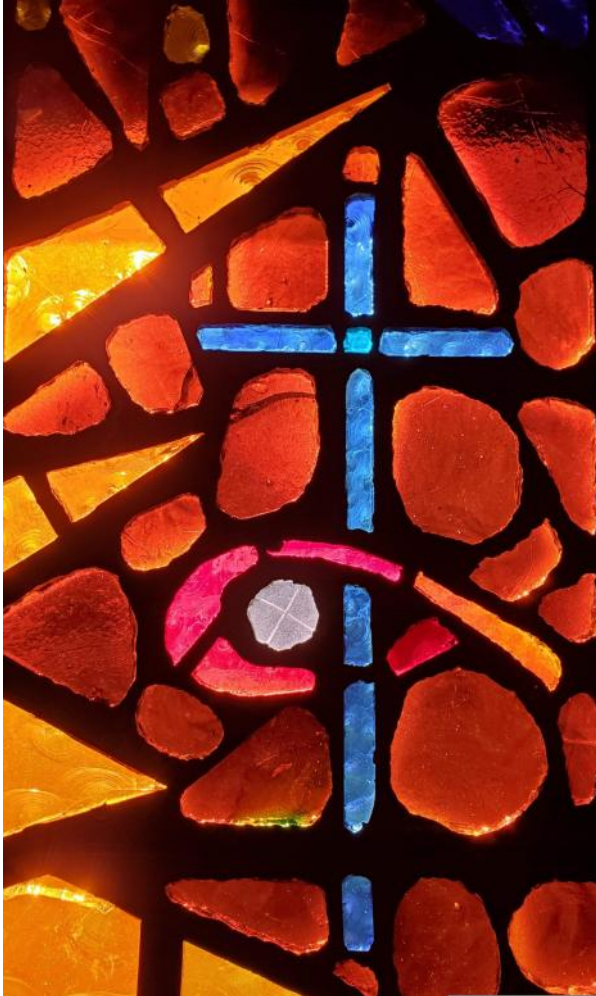


The ARCH Messenger



April 2026

Abbots Morton, Rous Lench, Church Lench,
Harvington, Norton & Lenchwick

www.archbenefice.org.uk

ARCH Benefice: Parishes of Abbots Morton, Rous Lench, Church Lench and Harvington, with Norton & Lenchwick

Rector: The Rev. Glenn Reading
07964282278, glen.reading@gmail.com

Pioneer Deacon: The Reverend Chris Sheehan
07977 072105, chris@archbenefice.org.uk

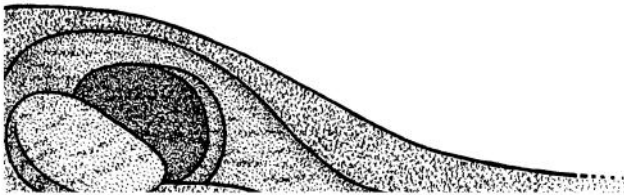
Readings

**5th April
Easter Day** *Acts 10.34-43, Psalm 118.2, 14-24, Colossians 3.1-4,
John 20.1-18*

12th April *Acts 2.14a 22-32, Psalm 16, 1 Peter 1.3-9, John 20.19-end*

19th April *Zephaniah 3.14-end, Psalm 116.1-3, 10-end, 1 Peter 1.17-23,
Luke 24.13-35*

26th April *Acts 2.42-end, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2.19-end, John 10.1-10*



April
2026

Editorial: Tom Barfield-Grainger

Business advertising:
& flyer distribution Chris Reed

Thought for the month

As I write this on a Saturday evening in mid-March, there is a distinct sense of change in the air. The sun is lingering longer, the breeze is softening, and we can feel the earth stirring as it springs back into life.

This change of nature mirrors the spiritual shift we are experiencing in the Church. Our season of Lent is drawing to a close, and we are about to enter the profound drama of **Holy Week**, eventually emerging into the radiant light of **Easter Day**.

Lent has been our time for fasting, prayer, and reflection—a period to mirror Jesus' forty days in the wilderness. For many of us, this has meant deeper Bible study and a renewed effort to understand God's purpose for the world and for our own lives.

As we move through the scriptures this month, the narrative becomes darker and more challenging. We begin with the high point of the Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, but the week quickly descends into shadow. We witness Jesus sharing a final meal with his friends, his arrest, his trial, and his ultimate sacrifice. In those final moments before the first Easter, his followers felt only desolation and defeat.

