

SEVENTY TIMES SEVEN

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

March & April 2022

DEAR FRIENDS,

Spring is here! After all the storms of February, seeing the lighter evenings and flowers springing up in the garden, I already feel lighter and ready for this new season of the year.

As we enter in to Lent, I always try to make sure I go slowly. Gently. With intention and appropriate space for reflection.

As we hear of Jesus's temptation in the wilderness for 40 days and nights we are reminded that Lent is a marathon, not a sprint. We need to pace ourselves!



The time period of 40 days and years appears throughout the Bible, in both the Old and New Testaments.

In the early Israelite tradition, the number 40 was deeply spiritually significant. A time period lasting 40 days, or years, not only meant a significant period of time, but this number also symbolised a time of spiritual testing, trial and transition. Of a time period where God was doing something new. A time period of transformation.

From stories of the floods in Genesis, to Moses, to Jesus, the number 40 sees us travel through a transition, where we journey from one epoch to another.

As we transition into this new season of Spring, and as we travel into this new season of Lent and then Easter, we pray that it will be a time for you, of reflection, of light, of journeying with God, and of new life.

We have lots of interesting and inspiring opportunities to journey through Lent and onto Easter together as a benefice this year. See inside for more details.

With love and prayers,

Katrina, Sue and Catherine

For all Zoom events please use following Link :

Join Zoom Meeting

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Meeting ID: 797 986 7589

Password: 815669

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

SERVICES FOR MARCH 2022

Wednesday 2nd March – Ash Wednesday

7.00pm Holy Communion at Upper Slaughter

Sunday 6th 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 13th March

9.00am Zoom

9.30am Holy Communion at Farmcote

10.00am Holy Communion at Lower Slaughter

11.00am Matins at Naunton

Sunday 20th March

9.00am Zoom

9.30am Holy Communion at Cutsdean

10.00am Holy Communion at Upper Slaughter

3.30pm Wild Worship at Naunton Churchyard

Sunday 27th March – Mothering Sunday

9.00am Zoom

9.30am Holy Communion at Naunton

10.00am Family Holy Communion for Mothering Sunday at Temple Guiting

11.00am Morning Praise at Lower Slaughter

6.00pm Evening Service at Guiting Power

SERVICES FOR APRIL 2022

Sunday 3rd April – Passion Sunday

9.00am Zoom

10.00am Holy Communion at Guiting Power

11.00am Matins at Upper Slaughter

11.00am Morning Praise and Baptism at Naunton

6.00pm Evening Service at Temple Guiting

Sunday 10th April – Palm Sunday

- 9.00am Zoom
9.30am Holy Communion at Farmcote
11.00am Palm Procession at Lower Slaughter

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

Monday 11th April

- 9.15am Morning Prayer at St James', Cutsdean

Tuesday 12th April

- 9.15am Morning Prayer at St Peter's, Upper Slaughter

Wednesday 13th April

- 9.15am Morning Prayer at St Michael & All Angels, Guiting Power

Maundy Thursday 14th 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 of that night and afterwards there will be a Vigil in the quiet church for any who would like to stay.

Good Friday 15th 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
2.00-3.00pm A Meditative Service at the Foot of the Cross at St Faith's, Farmcote
7.00pm An Evening Service for Good Friday at St Mary's, Lower Slaughter

Sunday 17th April – Easter Sunday

- 6.00am Dawn Eucharist at Guiting Power
9.00am Zoom
9.30am Holy Communion at Naunton
10.00am Family Holy Communion at Temple Guiting (with Farmcote and Cutsdean)
11.00am Holy Communion at Upper Slaughter (with Lower Slaughter)

Sunday 24th April

- 9.00am Zoom
9.30am Holy Communion at Naunton
10.00am Holy Communion at Cutsdean
11.00am Morning Praise at Lower Slaughter
6.00pm Evening Service at Guiting Power

PLEASE NOTE: Occasionally it may be necessary to change or cancel services at short notice. Should this happen, please accept our sincere apologies for any inconvenience caused.

COMMUNITY MINISTRY



Join us for lunch – ALL WELCOME!

