

*First Sunday of Lent - 18 February 2024*

# *Parish of St Anne, Wendover*

*In the Roman Catholic Diocese of Northampton  
and Pastoral Area of St John Fisher which includes: Long Crendon,  
Haddenham, Princes Risborough, Aylesbury and Wendover  
and sharing Church and Centre with Wendover Free Church  
(Aylesbury Road, Wendover, HP22 6JG),*

*Parish Website: [stanneswendover.uk](http://stanneswendover.uk)*

*Priest: Canon Derek Turnham*

*Tel: 07753633713 - email: [frderek.turnham@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:frderek.turnham@northamptondiocese.org)*

*Deacon: Rev Peter Swindlehurst*

## *Safeguarding*

*Parish Safeguarding Representative: Mrs Jackie Aggett*

*Tel: 07505 308148 - Email: [safeguarding.stanne@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:safeguarding.stanne@northamptondiocese.org)*

*For more information please visit:*

*<https://northamptondiocese.org/sg-st-annes-wendover/>*

## *Masses and Celebrations this week:*

| <i>Day:</i> | <i>Time:</i> | <i>Celebration:</i>               | <i>Mass Intention:</i>   |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sunday      | 9.00 am      | First Sunday of Lent              | All Parishioners         |
| Monday      | No Mass      | Weekday of Lent                   | No Mass                  |
| Tuesday     | 10.15 am     | Weekday of Lent                   | Josh Law, RIP            |
| Wednesday   | 9.30 am      | Weekday of Lent                   | John Davies, RIP         |
| Thursday    | 9.30 am      | The Chair of St Peter the Apostle | Therese Layton, RIP      |
| Friday      | 9.30 am      | Weekday of Lent                   | In Thanksgiving          |
| Saturday    | 9.30 am      | Weekday of Lent                   | Van Chester, Anniversary |
| Sunday      | 9.00 am      | Second Sunday of Lent             | All Parishioners         |

**Churches Together Morning Prayer:** Monday to Friday via Zoom at 9.00 am. You can join at home or on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday share the Zoom prayer together in person in St Anne's Church before Mass. The link to use is: <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/738629141?pwd=M09iMkVEMzdRVHAWNmdwdEMzZWxaUT09>

On Saturdays Mass will be followed by **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** for an hour.

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation** (Confession) is celebrated during Adoration on Saturdays, after any Mass or at other times on request.

The **Rosary** is usually prayed immediately after the 10.15 am Mass on Tuesdays.

### **Today**

**Mass Book Pages for First Sunday of Lent**

**Page 7:** The Order of Mass

**Page 148** Readings and Proper Prayers

**Page: 57** Lent Preface for the Eucharistic Prayer

**Page: 28** Eucharistic Prayer 3

### **CAFOD Family Fast Day – Lent appeal**

We are now very fortunate at St Anne's to have three Parish CAFOD Representatives who are Clive Gallagher, Anu Raj Mathew and Jack Matthew. At the end of Mass today Jack will make the appeal for us to support the Lent Fast Day Appeal for CAFOD.

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal

will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Please use the envelopes that will be given out as we leave Mass this morning or:



**GIVE ONLINE**  
[cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk)

Do join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families and live safely. Thank you.

Our **SVP Conference** will meet in the Christian Centre after Mass.

Our Children Preparing for their **First Holy Communion** meet in St Anne's Hall after Mass.

## This Week

**Tuesday 10.15 am** Our usual Mass will be followed by the Rosary as a Lent extra – please consider coming along and taking part.

**6.00 pm** The Prayer and Life Workshops take place in the Prayer Chapel in St Anne's and then have a short break until Tuesday 19 March.

**Wednesday 7.30 pm** Churches Together in Wendover Come and See for Lent 2024 'The Way of Love' in St Mary's Church. Details and further information are on page 4 of the Lent Menu distributed last Sunday.

**Thursday 6.30 pm** We will have a **Reconciliation Service for our First Holy Communion Children** who will make their first Confessions. All parishioners are invited to come and share in the celebration to pray for and support the children. It will also be possible for anyone who wishes to make their own confession which is a great act of witness for the children and sharing with them. In the recent list items to celebrate about our parish which we prepared for the Bishop we highlighted the strong sense of community amongst the people of St Anne's parish and in the list of challenges we identified the particular challenge of reaching out to young people. If we are able to come and share in the First Reconciliation Service we will be demonstrating our support and care for the young people who are part of our parish community and when they grow up if they are able look back on a Christian community that took a real interest in them there is a much better chance that they will continue in the faith! Please do your bit for our young people.

