

The Parish Church of St. Wilfrid, Mobberley



February 2024

Church Diary for February 2024

Thu. 1st	The Beacon Drop-In Doorway	10.00 a.m. 7.45 p.m.
Fri. 2nd	Youth Club	6.00 p.m.
Sat. 3rd	Men's Breakfast The Beacon Drop-In	9.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.
<u>Sun. 4th</u>	<u>The 2nd Sunday before Lent</u>	
	Said Holy Communion (BCP)	8.30 a.m.
	Sung Holy Communion	10.00 a.m.
	Choral Evensong (BCP)	6.30 p.m.
Tue. 6th	The Beacon Drop-In	10.00 a.m.
Wed. 7th	Communion at the Beacon Coffee Morning at the Beacon Celtic-Style Evensong	10.00 a.m. 10.30 a.m. 7.00 p.m.
Thu. 8th	The Beacon Drop-In Doorway	10.00 a.m. 7.45 p.m.
Fri. 9th	Youth Club	6.00 p.m.
Sat. 10h	Messy Church	10.00 a.m.
<u>Sun. 11th</u>	<u>The Sunday Next before Lent</u>	
	Said Holy Communion (BCP)	8.30 a.m.
	Family Pet Service	10.00 a.m.
	Choral Evensong (BCP)	6.30 p.m.
Mon. 12th	PCC Standing Committee (Zoom)	7.30 p.m.
Tue. 13th	The Beacon Drop-In	10.00 a.m.
Wed. 14th	Ash Wednesday Morning Prayer Communion at the Beacon Coffee Morning at the Beacon Movie Matinee 'The Greatest Showman' Sung Holy Communion & Ashing	9.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m. 10.30 a.m. 2.00 p.m. 7.30 p.m.
Thu. 15th	Morning Prayer The Beacon Drop-In Doorway	9.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m. 7.45 p.m.

Fri. 16th	Morning Prayer Youth Club	9.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m.
Sat. 17th	The Beacon Drop-In	10.00 a.m.
<u>Sun. 18th</u>	<u>The 1st Sunday of Lent</u>	
	Said Holy Communion (BCP)	8.30 a.m.
	Sung Holy Communion	10.00 a.m.
	Choral Evensong	6.30 p.m.
Mon. 19th	Morning Prayer	9.00 a.m.
Tue. 20th	Morning Prayer The Beacon Drop-In	9.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.
Wed. 21st	Morning Prayer Communion at the Beacon Coffee Morning at the Beacon Compline	9.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m. 10.30 a.m. 7.00 p.m.
Thu 22nd	Morning Prayer The Beacon Drop-In Doorway	9.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m. 7.45 p.m.
Fri. 23rd	Morning Prayer Youth Club	9.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m.
Sat. 24th	The Beacon Drop-In	10.00 a.m.
<u>Sun. 25th</u>	<u>The 2nd Sunday of Lent</u>	
	Said Holy Communion (BCP)	8.30 a.m.
	Family Service	10.00 a.m.
	Sung Holy Communion (BCP)	3.30 p.m.
Mon. 26th	Morning Prayer	9.00 a.m.
Tue. 27th	Morning Prayer The Beacon Drop-In	9.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.
Wed. 28th	Morning Prayer Communion at the Beacon Coffee Morning at the Beacon Movie Matinee 'Calamity Jane' Compline	9.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m. 10.30 a.m. 2.00 p.m. 7.00 p.m.
Thu. 29th	Morning Prayer The Beacon Drop-In Doorway	9.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m. 7.45 p.m.

The Rector Writes

Dear Friends,

In this magazine a year ago this month I reported about the Bishops' report following the Living in Love and Faith process that had been rolled out across the Church of England. The Bishops' Report was then about to go before General Synod for comment.

A year later and we have now received Prayers for Love and Faith (PLF), described by the House of Bishops as a resource to *'make provision for stable, faithful relationships between same-sex couples and for giving thanks for their faithfulness and their fruitfulness in service to God and neighbour.'* Alongside the resource materials there is also a set of guidelines detailing how these prayers are to be used and the process by which parish churches and more particularly parochial clergy can agree to either use them or not.

The PLF resources do not, or at least are not supposed to, provide for a whole, 'stand-alone', service and are intended for use within a church's normal pattern of worship. In addition the guidelines clearly states that *'The Church of England teaches that Holy Matrimony is a lifelong covenant between one man and one woman, blessed by God in creation and pointing to the love between Christ and the Church; a way of life which Christ makes holy.'* For some PLF falls short of what was hoped for whilst for others this is already a step-too-far.

