

**Collect for The 3rd Sunday before Lent:**

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; 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 forever. **Amen**

**Post Communion prayer:**

Merciful Father, who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life, that those who come to him should never hunger: draw us to the Lord in faith and love, that we may eat and drink with him at his table in the kingdom, where he is alive and reigns, now and forever. **Amen**

**PRAYER POINTS:**

- For Mercy Ships.
- For all those effected by the virus in China and that it may be contained.
- For the children in the Yemen awaiting life changing surgery.
- For our clergy, churchwardens and PCC who do so much for our Church.
- For all doctors, nurses and medical staff working hard at this busy time.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE IN IMMEDIATE NEED OF HEALING AND PEACE:**

Tony Eccleston, Matteo Bellini, Philippa and Laila King, Suzie Aries, Fred and Jenny Deverill, Frances, Rob and Sally Goodchild, Marion Long, Joseph Fell, Iris Austin, Gordon and Kathleen Plumridge, Norman Edwards, John Hardy, Debby and Jim Cadwallader, The Goodridges, Richard Hayward, Shirley and Eric Watts, Liz and Paul Bracken, Michael Hopkins, Kelly May, Joyce Bapty, Richard Heaney, Alex Lake, Barbara Higgins, Simon Clegg.

**WE HAVE ALSO BEEN ASKED TO PRAY FOR:**

Mel Rolfe, Gideon, Mary Jefferies, Keith & Judy Brambleby, Barbara Platts, Hazel Boon, Helena Oecken, Jean Moses, Bill & Marge Philips, Jean Coleman, Mary Williams, Angela Ettle and Daphne Baptiste.

**WE REMEMBER WITH THANKSGIVING THE LIVES OF:**

Tony Mead, Garry Anstead and Bess Craig-Bassey.

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St Mary's  
with  
St Peter's  
PRINCES RISBOROUGH  
& ILMER

# News

## Sunday February 9th 2020, Third Sunday before Lent

**Dear Friends**

Coming to church should always be an exciting experience. Some (maybe many of us!) may not have been brought up with that idea and perhaps learnt that the church going experience should be a more sober and dry experience all together.

However, Moses experience in our reading today from Exodus speaks of a man whose inner and outer excitement was such that "Moses didn't know that the skin of his face shone by reason of speaking to Him". The Hebrew word for "shone" literally means "put forth rays". It must have been a gloriously radiant light from within but something that must have been truly wonderful but awesome to behold-the result of having spent 40 days and 40 nights in the presence of God.

Now, Aaron and the children of Israel were probably not excited themselves at this time as they were afraid to come near Moses with his shining demeanour. However, after God had renewed the covenant with Israel, people would have been eagerly anticipating a new revelation to guide them in the years ahead. What Moses had received from God was exactly that -His commandants to Israel.

So how do we become and remain excited as Christians? I think we should recognise an exciting truth. That is that every single one of us is involved in the greatest work in the world. We are serving the Lord. He is the King of Kings. Our faith is a ministry that transforms lives and results in blissful eternity for those who believe. By loving the Lord, coming to church should be a thrilling and exciting experience, because we want to gather with the Lord's people on His day.

As someone once said to me "what could be more exciting than that?"

**Bryan Matthew**

## NEWS & NOTICES.

**18<sup>TH</sup>/19<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY HOLIDAY AT HOME HELP URGENTLY NEEDED:** We are in real need of two loaves of sandwiches on the Tuesday and cakes and scones for both days. We can reimburse costs, and could buy them, but the older people really love home made things which they may not be able to make themselves any more. If anyone can help with this please speak to either Elaine Needham or Gill Wilkinson. Very many thanks.

**URGENT, BAPTISMS:** We really do need help urgently in the Baptism team. It's really not onerous and very rewarding. Please contact Eleanor for more details or if you can help. It just involves liaising with families, meeting them at Church and helping on the day. Eleanor will still be involved but needs extra help due to the number of baptism enquiries.

