

***This week we pray in love for:
The welfare of those in need***

- ♦ Luton & Dunstable Hospital, staff, chaplains and volunteers
- ♦ Other local hospitals
- ♦ Knoll House at Studham and other residential homes
- ♦ Local GP surgeries
- ♦ Our local funeral directors

In our Diocesan Prayer Diary, we pray for the Diocesan Secretary and Diocesan Office

March prayers for...

Kensworth

The Chilterns

Studham

Holywell Road and Holywell Close

Whipsnade

All businesses in the village

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, including Eileen Kinross.

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: Holy Spirit, keep us curious. Protect us from knowing it all. Help us ask questions and get to know others and, in doing so, may we love them better: both those we understand and those who confuse us. Amen.

Readings for next week: Exodus 17: 1-7;
Romans 5: 1-11; John 4: 5-42

• ***Dates for your diary***

- **Sunday 1st March, 5-6pm** – Confirmation class, Kensworth Church Hall
- **Tuesday 3rd March, 7.30-9pm** – NCG Lent Course on prayer, Totternhoe Church Hall
- **Wednesday 4th March, 9.55am** – Studham School Collective Worship, Studham School
- **Wednesday 4th March, 7.30pm** – Dunstable Deanery Synod, St. Barnabas, Linslade
- **Saturdays 7th, 14th, 21st March, from 9am onwards** – Kensworth churchyard working parties
- **Saturday 7th March, 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
- **Sunday 8th March, 5-6pm** – 'Good Book Club', Kensworth Church Hall

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.

Gifts for your Lenten journey...

On Tuesday evenings in Lent at 7.30pm why not come along to Totternhoe Church Hall for 'The Adventure of Prayer', our annual North Chilterns Group Lent course? Or commit to something every day at <https://www.stewardship.org.uk/40-acts-sign-up>

Welcome to the United Benefice of Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade

Part of the North Chilterns Group of Parishes

Sunday 1st March 2026 Second Sunday of Lent

Kensworth 10.30am – Holy Communion
Studham 10.30am – Family Service
Whipsnade 9.00am – Holy Communion

Services next week: 8th March

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

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 1st March 2026
Second Sunday of Lent

The Collect

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

A reading from the book of Genesis

Genesis 12: 1-4a

The LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

A reading from St Paul's Letter to the Romans

Romans 4: 1-5,13-17

What are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does

the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations') Abraham believed in the presence of the God who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Hear the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

All: Glory to You, O Lord

John 3: 1-17

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of

water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Prayer after Communion

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS:

Where could you explore some of the questions you have about God, and who could you talk to?

For parents and carers: ask your child, "Is there a question about God you have always wanted to ask someone?"