



CHURCH NEWS

From the Anglican churches of Corsham, Gastard, Neston and
Lacock with Bowden Hill

corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk

March 2019

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 3 March—Sunday next before Lent

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham and Gastard
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion—all-age service at Bowden Hill
12.15p.m. Baptism at Neston

Wednesday 6 March—Ash Wednesday: see over

Sunday 10 March—Lent 1

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham
9.00 a.m. Early Birds at Corsham
10.00 a.m. Morning Worship at Corsham, Gastard and Neston
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Lacock—to be confirmed
6.00 p.m. Evensong at Corsham

Sunday 17 March—Lent 2

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham
9.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Bowden Hill
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham
Morning Worship at Neston
10.30 a.m. Family Service at Lacock
4.00 p.m. Church@4 at Neston
6.00 p.m. Contemplative Prayer at Corsham

Sunday 24 March—Lent 3

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham
10.00 a.m. Matins at Corsham and Gastard
Holy Communion at Neston
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Lacock
6.00 p.m. Holy Communion with prayers for healing at Corsham

Sunday 31 March—Mothering Sunday

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham
10.00 a.m. Family Communion at Corsham
Family Service at Gastard and Neston
10.30 a.m. All Age Service at Lacock
6.30 p.m. Holy Communion with prayers for healing at Bowden Hill

Sunday 7 April—Lent 5

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham
9.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Bowden Hill
10.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Corsham and Gastard
10.30 a.m. Morning Worship at Lacock

Midweek Services

Wednesdays: 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP) at Corsham (every week)
Thursday 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Neston (1st Thursday of the month)
Messy Church—2nd Friday of the month, Church House Corsham, 3.30-6.00 p.m.

We hope to reopen St Cyriac's Lacock on Sunday 10th March but please check Pew News or the website for confirmation

Team Rector: Revd Dr Andrew Johnson
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Team Vicar: Revd Adam Beaumont 01249 730984
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Team Administrator: Fiona Draper (Church Office)

THE RECTOR WRITES...

How would you feel if the church building you know and love was razed to the ground or sold off to be used as a home or commercial premises?

Now don't worry, I am not proposing this because I recognize that church buildings act as a focus for worship and often have a deep effect upon the people who visit them.

Our church buildings have the capacity to attract and inspire people and draw them into God's presence. However, the church is not primarily defined by buildings, but by people. Peter 2: 9 says that the church is 'a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God'. The Greek word for church, *ekklesia*, means 'an assembly' or 'gathering of people'. So strictly speaking we become the church whenever we gather together as the people of God, wherever that may be.

God is not just to be found within church buildings. Instead we can take him wherever we go, both as individuals and as the people of God, his church.

And as our Annual Parochial Church Meetings approach we have a rare opportunity to record our active commitment to being the people of God by signing up for the completely new electoral roll in each of our four parishes.

Every six years each parish in the Church of England has to close its electoral roll and start a new one. This is the sixth year, and so it is time to make a new roll for each parish in our Team.

Those who are on the electoral roll are able to stand for office and vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meetings in April. The roll is a list of people who are not only followers of Jesus but also committed and active members of our five Churches.

I am deeply grateful for the way so many people give generously of their time, talents and financial resources to support the life of our Team and its outreach to the community. I therefore hope you will take the opportunity to mark this commitment by signing and returning the application forms to the relevant Electoral Roll Officer in your parish over the coming weeks.

With love in Christ,
Andrew

Church Office: Church House, 3 Church Street, Corsham SN13 0BY Tel 01249 701720 or 07880 715551
Normal opening hours: Monday and Wednesday 10.45 to 12.30; Saturday 10 to 11am; and at other times by arrangement.
office@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk

Lectionary readings for March
March 3rd: Exodus 34: 29-35; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9: 28-36
March 10th: Deuteronomy 26: 1-11; Romans 10: 8b-13; Luke 4: 1-13
March 17th: Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13: 31-35
March 24th: Isaiah 55: 1-9; 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13; Luke 13: 1-9
March 31st: Exodus 2: 1-10; 2 Corinthians 1: 3-7; John 19: 25b-27
April 7th: Isaiah 43: 16-21; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

Fair Trade Fortnight
Fairtrade@The Pound: Tuesday 5th March, 7.15-9.15 p.m. Film, speakers, fairtrade goods on sale, raffle, discussion; fairtrade refreshments at The Pound Café.
Fairtrade at Green Café Saturday 9th March (Carpenters Arms, Church St, Lacock) 9.30-11.30 a.m. Fairtrade goodies to sample, chocolate fountain, raffle, quiz etc



Ash Wednesday 6th March
 Holy Communion at St Bartholomew's at 10 a.m.
 Ash Wednesday service at St Anne's Bowden Hill at 11.30 a.m.
 Ecumenical Service at St Patrick's Corsham at 7.30 p.m.