**PANCAKE PARTY:** There will be an all age Shrove Tuesday pancake party on 25<sup>th</sup> February. There will be pancake crafts, pancake flipping, races and games for all ages. Pancakes and a sausage supper. 5-7pm in Church. Please let Gill Wilkinson know if you can come, at [gill.sunfold@googlemail.com](mailto:gill.sunfold@googlemail.com).

**PILGRIM'S WAY OPEN EVENING:** There will be an open evening on Tues 25<sup>th</sup> Feb at 7.30pm in the Chapter House about the pilgrimage taking place from May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 14<sup>th</sup>. David is taking part and would love people to join in for any of the route.

**CTR LENT COURSE:** An ecumenical Lent study course, using the book 'Saying Yes to Life' by Ruth Valerio. 'What does it mean to be human and a follower of Jesus?' The course will start at 7.30pm in the Chapter House on Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> March and then continue on Tuesday evenings, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> March.

**LENT RESOURCES:** On the table by the door there are various Lent resources for sale, including the book 'Saying Yes to Life'. Do have a look.

**MENDERS AND FIXERS SESSION:** "Want to avoid sending broken items to landfill, then try visiting 'Zero Carbon Cafe' where expert volunteers are running a 'Menders & Fixers' session in the Risborough Community Centre on **Thursday 13 Feb** at 19:30 - 21:30. Please bring along items for repair (sewing, gluing, minor electrical, etc.) - no guarantees, but they will try!"

**CANTILENA COFFEE MORNING:** There will be a free coffee morning on Friday March 20<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am in St Mary's. Music by the Cantilena Winds concert band conducted by Michael Pegram.

**NEW WINE:** 'I am going to new wine this year, week 2 - Sun 2nd Aug - Sat 8th Aug. If anyone would like join me for a week of worship, great teaching, great youth groups and lots of fun and laughter, that would be great.' Hazel Wynn.

### Sunday 9th February, Third Sunday before Lent

**Winter Sermon Series: 'Excite'**

**Readings: Exodus 34: 29-35, Matthew 5:13-16**

- 8.00am** Holy Communion at St Mary's  
**9.30am** Parish Communion followed by coffee  
**11.15am** TGIS with children's groups  
**6.00pm** United Service at PR Baptist

### What's on in the week beginning Monday 10th February

- Mon 10<sup>th</sup> 3.00pm** Bereavement Drop-in in the Chapter House  
**Weds 12<sup>th</sup> 9.00am** Wednesday Prayers in St Mary's  
**9.30am** Children's Society box opening in the Chapter House.  
**10.30am** Holy Communion at St Mary's followed by coffee  
**7.30pm** Alpha course in Church and Chapter House  
**Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> 10.30am** Coffee in the Chapter House  
**Fri 14<sup>th</sup> 2.00pm** Praise & Play in the Chapter House

### Sunday 16th February, Second Sunday before Lent

**Readings: Genesis 1:1-2, 3, Matthew 6:25-end**

- 8.00am** Holy Communion at St Mary's  
**9.00am** Holy Communion at St Peter's, Ilmer  
**9.30am** Parish Communion followed by coffee  
**11.15am** TGIS with children's groups inc breaking of bread

**THE CHILDRENS SOCIETY BOX OPENING:** This will take place on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February, 9.30 – 12noon in the Chapter House. Do join us for coffee. Supporter's letters in pigeon holes.

**CHILTERN ART FESTIVAL:** The opening concert will be at St Mary's on Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Feb at 7pm. This will be the Septura Brass Septet celebrating the work of female composers. Tickets online at [chilternarts.com/festival](http://chilternarts.com/festival) or phone 01442 920303.

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**Rector:** Revd. David Williams 346984

**Associate Minister:** Revd. Michael Hunt 344150 **Curate:** Revd Pat Kerr 273980

**Assistant Clergy:** Revds. David & Nancy Wallace 290670;  
Revds. Steve & Rose Williams 274225; Canon Nick Molony 273895;  
Revd. Jenny Deverill 274269; **LLM:** Averil Stephenson 343649

**Churchwardens:** David Stephenson and Bryan Matthew