But then, a new day dawns. The stone is moved, the tomb is empty, and the impossible becomes reality: **Jesus is raised to life**.

Out of utter loss, God produced the greatest gift imaginable—the invitation for every one of us to become children of God and members of His family, held in His love for all eternity.

The gift of Easter is not exclusive; it is freely offered to every person. For Christians, every Sunday is a "mini-Easter," a weekly reminder of the salvation won for us on the Cross.

You are warmly invited to join us. Whether you are a regular face or haven't stepped into a church in years, please know that there is a place for you in God's family. Come and help us celebrate the God who brings life out of death.

Wishing you a blessed and joyful Easter season, *Fr. Glenn*

*Stop date for March issue: **Monday 13th April***

Pastoral

Daily prayers:
8.30am

via Zoom – contact either Fr Glenn or Rev'd Chris for details
(e-mail rector@archbenefice.org.uk
chris@archbenefice.org.uk)

Pastoral calls and contacts

Please telephone Fr Glenn in the first instance:
07964282278

If you would like to meet with Fr Glenn, please email to arrange a suitable time.

From the Registers

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------------|------------|----------------|
| Funeral | Church Lench | 2nd March | Rod Stroud |
| Funeral | Rous Lench | 19th March | Audrey Smith |
| Funeral | Norton and Lenchwick | 21st March | David Wiits |
| Funeral | Norton and Lenchwick | 23rd March | Florence Bains |
| Baptism | Norton and Lenchwick | 7th March | Felix Terry |



Benefice News



Sister Act!



www.freebibleimages.org

The Lenches and Harvington Messy Church team invites you to Harvington Village Hall on

Sunday 26th April, 3.30 - 5.30pm
for an afternoon of crafts, story and song,
focused on the story of Miriam and Moses,
finishing with a full 2-course meal -
all completely free!
ALL AGES WELCOME!

Men's Night

Wednesday 7th April, 8pm, Coach and Horses



Notice is hereby given for the Annual Parochial Church Meetings across the Benefice. All are welcome to attend.

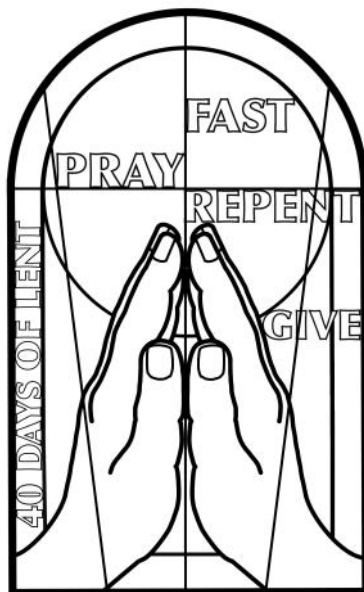
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|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Rous Lench | Thursday, 30th April, 7pm |
| Church Lench | Sunday 19th April, 12pm |
| Harvington | Wednesday 20th May, 7:30pm |
| Abbots Morton | Monday 13th May, 6pm |
| Norton & Lenchwick | Sunday 3rd May, 11am |

Benefice News

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2026

Confirmation preparation for 2026 will be done in the Deanery (Rev' Chris will be involved). Confirmation courses are a wonderful opportunity to explore Christian faith over ten weekly sessions, together with others.

The course may be in preparation for your Confirmation, or, the course may be a refresher about the Christian Faith for you or. A Confirmation Service is a service where the promises made at your baptism are now affirmed by you as an adult and you receive the laying on of hands and anointing with oil by a bishop confirming you in the Christian faith. (If you have not been baptised, this may happen during the confirmation service at in your parish before the Confirmation Service.)



The course will ten one hour sessions from 7-8pm. The venue will be at Church House next to All Saints Church in Evesham.

Dates: 20, 27 April, 11, 18 May (missing bank holidays), 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 June, 6 July

If you are thinking of being Confirmed or you wish to do the course as a refresher, do speak to Father Glenn or Rev Chris.

Caring Hands foodbank – please keep it going

Please remember Caring Hands when doing your weekly shop and purchase an extra item or two for the foodbank: toilet rolls, toiletries, tinned and dried goods are always welcome.

Items can be left in the donation boxes in our parish churches.

