

Weekly Pewsheet

Service Details and Notices

Third Sunday of Lent Sunday 8 March 2015

Oakham	8:00am Holy Communion (CW Trad) 10:30am Parish Communion
Whissendine	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11:00am Family Service
Ashwell	9:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
Teigh	No service
Market Overton	No service
Langham	11:00am Holy Communion
Braunston	11:00am Morning Prayer
Brooke	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
Hambleton	9:15am Holy Communion (CW Trad)
Egleton	No service
Peterborough Cathedral	3:30pm County Service

If you are new to this church or visiting, please make yourself known to the clergy or churchwardens.

If you wish to receive Holy Communion in your pew, or would like a large print version of this Pewsheet, please ask a sidesperson.

Please take this Pewsheet home



Oakham Team Clergy



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Lay Ministers

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Oakham Team Office

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The Team Office is staffed on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9am- 1pm, Thursdays 11am-3pm and Fridays by email. **Notices for inclusion in the pew sheet should be sent to notices@oakhamteam.org.uk or delivered to the office by Wednesday at 11 am.**



www.oakhamteam.org.uk



www.facebook.com/oakhamteam



info@oakhamteam.org.uk



[@oakhamteam](https://twitter.com/oakhamteam)

8:00am Holy Communion

10:30am Parish Communion*

The Order of Service is contained in the separate Service Book.

Opening Hymn*

1. All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown,
he alone
calls my heart to be his own.
2. Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
what with care and toil he buildeth,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power,
hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.
3. God's great goodness aye endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendour, light, and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore
from his store
new-born worlds rise and adore.
4. Daily doth th'Almighty giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our souls delighteth,
pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand
at his hand;
joy doth wait on his command.
5. Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call
one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

Words: Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930), based on Meine Hoffnung stehet feste, Joachim Neander (1650-1680)
Music: Michael, Herbert Howells (1892-1983) (Ancient & Modern – 584)

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. **Amen.**

First Reading – Exodus 20.1-17

Then God spoke all these words: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work – you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

Second Reading – I Corinthians 1.18-25*

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.' Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Gradual Hymn*

1. Lord, thy word abideth,
and our footsteps guideth;
who its truth believeth
light and joy receiveth.

2. When our foes are near us,
then thy word doth cheer us,
word of consolation,
message of salvation.

3. When the storms are o'er us,
and dark clouds before us,
then its light directeth,
and our way protecteth.

4. Who can tell the pleasure,
who recount the treasure
by thy word imparted
to the simple-hearted?

5. Word of mercy, giving
succour to the living;
word of life, supplying
comfort to the dying.

6. O that we discerning
its most holy learning,
Lord, may love and fear thee,
evermore be near thee!

Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877)

*Music: Ravenshaw, Mediaeval German melody, adapted and harmonised by William Henry Monk (1823-1889)
(Ancient & Modern – 383)*

Gospel – John 2.13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!' His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' They then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Offertory Hymn*

1. God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
now fulfil thy church's story;
bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour.

2. Lo, the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways;
from the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days.

3. Cure thy children's warring madness,
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton selfish gladness,
rich in goods and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal

4. Set our feet on lofty places,
gird our lives that they may be
armoured with all Christlike graces
in the fight till all be free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
that we fail not earth nor thee.

Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969)

*Music: Neander (Unser Herrscher), melody set to Unser Herrscher in Alpha und Omega, Joachim Meander (1650-1680)
(Ancient & Modern – 648)*

Communion Anthem

Drop, drop, slow tears and bathe those beautiful feet,
which brought from heaven the news and Prince of peace:

Cease not, wet eyes, his mercies to entreat;
to cry for vengeance sin doth never cease.

In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears;
nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears.

Words: Phineas Fletcher (1582-1650) Music: Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625), arr David Blackwell (b 1961)

Communion Hymns*

1. How deep the Father's love for us,
how vast beyond all measure,
that he should give his only Son
to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss,
the Father turns his face away,
as wounds which mar the chosen One
bring many sons to glory.

2. Behold the man upon a cross,
my sin upon his shoulders;
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there,
until it was accomplished;
his dying breath has brought me life –
I know that 'it is finished.'

3. I will not boast in anything,
no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ,
his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward?
I cannot give an answer;
but this I know with all my heart,
his wounds have paid my ransom.

