

SEVENTY TIMES SEVEN

*The Benefice of the Guitings, Cutsdean, Farmcote, Upper and Lower Slaughter
with Eyford and Naunton*

February-March 2023



Thanks to Andrea Jordison for these lovely photos (Lower Slaughter Carol Service)



DEAR READERS

Welcome back to our familiar 2-monthly format! We hope you enjoy it.

As you know, Covid changed many things. For us one change has been that many residents in our Benefice now routinely receive this magazine via email (it also gets uploaded onto 3 village websites). With most people able and preferring to receive things online and with environmental concerns about duplication and rising costs etc, it was discussed and decided at the last Churchwardens' meeting to move away from paper. Therefore, this will be the last edition to routinely drop through your letterbox! From April 2023, a small number of paper copies will be left in each of our churches for those who need them and can be delivered to you if you wish. If you don't already receive this via email and would like to, or if you would like to ask for an ongoing paper copy, please speak to Katrina, Sue or your Churchwarden. Thank you.

DEAR FRIENDS

In my neighbour's garden I can see snowdrops popping up all over their lawn. What wonderful signs of hope! So simple and yet they offer such a message, in these cold (very cold at the time of writing) days.

At the beginning of February, we celebrate Candlemas, when we think particularly of Jesus as the light of the world. How appropriate, since February and March bring us from the dark days of winter into spring and Lent, both times when we can observe growth and light - in the natural world around us and perhaps in our lives too, as the hope and joy of Easter draws near.

We'll be observing Lent with a series of lunches alternating with talks by people who exercise different types of ministry. Our annual walks across the Benefice will also be happening again during Holy Week. We would love it if you could join us at these events when you are able. Further details can be found later in the magazine.

With our love and prayers

Katrina and Sue

***Sue's working days in the Benefice are Wednesdays and Sundays.
Catherine is on maternity leave until Autumn 2023.***

Praying for Ukraine

This month will see the first anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. On 24th February 2022, we were shocked to hear of War within Europe and, as the months continue, we are deeply saddened by the ongoing conflict, death and trauma. It is thought that tens of thousands (from both sides) have died, while the Red Cross

state that in the first 6 months alone, 13 million people had been forced to leave their homes and 18 million were in need of humanitarian aid. We have been praying in our churches, and will continue to pray – for Ukraine, Russia and all areas of our world where there is violence.

On Sunday 12th February, in our 11.00am morning service at St. Andrew's, Naunton, we will be holding a service with a special focus on Ukraine. We will hear some Ukrainian music, hear some of the service spoken in Ukrainian and we will pray for all affected, and for peace. The collection taken on the day will also go towards supporting Ukrainian families.

All are welcome to come and join us.

Marking Lent

Ash Wednesday marks the start of the observation of Lent, a season of self-examination, penitence, self-denial, study, and preparation for Easter. Lent is often described as lasting forty days (excluding Sundays) which recalls the Biblical account of Jesus's temptation in the wilderness (Luke 4.1-13).

Join us in marking this Lent – we are offering a variety of ways of engagement, and you are welcome to join as many as you like:

- Ash Wednesday: Begin Lent with a service including Ashing and Holy Communion on Wednesday 22nd February at 7.00pm at St. Michael and All Angels' Church, Guiting Power.
- Lent Speakers: During the season of Lent we have the opportunity to hear some different speakers, talking about their work and ministry. Look out for more details in the churches of dates and speakers.
- Lent Lunches: Enjoy a community soup and bread meal, with others:
 - Tuesday 7th March – 12.30pm – Upper Slaughter Village Hall
 - Wednesday 22nd March – 12.30pm – Naunton Village Hall
- The Pilgrim Way: This is a Course being run by Bishop Rachel and Bishop Robert – a simple introduction to the Christian faith. You could use this course to lead you into Baptism or Confirmation, or simply as a Lenten exploration. More details available at:
www.gloucester.anglican.org/event/the-pilgrim-way-baptism-and-confirmation-course/

As part of our **COMMUNITY MINISTRY** we have shared in these services

Baptisms

“May God guide and protect them”

Theodore Bruin Fugueroa White on 28th December 2022 at Upper Slaughter

Sofia Luise Kroencke on 21st January 2023 at Naunton

Funerals

“May God grant them light and peace”

Gwen Heath, Burial of Ashes at Naunton on 20th December 2022

Julie Lee, Funeral Service at Cheltenham Crematorium on 6th January 2023

Kenneth Jones, Funeral Service and Burial at Temple Guiting on 9th January 2023

Morning Prayer in the Benefice - *If you'd like to join in that would be lovely.*

Mondays : 9.15am at Lower Slaughter

Tuesdays : 9.15am at Guiting Power

Wednesdays : 9.15am at Naunton

Thursdays : 9.30am at Temple Guiting (after Open the Book in School)

Fridays : 9.15am at Upper Slaughter.