The Cross of Jesus

Canon Paul Hardingham considers the cross of Jesus

*The cross is a picture of violence, yet the key to peace;
a picture of suffering, yet the key to healing;
a picture of death, yet the key to life;
a picture of utter weakness, yet the key to power;
a picture of capital punishment, yet the key to mercy and forgiveness;
a picture of vicious hatred, yet the key to love;
a picture of supreme shame, yet the Christian's supreme boast.*

The cross really is the key to everything! Although a horrifying instrument of torture and death, it is also a symbol of God's love and peace. On the cross Jesus died to deal with the problem of our sin and defeat the powers of death and evil. He identified with our sufferings and set us an example of self-sacrificial love.

As Peter writes, *'He himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by His wounds you have been healed'* (1Peter 2:24). Jesus died in our place on the cross and took away our guilt, to pay the full penalty for our sin. Access to God's presence is now open to all, symbolised by the Temple curtain being torn in two from top to bottom. The barrier between us and God was torn down in order *'to bring us to God'* (1 Peter 3:18).

The idea of substitution lies at the heart of understanding what Jesus did on the cross: *'For the essence of sin is man substituting himself for God, while the essence of salvation is God substituting Himself for man. Man asserts himself against God and puts himself where only God deserves to be; God sacrifices Himself for man and puts Himself where only man deserves to be.'* (John Stott).



Resurrection Life

By the Revd Roy Shaw, a retired but active priest in the diocese of York, where he is a spiritual director.

Did you have 'a good Lent'? Were you able to make the journey with Jesus through the turmoil of those last days of His earthly ministry as He set His face to go to Jerusalem, knowing He would be killed there? I find the Lenten journey, particularly Holy Week (the week leading up to the crucifixion) harrowing, and by 3 o'clock on Good Friday - the hour at which Jesus traditionally died - I am wrung out.

All of which makes Easter Day and the weeks that follow, with the joy and reality of new life, so much the sweeter. No wonder Christians make this the most important day of the year - much more so than Christmas. God, in the resurrection of Jesus, has vindicated the way of love, truth, sacrifice and service, kindness and hope over the self-serving and grubby ways that seek power, self-advancement, privilege, hatred and division. Hallelujah!

It's all summed up in the poem 'Easter Wings' by the 17th century poet and priest George Herbert. For me, it's not the words of the poem so much as its shape - it's written in the shape of a butterfly's wings. Now that's clever; - to let both shape and words express something lovely, like the freedom and beauty of a butterfly on the wing. That sums up Resurrection life.

We are not asked to explain how the Resurrection took place. That is known to God alone, and we would trip ourselves up in all sorts of ways as we seek to find a rational explanation as to how it happened. But we are invited to live it - yes, live the Resurrection in ourselves - as we ask the Risen Lord to lead us through each day. In time, this constant invitation to live out the Resurrection changes our whole being, as we try, in the words of Mother Teresa to 'do little things with great love.'

The more I try and live out Resurrection life (more properly, the more I allow Jesus to live the Resurrection life through me) the more boundless I find it to be. Which I guess is why God gives us a season - seven weeks up till Pentecost - to allow this stupendous fact of the Resurrection to sink into us, call out a response from us.

Enjoy your Easter eggs, your Easter bonnets, your egg-pacing; in fact, have a great Easter. But don't let the Resurrection pass you by. It's the gateway to what Jesus calls 'life in all its fullness'.

Saint of the Month: Catherine of Siena, 29 April

Catherine of Siena, who was born 1347, should be the patron saint of anyone who has grown up in a large family, and mastered the two vital skills for survival: how to stand up for yourself, and how to make peace with others.

Catherine had siblings! At least 19 of them, and Catherine was the youngest. Her father was a Sienese dyer, and wanted her to marry, but Catherine did not. She became a nun instead, a member of the Dominican Third Order.

Perhaps after sharing a house with at least 22 people, Catherine wanted some peace and quiet: in any case she spent six years in solitude, giving herself to prayer and penance. Then she moved back into the world, through nursing the local sick people, and then beginning to travel. Catherine travelled frequently, with a number of her 'disciples' – a mix of Dominicans and Augustinians, and even an English Friar. Wherever they went, people listened to their proclamation of the total love of God through Jesus Christ, and their calls to reform and repent. There were some spectacular conversions.

Catherine could not write, but soon someone else was taking down her 'Dialogue' by dictation – it ran to 383 letters. Catherine's thoughts centred on Christ crucified, the supreme sign of God's love for man. The quality of these letters made them widely read for years to come.