*Words & Music: Stuart Townend (b 1963)
© 1995 Kingsway Songs
(Ancient & Modern – 144)*

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. **Amen.**

Final Hymn*

1. We sing the praise of him who died,
of him who died upon the cross;
the sinner's hope let men deride,
for this we count the world but loss.

2. Inscribed upon the cross we see
in shining letters, 'God is love';
he bears our sins upon the tree;
he brings us mercy from above.

5. The balm of life, the cure of woe,
the measure and the pledge of love,
the sinner's refuge here below,
the angels' theme in heaven above.

3. The cross! It takes our guilt away:
it holds the fainting spirit up;
it cheers with hope the gloomy day,
and sweetens every bitter cup.

4. It makes the coward spirit brave,
and nerves the feeble arm for fight;
it takes its terror from the grave,
and gilds the bed of death with light:

Words: Thomas Kelly (1769-1855)

*Music: Bow Brickhill, Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947)
(Ancient & Modern – 156)*

Today

SUNDAY 8 MARCH

11:45am – **AGM OF THE FRIENDS
OF ALL SAINTS' OAKHAM**

All Saints Oakham

There is a vacancy for Secretary of The Friends. If you feel that you could fulfil that position, please contact Beryl Kirtland on 01572 724103 or by email to berylk@oakham.uk.com. We also need two more Committee Members to help organise events. The Friends are an active group with a good variety of events all aiding the fellowship of the church. Could you please help to keep it that way?

3:30pm – **SERVICE OF CELEBRATION
FOR THE COUNTY OF RUTLAND**

Peterborough Cathedral

An opportunity to give thanks to all who serve the County of Rutland and

to celebrate the County's activities within the Diocese of Peterborough.

All welcome. The service will be followed by a reception in the South Transept, when winning entries from the Rutland Open Youth Art Exhibition (currently at Rutland County Museum) will be on display. **There will be no services of Evensong at Oakham or Market Overton. There is still some space on the coach – please put your name on the list by the South Door at Oakham, leave a message on 01572 460001, or email kevin@oakhamteam.org.uk.** Departure 2pm from Church Street.

This Week

MONDAY 9 MARCH

4:00pm – **EGLTON APCM**
Eggleton Village Hall

TUESDAY 10 MARCH

11:00am – **WHISSENDINE PRAYER GROUP – 25 The Nook, Whissendine**

For details, pick up a diary from St Andrew's Whissendine, or phone 01664 474454.

WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH

1:30pm – **MUSIC AT LUNCHTIME**

All Saints Oakham

Edwin Lambert *tenor*

Britten Winter Words (selections)

THURSDAY 12 MARCH

2:15pm – **OAKHAM & BRAUNSTON MOTHERS' UNION**

All Saints Oakham Church Hall

Holy Communion followed by a talk on WWI given by Revd Brian Nicholls.

Please note change of venue.

7:30pm – **RUTLAND THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

Oakham Methodist Church, Northgate

The Collage of God: Faith, Doubt and Guessing at God – Canon Mark Oakley – Annual Montgomery Trust Lecture. Mark Oakley is Canon Chancellor of St Paul's Cathedral, responsible for the educational and outreach activities of the Cathedral. He was ordained in 1993 and served as Curate of St John's Wood Church and then as Chaplain to the Bishop of London. He then became Rector of St Paul's, Covent Garden, known as 'the Actors' church' and after that as Archdeacon of Germany and Northern Europe. Canon Oakley returned to

London in 2008 and served at Grosvenor Chapel, Mayfair, before being appointed to St Paul's. Canon Oakley's interests are the relationship between faith and poetry, human rights and the place of faith in the contemporary world. He is the author of several books and is a regular lecturer and broadcaster. £5 per attendance or £20 for six meetings.

FRIDAY 13 MARCH

12:00-1:30pm – **LENT LUNCH**

All Saints Church Hall, Oakham

Soup & cheese lunch, £3.50. Proceeds to Christian Aid.

7:30pm – **RUTLAND THREE ARTS SOCIETY MUSIC GROUP**

Methodist Church Hall, Northgate, Oakham

Music 1649-1749 – Peter Lawson.

Non-members welcome (£3 charge).

SUNDAY 15 MARCH

7:30pm – **SOMETHING FISHY**

Braunston Village Hall

Ginny Davis's next instalment of her one woman show depicting the life of a harassed single mother. Tickets £10 (£8/£5 concessions) from the Blue Ball or 07956 308808.

