

NEWS UPDATE—starting 8th February

Dear Friends, dates for your diaries:

WEDNESDAY 18th FEBRUARY — WEM

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE at 19:00

Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

SATURDAY 28th FEBRUARY — 10:00-12:00

Coffee Morning in the Church Hall

THE LENT COURSE

The Lent Course will run on Tuesdays 24 Feb & 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 March. A light lunch will be served at 12:00 followed by the course. Please add your name to list at back of church to assist with catering arrangements

PLANNED GIVING

Are you able to help our church funds by planned giving. We use our church funds to pay our parish's payment to the diocese (£4000 per month), insurance, energy and maintenance bills so we need in the order of £90,000 per annum to cover our costs.

If you would like to set up a monthly standing order please ask Sybil, David or Caroline for a form or if you would like a weekly envelope, please let Caroline or me know. If you are able to gift aid your contribution, we are able to reclaim 25% from HMRC

ROTAS

I will shortly be preparing the rota of people to read lessons, lead intercessions, welcome people to our 09:45 service and to serve coffee after that service. If you can help with any of these tasks, please speak to me or let me know your availability by returning a completed availability form (from the back of church) by 22nd February

Services in the Benefice

Sunday 8th February—2 before Lent

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

Thursday 12th February

WEM	09:30 19:30	Holy Eucharist Choir Singing Practice
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Sunday 15th February—Sunday before Lent

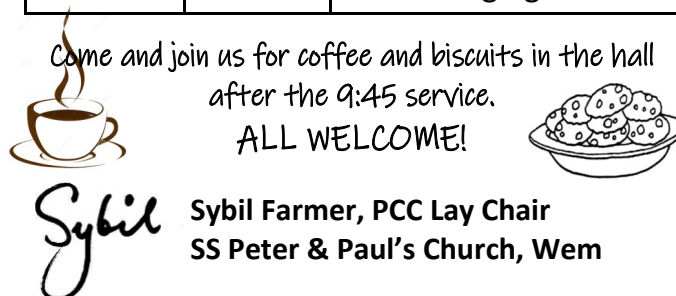
WEM	08:00 09:45	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist
WESTON	09:30	Holy Eucharist
LEE	11:15	Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 18th February—ASH WEDNESDAY

WEM	19:00	Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes
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Thursday 19th February

WEM	09:30 19:30	Holy Eucharist Choir Singing Practice
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Come and join us for coffee and biscuits in the hall
after the 9:45 service.

ALL WELCOME!

Sybil

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

2nd SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Sunday 8th February 2026

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever.

1st READING: GENESIS 1:1—2:3

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶ And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.' ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹ And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And

there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴ And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰ And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.' ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴ And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶ Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

²⁷ So God created humankind in his image, ...in the image of God he created them;...male and female he created them.

²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.'

²⁹God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And

it was so. ³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

2 ¹Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. ²And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

2nd READING: ROMANS 8:18-25

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 6:25-end

See insert

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer Diary For Sunday 8th February 2026

THE 2nd SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Then people brought little children to Jesus for him to lay hands on them and to pray for them. But the disciples rebuked them. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Matthew 19:13-14

Today

Let us pray for children and facilitate them hearing about Jesus in every way that we can.

Monday 9th February

Pray for the prayer group which meets on Mondays, that it may grow in faithfulness and unity.

Pray that God will guide their prayers that they may be effective.

Tuesday 10th February

Pray for the sick that Lord will touch them with his healing power and restore them to good health.

Wednesday 11th February

Pray for the clubs and societies that they may be positive places for social stimulation allowing friendships to grow.

Thursday 12th February

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 13th February

Pray for the Food Bank and the Food Hub that they will be supported with the resources that they need in order to help families in food poverty.

Saturday 14th February

Pray for school children and young people as half term begins, that they may have plenty of safe and positive social activities and be protected from harmful influences.