DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

To raise funds for the **Birmingham Hospice, William Murcott** is holding a cake sale today, and will also be taking part in a 5k run on 21st March. You are also able to donate/sponsor him here
https://www.justgiving.com/page/williamchocolate5k

Today is the last date for renewal of annual Parish Magazine subscriptions. Thank you to all who have already signed up. The parish office has details and costs.

Wednesday
10.00am **Holy Communion with Revd. Chris Butt**

Friday
8.00pm **Compline**

NEXT WEEK March 15th 2026 ~ MOTHERING SUNDAY
8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Parish Communion
6.30pm Choral Evensong

Lent Courses continue on Tuesdays 2pm or Thursdays 7.30pm; the CofE theme is 'Draw near: Life-giving habits for Lent'. Booklets to accompany the course are available to order. Please see Revd. Pete Brayshaw or Revd Canon Kate Stowe if you would like to join in.

Confirmation and First Communion preparation
To know more about the sessions preparing for Confirmation and First Communion, please talk with Revd Pete or Revd Kate.

Prayer Meeting on Zoom
Revd. Pete will be leading a Prayer meeting on Zoom on Tuesday March 10th, 7.30-8.30pm. Please contact him for the joining details.

AUTOMATIC PORCH DOORS

The two sets of porch doors at the church entrance are now automated and will open as you approach. If you find yourself between the two sets and they have closed, there is a touch pad on the left door frame of the front set as you face out of church which you can press to open them again. There is also a free-standing touch pad on a support to the left of the inner doors as you leave church.

If you would like to contribute towards the cost of the Easter lilies in memory of a loved one, please send donations and the names of those being remembered to the Parish Office. Thank you

During Lent we are again collecting items for the Karis Baby Bank which supports families with newborns and children up to the age of two who are facing hardship or are in crisis their baby. There is an information poster at the back of church and a box for donations. Thank you.

RIP
Lynn Waites **Joan Edwards** **Bishop Andrew Watson**

WELCOME TO ST. PETERS CHURCH

Growing in Love, Deepening Faith, Working for God, Welcoming All

To Newcomers: We are especially glad to see you. By way of introduction please fill in a ***welcome slip*** **at the back of the church** *and return it to a Sidesperson or contact the Parish Office on 681 1940.*

Please take this notice sheet home.
www.stpeterharborne.org.uk
Email: parishoffice@stpeterharborne.org.uk

If not already occupied by the Boulders Group, the Side Chapel (where there is audio connection to the Service), is available to you if your **young Children or babies** want to carry on singing when everyone else has stopped (particularly during the quiet bits!)

SERVICES FOR SUNDAY MARCH 8th 2026
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

8.00am
HOLY COMMUNION
Green Prayer Book

10.00am
PARISH COMMUNION
Common Worship ~ HA & M
Setting: Murray
Organ Voluntary: Ruhig bewegt ~ *Paul Hindemith*
First Hymn: 584
Responsorial Psalm:

Offertory Hymn: 156
Sermon: Keith Whitehead
Anthem: Lord, for thy mercy's sake ~ *Farrant*
Communion Hymn: 534
Final Hymn: 595
Recessional Voluntary: Theme & Variation ~ *Andriessen*

6.30pm
CHORAL EVENSONG
Green Prayer Book ~ NEH
Hymn: 449
Responses: Ferial
Psalm: 40
OT Lesson: Joshua 1.1-9
NT Lesson: Ephesians 6.10-20
Anthem: Nolo mortem peccatoris ~ *Morley*
Homily: Revd. Pete Brayshaw
Final Hymn: 434

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON TUESDAY MARCH 10TH AND RE-OPEN ON WEDNESDAY MARCH 11TH

SUNDAY MARCH 8th 2026
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

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.

First 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. The 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?' But 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?' So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The 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. I 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. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

Gospel Reading: John 4:5-42

So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The 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.) Jesus 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.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but 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.' The 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.' Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.' Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.' Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

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.

HEALTH AND SAFETY LEAD

Could you take the role of Health & Safety Lead for our church and hall? Could you coordinate the necessary risk assessment, training, checking and recording needed to make us a safe place so that accidents don't happen? Please speak to Revd. Kate if you would be interested; for more information about church H&S, look at https://www.cofebirmingham.com/info-for-parishes/property-team/health-safety/health-safety.php

To tie in with our Patronal Festival in June and to raise money for the "Tower of Strength" Appeal, there will be a **Flower Festival** running from June 25th to 28th and the theme will be… **TOWERS!** More information may be found in the flyers which you have been given with the pew sheets. Please check pigeonholes at the back of church for specific group invitations.

The Big Plastic Count 9-15 March

Make a difference to the plastic problem by counting the plastic you throw away this week to provide evidence so that the government makes changes. Three easy steps 1 - Sign up on the website, 2 - Count, 3- Submit. Many thanks - Greener St Peters