Looking Ahead

TUESDAY 17 MARCH

3:45pm – **RUTLAND REMINDERS**

Brambles, Rutland Care Village

Singing sessions for people with dementia. 07779 413889 or rutlandreminders.org.uk for details.

WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH

1:30pm – **MUSIC AT LUNCHTIME**

All Saints Oakham

Oboists

Britten Six Metamorphoses after Ovid

THURSDAY 19 MARCH

10:00am - 12:00pm – **OPEN HOUSE**

*Home of Helen & Alf Bush, 17
Tolethorpe Close, Oakham*

All are welcome to call in for tea or coffee and a friendly chat.

SATURDAY 21 MARCH

7:30pm – **SONGS FOR SPRING!**

All Saints Oakham

The Rutland Choral Society present a variety of music for the beginning of Spring, and will also be celebrating Bach's birthday! Tickets £8 from Music&More or 01572 460000 or wegottickets.com.

SUNDAY 22 MARCH

12:00pm – **LANGHAM APCM**

St Peter & St Paul Langham

7:30pm – **BRAUNSTON HISTOTY &
MEMORIES NIGHT**

The Blue Ball, Braunston

Braunston Blokes Club welcomes a longtime Braunston resident to share photos and memories of Braunston in years gone by, with an open invitation to everyone else to bring along any photos or memorabilia they have to share. For more info ring Rob Anderson 774388 or Alan Rudge 755570.

TUESDAY 24 MARCH

11:00am – **WHISSENDINE PRAYER
GROUP**

13 Harborough Close, Whissendine

For details, pick up a diary from St Andrew's Whissendine, or phone 01664 474454.

7:30pm – **BROOKE APCM**

6 Tay Close, Oakham

THURSDAY 26 MARCH

10:30am – **TEAM WALKING GROUP**

Blue Bell Pub, Easton on the Hill

The next walk is the four counties walk. Parking at or around the pub with lunch there afterwards. New walkers always welcome, just turn up suitably attired. Group contact Dennis Corton on 01572 722272.

7:30pm – **WHISSENDINE SAINTLY
SOCIAL – venue tbc**

Meetings will be on the last Thursday of each month. All welcome! For more information contact John on 01664 474254

FRIDAY 27 MARCH

7:30pm – **SPRING MUSIC FOR YOU!**

All Saints Oakham

The Stamford Concert Singers present Ensembles and solos from the shows, opera, music hall etc, featuring a full costume performance of Gilbert & Sullivan's comic opera Trial by Jury. Tickets £8 (£7 concessions) in advance from Music&More or tel 01780 756300, or £10 (£8) on the door. Promoted by The Friends of Rutland Sailability.

7:30pm – RUTLAND THREE ARTS SOCIETY VISUAL ARTS GROUP

All Saints Church Hall, Oakham

John Constable – Landscape Painting –
David Kirk, Head of Art History
Uppingham School

Non-members welcome (£3 charge).

SATURDAY 28 MARCH

**7:30pm – SPRING SING WITH
WOVEN CHORDS & GLOBAL
HARMONY**

Oakham School Chapel

Two world-music community choirs
join for a charity concert in aid of
Marie Curie Cancer Care. Tickets £8
including refreshments from
Music&More or on the door.

SUNDAY 29 MARCH

6:00pm – STAINER’S CRUCIFIXION

All Saints Oakham

The end of the ecumenical Lent course
will be marked with a ‘Come and Sing’
performance of Stainer’s Crucifixion.
Rehearsal at 3:00pm, followed by tea
before the performance.

SATURDAY 4 APRIL

**11:00am – REDEDICATION OF
BRAUNSTON WAR MEMORIAL**

All Saints Braunston

After one hundred years, the name of
Gladys Walter, who served in the
WRAF in the First Great War and
whose war grave is in the Churchyard,
has recently been added to the
memorial. To celebrate the correction of
this omission after such a long time,
everyone is invited to attend this historic

occasion, with the Lord Lieutenant of
Rutland, Dr Laurence Howard, the
Deputy Lieutenant, Bart Hellyer, and the
High Sherriff, Air Commodore Miles
Williamson-Noble in attendance, and to
partake of light refreshments in the
Village Hall, afterwards.