A godly woman who could lead and teach! Soon new opportunities presented themselves: in the last five years of her life, Catherine found herself involved in the politics of both State and Church. This included trying to make peace during the Great Schism in the Church after 1378, when Pope Gregory XI died, and two new popes – bitter rivals – claimed the papacy. Catherine wore herself out in trying to promote peace, had a stroke on 21st April 1380, and died eight days later. (A warning to ecumenists everywhere?!)

Catherine soon became Siena's principal saint, loved for her writings and her example of godliness and self-sacrificing love. Her house and an early portrait survive at Siena, and her memory lives on today: she was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1970, nearly 600 years after her death.



Easter Chocolate

Chocolate. Just a mention of the word can trigger off all kinds of emotions: craving, greed, passion. Few foods have the ability to get such a hold on people. As you buy your Easter eggs and bunnies and whatever else this month, here are some of the facts of chocolate:

Where does chocolate come from? Chocolate is made from the seeds of the tropical cacao tree, *theobroma cacao*. The Greek word 'theobroma' means literally 'food of the gods'. The Cacao Tree is found in Latin America.

Who first discovered it? The Aztecs. The cacao beans were used to prepare a hot, frothy beverage with stimulant and restorative properties, something like hot chocolate.

Who was (probably) the first chocoholic? The Emperor Montezuma. He drank 50 goblets a day of the frothy drink.

Who used chocolate as currency? The Aztecs. 100 cacao beans would buy a slave; 12 cacao beans bought the services of a courtesan, etc.

When did chocolate as we know it today begin? Surprisingly, not until 1879. That year Rodolphe Lindt had the inspired idea of triglyceride cocoa butter. The cocoa butter in chocolate contains saturated fat, but a normal level of consumption doesn't have any bad effects.

How to get the best from your chocolate:

Keep your chocolate cool (16 – 18 degrees Centigrade) and in a dry, airtight place.

Never put your chocolate in the fridge (if you already have, let it warm to room temperature for a couple of hours before you eat it).

Bring out the full flavour of chocolate by drinking water with it.

If you are drinking tea or coffee, don't bother with expensive chocolates – you won't be able to appreciate them properly!



Introduction to the Book of Lamentations

What's the Big Idea? - an Introduction to the Books of the Old Testament: Lamentations

The Book of Lamentations consists of five laments over the destruction of Jerusalem and the exile of Judah's leading inhabitants to Babylon. Tradition ascribes the book to Jeremiah, who witnessed Jerusalem's destruction in 586 BC. Each lament is an acrostic i.e. each verse begins in order with a different letter of the Hebrew alphabet (except the fifth).

The themes of the laments can be summarised as follows: Jerusalem in Agony (1); the LORD's Anger (2); Judah's complaint against Adversity (3); Jerusalem's Anxiety (4); and Judah's prayer to the Almighty (5). Lamentations portrays the overwhelming sense of loss that accompanied the destruction of the city, along with its Temple with its worship and sacrifices. However, the book is not simply concerned about Jerusalem's destruction, but for the lessons that can be learned from it.

Jeremiah sees the Babylonians as human agents of God's judgment upon Judah's sin. It was God Himself who destroyed the city and temple. However, God's action was not arbitrary, for the people had deliberately sinned against Him and broken their covenant with Him. Although the people's tears and cries for vengeance are understandable, God looks for a sincere heartfelt sorrow from the people. The book begins with lament, 'How deserted lies the city, once so full of people! How like a widow is she who once was great among the nations!' 1:1), but finishes with repentance, 'Restore us to yourself, Lord, that we may return; renew our days as of old' (5:21).

However, in the middle of the book there is a reminder of God's goodness and faithfulness: 'Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.' (3:22-23).

Canon Paul Hardingham



From St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren,

So, you are about to run an Alpha course in your parish; I am sure your bishop will be delighted. I remember him from my Oxford days. He was just starting his course as a gangly undergraduate when I was finishing my doctorate on Eusebius.

I recall him as a keen rugby player who took early morning dips in the Isis, who led intense discussions on Saint Paul's theology of 'the body' over cups of cocoa in the evenings in his rooms and who spent his holidays laying paths for the National Trust in the Lake District while lodging in Youth Hostels. He's exactly the sort of person who will empathise with your ministry – hearty, enthusiastic and overflowing with compassionate intensity. We were not close friends.

