

NEWS UPDATE—starting 1st March

Dear Friends, dates for your diaries:

THE LENT COURSE

The Lent Course will continue on **Tuesdays 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 March**. A light lunch will be served at **12:00** followed by a discussion on our reflections 'Draw Near; Life giving habits for Lent', Please download the Everyday Faith App from <https://www.churchofengland.org/> or pick up a Booklet from the back of Church.

FRIDAY MARCH 6th

15:00 World Day of Prayer Service. This year Katharine Murray will lead this ecumenical service prepared by Christian women in Nigeria at SS Peter and Paul's Church.

SATURDAY 14th MARCH

10:00-12:00—Open Tower at SS Peter and Paul's Church. Interested in bell ringing? Gareth Jones, our Tower Captain, will be available to show you the ropes.

SATURDAY 21st MARCH

11:30-13:00—Community Lunch in the Church Hall. To book please contact Claire Glover 07917 854280 or email claireglover728@gmail.com

SATURDAY 28th MARCH

10:00-12:00 Coffee morning in the Church Hall. If you would like help with serving coffee or looking after the raffle on this occasion please speak to Sybil.

Services in the Benefice

Sunday 1 st March—LENT 2 (St David's Day)		
WEM	08:00 09:45	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist
WESTON	09:30	Morning Prayer
LEE	11:15	Holy Eucharist
Wednesday 4 th March—Funeral Service		
WEM	12:45	Deanna Helen Turner RIP
Thursday 5 th March		
WEM	09:30 19:30	Holy Eucharist Choir Singing Practice
Sunday 8 th March—LENT 3		
WEM	08:00 09:45	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist
WESTON	09:30	Holy Eucharist
LEE	11:15	Holy Eucharist
Thursday 12 th March		
WEM	09:30 19:30	Holy Eucharist Choir Singing Practice



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 March services please go to our website: <https://wemcofe.co.uk>

St Peter & St Paul's, Wem SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT Sunday 1st March 2026

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

1st READING: GENESIS 12:1-4a

Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

⁴ So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

2nd READING: ROMANS 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' ⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift



but as something due. ⁵But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶ For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' ³Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' ⁴Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' ⁵Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to

you, "You must be born from above." ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' ⁹Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' ¹⁰Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹ 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ 'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer Diary For Sunday 1st March 2026

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

The news spread about Jesus all the more, so that the crowds of people came to hear him and to be healed of their sicknesses. But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.

Luke 5:15-16

Today

Let us follow Jesus example and always make time to be alone with God our Father. Let us remember to give thanks to God for the many answers to our prayers.

Monday 2nd March

Pray for the prayer group on its 15th anniversary that it may grow in faithfulness and unity. Pray that others will join them in this essential part of Christian life.

Tuesday 3rd March

Pray for the Lord's blessing on the Lent lunch/course that we may draw nearer to one another as well as grow in the love and knowledge of God.

Wednesday 4th March

Pray for the sick that the Lord will bring healing and strength to them. Pray that Church members will help take care of their practical needs.

Thursday 5th March

Pray for young people, that curiosity about Jesus may be awakened in them. Pray that Jesus will reveal himself to them through dreams and visions.

Friday 6th March

Pray for the Women's World Day of Prayer initiative that is taking place today, that many will take part in this event. Pray especially for the event being held in St. Peter and St. Paul's at 3pm today.

Saturday 7th March

Pray for the Lord's protection over all the social activities taking place in Wem and the surrounding villages this weekend.