WEDNESDAY 15 APRIL

7:30pm – MARKET OVERTON APCM
*St Peter & St Paul Market Overton
Parish Room*

FRIDAY 17 APRIL

7:00pm – BRAUNSTON APCM
Braunston Village Hall

TUESDAY 21 APRIL

7:00pm – HAMBLETON APCM
Hambleton Village Hall

SUNDAY 26 APRIL

11:15am – OAKHAM APCM

All Saints Oakham

Following a joint 10:00am service for
both 8:00am and 10:30am
congregations.

Please pray for

- The family and friends of **John Frederick Parker**, whose funeral took place at Oakham on Friday;
- The family and friends of John Callaghan.
- Children enticed into joining extremist groups
- Victims of religious extremism and the girls kidnapped in Nigeria;

- The hostages held by religious extremists and their families and friends. Also the family of murdered hostages Kenji Goto and Moaz al-Kasasbeh and the 21 Egyptian Christians killed recently;
- The people whose lives are torn apart by war and violence, especially in Syria and Iraq;
- The people of Ukraine;
- The victims of the Ebola outbreak and those working to stop it and to develop a vaccine;
- The Rutland Food Bank;
- The Drop-in Centre;
- Justin and John our Archbishops and Donald and John, our Bishops;
- Lee, Janet, Hildred & Dominic, our Team Clergy, and all lay members of the Ministry Team;
- All who are persecuted for their faith, especially in Sudan, CAR, Kenya, Syria, Somalia, Eritrea, North Korea, China, India, Northern Nigeria, Iran, Iraq, Egypt and Pakistan;
- Madeleine McCann and her family and all missing children.

Happy Birthday

A very happy 90th birthday for yesterday to Mary Willows from all your church friends at Oakham.

Easter Lilies

Donations for Easter Lilies may be placed in the alms box on the South Door. They should be put in an envelope marked 'For Easter Lilies'. Lilies cost approx. £2.00 each. Further information from Jackie Vecqueray.

Knitted Chicks

The Mothers' Union is again planning to sell knitted Easter chicks to raise money for their charities. It will be £1 for the chick and chocolate egg. Please keep looking for them, we are still busy knitting!

Fairtrade Sales

Sales for February amounted to £144.24 which includes over £40 at the first Lent Lunch! – as ever many thanks to everyone. The stall will be in Oakham Church after the 10:30 service on 15 & 29 March. Thank you, Denise.

The Real Easter Egg Campaign Continues!

I will be taking order for the eggs up to the end of March - the original egg is still priced at £3.99 if you would like to order one please speak to me on a Sunday at Oakham or contact me on 01572 722729. The Traidcraft stall will also be at the Lent Lunches in the Church Hall where orders can also be taken. For more information on the other eggs or indeed anything Fairtrade related please do get in touch. Thank you for your continued support. Denise.

Rutland Reminders

We resume our singing sessions for people with dementia and their carers every 1st and 3rd Tuesday in the month, on 3 & 17 March at 3:45pm at 'Brambles', Rutland Care Village, Oakham. No cost, and a warm

welcome is guaranteed. Please phone Diana Ellard on 07779 413889 or visit www.rutlandreminders.org.uk. Please spread the word – we find word of mouth invaluable! Thank you. Charles Lawrence.

Annual Parochial Church Meetings

Your opportunity to hear and have your say what has been going on in the church over the last year, and to elect Churchwardens and PCC members. In the northern villages the meetings takes place on 15 April (Market Overton) (others to be advised), and in the southern villages 9 March (Egleton), 22 March (Langham), 24 March (Brooke), 17 April (Braunston) & 21 April (Hambleton), Please see the diary for times and locations.

At Oakham, the APCM will take place on Sunday 26 April, following a joint 10am Parish Communion, when we will need to elect new members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and a new Churchwarden. Please give prayerful consideration to whether you might be able to fulfil one of these roles – more details can be obtained from current PCC members or the Churchwardens. Furthermore, Peter Hill has advised that he wishes to step down from his role in the Treasurers team. We therefore invite anyone who feels that they are willing and able to take on this role to contact the Churchwardens, or to speak with Peter directly. You will need to have experience with the use of spreadsheets and the Internet, and in

understanding the basics of keeping Accounts. Peter is willing to assist anyone who relishes this challenge, and will guide them through the various tasks involved.

