

## Thought for the Week

As we approach Lent, we are called to set aside time to be with Jesus, to “listen to him” and renew our relationship with him. We may not be able to climb mountains, or indeed go anywhere different (though it can be a good opportunity to take a quiet day or even a short retreat) – but it is important to find a way of gaining a different perspective. For some, this may come through a “Lenten discipline” – as we deprive ourselves of our usual comforts, we find ourselves in a place where life looks and feels different and we see things in a new way. For others, life will have delivered a different perspective, perhaps through good fortune, or perhaps through brokenness or loss.

Christians are invited to use those opportunities to get a fresh perspective about Jesus and where he may be found in our world and our lives. The Canadian poet and singer Leonard Cohen has a line in his song, “Anthem”: “There’s a crack, a crack, in everything – it’s where the light gets in.” The cracks in our lives are really important, because so often that’s when we can see things clearly. Look for the cracks, and see what they reveal about Jesus and where he is at work in the world and in your life – then listen and follow.

## Praying as a Benefice

Each church is praying for God’s guidance and grace to draw our new priest to us, for the selection process, and panel, and beyond. The churchwardens and selection panel have identified a way for us to pray together as a benefice. Please use the following text and prayer in a quiet time; the text is from this Sunday’s readings and Bishop Jonathan has provided the prayer. To enable our praying together, please pray either at noon or 5.55 pm (or both) every day.

## This week’s Bible Text

“This is my own dear Son—listen to him!” *Mark 9: 7b (GNB)*

## The Prayer

Gracious and merciful God, our Father, you know the needs of your people in every place and in every time.

Look kindly, we pray, upon the people of this Benefice.

Draw to us, by your Holy Spirit, a faithful leader and pastor who will serve with us before you in all diligence and lowliness of heart.

By your blessing, bring many to the joys of your Kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Intercessions

**In the name of Jesus we pray for healing for those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, and for those who care for them**

Daphne Carty, Snowy, Joy from Hillrise, Joan Pritchard, Beth Hirst, Lionel Hall, Mark, Lorna Sturney, Becky, Joyce Upward, Joseph, Strat Liddiard, Karen, Lucy, Jenny, Betty Tripp, Derek White, Tracy Nicholls, Alice Pink, Barbara Shearman, Loretta, Paul Hanscombe, Stanley and Gill Gibbons, Ivy Webb, Crawford, Ralph and Zara Toop, Zac, The Lenaerts family, Jasmine, Michael, Alison, Carol and Don Knott.

**We remember those who have died recently, and pray for their families and friends especially**

Patrick Dingle, Pat Lane, George Compton, and Frederick Moffatt.

## The Week Ahead

<b>Mon 12</b>	<b>1.30 pm</b>	<b>Visiting Bellringers AS</b>
<b>Tues 13</b>	<b>6.30 pm</b>	<b>Pancake Supper Community Centre</b>
<b>Weds 14</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion and coffee in Nondescripts</b>
	<b>11.00 am</b>	<b>Bellringing AS</b>
	<b>7.00 pm</b>	<b>Benefice Holy Communion AS</b>
<b>Thurs 15</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Brockenhurst College Art students visiting St M</b>
	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Bellringing St M and AS</b>
	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Home Group in Church AS</b>
<b>Fri 16</b>	<b>3.00 pm</b>	<b>Kneeler Group AS</b>
<b>Sat 17</b>		<b>Burial of Ashes of Lewis Hickman AS</b>
<b>Sun 18</b>	<b>3.00 pm</b>	<b>Burial of Ashes of Peter and Jennifer James AS</b>

**Next Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February**

## Lent 1

9.30 am	Holy Communion AS
11.00 am	Holy Communion and coffee St M
6.00pm	Sunday at Six CC

**Genesis 9. 8-17**

**1 Peter 3. 18-end**

**Mark 1. 9-15**

**GNB OT 16**

**GNB NT 285**

**GNB NT 43**

## St Michael's Pancake Supper

Tuesday February 13th 6.30 for 7.00 pm  
In The Pine Room at the Community Centre  
Tickets £8.50 ( £4 for 10's and under) from  
Betsy 8028 2363 Suzanne 8029 2414

## A Spring Concert

with The Marchwood Orchestra  
Sunday 25th February at 4.00 pm  
At St Michael's  
Tickets £10 on the door or from the office  
8028 3175

## Recruitment timetable for our new priest

**Interview date** – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February

## World Women's Day of Prayer

Friday 2nd March to be held at All Saints Church  
Minstead at 11am (light refreshments will be served  
from 10.30). All welcome.

## Lent Course. Beginning Tuesday 20th

**Feb 1.00 – 2.00 pm**

"Let your Life Shine" is the initiative of the  
Archbishops of Canterbury and York.  
Meeting at St Michaels every Tuesday until Easter. If  
you wish, arrive early, from 12.30 with your own  
light lunch - coffee provided. Ask any of the  
Homegroup for more information. Take a flier and  
bring a friend!

There is now no Tuesday Evening Home Group  
at Whinwood until after Easter.

## Filling Station Wednesday 14th @ 7.30

Meeting at Brockenhurst Village Hall,  
Highwood Road, SO42 7RH  
Worship, Pray and listen. Speaker Roy Crowne who  
founded HOPE 2018  
which is initiating an outreach to the New Forest  
later this year.  
Come early for coffee and cake.

## All Saints' Church Minstead.

Lent Group in Church.  
7.30 pm on Thursdays in Lent; not including  
Maundy Thursday.  
Studying a book called: "The Things He Carried." by  
Stephen Cottrell. Meditations for Lent and Holy  
Week. Published by SPCK.  
The narrative of Holy Week is powerful and painful,  
and because we know how the story ends it's easy to  
gloss over the difficult details, and stay in the  
comfort zone of our understanding. Stephen Cottrell  
brings home, vividly and poignantly, the physical  
reality of the passion story. This is a book to  
stimulate thought, provoke discussion and create  
space for contemplation.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND in  
LYNDHURST & EMERY DOWN & MINSTEAD  
Trusting Christ Transforming Church  
Transforming Community

11<sup>th</sup> February 2018

## Sunday before Lent

Welcome to our gathering today!  
If you wish to know more about the activities of  
our churches, please talk to one of the welcomers,  
call the Benefice Office (8028 3175) email us  
benefice@newforestparishes.com  
or look us up on Facebook, or the website  
([www.newforestparishes.com](http://www.newforestparishes.com)).

## Today's Services

10.30 am	Holy Communion CC
10.30 am	Coffee then Morning Worship St M
4.15 pm	Discussion Group and tea AS
6.00 pm	Evensong AS

## Collect

**Almighty Father,** ☐  
**whose Son was revealed in majesty** ☐  
**before he suffered death upon the cross:** ☐  
**give us grace to perceive his glory,** ☐  
**that we may be strengthened**  
**to suffer with him** ☐  
**and be changed into his likeness,**  
**from glory to glory;** ☐  
**who is alive and reigns with you,** ☐  
**in the unity of the Holy Spirit,** ☐  
**one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

## Today's Readings

**2 Kings 2:1-12** **GNB OT 351**  
The vision of Elijah being taken into heaven  
confirms his greatness, and also encourages  
Elisha in his calling, giving him confidence to  
begin his own powerful ministry as a prophet.

**2 Corinthians 4:3-6** **GNB NT 215**  
The glory of God is revealed in Jesus Christ,  
but this is only clear to those who have  
believed the Gospel.

**Mark 9:2-9** **GNB NT 56**  
Jesus' true nature and identity is revealed to a  
select group of disciples who are able – albeit  
only just – to recognise him for who he is.