

NEWS UPDATE—starting 8th March

Dear Friends, dates for your diaries:

THE LENT COURSE

The Lent Course will continue on **Tuesdays 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.

THIS TUESDAY, (10th) WE WILL USE THE CHOIR VESTRY TO MEET.

SATURDAY 14th MARCH

10:00-12:00—Open Tower Bell Ringing

This event is **CANCELLED** at this time.
A new date will be forthcoming

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.

SUNDAY 29th MARCH—PALM SUNDAY

11:00—Benefice Eucharist
at St Luke's, Weston-under-Redcastle

Services in the Benefice

Sunday 8th March—LENT 3

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

Thursday 12th March

WEM	09:30	Holy Eucharist
	19:30	Choir Singing Practice

Sunday 15th March—LENT 4 MOTHERING SUNDAY

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

Thursday 19th March

WEM	09:30	Holy Eucharist
	19:30	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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Sunday 8th March 2026

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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: EXODUS 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' ⁴So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' ⁵The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people

may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

2nd READING: ROMANS 5:1-11

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 4:5-42

⁵Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to

his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)

⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is

that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' ¹¹The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?

¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' ¹³Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.'

¹⁵The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

(Gospel reading continued on the insert)

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer Diary For Sunday 8th March 2026

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Publius, the chief official of Malta, welcomed us into his home... His father was sick in bed suffering from fever and dysentery. Paul went in to see him, and after prayer, placed his hands on him and healed him. When this had happened, the rest of the sick on the island came and were cured.

Acts 28:7-9

Today

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.

Monday 9th March

Pray for the Lord's blessing on the Youth Club meetings that it may be time of positive social activities. Pray for wisdom and love for the leaders

Tuesday 10th 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 11th March

Pray for the Lord's blessing on the clubs and societies in Wem that they may be places to make good friendships.

Thursday 12th 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 13th March

Pray for opportunities to speak about your faith in conversation with others. Pray that the Holy Spirit will enable you to speak clearly.

Saturday 14th March

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