St. Wilfrid's PCC are currently in the process of reviewing the PLF material and considering how we want to respond as a Christian community to the opportunities PLF presents. There is no formal process required for the involvement of the wider congregation but the PCC would be interested in your views so I encourage you to look at the PLF material, it can be found on the Church of England website, just click on the 'Prayer and Worship' tab then 'Worship Texts and Resources'.

This is clearly an emotive and therefore difficult subject to discuss. We want to hold these discussions according to the Pastoral Principles of Acknowledging Prejudice, Speaking into Silence, Addressing Ignorance, Casting Out Fear, Admitting Hypocrisy and Paying Attention to Power. Please pray for your PCC as we seek to listen to God's voice in this discussion.

Yours in Christ,
Ian.

Blessing of the Animals



Our All-Age Service in February will be our Pet Service, or to give it a fuller name, a Service of Blessing of the Animals. At this service it is a pleasure to welcome all things hairy, scaly, smelly... and their pets as well! At this service we give thanks for the animals with which we share our lives, we commit ourselves to their care, and we bring them before God to receive his blessing.

There are many things that reveal to us the love of God but one of the most important for many people are our pets, there are few gifts that bring us greater pleasure than the animals with which he has blessed us.

Although this service is for all pets, we do normally have a large number of dogs present so please be aware of this when bringing pets of a more nervous disposition.



Blessing of the Animals

Sunday 11th February
10.00 a.m.

Ian.

Parish Lunch



Our first Parish Lunch of the year will take place on Tuesday 5th March at The Beacon. Our Lunches provide an opportunity to come together and chase the winter blues away with fellowship, good food and interesting conversation. This is also an opportunity to invite a friend to join you, a suitably low-key way of introducing them into the family of the church.

If you want to come and join us please speak to Jean, the cost is still frozen at £6 which we think is great value. See you there.

Parish Lunch

Tuesday 5th March at 12.30 p.m.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, occurs six and a half weeks before Easter (between February 4 and March 11, depending on the date of Easter). Ash Wednesday is a solemn reminder of human mortality and the need for reconciliation with God and marks the beginning of the penitential Lenten season. It is commonly observed with ashes and fasting. Eastern Orthodox churches begin Lent on Clean Monday and therefore do not observe Ash Wednesday.



In the early Christian church, the length of the Lenten celebration varied, but eventually it began 6 weeks (42 days) before Easter. This provided only 36 days of fasting (excluding Sundays). In the 7th century, 4 days were added before the first Sunday in Lent in order to establish 40 fasting days, in imitation of Jesus Christ's fast in the desert.

It was the practice in Rome for penitents and grievous sinners to begin their period of public penance on the first day of Lent in preparation for their restoration to the sacrament of the Eucharist. They were sprinkled with ashes, dressed in sackcloth, and obliged to remain apart until they were reconciled with the Christian community on Maundy Thursday. When these practices fell into disuse (8th–10th century), the beginning of the penitential season of Lent was symbolized by placing ashes on the heads of the entire congregation.



The ashes obtained by burning the palms used on the previous Palm Sunday are applied in the shape of a cross on the forehead of each worshipper on Ash Wednesday. The ashes serve as a memento mori and are often accompanied with some variation of the words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Ash Wednesday

Holy Communion & Ashing
14th February at 7.30 p.m.

Keeping a Holy Lent

Lent is traditionally a time of reflection, self-examination and repentance, and we do this not because we are worthless but because we know we



are so massively loved and seek to be worthy of and live up to that love. It is this love that the American hymnwriter Graham Kendrick wrote about, 'Such love, pure as the whitest snow, such love, weeps for the shame I know, such love, paying the debt I owe, O Jesus, such love.'

We try and use this time of Lent to grow in knowledge and understanding of our God and we do that through prayer and study.

Lenten Compline



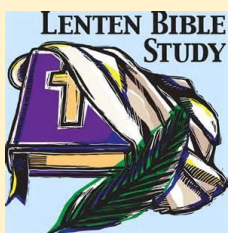
Every Wednesday in Lent after Ash Wednesday there will be a service of Compline in church at 7.00 p.m. The service begins with a reading from a learned book which this year is 'Private Passions' by the Welsh anthropologist and theologian Douglas Davies.

Morning Prayer



Every weekday throughout Lent there will be a service of Morning Prayer at the Beacon at 9.00 a.m. This is an opportunity to offer your day to God, asking him to bless us in all that we say and do. This is a simple service lasting around 20 minutes.

