parish Eucharist not All Age Worship. The All Age Service will be on Sunday 19 March – Mothering Sunday.

A MUSICAL WEEKEND:

CAMERATA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA CONCERT: Saturday 11 March, 7.30pm Music including Symphony no 8 by Joseph Haydn. Free admission with a retiring collection, all proceeds to St John's Church.

MOZART'S REQUIEM: Sunday 12 March, 6.30pm As part of our Lenten devotions we will be performing, within a liturgical context Mozart's Requiem. Our choir, accompanied by the St John's Ensemble, with fabulous soloists will sing the Mass whilst the Eucharist is offered. Do put it in your diary – it will be well worth attending.

CHURCHYARD TWINNING: Some of you may have seen the notices in the toilets stating that for £60 it has been twinned with a toilet in a developing country to help them achieve better sanitation. For Lent this year our Diocese has come up with a scheme to twin churchyards with families of farmers in Kenya. £60 will help a family living in rural Migori with three years training in sustainable organic farming. Starting with small kitchen gardens families can grow enough to eat to fight poverty, set up small businesses and send their children to school. We are proposing to hold a coffee morning and cake sale in church on **Saturday 18 March**. Please come along and have a coffee, buy a cake, meet up with friends and hopefully we will raise the £60 to help a family. Any excess monies will be put towards the Easter flowers.

PARISH LUNCH: Owing to the increasing popularity of the monthly parish lunch we have made a few changes to the booking procedure. In future the numbers will be limited to 36 people and when the list is full it will be removed from church. The main course will be on the list, if anyone wants anything different they will have to provide it themselves, ready prepared. If people put their names down and then find that they cannot attend would they please let Marian Davies (07557 952707, Di Tovey (263669) or Lorraine Ioannou (213648) know. If there is anyone in the parish who would like to prepare a meal (and wash-up) occasionally please speak to one of the above who will give you more details. The next parish lunch will be on 26 March, menu yet to be decided.

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE 2023: Friday 24–Sunday 26 March. A wonderful opportunity has opened up, in conjunction with the Parish of Hemel Old Town, to go on Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham for the weekend, enabling pilgrims space to reflect and worship, as well as plenty of time for fellowship and friendship. The Shrine offers excellent facilities including en-suite accommodation, and close proximity for visits to Wells Next-the-Sea or Sheringham, nice food and great company. Cost: £145. There are limited places for this event so if you are interested please speak to the Vicar. Time is running out to book!

YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU: It has become increasingly difficult to provide sidespeople and helpers at our services – not helped by the pandemic! This is a vital task in helping regular and new worshippers feel welcome and safe whilst in church. Some Sundays we have either been operating on the bare minimum or, looking to the future, have not been able to create a rota. Please would you consider helping with this ministry. The more who help the less often you would be required to do it. We also need more readers and intercession leaders. Please see the Vicar if you are willing to help. Thank you.

COVID GUIDANCE:

- Receiving communion in both kinds is not compulsory (as our recent practice has shown). If you would like to receive the chalice the offer is there. If you would prefer not to receive from the common cup then simply receive the host and walk back to your places. It is an entirely personal decision.
- Intincting/dipping your wafer into the wine is not permitted.
- Mandatory Social Distancing has ceased, however, please be mindful when choosing somewhere to sit as some may still prefer to keep at a respectable distance and/or wear a face covering. If you would like some space no-one will be offended if you say so.