We tend not to go in for those sort of things, here at St James the Least of All, preferring matters a little more relaxed and understated. If we ever do hold discussion groups (and they are a regrettable necessity during Lent), they always start with a good lunch, finishing with coffee and one of Mrs French's excellent Madeira cakes. Once we have removed from the table, those who manage to stay awake will start to tackle the chosen topic.

However, we always seem to veer off to discussing more interesting matters, such as who moved Mrs Cholmondeley's flower arrangement from the font the previous week. Apparently, she has given notice that her weekly contributions on the plate will be much reduced unless an appropriate apology is received.

These matters may not seem as important to you as deciding what the 'white stone' in Revelation 4 is all about, but let me assure you that to members of our congregation, knowing why the second verse of the National Anthem is no longer sung at our Remembrance Services is of pivotal importance.

At 2.30pm we wake up those who have enjoyed an hour's slumber and totter off home, knowing we have once again done our bit for faith in the parish.

I am sure your own group will also return home after your sessions - even if a digestive biscuit and weak tea is all that has been offered – invigorated and braced to tackle the heathen in the parish. We all take our pleasures in different ways.

Your loving uncle, Eustace



All Saints, Church Lench

FLOWER ROTA

4th April **Easter** Combined effort
18th April Clare Hames
2nd May Anne Quickenden

**Please note
new service
times on the
backpages!**

FLOWER FESTIVAL WEEKEND

Friday 26th, Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th June.
Open Gardens, Scarecrows, Plants, Crafts, Flowers.....

Arrangements are well under way for this exciting weekend in June, all starting with an evening's entertainment in All Saints' Church on Friday 26th. The beautiful floral arrangements will already be in place just in case you are too busy to view them whilst visiting the Open Gardens and other attractions throughout the weekend.

If you are interested in opening your garden, Lara has all the necessary details at ****.

Information about Scarecrows and the other events can be obtained from Lyndall on ***** or Nadine at *****

THE LENCHES TENNIS CLUB

KEEP FIT CARDIO TENNIS SESSIONS

We are running these every Tuesday at 6.30pm

Everyone is welcome. Membership is not necessary.

You don't need to be skilled at tennis; it is not too strenuous.

For 1 hour you run around, gets your heart pumping.

Coach is Alex Ritchie £5 per session

To join the Whats App group,
contact Paddy Twist

on *****



Church Lench

Thank you to all of you who attended our sold out, **February Big Breakfast**. And to those who missed it this time, the committee is planning another one for early autumn. We will update you later in the summer.

Please come along to our **Community Coffee Morning** on Saturday morning, 25 April, from 10-12. Coffee, tea, pastries and cakes will be served. Whether you are new to our community or have lived here for years, this coffee morning is for you. It will be a great chance to meet new neighbours and to catch up with familiar faces. The event is free, and best of all, it is your chance to find out about all the community groups ready to welcome you.

We have invited members from all our community interest groups as well as representatives from the school and Pre-School. This is your chance to find out more about what's going on in your neighbourhood.

Interested in hiring the hall? For **booking enquiries**, please contact Bev Gillis at clvillagehallbookings@gmail.com and see our pages on www.thelenches.org.uk website.



CHURCH LENCH CE FIRST SCHOOL

World Book Day! Author Visit

On Thursday March 5th we were delighted to welcome author Gillian Young, who visited us with her best friend, Poppy the golden retriever. Gillian spent time with every class reading exciting extracts from her Crazy Cream Adventure series. The children loved hearing about the adventures in her books — especially as Poppy herself is the inspiration behind many of the stories! Gillian also shared how she dreamed of becoming an author and began writing stories when she was young. Her message to the children was clear: if you love stories and use your imagination, you can create amazing adventures too. Of course, Poppy was the star of the show, charming everyone and showing us why she's such an important part of the Crazy Cream Adventure books. She certainly looks like a dog who loves an adventure!

A huge thank you to Gillian and Poppy for such an inspiring visit.

Church Lench CE First School

Story Jars

The children were also invited to create story jars around one of their favourite books. We had so many interesting creations including The Diary of Anne Frank, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Tiddler, Poppy Loves Devon, Matilda, The Little Mermaid and the Tiger who came to tea.

Jewish Synagogue Visit

Class 2 visited Singer's Hill Jewish Synagogue during February and had a fantastic time learning about the Jewish faith and its place of worship. The children returned full of enthusiasm, eager to share everything they had discovered. They were a real credit to the school, and their behaviour throughout the visit was impeccable!