**Friday 23 February** - Lent Family Fast Day for CAFOD

**9.30 am** Our usual Mass will be followed by Stations of the Cross – please consider coming along and taking part.

## Next Sunday

### Second Sunday of Lent

There will be a second collection at Mass today for CAFOD.

## Looking Ahead

**Holy Week and The Easter Triduum – Sunday 24 to Sunday 31 March**

**Palm Sunday 9.00 pm** Procession and Mass

**Holy Thursday 7.00 pm** Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by the Watch of the Passion until 10.00 pm.

**Good Friday 10.00 am** Stations of the Cross particularly for families and Children.

**10.00 am – 12.00 pm** Prayer activities and opportunities in St Annes Hall and St Annes Church and refreshments in the Christian Centre.

**12.15 pm** "Walk of witness" from St Anne's to St Mary's

**1.00 pm** Good Friday service at St Mary's.

**3.00 pm** The Celebration of the Lord's Passion

**Holy Saturday** - St Annes church will be open for prayer.

**8.00 pm** The Easter Vigil.

## General Notices

**Parish Lent Project - Lent Giving Tree.** A note from Elizabeth Muir: Your generosity is called on to provide small Easter gifts for local people. Also, the Team at the Women's Refuge has asked us to help with providing the sort of items that the women and their families need when they arrive at the Refuge - for example, nightwear, slippers, dressing gowns, toiletries including shower gel, flannels, toothbrushes etc. and bed linen for single beds.

The gifts are for women and children of all ages. This request highlights the great need at this time when the families are leaving their homes and seeking safety. Easter gifts for the children and their mothers would be much appreciated too. Please do not wrap any of the items or gifts, but do put the clothes in bags and label with the size, if this is not obvious. Do add a card, if you wish. Our Saint Vincent de Paul conference members at St. Anne's will distribute your gifts. **Please donate by Palm Sunday, the 24th March. With thanks.**

**Moving on to our next parish project!** Since before Christmas we have been consulting through the Newsheet on how we celebrate Lent and the Easter Triduum and on the six items the Bishop asked us for his Visitation but what next? Father Derek would like to suggest that the three items to celebrate about our parish and the three challenges for our parish that we identified at the request of the Bishop for his Visitation together with the conversations about future development currently taking place in our Deanery of St John Fisher give us an ideal 'agenda' for launching a Parish Pastoral Council for St Anne's. It is important to emphasize that the current synodal process taking place throughout the world has served as a reminder that Parish Pastoral Councils were never intended to be places for discussing things like drains, roof replacement, finance, car parking, hymn choices and other similar practical issues. Parish Pastoral Councils provide an opportunity for members of a parish to listen carefully together to God's Holy Spirit and to each other and reflect on the future development of the parish. Father Derek would like to try an experiment in establishing a **Parish Pastoral Council!** Members of a Parish Pastoral Council are appointed by the priest and priests often try to find ways of involving the whole parish in the appointment process. Father Derek would like to do things differently and invite every single member of the parish, including children and young people, to become a member of the Parish Pastoral Council. As we are a very small parish this just might just work out well! To make the experiment work we have to find a way of achieving the full participation of the greatest number of parishioners and to do this we need to begin by consulting on the best day and time of day for us to hold our meetings. Father Derek has learned since he arrived that Wendover people do not go out at night so his instinct to choose 7.00 pm on a weekday evening for meetings probably would not work. To move things forward can you please email Father Derek or write him a note and either hand it to him or put it into the Sunday collection basket with your suggestions for suitable days and times for us all to meet from time to time in Council as a whole Parish.

## Please Pray for:

**Our Sick and Housebound especially:** Pat Cafferata, Helen Knights, Nora McNamara, Doreen Smith, Anne Dykes, Mary Sketch.

## All who have died recently:

**Mass Requests Received this week:** Van Chester Anniv, Therese Layton RIP, Jeremy White RIP, In Thanksgiving, Prayer for the Sick, James Slack Anniv.

