

NEWS UPDATE—starting 25th January

Dear Friends, dates for your diaries:

SATURDAY 31st JANUARY — COFFEE MORNING

10:00 - 12:00 Coffee morning in the Church Hall. Prizes for raffle and donations of cakes will be most welcome. I hope to make Seville Orange Marmalade for my preserves stall and will be bring the jigsaws for exchange. Do come for a coffee and a chat

SUNDAY 1st FEBRUARY — 14:30

Piano Recital by Professor Graham Scott

Tickets £12 Wendy will be selling tickets at the Coop on Tuesday 27th and Thursday 29th from 10:00 - 12:00. Kim will be selling tickets at our coffee morning on 31st from 10:00-12:00. Tickets are also available from Kim: 07970 357553 or Wendy: 07828 282996, or can be bought on the door (cash only)

WEDNESDAY 18th FEBRUARY — WEM

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE at 19:00

Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

CHURCH FLOWERS SPONSORSHIP

Would you like to celebrate a special date and or remember a special person by sponsoring church flowers. If so please add your name, occasion and/or person by the relevant date to the list at back of church. Sponsorship money should be paid to Wem PCC via our Treasurer Caroline Sinclair. Please speak to me if you wish for further information.

RAFFLE PRIZES

At our coffee mornings and concerts raffles are popular so we would be grateful for donations of prizes to support these events. We aim to have 8 prizes for each raffle, so if you could make a donation; Chocolates, Bottles of Wine, Toiletries or other small prizes, that would be greatly appreciated. You could let Kim or Me have the prize any Sunday or at the event itself.

Services in the Benefice

Sunday 25th January—EPIPHANY 3

WEM	08:00 09:45	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist
WESTON	11:00	Holy Eucharist
LEE	11:15	Morning Prayer

Thursday 29th January

WEM	09:30 19:30	Holy Eucharist Choir Singing Practice
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Sunday 1st February—CANDLEMAS

WEM	08:00 09:45	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist
WESTON	09:30	Holy Eucharist
LEE	11:15	Holy Eucharist

Monday 2nd February—Funeral Service

WEM	12:00	John Edward Henry Hall RIP
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Thursday 5th February

WEM	09:30 12:00 19:30	Holy Eucharist Funeral Service Jason Robert Roberts RIP Choir Singing Practice
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Sybil Farmer, PCC Lay Chair
SS Peter & Paul's Church, Wem

To view our February services
please go to our website:
<https://wemcofe.co.uk>

St Peter & St Paul's, Wem

3rd SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Sunday 25th January 2026

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

1st READING: ISAIAH 9:1-4

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

2nd READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-18

¹⁰ Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you should be in agreement and that there should be no divisions among you, but that you should be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹ For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹² What I mean is that each of you says, 'I belong to Paul', or 'I belong to Apollos', or 'I belong to Cephas', or 'I belong to Christ.' ¹³ Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶ (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 4:12-23

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵ 'Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— ¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.'

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.'

¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.' ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

²³ Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Prayer Diary For Sunday 25th January 2026 THE 3rd SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

The angel was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all God's people, on the golden altar in front of the throne. The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of God's people, went up before God from the angel's hand.

Revelation 8:3-4

Today

Let us be encouraged to pray together, knowing that our prayers come before God with the smoke of the incense offered by the angels before his throne.

Monday 26th January

Pray for the Youth Club that the leadership team will be increased by persons called to this important service. May this work be of great benefit to the young people.

Tuesday 27th January

Pray for the sick, that they may know the Lord's healing touch and soon recover.

May their spirits be lifted and be encouraged.

Wednesday 28th January

Pray for those working in the medical services at this busy time, that they may be strengthened and protected from illness themselves.

Thursday 29th January

Pray for our Rector, John, that the Lord will bless his ministry in St. Peter's school. Pray for the children that they will grow in the love and knowledge of Jesus.

Friday 30th January

Pray for the work of the Holy Spirit among children, to reveal to them Jesus as their Saviour and Redeemer and to make them joyful disciples of the Lord

Saturday 31st January

Pray for the Lord's blessing on the Coffee Morning taking place in the Church Hall today. May it be a good time for friendships to grow.