Football Success

Congratulations to our Yr4/5 football team on their fantastic performance at the local school's football tournament just before half term. The team secured an excellent win, with Henry B scoring a brilliant goal, and also achieved a well-earned draw in their second match. The players demonstrated outstanding teamwork, determination, and true sporting spirit throughout the competition. Most importantly, they represented our school with pride and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Cross Country News

We congratulate two of our year 5 girls, Florence and Miriam for getting through to the district cross country championships on Tuesday 10th March at Bromsgrove School. They both raced very well and showed excellent sportsmanship. Florence took 4th place which takes her through to county trials!

Financial emergency? Extra help needed? Live in Harvington?

St James' Church manages an emergency fund on behalf of the community. If you need a little financial assistance, please call ***** and we will offer what support we can.

If you are in a position to top up the funds, we would be very grateful!

St James's, Harvington

Please note the new service times on the backpages!



EASTER FAMILY FUN

SATURDAY 4th APRIL -10am-12pm

ST JAMES'S CHURCH, HARVINGTON

EVERYONE WELCOME - All ages! **** all children must be accompanied by an adult**

- *Create an Easter Garden*
- *Enjoy some Easter/ Spring Crafts*
- *Take part in our Easter Trail*
- *Refreshments available*



THIS IS A FREE EVENT - any donations gratefully received
please email eventssjch@outlook.com to book your place so we have the right number of supplies.



SAVE THE DATE OF OUR NEXT EVENT - Saturday 16th May - 5pm - St James's Church
QUINGO - Family friendly bingo & quiz

FAITH TODAY Friday 17th April 10.00am Breslau

This time we are going to talk about ***Wisdom!***

Graham Pearson will be leading this very important subject!

Where do we find Wisdom and how can it help us to cope in our daily lives?

Do come and find out, it will be a very thought provoking discussion.

We are a friendly group and always like to receive newcomers.

Refreshments are served.

For information please contact Sophie *****

Harvington

CAMEO TEAS 8th April 3.00pm at St. James's Church

Come and join us for Afternoon Tea and cakes in pleasant surroundings.

To have a chat with friends and hopefully make new ones.

This monthly gathering is **open to all in the village!**

We always enjoy to see you all.

For information please contact Sophie *****

Harvington Community Support Group

Hello everyone. Isn't it lovely to have some spring blossom on show now. This is just a reminder that our team of volunteers are always around to lend a helping hand to Harvington villagers. So if you are stuck for transport to an appointment, need help with admin or occasional shopping, have minor DIY tasks etc, do feel free to give us a ring. We can be contacted on *****, and if you don't get an answer do please leave a message - we check the phone regularly and will get back to you.

Best wishes Wendy and Konrad Monks, (co-ordinators)

PHOENIX LADIES

On Wednesday 4 March, Dr Richard Churchley, Historian, gave a talk to Phoenix Ladies group on the history of place names in Worcestershire and Warwickshire. The group opened the talk to anyone who wanted to attend and visitors came from as far afield as Stratford! It was an interesting and enjoyable evening. For those who don't know, although there are two villages called Harvington in Worcestershire, the names derive from completely different origins. Our own Harvington was originally Herefordton and was so named because it depicted a local settlement near a ford and was capable of accommodating an army!

Our next meeting is on 1st April and is Tai Chi in the Village Hall with Fran Merroney, which sounds great, all ladies welcome.

Please join our Facebook page and keep an eye out locally for posters advertising forthcoming events and trips planned by the group. Anyone interested in more details please contact Lesley on *****

**Abbots Morton
St Peter's Church**
(www.abbotsmorton.info/st-peters-church)



HAPPY EASTER and thank you to everyone who helped in the Abbots Morton church clear up on 30th March.

Easter is as ever a team effort for cleaning and flowers so thank you to all those who are involved and I encourage anyone with a spare moment to come and visit our church over Easter.

The Church Yard is looking amazing and many thanks to Martyn Walton and his team.

In April we have Holy Communion on **Easter Sunday** at 11am. This will be presided by the Reverend Caroline Green. The Reverend's Andy and Caroline Green have now joined us since their home parish of Norton joined the ARCH Benefice. I hope you can all come to meet her as she leads us in this most christian worship of Easter Sunday.

On the 19th of April we again will have holy Communion lead by Father Glenn Reading, our new incumbent.