Our local churches are planning a series of lunches during Lent and you are invited. Come and join us around the communities, for soup and bread, and a chance to meet with others. Feel free to come along at 12.30pm and bring a friend too. Dates and venues are as follows:

Wednesday 9th March – Upper Slaughter Village Hall
Thursday 17th March – Temple Guiting Church – West End
Friday 25th March – Naunton Village Hall
Friday 1st April – Lower Slaughter Village Hall
Tuesday 5th April – Guiting Power Village Hall

No charge, but as a part of our Lenten response we will be collecting donations for the **Red Cross Ukraine Appeal**.

For more information contact Rev'd Canon Katrina Scott kragscott@hotmail.com.

Lent Evenings

This year our Lent Evenings pick up the theme of “How do we, as Churches and individual Christians, live out sharing in Jesus’ ministry as he described it in Luke Chapter 4?” Each week our speaker will give us a practical view on Jesus’ mandate and how we can participate (final details for the latter talks still to be confirmed):

Wednesday 9th March at St. Michael’s, Guiting Power - “to bring good news to the poor”
Kevin Carden (North Cotswold Foodbank)

Wednesday 16th March at St. Andrew’s, Naunton - “to proclaim release to the captives”
Rev’d Sue Pestell (Sharing her placement experience of prison ministry)

Wednesday 23rd March at St. Mary’s, Lower Slaughter - “recovery of sight to the blind”

Wednesday 30th March at St. Mary’s, Temple Guiting - “to let the oppressed go free”

Wednesday 6th April at St. Peter’s, Upper Slaughter - “to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour”

Join us each week at 7.00pm for these thought-provoking talks and discussion across our Benefice. Learn, pray and enjoy this Lent. **All welcome!**

MORNING PRAYER IN THE BENEFICE

Mondays : 9.15am at Lower Slaughter

Tuesdays : 9.15am at Guiting Power

Wednesdays : 9.15am at Naunton

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

Fridays : 9.15am at Upper Slaughter.

If you would like to join in that would be lovely.

NEWS FROM THE PEWS AND PARISHES

**** See local details for Platinum Jubilee events in our villages in June ****

Upper Slaughter

We are pleased to be hosting the first of this year's Lent soup lunches on Wednesday 9th March in the Village Hall from 12.30-2.00pm. All most welcome.

Liz Gibson

Lower Slaughter

Unfortunately, I start with sad news. In January one of our former Vicars, Rev Terry Williams, died. He was such a cheerful, caring man and we send our sympathy to his family and friends.

After the recent storms, how wonderful it is to enjoy Spring sunshine and new life all around us with new-born lambs in the fields and flowers on the verges and in our gardens. It's great to also be able to share a few dates for your diary:

Easter Saturday 16 April – Village Coffee morning, 10.00am to 12 noon. Pop down for a chat, good coffee and cake, and enjoy the Easter flowers in Church. All very welcome.

Saturday 30 April – NEW VENTURE – Car Boot Sale in the Church Precinct. From 9.45am to 1.00pm, £10.00 per car, booking essential. Details from Marion Marshall on 01451 810294.

A peaceful and joyous Easter from all at St Mary's. Enjoy those wonderful chocolate eggs!

Marion Marshall

Naunton

Life in Naunton is starting to open up, post Covid.

Our regular monthly breakfasts (third Saturday) have been going again for a while, as has the regular monthly cinema (first Tuesday except for March which is the second Tuesday - 8th March: 'Little Women' then 5th April), as well as the regular weekly events such as table-tennis, 'Nippers' (mother and toddler) and aikido (martial arts). And we're looking forward to a curry night in March, open gardens in the Summer and more of the usual annual events.

So, let's hope that life as we used to know it is back!

Bob Steiner

Guiting Power

It feels slightly daunting, having so often read Dorothy Watson's 'News from the Pews', to now be writing it myself for the first time! Many of you attended Dorothy's service at St. Michael's in early February, and what a fitting tribute to her it was. We continue to hold Christine and all Dorothy's family in our thoughts and prayers.

At the end of February the weather was very kind to us for our 'Spring Clean' of the church and churchyard. The response was overwhelming and a very big "Thank You" to all who helped and supported. It was lovely to smell fresh mown grass without and the wax polish within!

Going one better is the ever-popular Old Post Office, undergoing a refurbishment before re-opening in March with a change of management. We wish Marie and her daughter-in-law Ting every success when they re-open, and Fiona every enjoyment in her retirement.

