

**Diary for week commencing Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026 –  
The Sunday next before Lent**

8.00am Morning Prayer  
10.00am Holy Communion with Healing  
*With Bishop Michael*

12.00noon Parish Lunch at Woolpack Farm Shop

**Monday** 2.00pm Visitation of Bishop Michael  
7.00pm PCC Meeting with Bishop Michael

**Tuesday** 12.30pm Lent Lunch  
2.00pm House Group Session 5  
4.15pm Standing Committee

**Wednesday**

**Thursday** 10.00am Said Communion  
*Followed by Community Café*  
6.15pm. Choir Practice  
7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice

**Friday**

**Saturday**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March – The Second Sunday of Lent/ St David's Day**

8.00am Said Communion  
10.00am All Age Worship

*Refreshment Rota: Carol Savill and Sheila Judson*

6.00pm Service of Prayer and Reflection



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Baptism & Wedding  
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**STAFF TEAM**

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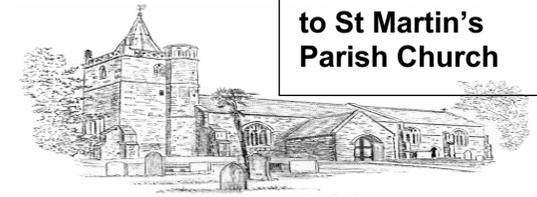
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A warm welcome  
to St Martin's  
Parish Church

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026  
The First Sunday of Lent**

**8.00am Morning Prayer  
Psalm 32**

**Readings: Genesis 2.15-17,3.1-7  
Matthew 4.1-11**

**10.00am Holy Communion with Healing  
With Bishop Michael preaching and presiding**

**Readings: Genesis 2.15-17,3.1-7  
Read by: Diane Swatton  
Romans 5.12-19  
Read by: Sheila Judson  
Matthew 4.1-11**

**Hymns: Jesus, lover of my soul  
Forty days and forty nights  
Lead us heavenly Father  
There is a Redeemer  
O Jesus I have promised**

*Refreshment Rota: Margaret Smith & Carol Savill*

Everyone is Invited  Everyone is Welcome

*Journeying together in the love of Jesus*

**Collect for the First Sunday of Lent**

Heavenly Father, your son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**Post Communion Prayer**

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

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**Please pray for...**

Those who are caught up in conflict, war, acts of terrorism, agencies that are providing food and medical resources to the regions and those seeking peace.

For Bishops Michael and Fiona and the senior staff of the diocese

The natural world and those who are affected by Climate Change.

For the work of Hope Christian Trust and Weston Foodbank, and for the communities in Zambia linked to the Diocese and for Sergio

We pray for all that are ill, who mourn

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**Genesis 2.15-17,3.1-7**

God places the first created man in the garden of Eden, to look after it. The man has complete freedom to eat anything, except from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. The serpent comes and persuades the first created woman to eat from the forbidden tree, so that she may gain knowledge and wisdom. She shares the fruit with the man, who willingly takes it. Suddenly they are aware of their nakedness and immediately cover themselves.

**Romans 5.12-19**

Paul writes that just as one man – Adam - brought so much sin and death into the world, so another – Jesus – brought the great and wonderful gift of grace and justification from God.

**Matthew 4.1-11**

Here we have the account in Matthew’s Gospel of Jesus fasting for 40 days, and enduring temptation. In extreme hunger He is tempted to change stones into bread; in a great yearning for change in people’s hearts he is tempted to gain absolute power; finally, he is tempted to test God’s love and purpose for Him. Jesus confronts the temptation with the words “Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.”

**Church Sunday Lunch – Today - 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

This is today at the Woolpack Inn Farm Shop. The next Parish Sunday Lunch will be on 29<sup>th</sup> March. Please sign on the list on the Communication Table by Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

**Lent Lunch**

There will be two Soup Lent Lunches during this Lent on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February and Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March** both at **12.30pm**. Donations will be gratefully received for the lunch and for **Mary’s Meals** our Lent Charity in 2026, *Please see separate leaflet for details regarding the work of Mary’s Meals.* Please sign up for this on the list on the Communications Table.

**Community Film Night**

The next film will be on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March**, when we will watch **The Green Book**. Doors open at 5.15pm with film starting at 5.45pm. There is no charge for admission, donations gratefully received for the refreshments.

**Women’s Fellowship:** Next Meeting – **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March Skittles Evening at 7.30pm at the Golden Lion.** *Please see the sign up list on the Communications Table for this event.*

There will also be a Women’s Fellowship Meeting on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March**

**Men’s Fellowship:** Next Meeting - **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March**

This will be a Skittles Evening at the Lamb.

**House Group in Church – 24<sup>th</sup> February**

Study group continues this Tuesday on 24<sup>th</sup> February, when we will be exploring the nature of prayer in the Bible, starting with Abraham in the book of Genesis. Everyone is welcome.

**Prayers and Reflections during Lent**

Throughout the Sundays of Lent a member of the Ministry Team will be writing a short reflection on a part of the Lord’s Prayer with regard to our pilgrimages of faith during this penitential season. Please see separate leaflet for today’s reflection by Jon on *Give us today our daily bread.*

**Messy Church**

The next Messy Church Session will be at St Martin’s School on **Wednesdays 25<sup>th</sup> March. The next planning meeting will be on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 4.15pm in Church.** Contact Jon if you would like to find out more about being involved with Messy Church.

**Visit of Bishop Michael to St Martin’s Church**

Today – 22<sup>nd</sup> February we welcome Bishop Michael to our 10am Communion Service. After this service there will be an opportunity for you to greet the Bishop over refreshments.

Those who are members of the PCC will have further opportunity to spend time with Bishop at the special PCC meeting which will be held at 7pm on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.