Our **APCM** will take place on Monday the 13th of April at 'Griffin's Rise', this is Pippa and Guy's house on the main road through Gooms Hill (opposite the Abbots Morton Manor). All are welcome and encouraged to attend what should be a friendly and up lifting meeting to gather momentum into the coming new year.

**Please note new
service times on
the backpage!**

Abbots Morton

ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL

All parishioners are welcome to attend our Parish Council meetings. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 21st May at 8pm in Abbots Morton Village Hall. Further details and agendas can be found at www.abbotsmorton-pc.gov.uk. Residents are invited to put forward any ideas, concerns or queries during public question time. If you cannot attend in person then please raise issues with the Clerk at clerk@abbotsmorton-pc.gov.uk.

There are currently two vacancies on Abbots Morton Parish Council. These two posts will be filled by the co-option process through the Parish Council. If you are interested in becoming a Councillor please contact the Clerk at clerk@abbotsmorton-pc.gov.uk for more information.

ABBOTS MORTON VILLAGE HALL

HIRE Please consider hiring our lovely hall for your next party or event. It is light and airy and very well equipped. To discuss further, please contact the VH Bookings officer, Sue Bunce via the VH email (address above).

REGULAR EVENTS

Community Coffee Morning, first Tuesday of every month in the Village Hall. Please drop by anytime between 10am and 12 noon. It's absolutely free and a lovely opportunity to spend a couple of hours with others in the community. Donations to the "Power Pot" help to pay for electricity and are gratefully received.

Tai Chi Wednesdays 10am - 11am.

Andrew Lowe runs 7 week sessions: 07495206178, taichiworcestershire.com

Yoga Sessions Monday mornings, 9.45-10.45am

Amy Hoang-Jones : 07745713493

28th June Flower Festival

2nd October Harvest Supper

27th November Christmas Quiz night

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/abbotsmortonvillagehall

St Peter's, Rous Lench

Spring Supper 11th April 7pm onwards

Come and join us for a delicious home cooked supper at the village hall in aid of church funds. We will be serving a two course meal featuring some locally made puddings. Some fun games and a raffle will add to the entertainment and make this a great night out. Tickets cost just £15 per head.

Please contact Fran on ***** or ***** to book your place.

It's pig roast time again!

This traditional village event will take place on Saturday 27th June this year. All the usual fun to be had by all the family.

In order to ensure the future of the pig roast we need lots of helpers. If you can help in any way – eg setting up and clearing up, helping on the bar or one of the stalls or serving the food please get in touch with Fran on *****



**Please note
new service
times on the
backpages!**

Bible Bite

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Luke 22:24, John 13:3-17

Jesus and his disciples were celebrating the Passover with the special meal. The disciples were bickering again.

I'm most important because I've known him the longest

But I've given up the most to follow him!
But I'm the oldest!



There was a reason why no-one wanted to be the least important - the roads were mud and everyone's feet got very dirty.

It was the job of the least important servant to wash everyone's feet...



The disciples didn't have a servant, and none of them wanted to do the feet washing...



Jesus took off his outer robe and tied a towel around his waist.



He filled a large bowl with water and started washing the disciples' feet.

Peter couldn't believe what he was seeing!



Are you really going to wash my feet?

You will understand later why I am doing this.



I can't ever let you serve me like this!

If you don't let me, you will no longer be my disciple



Then wash all of me!

If you've had a bath, then you only need your feet washing!

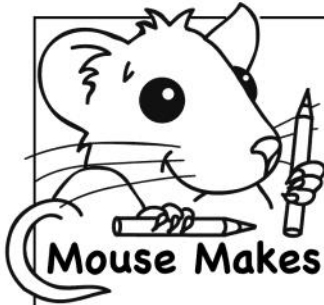


Once Jesus had washed all their feet, he put his robe back on and sat down.



