



WELCOME TO BRADWELL CHURCH

WELCOME TO ST LAWRENCE

Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership (Baptist, Church of England, Methodist, URC)

Following Jesus Sharing his Love since 1223^{AD}

First Sunday of Lent 22nd February

10.30am Morning Worship (led by Chris Linford)

Readings: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 (p.4); Matthew 4.1-11 (p.915);

Service: Andrew and Carol; Reader: Beryl; Prayers: Angela; Music: Beryl; Tea: Ghislaine;

9.45am Weekly Prayers in the South Aisle

Second Sunday of Lent 1st March

10.30am Morning Worship (led by Rev Phil Dunning) including a Baptism

Readings: Genesis 12:1-4a (p.12); John 3:1-17 (p.1006);

Service: Janet and Bernard; Reader: David; Prayers: Karen; Music: Diana; Tea: Raj;

12.00pm AGM Following next Sunday's service for church members.

St Lawrence is a family friendly church; Children are very welcome

Reflection

At a time when Jesus understood His calling, He was led into the wilderness. The wilderness can imply different things, from outdoor excursions to periods of hardship or spiritual struggle, it offers lessons in humility, self-reliance, how to find strength in a challenging environment. In a spiritual or emotional wilderness, you often learn deep faith, dependence on God, and learn what is truly essential. We've all been in a wilderness. Maybe going through a difficult relationship, job loss, or carrying the burden of grief wondering if life will ever feel "normal" again. Here's what you need to know: When God calls you into the wilderness, He wants to meet you there. In that meeting, He has profound lessons waiting to transform your heart and prepare you for what's ahead. Trust Him to shape you into who He's called you to be. The strength and intimacy with God you gain there will last a lifetime. The wilderness may feel like the end of your story, but it's actually where your next chapter begins.

God Bless, Mike



PRAYER POINTERS by Lesley

- For doctors, nurses and all staff entrusted with the direct care of patients
- For God's guidance at next week's Annual Congregational Meeting, as we reflect on the past year and consider how he is leading us forward.
- For the people of Ukraine, 4 years on from the Russian invasion – and for peace.

We pray for all those recently bereaved and those remembering bereavement anniversaries at this time. May they know God's peace and comfort.

We pray for those in particular need, including Sylvia; Jane; David; Joan; Eileen; Nimmi; Esther; Ray; Jill; Paul; Lewis; Ann; Clare; and others known personally to us.

- To add prayers contact Beryl on •

Our Mission Focus in February is MK Bridgebuilder Trust, which visits primary and secondary schools across Milton Keynes. Its focus is to help children and young people consider their beliefs, explore Christianity and make positive life choices. See www.mkbt.org.uk

HYMNS TODAY

563 Praise to the Holiest in the

1346 One more step along the world

590 Seek ye first the Kingdom of God

359 Jesus calls us, o'er the tumult

God is love: let heaven adore him

Minister Today is Chris Linford. Chris is a local Methodist Lay Preacher and was last here in 2023. Please give our usual warm welcome

CHURCH THIS WEEK

Wed Bell ringing 7.45pm

Fri Martial Arts Club 7pm

NEWS & NOTICES

AGM this year's church meeting will be after the service on Sunday 1st March.

Weekly Prayer meeting There is a weekly prayer meeting in the Church prior to the start of worship each week, to pray for our people and ministry. This will occur in the right corner of the south aisle and alongside the preparation work of service arrangers and bell-ringers. All are welcome. Any questions/thoughts - Beryl or Karen .



Stewardship All churches in the partnership are taking part in a series of themed services about stewardship. The idea is to promote unity, church mission and giving in the SEP by reminding all congregations simultaneously of the commitment involved with both maintaining and enhancing our mission together. The next one is on March 8th.

Safeguarding Cof E Safer Church safeguarding policy at Bradwell. All safeguarding information can be accessed on the SEP website. This information is also available for public view in our Safeguarding folder on the bookshelf in the annexe. Please for quick reference see the poster, up on our church notice boards, on how and who to contact should you have a safeguarding concern. Bradwell Safeguarding officer Ann

ECO CHURCH

This Lent, take part in Climate Steward's Carbon Fast. Lent is a time when Christians traditionally fast and focus on God. The Carbon Fast will help you consider ways to live more simply,

give you new ideas to cut your carbon footprint and invite you to focus on God and consider the whole of his creation. More at climatestewards.org/resources/carbon-fast/

Toilet Our thanks to Peter who has been persistent and despite being cancelled twice for our lack of funds has been able to get the toilet repaired and a new hot water tap installed.

PRAYERS & READINGS

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

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**

HOUSEGROUPS

Sun - Diana (ask at church)

Mon - First Monday of the Month
Beryl

Thur zoom Grayham

Thur (day) Denise

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- AGM 1st Mar (after service)
- Mothering Sunday 15th March
- Clocks go forward 29th Mar
- Good Friday 3rd April
- Easter Day 5th April
- Witsun 24th May

Church photocopier is now at church house

PAUSE FOR THOUGHT from Mike

Each friend represents a world in us; a world possibly not born until they arrive, and it is only by this meeting that a new world is born

Anais Nin

QUIZ set by Mike

Q. What was “Capability” Brown’s Christian name?

Answer: Lancelot



COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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

BRADWELL CHURCH



<https://bradwellchurch.com>



bradwellchurch@gmail.com



facebook.com/BradwellChurchMK

For pastoral support

The Revd Phil Dunning

philipjdunning21@gmail.com

01908 151962 or 07990 523702

CHRISTIAN SOLIDARITY WORLDWIDE from Beryl

Mexico: **Pastor Mariano Martínez** is a Protestant pastor from the community of Malacatepec, in Oaxaca State. He has led a small church since 2023. But now **he has been forced out of the community** after he refused to kneel and pray to a Roman Catholic saint. This order violated the agreement made by the village authorities with him on account of his religious beliefs. However, a complaint was made to the village leadership, who **detained Pastor Mariano for five days**. He was then bound with a rope and taken before an assembly of about 180 men, where the village authorities announced that he was to be expelled. The pastor, his wife and his four-month-old baby are now staying temporarily with relatives in Oaxaca City. Please pray that justice will prevail.