In preparation for the APCM, all Church organisations are asked to prepare the usual report on their activities over the past year. This should be submitted by Sunday 22 March, to the usual 'notices' email address (*sorry this is a week earlier than previously notified so that we can have the reports ready for Easter Sunday*). **Please let us have any photographs that you have of activities over the past year as well.**

'Come and Sing' Crucifixion

On Palm Sunday evening at 6pm there will be a 'Come and Sing' Crucifixion (by John Stainer), with soloists from Oakham School. A rehearsal at 3pm will be followed by tea at 5pm, when members of the Lent Ecumenical Groups will join together at the end of their course. All singers are warmly invited to join us – if you are familiar with the work, or are a reasonable sight-reader, you can join us for the afternoon rehearsal, but if you would like to do a little more work on it beforehand we will be rehearsing it at our Laudamus practices on 10 & 24 March. The work includes a number of congregational hymns, and with written reflections from the Lent Groups will make a fitting act of worship to conclude the Lent course. Please talk to Kevin Slingsby (01572 460000) for more details.

House of Bishops' Pastoral Letter on the 2015 General Election

17 February 2015

In a pastoral letter from the House of Bishops to the people and parishes of the Church of England, the Bishops have expressed the hope for political parties to discern **“a fresh moral vision of the kind of country we want to be”** ahead of the General Election in May of this year, and urge Christians to consider the question how can we **“build the kind of society which many people say they want but which is not yet being expressed in the vision of any of the parties?”**

The letter also encourages church members to engage in the political process ahead of the General Election and to put aside self-interest and vote for ‘the common good’: **“The privileges of living in a democracy mean that we should use our votes thoughtfully, prayerfully and with the good of others in mind, not just our own interests.”**

The letter also states that: **“In Britain, we have become so used to believing that self-interest drives every decision, that it takes a leap of imagination to argue that there should be stronger institutions for those we disagree with as well as for those ‘on our side.’ Breaking free of self-interest and welcoming our opponents as well as our supporters into a messy, noisy, yet rich and creative community of**

communities is, perhaps, the only way we will enrich our almost-moribund political culture.”

The letter defends the right of the Church to enter into the political arena: **“It is not possible to separate the way a person perceives his or her place in the created order from their beliefs, religious or otherwise, about how the world's affairs ought to be arranged. The claim that religion and political life must be kept separate is, in any case, frequently disingenuous - most politicians and pundits are happy enough for the churches to speak on political issues so long as the church agrees with their particular line.”**

The pastoral letter draws on the experience of the Church of England as a Christian presence in every community to warn of the disengagement between politicians and the people. They note that **“with few exceptions, politicians are not driven merely by cynicism or self-interest”** but nevertheless, **“the different parties have failed to offer attractive visions of the kind of society and culture they wish to see.... There is no idealism in this prospectus”**.

The letter encourages political parties across the spectrum to seek bold new visions of hope and idealism rather than **“sterile arguments about who might manage the existing system best.”**

The bishops also argue Britain is in need of a stronger politics of

community to boost solidarity between people and reverse a drift towards social isolation: ***“The extent of loneliness in society today, with the attendant problems of mental and physical health, is one indication of how far we have drifted into a society of strangers. But that drift is far from complete – and few people, if asked, would say that a society of strangers represents a vision of society which they desire.”***

The letter specifically avoids advocacy for one any political party but instead encourages those in the Church to seek from political candidates a commitment to building a society of common bonds over individual consumerism. The bishops say Britain is hungry for a new approach to political life which reaffirms our ties at a national, regional, community and neighbourhood level. There is a need for a strong corrective to halt the move towards increasing social isolation, they say, through strengthening the idea that that Britain is still a ***“community of communities.”*** This, they say, is a theme which has roots in the historic traditions of different parties: ***“We are seeking, not a string of policy offers, but a way of conceiving and ordering our political and economic life which can be pursued in a conservative idiom, a socialist idiom, a liberal idiom - and by others not aligned to party.”***

The pastoral letter argues that the Church of England finds its voice

through being a presence in every community with churches remaining one of the primary agents of social action and social care in parishes across the country. The letter argues that Intermediate institutions such as housing associations, credit unions and churches are needed for their role in building stronger communities. A thriving society needs many intermediate institutions, they say, including those who disagree with each other.