WIDER CHURCH NEWS

Warm Places

We had our first Warm Wednesday meeting in the Cochrane Room in Guiting Power on 18th January. Eleven of us enjoyed a hot drink, soup, sandwiches and cakes in the warmth of the space. There was a warm and friendly atmosphere too - a lot of chat, games to play, and we enjoyed looking through an album of old photographs of Guiting Power.

You would be most welcome to join us at future Welcome Wednesdays. We meet from 12noon until 2.00pm. The next one will be on Wednesday 1st February, and alternate Wednesdays after that, which are:-

15th February

1st March

15th March

29th March

And don't forget, every Thursday from 10.30am to 12.30pm there's a warm space at the Coffee Shop in St Andrew's, Naunton and the company and welcome is very warm there too!

Bellringing

Practices: Naunton most Mondays at 7.00pm; Longborough Wednesdays at 7.30pm. Full training and warm welcome awaits. Please contact Naunton Tower Captain, Richard Tilbrook on 07717 720589 or 01451 850691 for details.

North Cotswold Foodbank - *Here for the people of the North Cotswolds*

If you or someone you know are concerned about putting food on the table, **please don't go hungry or worry in silence** - contact Sue or the North Cotswold Foodbank directly - specialist advice is available for getting support and food parcels if needed. The Foodbank always welcomes donations of food (please check their particular needs) and cash donations (for fresh meat and local produce) can be made online using the donate button.

A heart-warming dish ... SIMPLE MACARONI CHEESE

225g (8oz) macaroni
3 tomatoes
225g (8oz) Cheddar cheese, grated
25g (1oz) fresh breadcrumbs
Sprig of parsley to garnish (optional)

Method:

1. Cook macaroni as directed on the packet. Peel and chop 2 tomatoes. Mix the drained macaroni with the chopped tomatoes, and add most of the grated cheese and breadcrumbs.
2. Spoon into a greased ovenproof dish and top with the remaining cheese and breadcrumbs. Slice the remaining tomato and place on top.
3. Bake at 180°C (350°F) or Gas Mark 4 for 25 minutes. Garnish with parsley before serving.

Serves 4 / 470 calories per portion

SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

Sunday 5th February

- 9.00am Zoom
- 10.00am Holy Communion at Guiting Power
- 11.00am Matins at Upper Slaughter
- 4.00pm Evening Service at Temple Guiting

Sunday 12th February

- 9.30am Holy Communion at Farmcote
- 11.00am Holy Communion at Lower Slaughter
- 11.00am Morning Service at Naunton – *remembering the anniversary of the beginnings of the War in Ukraine*

Sunday 19th February

- 9.00am Zoom
- 9.30am Holy Communion at Cutsdean
- 11.00am Holy Communion at Upper Slaughter
- 3.30pm Wild Worship at Temple Guiting Churchyard

Wednesday 22nd February – Ash Wednesday

- 7.00pm Holy Communion with Ashing at Guiting Power

Sunday 26th February

- 9.30am Holy Communion at Naunton
- 10.00am Holy Communion at Temple Guiting
- 11.00am Morning Praise at Lower Slaughter
- 6.00pm Evening Service at Guiting Power

**** Our apologies if services have to be cancelled or altered*

*at short notice. ****

SERVICES IN MARCH

Sunday 5th March

- 9.00am Zoom
- 10.00am Holy Communion at Guiting Power
- 11.00am Matins at Upper Slaughter
- 6.00pm Evening Service at Temple Guiting

Sunday 12th March

- 9.30am Holy Communion at Farmcote
- 11.00am Holy Communion at Lower Slaughter
- 11.00am Matins at Naunton

Sunday 19th March

- 9.00am Zoom
- 9.30am Holy Communion at Cutsdean
- 11.00am Holy Communion at Upper Slaughter
- 3.30pm Wild Worship at Guiting Power Churchyard

Sunday 26th March

- 9.30am Holy Communion at Naunton
- 10.00am Holy Communion at Temple Guiting
- 11.00am Morning Praise at Lower Slaughter
- 6.00pm Evening Service at Guiting Power

**** Our apologies if services have to be cancelled or altered at short notice. ****

Zoom Link

Zoom activities continue with two Sunday Morning Prayer services each month and Bible Study from 7.00-8.00pm on Wednesdays 1st February and 1st March.

For all Zoom events please follow link below:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7979867589?pwd=h6UaQN2VhIdx79AlafPNV50YxJVtZA>

Meeting ID: 797 986 7589

Password: 815669

To join by telephone please call 0203 481 5237 and enter Meeting ID and password.