Study



Our regular Thursday night discussion group, Doorway, will be holding a Lent Study Group each Thursday in Lent from 7.45 p.m. at The Beacon. This is a chance to explore our faith more deeply and grow in our knowledge and love of the Lord.

FEBRUARY @ "THE BEACON"

"PARENTS AND TOTS" every Monday, 10.00am - 12.00pm.

Toddlers bring along their parents to play, chat and have a brew in a safe and warm environment. Mums with bumps also welcome.

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"DROP-IN CAFE" Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 10.00am 'til 2.00pm.

You'll be warmly welcomed. Why not drop in for a chat and hot drink, with a biscuit or toast.

*

"COMMUNION SERVICE" every Wednesday at 10.00am followed by Tea or Coffee at 10.30am.

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"ALTERNATIVE EVENING SERVICE" on Wednesday 7th at 7.00pm.

A short 20 minute service of Celtic style Evensong.

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"KNIT & NATTER" meets Wednesdays 7th & 21st at 2.00pm.

If you're of a Knitting and Nattering disposition you'll be made most welcome.

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"MOVIE MATINÉE" meets Wednesdays 14th & 28th at 1.30pm for 2pm.

On February 14th the film is the musical "The Greatest Showman" & on February 28th the musical "Calamity Jane"

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"DOORWAY", our study group, meets every Thursday at 7.45pm

We're continuing our journey through St. John's Gospel with Bruce Gore.

*

"YOUTH CLUB" meets every Friday from 6.00pm - 8.00pm.

Lots of activities, board games, TV, Video games, Xbox etc. and don't forget the Tuck shop. Great fun for all youngsters age nine and upwards.

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"MEN'S BREAKFAST" meet on the first Saturday of every month at 9.00am (Feb. 3rd).

There's a misconception that men are reluctant to speak about themselves and/or "sensitive" issues. That doesn't happen here, try shutting us up! Perhaps it's the brew and the sausage/bacon baps!

If you need more information on any of the above activities speak to either John Grainger or John and Jo-Ann Hennerley.

Remembering Mallory



here.

This year marks the centenary of the death of Mobberley's most famous son, George Leigh Mallory. George, along with his walking companion Andrew 'Sandy' Irvine, was famously 'lost to human sight' on the 8th June 1924 making an attempt to reach the peak of Mount Everest. St. Wilfrid's has a close connection with the Mallory family as they were, for centuries, the patrons of the parish and a number of the family, including George's father, Herbert, and grandfather, George, were Rectors here and both of them are buried in the graveyard

George's body was found by an expedition specifically put together for the task in 1999. His body was frozen into the surrounding rock and could not be removed without causing enormous damage so instead a cairn was erected over him and a prayer of committal offered.

In this Centenary year there will be a number of events taking place in the early summer. These include events taking place in church. At the moment we have arranged a talk about Mallory by Peter Gillman, the author of the Mallory biography, 'The Wildest Dream'. This will be a ticketed event on **Thursday 23rd May**. On the **Saturday 8th June**, the actual centenary of his death, it is hoped that a commemorative statue to Mallory will be unveiled but also there will be a production of '**Mallory on the Mountain**', a musical by Ollie Mills that was previewed at The Lowry.



I am sure that more events will be announced over the coming months but please put these dates in your diaries, invite some friends to join you, and let us celebrate the life of this extraordinary man.

Ian.

Why would you want to climb Mount Everest?" George Mallory was asked this question in 1924 and gave the most obvious answer: "Because it's there".

"One comes to bless the absolute bareness, feeling that here is a pure beauty of form, a kind of ultimate harmony."#

– George Mallory, Letter to his wife Ruth Mallory (1921)

The Stations of the Cross

- an Organ Recital

David Carlston Williams, Director of Music and Organist at St Wilfrid's Church Mobberley, will be performing variations on the 14 Stations of the Cross at 3pm on 17th March 2024.

An accomplished improviser, David will play his own extemporaneous meditations with each station to reflect what is happening to Jesus at the various steps along the Via Dolorosa, the path that He walked on the way to His crucifixion.



David's inspiration for his musical stations comes in part from Marcel Dupré, a 20th century composer and organist whose improvised meditations on the stations in 1931 were based on poems by Frenchman Paul Claudel. Dupré later wrote down his improvised work, and his version of the stations is still performed.

David wants to keep doing things he has never done before. He has never done stations before, and, given this will be Passion Sunday, he thought it would be a great offering to foster the prayers of the stations.

