

NOTICES

LENT STUDIES: Prayer is a key part of our Christian lives but often gives rise to anxiety and questions. This Lent you're invited to join Revd Josie on Tuesdays at 8pm on Zoom (5 weeks) or Revd Janet in person Thursdays at 7pm at the Rectory (6 weeks), for *the Prayer Course* by Pete Greig. The course explores what the Bible and Christians down the years have said about prayer and ending with a quiet service of Compline. Speak to Janet or Josie if you'd like to take part. Course details and resources are on <https://prayercourse.org/>

Living Hope is a resource produced by the Church of England for Lent 2025. If people would like to receive emails each day during lent on these themes, they need to sign up at [Living Hope - Lent reflections | The Church of England](https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/what-we-believe/lent-holy-week-and-easter/living-hope-lent-reflections)
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RENEWING OF THE ELECTORAL ROLL 2025. A reminder that completed Application Forms should be returned by **TODAY - Sunday 9th March** to the Electoral Roll Officer (Ian McKenzie) ASAP. Forms are available at the back of church.

PCC POSITIONS AND CHURCHWARDEN POSITION: We encourage everyone to prayerfully reflect on the 4 to 5 vacant positions on the PCC and to also consider if you might be called to serve as our next Churchwarden following Roy's faithful service. If you know someone who would be a good fit, we encourage you to invite them to step forward. Nomination forms are available at the back of the church.

Mothers' Union meeting on Tuesday 11th March 2pm in Holy Cross Church and the Community Parish Hall.
Deanery Quiet Afternoon with St Saviour's and St Stephen's Mothers' Union members to be led by Reverend Josie.

All members of the church and clergy are cordially invited to my **90th birthday celebration** after church on **Sunday 16th March**. No cards, gifts or flowers please. *Lilian Peers*

Last chance to **JOIN THE 100 CLUB LOTTERY** before the March draw next week

Save the Date! Get ready for a **Barn Dance. Friday, 6th June.** Details to follow soon! Mark your calendars – you won't want to miss it!

Holy Cross Church, Woodchurch

Growing disciples of Christ

SUNDAY 9TH MARCH 2025
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Welcome to everyone here today! A particular welcome if you are with us for the first time. Please do stay for refreshments after the 10am service in the Parish Community Hall.

Gluten free wafers are available; please ask one of the Sidespeople.

Welcome!

Collect: – Page 816 - *The Common Worship Lectionary*)

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.**

Post Communion: (*Page 819 - The Common Worship Lectionary*)

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**

Readings for 8am and 10am – YEAR C

1st Reading (**8am & 10am**) Deuteronomy 26: 1-11

Psalms (**8am**) Psalm 91: 1-11

Gospel (**8am & 10am**) Luke 4: 1-13

8.00am Holy Communion – Preacher Rev Janet
10.00am Holy Communion – Preacher Rev Janet
Hymns at 10am: 527/150/190/412/483/574/221
Mass Setting: Simple Mass 953

11.30am PCC Meeting in Parish Community Hall
12.00 Noon NO Baptism



CHURCH DIARY FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:

<u>Monday</u>	10 th March	9.00am	Morning Prayer in Church
		12.15pm	Choir practice in Church
<u>Tuesday</u>	11 th March	2pm to 3pm	Mothers' Union in Church
		8.00pm	Bible Study via Zoom
<u>Wednesday</u>	12 th March	1.15pm	Community Café in the Parish Community Hall
		3.30pm	Messy Church in the Parish Community Hall
<u>Thursday</u>	13 th March	9.00am	NO School Service in Church
		7.00pm	Lent group at The Rectory

**SUNDAY, 16TH MARCH 2025
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

8.00am	Holy Communion	1 st Reading (8am & 10am)	Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18
10.00am	Holy Communion	Psalm (8am)	Psalm 27
12 Noon	NO Baptism	Gospel (8am & 10am)	Luke 13: 31-end

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Sun: New Bridge Close. Mon: New Hey Road.
Tue: Northbrook Way. Wed: Orrets Meadow.
Thu: Parklands Court. Fri: Parkway.
Sat: Parkway Close.

Those who are ill:

Wendy, Elaine, Peter, Frances, Phil, Maurice, Ted, Liz, Roy, Rosemarie, Val

We remember those who have died and pray for those who mourn their passing:



"Give rest O Christ to your servants with the saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing but life everlasting. Amen"

Years Mind

Catherine Jones, Sam Joseph Rees, Robert Denyer, Andrew Dean (Priest), Alfred Macauley, Howell Jones, Anne Mary Palmer, Terry Lamb, Walter Stephenson, Grace Tansey

**BIBLE READING FOR THE WEEK:
First Sunday in Lent - Luke 4: 1-13**

Jesus had options. Satan challenged Him but in the power of God's Holy Spirit Jesus pushed away wrong motives and methods. We also face challenging situations. Like it or not, dilemmas and pressures are the stuff of life. We too have options.

Prayer: Jesus, you faced challenging situations. When I do, may I rise above them in Your strength.

Our verse for the year

*"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!"
1 John 3:1 (NIV)*

Parish Office: 20 Eltham Green, Wirral CH49 5NG

Telephone: 0151 677 5352

Email: parishoffice@holycrosswoodchurch.uk

Office opening hours: Monday-Thursday: 9.30am to 12.30pm

Rector: Rev Sister Janet Arnold CA: 07949 760514

Email: rev.janet@holycrosswoodchurch.uk

Website: www.holycrosswoodchurch.uk

Facebook: Holy Cross Woodchurch-Approved

HOLY CROSS WOODCHURCH: Growing disciples of Christ