Journeying Through Holy Week

Holy Week is one of the most special weeks in the Church year. We remember Jesus coming into Jerusalem, gathering with his disciples, being arrested, tried and crucified...

and we rejoice in the empty tomb and his resurrection.

Join us in Churches, across the Benefice to mark, celebrate and pray our way through Jesus' journey:

Palm Sunday – 2nd April

9.30am – Holy Communion at St. James', Cutsdean

11.00am – Family Service at St. Peter's, Upper Slaughter

Monday 3rd April – 7.00pm - Compline at St. Faith's, Farmcote

Tuesday 4th April – 7.00pm - Compline at St. Michael's, Guiting Power

Wednesday 5th April – 7.00pm – Compline at St. Mary's, Lower Slaughter

Maundy Thursday - 6th April

6.00pm – A Meal, at St. Mary's, Temple Guiting, remembering Jesus' Last Supper with his friends. Come along for a meal as we retell the story.

Following the meal, there will be a Vigil in the quiet church if you would like to stay.

Good Friday – 7th April

We remember Jesus' death on the cross in three different services:

11.00am – Children's Crafts and Activities, with Hot Cross Buns and Coffee, and a Family Service at 12noon, at St. Andrew's, Naunton

2-3pm – A Meditative Service at the Foot of the Cross at St. Peter's, Upper Slaughter

7.00pm – An Evening Service for Good Friday at St. James', Cutsdean

Also join us for our Holy Week Walk of Witness across the Benefice – carrying the cross across each Parish and stopping at each Church.

Join us too for our Easter Sunday Celebrations – 9th April:

6.00am - Dawn Communion at St. Michael's, Guiting Power

9.00am - Holy Communion at St. Faith's, Farmcote

9.30am - Holy Communion at St. Andrew's, Naunton

10.00am - Family Communion at St. Mary's, Temple Guiting

11.00am - Holy Communion at St. Mary's, Lower Slaughter



Walk of Witness



HOLY WEEK 2023

A week of walking across our benefice



Palm Sunday 2 April - Holy Saturday 8 April

Join a special pilgrimage across our beautiful Benefice this Holy Week.

Beginning in Lower Slaughter and finishing in Farmcote, join for as much as you feel able. Each walk approximately 2 - 3 miles one way.

Come ready for the weather!

Sunday 2nd April – 10.00am Lower Slaughter to Upper Slaughter (1 mile)
Arriving in Upper Slaughter for the 11.00am Family Service

Monday 3rd April – 2.30pm Upper Slaughter to Naunton (3.5 miles)

Tuesday 4th April – 5.45pm Naunton to Guiting Power (2 miles)
Arriving in Guiting Power for the 7.00pm Compline Service

Wednesday 5th April – 2.00pm Guiting Power to Temple Guiting (3.5 miles)

Thursday 6th April – 10.00am Temple Guiting to Cutsdean (2 miles)

Saturday 8th April – 10.00am Cutsdean to Farmcote (3 miles)



NEWS FROM THE PEWS AND FORTHCOMING VILLAGE EVENTS

GUITING POWER

Already Christmas seems far behind us, but before it's completely out of mind, a big "Thank You" to Katrina and Sue, and indeed all involved, for our very splendid Christmas Services enjoyed by many. Once again as I write, there is a light covering of snow over the village, so it's timely that our 'Welcome Wednesdays' have begun. They will take place once a fortnight in The Cochrane Room in Post Office Lane, with the next on 1st February. Full details elsewhere in this magazine.

Even though it's cold, signs of Spring are already around us, Catkins and the first Snowdrops, always a welcome sight. Lent begins on 22nd February with a 7.00pm Service of Ashing with Holy Communion for Ash Wednesday at St. Michael's. On Easter Day there will be our usual Dawn Communion in the Churchyard followed by breakfast in the church, and in the afternoon there will be an Easter Fair in the church and churchyard with Egg Hunt, Tea, Cake and various stalls.

As we look forward to the season ahead and the reawakening of our gardens, a forward date for your diary; Open Gardens returns to its customary 'first Sunday in June' slot on 4th June. My 'green fingers' are already itching, are yours?!

Simon Wallis

*** Please note: Guiting babies will resume in the Spring***.

LOWER SLAUGHTER

As I write this on a cold and frosty January day, I have seen the first carpet of snowdrops. How encouraging that spring is slowly on its way and already the days are starting to get longer. Next will be the "flower of hope" – the golden daffodil.

