

## NEWS UPDATE—starting 8<sup>th</sup> February

Dear Friends, dates for your diaries:

### WEDNESDAY 18<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY — WEM

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE at 19:00

Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

### SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> February

## Services in the Benefice

Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> February—2 before Lent		
WEM	08:00 09:45	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist
WESTON	09:30	Morning Prayer
LEE	11:15	Holy Eucharist
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February		
WEM	09:30 19:30	Holy Eucharist Choir Singing Practice
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> February—Sunday before Lent		
WEM	08:00 09:45	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist
WESTON	09:30	Holy Eucharist
LEE	11:15	Holy Eucharist
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February—ASH WEDNESDAY		
WEM	19:00	Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> February		
WEM	09:30 19:30	Holy Eucharist Choir Singing Practice

Come and join us for coffee and biscuits in the hall after the 09:45 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

### 1<sup>st</sup> READING: GENESIS 1:1—2:3

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth,<sup>2</sup> the 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.<sup>3</sup> Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light.<sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.<sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

<sup>6</sup> And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.'<sup>7</sup> So 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.<sup>8</sup> God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

<sup>9</sup> 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.<sup>10</sup> God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.<sup>11</sup> Then 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.<sup>12</sup> The 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.<sup>13</sup> And

there was evening and there was morning, the third day.  
<sup>14</sup> 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,' <sup>15</sup>and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. <sup>16</sup>God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. <sup>17</sup>God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, <sup>18</sup>to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup> 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.' <sup>21</sup>So 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. <sup>22</sup>God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' <sup>23</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup> 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. <sup>25</sup>God 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.

<sup>26</sup> 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.'

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

<sup>28</sup> God 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.'

<sup>29</sup> God 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. <sup>30</sup>And 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. <sup>31</sup>God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

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

## **2<sup>nd</sup> READING: ROMANS 8:18-25**

<sup>18</sup> I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; <sup>20</sup>for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>that 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. <sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and 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. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But 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.