Our Lent services and activities are detailed elsewhere in this magazine, but at St. Michael's we particularly look forward to the Sunrise Service at 6.00am on Easter Day. The day after, for the Easter Monday Bank Holiday, we will be serving Afternoon Teas in the church from 2.00-4.30pm and, weather permitting, some Easter 'Egg-citement' in the churchyard for the young people, and young at heart!

Simon Wallis

Thanks to our Guiting Power Photographer

During 2020, Rick Senley started a new project - capturing the life, surroundings and people of Guiting Power in pictures through lockdown. You may have seen the beautiful book and exhibition collecting all the photographs. It was a beautiful project. Rick very kindly supported the Church in Guiting Power with this project, gifting the profits and donations to the Church Roof (work needing to be done soon!). In all, £500 was raised and donated to the Church! Thank you so much!

Temple Guiting

Sunday 5 June – "Platinum Jubilee Big Picnic Lunch" in the recreation field. Watch out for more details.

Ali Clifton Barnard

Temple Guiting Church of England School

It has been a very busy few weeks in school with the fundraising for the rebuilding project of our Key stage 1 and office block still going full steam ahead. We have now raised over £400,000 of our £525,000 and are very hopeful we will reach our target by July 2022. Please do look on the school website if you would like more detail of what we are proposing to do.

We have welcomed a new teacher to the school Mrs Zoe Rainbow, she will be teaching our class 2. Miss Chester has gone on Maternity leave and we hope to hear news of Baby Gower's arrival any day.



We held a Valentine's day cake sale to raise money for a circus skills day later in the year and raised £100 – a brilliant effort by the school council. We decided to use the proceeds of our pancake day races and eating to send our support to the refugees from the war in Ukraine. The children felt strongly we should be using the money to support others in need not just ourselves. We were very proud of their passion and commitment.

World book day is an exciting day where we get up to all sorts of reading and listening activities – we even get to dress up in our favourite comfy clothes so we are ready to be read to at any point in the day and learn more about famous characters from books. Reading is one of the most important skills we learn in school and opens up a whole new world for everyone to explore.



We are all looking forward to the next few weeks and the build up towards Easter.

Ann Barry, Head Teacher

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Rector: Rev'd Canon Katrina Scott: Email: kragscott@hotmail.com
Tel: 01451 821777 Twitter : @KatrinaKrgscott Facebook: Revkatrina Scott

Rev'd Sue Pestell (Curate): Email: susan.pestell@gmail.com Tel: 07522 188475

Rev'd Catherine Cowie (Curate): Email: revcatherinecowie@gmail.com Tel: 07936 899727

Jean Bird (Reader Emeritus) - 01451 605086

View online at www.achurchnearyou.com

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

CHURCHWARDENS

Cutsdean (GL54 5RX)

Mark Evans 01386 584245
(Safeguarding Officer: Peter Forshaw)

Lower Slaughter (GL54 2HR)

(Vacant)
(Safeguarding Officer: Marion Marshall)

Naunton (GL54 3AX)

(Vacant)
(Safeguarding Officer: Barbara Steiner)

Temple Guiting (GL54 5RW)

Ali Clifton-Barnard 01386 584976
--- Deputy Wardens ---

Avril Vincent 01451 831599

Peter Forshaw 01242 602593
(Safeguarding Officer: Peter Forshaw)

Upper Slaughter (GL54 2JF)

Liz Gibson 01451 822118
Anthea Gough 01451 810370
(Safeguarding Officer: Ken Pascoe)

Guiting Power (GL54 5TY)

Simon Wallis 01451 851806
(Safeguarding Officer: Michael Edwards)

Farmcote (GL54 5AU)

Peter Loveday 01242 602887
(Safeguarding Officer: Michael Edwards)

SEVENTY TIMES SEVEN

Joint Editor/Production

Revd Canon Katrina Scott 01451
821777

Joint Editor/Advertising/Production:

Karen Randles 01451 821964

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DEADLINE for the next issue

30 April 2022.

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Temple Guiting Church of England Primary School

Head Teacher: Mrs Ann Barry

Tel: 01451 850304

www.templeguiting.gloucs.sch.uk