We enjoyed wonderful Christmas services, and all well attended. On 21 December we held our Candlelit Carol Service and, as the weather was kind, it started outside around our Christmas Tree. How wonderful it was to see all ages enjoying the Carols and readings. Then on Christmas morning we welcomed many visitors and Church family from around our Benefice to our Communion service.

Now we journey towards Lent and look forward to the talks and lunches being held around our Benefice during that time.

Just one date for your diaries ... On Saturday 25 February at 6.00 for 6.15pm we are holding a Fish & Chip Supper and fun Quiz in the Village Hall. Cost £14.00 per person, children £10.00 each. Bring your own drinks. Vegetarian and gluten-free options available. Ticket entry only, available from myself – please call after 6.00pm on 810294. Teams of 4 which can be made up on the night where necessary. Generous prize for the winning team so looking forward to seeing you then!

Marion Marshall

NAUNTON

The new year's village entertainment in Naunton started off with an excellent and well-attended performance by 'Rain or Shine theatre company' of a Sherlock Holmes mystery in mid-January. This will be followed (just about as 70x7 goes to press) with a Burns Night supper hosted by St. Andrew's.

Naunton Cinema's next showing (in St. Andrew's) is 'Operation Mincemeat' on Tuesday 7th February. Contact Bob at bob@markets-international.com for details or if you would like to be on the monthly mailing list.

Naunton Music will be running its concert series in St. Andrew's as usual on Friday evenings in May, June, July and September. Tickets are already on sale for all the concerts - call Ba on 01451 850897 or go to www.nauntonmusic.org.uk for full details of all the concerts. The first concert, on 19th May, is Viktoria Mullover and Alasdair Beatson (violin & fortepiano).

Bob Steiner

TEMPLE GUITING CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

What an amazing start to the year we have had. We started our building project on the 19th December and it has moved really quickly. On January 6th, we went out as a whole school to our "safety zone" and watched the classroom and offices be smashed to pieces. Since then, the site has been cleared, footings dug and concrete will be poured very soon. At the moment the site looks huge and we can't wait to watch our new building take shape. The second picture below shows the observation holes the builders have cut so the children can watch the process. They even have safety glass in them and doors to close them!



Young Voices 2023 - A group of our children travelled to Resorts World in Birmingham to perform with thousands of other children singing and dancing. It was an amazing experience and one we know the children will remember for a long time.

After school clubs and care - Even though school finishes at 3.15pm – that's just the start of our clubs time. We run after school care club from 3.15 to 5.30pm every day. We have space for 15 children and after an outside play session with all the playground equipment, the children go inside for a snack and a drink then a range of activities is on offer every day. We make sure every day is different and a great way to finish the school day.

Alongside after school care club we run a number of clubs to challenge and teach our children new skills. They are Construction club, STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths), Superstrikers football, Ballet, ukulele, Shotokan Karate, Multi-sports, computer and Dodgeball clubs. Quite a range for a small school and all very popular. It's a very busy place to be after school.

Mental health and Wellbeing week 6- 10th February - We know that mental health and wellbeing is so important if we are all to thrive. The week in February is a chance for us to highlight all the positive ways we can each work on our own mental health. We know that every day is not always happy, but we are teaching our children how to deal with days like this and where to turn if they feel they need help. We will have a whole range of activities to support this including a whole school walk, relaxation, cooking, art and discussion sessions. It's a brilliant week that we hope will give our students a little more in their armour of tools to help them thrive.

Ann Barry, Head Teacher



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free in 2023?**

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Magazine Deadlines:

20 January

20 March

20 May

20 July

20 September

20 November

Advertising Costs:

1/8 page = £60 per annum

¼ page = £100 per annum

½ page = £165 per annum

NB – These details are subject to change.

Guided Walks with the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens

Details of the walks available are described on the website (below).

Please check walk details carefully, including whether booking is necessary.

<https://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/visiting-and-exploring/guided-walks/>



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View online at www.achurchnearyou.com

Churches and School working together to share God's love in our communities

CHURCHWARDENS

Lower Slaughter (GL54 2HR)

(Vacant)

Safeguarding Officer: Marion Marshall

Naunton (GL54 3AX)

(Vacant)

Safeguarding Officer: Louise Goll

Temple Guiting (GL54 5RW) and Cutsdean (GL54 5RX)

Ali Clifton Barnard 01386 584976

Deputy Warden & *Safeguarding Officer:*

Peter Forshaw 01242 602593

Upper Slaughter (GL54 2JF)

Liz Gibson 01451 822118

Anthea Gough 01451 810370

Safeguarding Officer: Ken Pascoe

Guiting Power (GL54 5TX)

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DEADLINE for the next issue

20 MARCH 2023.

This magazine is free to parish residents. Otherwise, the charge is 50p per copy.

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