One of the things he loves about improvisation is that it fosters a dialogue between the music and the listener, and because the musician is crafting a composition in real time, specifically for the people listening, it's sort of an intimate dialogue.

For classical musicians to play or sing without notes in front of them is a little like setting out on a car trip without knowing the destination or having a road map as a guide. David won't just wing it, though, when he plays for the stations. He'll go into the afternoon with a plan in mind while also allowing himself the musical freedom to capture the moment and connect with those assembled in the Nave in a prayerful way.



As far as the different stations, you approach each one thinking about the meditation, and that forms what you want to play or convey. For David it's a real way of reflecting on these stations from a purely religious standpoint that he really hasn't done before.

Each station, from the first to the 14th, provides a unique opportunity to relate to Christ on a deeply spiritual level, and David will tailor his selections to each stop that Jesus makes on the road to Calvary.

There are specific things in each station that inspire the music, For example, there are three stations in which Christ falls. For those, he loves to have some kind of connection and some cohesion. Those three stations are united musically, and he'll try to have some cohesion, some kind of musical language that binds things together.

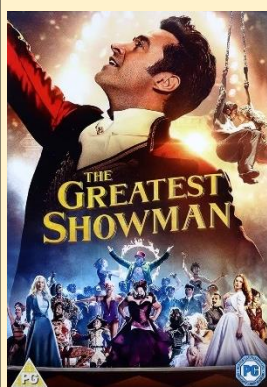
Variations on The Stations of the Cross

Sunday 17th March

3.00 p.m.

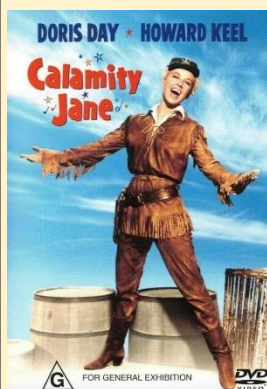
The Magic of the Movies

On the **14th and 28th of February** we will be screening two classics at The Beacon.



Wednesday 14th February 'The Greatest Showman'

Hugh Jackman stars as PT Barnum, showman, entertainer and founder of the Barnum and Bailey Circus. This thrilling musical received numerous nominations and is a true feel-good movie with strong themes of acceptance and empowerment.



Wednesday 28th February 'Calamity Jane'

In the lonely Deadwood, Dakota, territory, sharpshooter Calamity Jane falls for cavalry Lt. Danny Gilmartin when she is forced to rescue him from the Indians. Recognizing that the women-starved townsmen long for a "real" woman", Calamity journeys to Chicago to bring back famous singer Adelaid Adams, but her mission

goes awry.

The films are completely free to watch, although of course donations are always welcome, and the doors open at 1.30 p.m. and the films start at 2.00 p.m.

From St. Wilfrid's Registers –



Funerals in December

5th	Phillip John Armstrong	Newton Hall Lane, Mobberley	Church
14th	Pamela Carole Rustage	Hall Bank Road, Mobberley	Church
28th	Irene Roberts	Oldfield Drive, Mobberley	Church

Funerals in January

26th	Thomas Gathercole	Bucklow Avenue, Mobberley	Church
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Year's Mind in February

Albert Bennett	Scott Blake	David Hughes
Joseph Brocklehurst	Doreen Smith	Arthur Dutton
Alistair Birch	Charlie Daniel	William Blockley
Stephen Porter	Joyce Randle	Ethel Brereton
Doreen Martin	Arnold Groves	Bernard Parker
Phillip Wilding	Rose Taylor	Peter Davies
Rev. Howard Randle	Raymond Worsley	Daisy Williamson
Ivy Southworth	Stanley Adair	Harry Grange
Susan Nancarrow	Hugh Mais	Les Taylor
Thomas Wright	Geoffrey Daniel	Peter Long
Ethel Hough	Elsie Gathercole	Joyce Renshaw
Joyce Sproson	Jennie Tuck	George Coleman
Robert Taylor	Arthur Biddle	Nellie Dean
Dorothy Kennerley	George Aitken	Mary Armiger
Baby Jane Williamson	John Knox	Donald Blake
Frank Williamson	Yvonne Tindell	Rene Jenkins
Edie Reid	Hilda Kennerley	Emma Schofield
Harold Lane	Frederick Wilkinson	Harry Rose
Daisy Taylor	Bernard Williams	Clifford Holt
Mary Chester	Carrie Denerley	

Please pray for the above, that God might shelter them in their joy and comfort them in their sorrow.