

This week we pray in love for:

The life of the villages

- Industry, businesses and shops
- Those who come here to work
- Those who commute to work
- Those who work from home
- The retired, and carers

In our Diocesan Prayer Diary, we pray for the parish of Westoning in the deanery of Ampthill and Shefford

February prayers for...

Kensworth

Ridgeway, Russell Close and Plewes Close

Studham

Oakway

Whipsnade

Whipsnade Park Homes

This week please remember in your prayers: those in the midst of illness, operations or accidents, including Frank and Barbara Walker, Trish Palmer, Alan Geeson, Jo Hutchinson, Clifford Bygrave, Ann and Malcolm Weir, Wendy Kennedy, Chris Hazell, Angela, Catherine, Hilda, Mike; and those who have died recently.

Do you have a name or a request for prayer that you wish to have included on this prayer list? Please email Nicola on revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com before Thursday each week.

A prayer for this week: Jesus, you became one of us and know what it is to be human. Help us to lay our worries and fears before you, trusting that you understand us and love us, and will always carry our burdens for us. **Amen.**

Readings for next week: Exodus 24: 12-end; 2 Peter 1: 16-end; Matthew 17: 1-9

- **Dates for your diary**
- **Sunday 8th February, 5-6pm** – The Good Book Club meeting, Studham Church
- **Sunday 8th February, 5-6pm** – The Good Book Club meeting, Kensworth Church
- Hall
- **Friday 13th February, 9am** – Studham School Service, Studham School
- **Wednesday 18th February, 10am-12pm** – Whipsnade Church Coffee Morning, Whipsnade Church

Foodbank requirements:

Long-life fruit juice; solid meat; tinned meat meals; savoury biscuits/crackers; tinned fruit; tinned vegetables; tinned potatoes; instant mash; long-life milk; carrier bags. No pasta or rice please.

SAVE THE DATES:

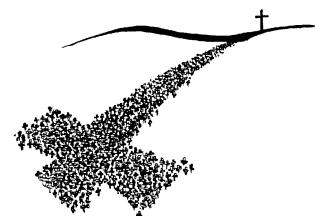
March 7th, 2.30-4.30pm – Annual ‘Rock Ness’ concert in Whipsnade Church, in memory of former churchwarden Vanessa Hornby. Free entry on the door, no need to book, donations for the church welcome.

March 14th, 5.30-8.30pm – Barn Dance at Kensworth Village Hall, contact Jane at janezbedlington@gmail.com for more details and to book your place!

Ash Wednesday Services

Wednesday 18th February

10am St. Mary’s Eaton Bray
7.30pm St. Mary’s Kensworth



Welcome to the United Benefice of Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade

Part of the North Chilterns Group of Parishes

Sunday 8th February 2026
Second Sunday before Lent

Kensworth 10.30am – Morning Service with Sunday School

Studham 10.30am – Holy Communion
Whipsnade 9.00am – Holy Communion with Sunday School

Services next week: 15th February

Kensworth 10.30am – Service of Stillness and Reflection

Studham 10.30am – Holy Communion with Sunday School
Whipsnade 9.00am – Family Service

If this is your first visit to one of our churches, then please make yourself known as we’re a friendly lot – really! The rector (Nicola) can be reached on (01582) 872223 or at revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com. Please also email Nicola if you’d like to receive this service sheet weekly by email. We hope you enjoy your time with us.

Sunday 8th February 2026
Second Sunday before Lent

The Collect

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever.

Amen

A re-telling of the creation story from Genesis

On the first morning God said: 'Let there be birds.' And God separated voice from voice; and in some voices, God put a song, and the song sang to the land, and to the light, and to the light on the land, and when the people heard it, the morning had begun. The first morning.

And God said that it was Good.

And on the second morning God said: 'There will be dreams from the night that will need the light of the morning.' And so God put wisdom in the early hours. The second morning.

And God said that it was Good.

And on the third morning, God said: 'Let there be a certain kind of light that can only be seen in the morning.' And God created gold, and dew, and horizons, and hills in the distance, and faces that look different in the light of the morning, and things that look different in the light of the morning. The third morning.

And God said that it was Good.

And on the fourth morning, God said: 'Sometimes the day will be long. Let there be a warmth in the morning, let people sleep for some mornings, and let the rest of the morning be good. The fourth morning.

And God said that it was Good.

And on the fifth morning, God said: 'There will be people who will rise early every morning, whose day will begin in the night, by the light of moon and stars; they will see the sun rise, these early risers. And God put a softness at the heart of the dawn. The fifth night.

And God said that it was Good.

And on the sixth morning, God listened. And there were people working, and people struggling to get out of bed, and there were people loving and people making sandwiches. There were people dreading the day, and people glad that the night was over. And God hoped that they'd survive. And God shone light, and made clouds, and rain, and rainbows, and toast, and coffee, places to love the light and places to hide from the light. Small corners to accompany the lonely, the joyous, the needy and the needed. The sixth morning.

And God said that it was Good.

And on the last morning, God rested. And the rest was good. The rest was very good.

And God said that it was very Good.

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

A reading from St Paul's Letter to the Romans

Romans 8: 18 - 25

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Hear the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Matthew

All: Glory to You, O Lord

Matthew 6: 25 - end

Jesus said: "I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labour or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Prayer after Communion

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS:

How does it feel to know that Jesus bears our burdens of worry and fear for us?

For parents and carers: ask your child, "What makes you feel worried? Who do you talk to about your worries?"