The letter also recognises the inherent danger in the current situation where people are disengaging from politics, arguing that restoring faith in both politicians and the political process requires a new politics that engages at both a deeper more local level within a wider, broader vision for the country as a whole.

In the letter, the bishops warn against despair and urge people to vote in the General Election: ***“Unless we exercise the democratic rights that our ancestors struggled for, we will share responsibility for the failures of the political classes. It is the duty of every Christian adult to vote, even though it may have to be a vote for something less than a vision that inspires us.”***

The full letter can be downloaded from

<https://churchofengland.org/media/2170230/whoismyneighbour-pages.pdf>

LENT LUNCHES

Soup and cheese lunch



served at

All Saints Church Hall

Every Friday from 27th February
27th March

12.00 to 1.30pm

£3.50

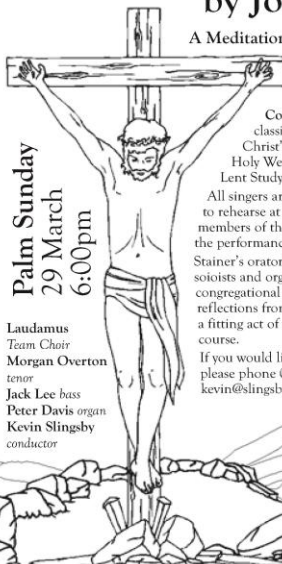
Come and share with friends
Proceeds to Christian Aid



The Crucifixion

by John Stainer

A Meditation on the Sacred Passion
of the Holy Redeemer



Palm Sunday
29 March
6:00pm

Laudamus
Team Choir
Morgan Overton
tenor
Jack Lee bass
Peter Davis organ
Kevin Slingsby
conductor

Come and Sing with us in this classic musical narrative of Christ's passion to mark the start of Holy Week, and the conclusion of the Lent Study Groups.

All singers are warmly invited to join us to rehearse at 3pm, followed by tea with members of the Lent Groups at 5pm, and the performance at 6pm.

Stainer's oratorio, scored for SATB choir, soloists and organ also includes a number of congregational hymns, and with written reflections from the Lent Groups will make a fitting act of worship to conclude the Lent course.

If you would like to sing, or find out more, please phone 01572 460001 or email kevin@slingsby.org.



Services During The Week

<i>Monday</i> 9 Mar	8:30 Morning Prayer Oakham 9:00 Morning Prayer Langham	2:00 Pram & Toddler Oakham 4:30 Evening Prayer Oakham 5:00 Evening Prayer Langham
<i>Tuesday</i> 10 Mar	8:30 Morning Prayer Oakham 10:00 Holy Communion Oakham	4:00 Evening Prayer Oakham
<i>Wednesday</i> 11 Mar	8:30 Morning Prayer Oakham 9:00 Morning Prayer Langham 10:00 Holy Communion J&A 10:30 Holy Communion Ashwell	4:30 Evening Prayer Oakham 5:00 Evening Prayer Langham 5:30 Meditation J&A
<i>Thursday</i> 12 Mar	9:00 Team Communion Oakham 9:45 Tiny Tots Oakham 10:30 Little Angels Market Overton	12:00 Ecumenical Prayer Oakham 12:15 Celtic Prayer Egleton 4:30 Evening Prayer Oakham
<i>Friday</i> 13 Mar	8:30 Morning Prayer Oakham 9:00 Morning Prayer Langham 10:00 BCP Communion Oakham	11:30 Stations of the Cross Oakham 4:30 Evening Prayer Oakham 5:00 Evening Prayer Langham

Services Next Sunday – 15 March (Mothering Sunday)

<i>Oakham</i>	8:00 Holy Communion (CW Trad) 10:30 Family Communion	12:15 Baptism 6:00 Evensong
<i>Whissendine</i>	11:00 Holy Communion	
<i>Teigh</i>		6:00 Evensong
<i>Market Overton</i>	9:00 Family Service	
<i>Ashwell</i>	11:00 Family Service	
<i>Langham</i>		4:00 Church@4
<i>Braunston</i>	11:00 Family Service	
<i>Brooke</i>		6:00 Evensong
<i>Hambleton</i>		
<i>Egleton</i>	9:15 Holy Communion (CW Trad)	

Next Week's Readings at Holy Communion

Mothering Sunday: 1 Samuel 1.20-28; Colossians 3.12-17; Luke 2.33-35