



Willen Church Newsheet
The Second Sunday before Lent



Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership
St Mary Magdalene Willen
Sunday 22nd February 2026
The First Sunday of Lent, Quadragesima



Today: The First Sunday of Lent, 'The Temptation of Jesus'

9.30am Holy Communion led by Revd Phil Dunning, Baptist Communion liturgy
To be followed by Congregational meeting. Thank you, Phil, for leading us.

10.00am Family Breakfast Club at Cross & Stable. Service at 11.00am

Service details for SEP churches are on SEP website and in monthly newsletter

This week

St Mary Magdalene church is open for private prayer or quiet reflection on Sundays and Mondays from 9.30am until evening.

ChatterboxMK at Cross & Stable each Wednesday 10.30am to 12.30pm. All Welcome - tea - coffee - cakes - meet and chat. Come and meet others.

Lenten Bible Study : the next meeting of the Lent Group is from **7.00pm to 9.00pm** on Thursday **February 26** at the Quaker Centre, Downhead Park, If you want any more details please get in touch with Margaret Moakes.

Next week: March 1st The Second Sunday of Lent

9.30am All Age Morning Worship led by Margaret Moakes LLM

During this time of Lent help us more clearly to see the ways by which we follow you and as we come to you for refreshment and renewal help us to forget ourselves and find true happiness in serving you. Help each one of us to see our priorities and not be led astray, Too often we fail to live up to our ideals; we compromise for comfort; we become too concerned about material things and seek our own glory. We fail to put our trust in you, trusting only in our own schemes and plans. As we re examine our lives through self discipline and prayer may we enter your stillness, be sensitive to your call and know your will for us.

<p>Pastoral contact: Revd Dr Sam Muthuveloe <i>Email: sam@willenchurch.org</i></p> <p>Churchwarden: Janet Hawkins <i>Email: warden@willenchurch.org</i></p>	<p>Margaret Moakes Licensed Lay Minister <i>Telephone: 01908 237915</i> <i>Margaret@willenchurch.org</i> <i>Church website: www.willenchurch.org</i></p>
<p>Enquiries: To contact about weddings funerals and baptisms or other enquiries please call 01908 382458; or E. sburyepadm@gmail.com or contact a churchwarden.</p>	
<p>Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership: www.stantonbury.net and Facebook Please email short succinct notices to notices@willenchurch.org by 5pm on the preceding Thursday</p>	

The Collect of the 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 to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness to you. **Amen**



NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 5: 12 – 19 (NRSV)

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans

¹² Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— ¹³ sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴ Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶ And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷ If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹ For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 4: 1 – 11 (NRSV)

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' ⁴But he answered, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."' '

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."' '

⁷Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' '

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; ⁹and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' ¹⁰Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

"Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."'

¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ



NOTICES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of ST. MARY MAGDALENE WILLEN

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 15 March following the service starting at 10.45am. We will be looking to appoint

- members of the Congregation Leadership Team, Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Safeguarding
- up to 2 people elected as Church Officers who will be members of the Partnership Leadership Team, and will fulfil the roles of Anglican Churchwardens, Baptist Deacons, Methodist Stewards and United Reformed Church Elders.
- 2 people to be on the new Consultative forum, which will meet as required to consult with their congregations on strategic development and new strategic initiatives and feedback to the Partnership Leadership Team
- parochial representatives to the Deanery Synod; the Methodist Council; United Reform Church

If you would like to be a member of the church please and attend the Annual Members' Meeting please contact Janet Hawkins or the secretary. The notes of the St. Mary Magdalene Congregation Leadership Team meetings in 2025 are available. If any members would like a copy of the AGM or Congregation Leadership Team meeting notes please email the secretary@willenchurch.org.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

- Those in Debt: Many people have debts that are unsustainable, or find themselves trapped in a vicious cycle of rising debt. Please pray for those who owe money to others and for debt advice services and credit unions, who are trying to help.
- **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

Sick: Louise Folley, Mark & Janice Earls, Fr Edmund Wheat SSM, Alison Read, Cindy Williams, Liz Halliwell, Lynda Phillips, Rosie Fletcher, Warwick Newton, Gwen McNulty

World Prayers Lord God, as we reflect on your Son's victory over temptation in the wilderness, we pray for our world, so often enticed by selfishness and greed. Strengthen us all to resist the ways of evil and to turn toward your light. As Jesus overcame in the desert, grant us the grace to stand firm against temptation, choosing truth compassion, and justice in the face of conflict. Lead us from darkness to hope. In Jesus' name, Amen

HYMNS - Complete Anglican Hymns Old and New

- 649** The King of love my shepherd is
- 191** Forty days and forty nights in Judah's desert
- 379** Lead us, heav'nly Father, lead us
- 310** I heard the voice of Jesus say