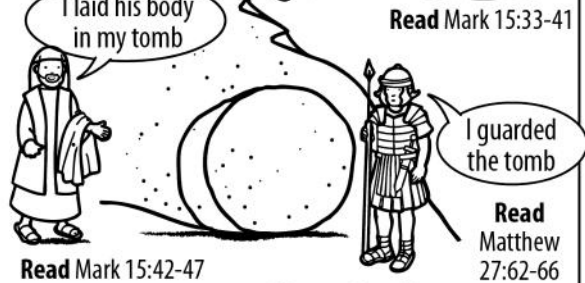
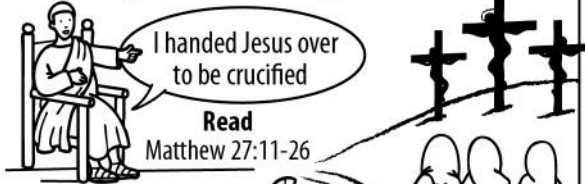
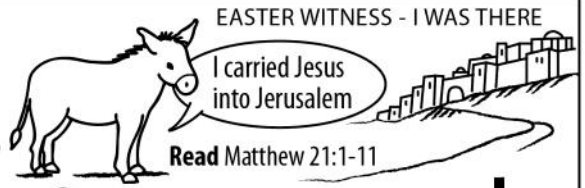
Do you understand why, your teacher, did this? I am setting you the example of how you are to serve each other. Do it, and God will bless you.

Children's Page



GOOD NEWS
 OHOSANNA
 DEATHQB
 VNCOEUI
 UAHNAAR
 O
 MIREVSYU
 ALIVETDR
 RISENEOK
 YOTHORNS
 PALMSQKA
 RPILATEN
 CRUCIFYG
 RHIQUAKE
 OCJESUSL
 STOMBVDY
 SRYEMPTY

JESUS • DONKEY • PALMS
 HOSANNA • PILATE • THORNS
 CRUCIFY • NAIL • CROSS
 QUAKE • DEATH • BURY
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ARCH Benefice APRIL 2026

5th April Easter Day

| | | | |
|---------|--------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| 10.00am | Norton & Lenchwick | Holy Communion | AG/CS |
| 10.00am | Harvington | Holy Communion | GT |
| 10.00am | Rous Lench | Holy Communion | ST |
| 11.00am | Church Lench | Holy Communion | +RP |
| 11.00am | Abbots Morton | Holy Communion | CG |
| 6.30pm | Harvington | Holy Communion Trad Lang | GF |

12th April 2nd Sunday of Easter

| | | | |
|---------|--------------------|----------------|-----|
| 10.00am | Norton & Lenchwick | Morning Prayer | CG |
| 10.00am | Harvington | Holy Communion | GF |
| 08.30am | Rous Lench | Morning Prayer | PH |
| 11.00am | Church Lench | Morning Prayer | Lay |

19th April 3rd Sunday of Easter

| | | | |
|---------|--------------------|--------------------|----|
| 10.00am | Norton & Lenchwick | Holy Communion | CG |
| 10.00am | Harvington | Morning Prayer | PH |
| 11.00am | Church Lench | Holy Communion BCP | AG |
| 11.00am | Abbots Morton | Holy Communion | GT |

26th April 4th Sunday of Easter

| | | | |
|---------|--------------------|----------------|-----|
| 10.00am | Norton & Lenchwick | Morning Prayer | AG |
| 10.00am | Harvington | Holy Communion | CG |
| 10.00am | Rous Lench | Holy Communion | GT |
| 11.00am | Church Lench | Morning Prayer | CS |
| 3.30pm | Harvington | Messy Church | MCT |

Mid-week Eucharist: 11.00 am Wednesdays at St James The Great

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER DAY 2026

Maundy Thursday 2nd April

Exodus 12. 1-14, 1 Cor 11. 23-26, John 13. 1-17, 31-35

7.30pm Norton & Lenchwick Eucharist with Foot Washing

Preside Andy Green

Preach Glenn Reading

Good Friday 3rd April

*Isaiah 52. 13 -end of 53, Psalm 22,
Hebrews 10. 16-25, John 18. 1 to end of 19*

3pm Church Lench Good Friday Liturgy

Leader Chris Sheehan

Preach Glenn Reading

Holy Saturday 4th April

*Genesis 1-2, Genesis 3, Exodus 14: 15 -15.1
Isaiah 55. 1-11, Romans 6. 3-11, Matthew 2., 1-10*

7.30pm Harvington, Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter

Preside Caroline Green

Preach Glenn Reading

EASTER DAY, 5th April

| | | | |
|---------|--------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| 10.00am | Norton & Lenchwick | Holy Communion | AG/CS |
| 10.00am | Harvington | Holy Communion | GT |
| 10.00am | Rous Lench | Holy Communion | ST |
| 11.00am | Church Lench | Holy Communion | +RP |
| 11.00am | Abbots Morton | Holy Communion | CG |
| 6.30pm | Harvington | Holy Communion Trad. Lang. | GF |