Mothers' Union: Wednesday 6 March 2.30pm Church House - Arranging lunch for the Queen in Bath, Edward Barratt. All welcome.
What is the Mothers' Union
 We are WOMEN but not always (men belong as well); we are MARRIED but not always (some of us are single, widowed or divorced); we are MOTHERS but not always (some of us do not have children); we are members of the Church of England but not always (some of us attend other churches); we are not limited in our age range. We usually meet MONTHLY (1st Wednesday, 2.30pm in Church House) and SUPPORT FAMILY LIFE - in the UK and Overseas; we SUPPORT our scheme for holidays for those in need; we give goods to the WOMENS' REFUGE and the RISE. We KNIT for needs at home and overseas; we SUPPORT Friends for Parents at the Bristol Childrens' Hospital; we SUPPORT our local CLERGY and CHURCHES and we regard PRAYER as a vital part of our lives. New members are always welcome, for more information contact Cathy Reynolds, Corsham Branch Leader on 01225 811865.

Ecumenical Lent Course 2019
 There will be a five week Lent Course titled 'Daring to see God now' for all churches in the Corsham area starting from the week beginning Monday 11th March. The course will run on a Monday evening at 7.30pm in St. Aldhelm's Church Hall (coffee/tea from 7pm) and will be repeated on the Thursday morning of the same week at 10.30am in St. Patrick's Church Hall (coffee/tea from 10am. A limited number of Course booklets are available as an optional purchase (but not essential to attending the course) at £3 each. They can also be purchased direct from the website www.yorkcourses.co.uk or 01904 466516.

Calne Christian Bookshop : "Meet the Author" event on **Saturday 9th March, 10am to 12:30pm.** Free coffee and cake and an opportunity to chat to the authors and hear more about their books. The authors are: Christine Coltman, local author currently writing her second Christian novel; Anthony Knight, whose first book has recently been published; Paul Canon Harris a Christian author and poet who has also regularly contributed to Radio 2's "Pause for Thought". www.calnechristianbooks.co.uk

LENT LUNCHESES: St Cyriac's Lacock, Saturdays March 16th, 30th, April 6th 12-2 p.m. A simple lunch of soup, bread and cheese, in aid of Christian Aid

Chippenham Street Pastors : service of celebration at St Paul's Chippenham, 13th March 7.30 p.m.

Conversations with Jesus: An opportunity to join an informal study group looking at Patrick Whitworth's 'Conversations with Jesus'. The group will meet at the Wintour's (264 Sandridge Lane, SN15 2JW) starting on Thursday 14th March at 7.30pm. Anyone wishing to join this 10-week study please contact Adam Beaumont (vicar@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk or 01249 730984) or Annie Wintour (01380 850880 or anniewintour@btinternet.com). 'Conversations with Jesus' is 'tailor-made for church homegroups or study groups wishing to look more deeply into the teaching of Jesus about life in His Kingdom'.

MENS' GROUP: Monday 25th March at 8.00 pm at The Royal Oak. Rick Dickinson will give a talk on 'The Special Ops Executive'. All men welcome. £1 entry fee to cover costs.

Inspire: Free event Sheldon School, Chippenham **Saturday 9 March:** to encourage churches to strengthen their connections with schools. With keynote speakers, practical workshops and a free lunch! More information at https://www.bristol.anglican.org/inspire_conference_stories/ or speak to Adam; book your place at www.eventbrite.co.uk. Activities for children also available.

St Bartholomew's Walking Group
 Our March walk will be about 9 miles, meeting 10:00hrs on Friday, 8th March at the Salutation Inn, The Gibb, Nr. Castle Combe SN14 7 LH. Permission kindly given for car parking. Suggest bringing snack/picnic. Please see the website for a report and photos of our February walk at http://corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk/?page_id=3898
 Colin 0757 044 2307

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: Items for the next issue should be submitted not later than **SUNDAY 31st March 2019.** Email to: news@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk or drop in to Church House, or leave a message on 01249 701720.
 If you would like to receive Church News by email each month then please send a request to the above email address.