## Bishop's Visitation Sunday

### Mass Attendance:

Adults: **80**, Children: **20**, Total: **100**.

Our collections last Sunday were as follows:

Collection basket: **£77.60**

Digital collections: **£00.00**



**If you are new to the parish or have not already done so please complete our parish census**

To do so please type: [www.caspar.church/me?ID=56094](http://www.caspar.church/me?ID=56094) into a search engine

or use the QR code on the left side of this note.

One benefit of signing up is that the parish Newsheet will be sent each week to your email address or mobile phone.

## Standing Orders: £301.52

(The figure for the standing orders is the weekly average of all standing order payments throughout the year).

Total parish collections last Sunday **£379.12**

## Last Sunday

### Mass Attendance:

Adults: **68**, Children: **16**, Total: **84**.

Our collections last Sunday were as follows:

Collection basket: **£55.60**

Digital collections: **£00.00**

Standing Orders: **£301.52**

Total parish collections last Sunday **£357.12**

## From the Diocese and Beyond

**Lenten Gospel Reflections.** Bishop David has written and recorded a series of Lenten Gospel reflections for each week of Lent. In the video and audio version you can listen to the Gospel of the day and the reflection by Bishop David. As with Advent, I will send the letters and link to you each Wednesday. You can watch the video here <https://youtu.be/DzLbJyKVfUl?si=c3AoyeGPI9nkQB-Z> You can listen to Bishop David's reflection here <https://on.soundcloud.com/kfViT>

**Pilgrims of Hope Tour.** Bishop David has announced a list of dates he will visit parishes across our diocese for 'an evening with...'. During the evening Bishop David will pray with those present, offer some words and take questions before spending time socially with the community. The evenings will be open to all, Catholic's and non-Catholic's. You are invited to come along and bring a friend or family member who is interested in our Catholic faith. We hope that people will feel able to cross parish boundaries and attend an evening in the local area. For more information and full list of venues and dates visit <https://northamptondiocese.org/pilgrims-of-hope-tour/>

**Prayer Resources.** The Diocese's prayer resources for Lent and the Year of Prayer has been updated here <https://northamptondiocese.org/prayer-resources/>

**Life In The Spirit.** Registrations are now open for the Life in the Spirit seminars. We hope that these seminars will be accessed by anyone looking to recognise the power of the Holy Spirit in their lives. If you'd like to come to the Seminars in person but don't live close enough to Northampton Cathedral, why not join us at one of our "Hub" locations around the diocese. More here <https://northamptondiocese.org/life-in-the-spirit-seminars-2024/>

**Unseen Women of The Bible.** Would you like to do something to find out more about women of the Bible? This Lent the Diocesan Women in Ministry group is offering to send you a Biblical woman's name and a Bible reference each morning and a short evening shared prayer on Zoom at **6.45 to 7pm on weekdays** from 19 February to 15 March, weeks 1-4 of Lent. No need to commit to every day - just join us when you can. We'll be using Ros Clarke's book, **Forty Women: Unseen women of the Bible from Eden to Easter**, from Eve to Ruth. You might like to get a copy, (search on Forty-Women-Unseen-women-Easter) or you can do your own research each day. Interested? Contact Joanna at [Joanna.hale@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:Joanna.hale@northamptondiocese.org)

**Catholic Union - Ampleforth Lecture.** Lord Deben, former Chairman of the UK's independent Climate Change Committee, will deliver the Catholic Union and Ampleforth Society Lecture on Friday 1 March. The lecture is a joint initiative between the Catholic Union, The Ampleforth Society and Ampleforth College. It will take place on Friday 1 March in the Performing Arts Centre at the College. Lord Deben served as Environment Secretary under John Major and until June 2023 was Chairman of the UK Climate Change Committee. He will use his lecture to talk about the *Gospel Imperative for Climate Action*. Tickets are available at a discounted rate for members of the

Ampleforth Society. For more information and tickets please follow this [link](#).

**Re:NEW.** Margaret and Barry Mizen will be visiting the St Thomas Centre on Saturday 2 March from 10am – 12noon. Margaret and Barry's son, Jimmy was murdered in South London in 2008. His killer has never shown any remorse and during the trial tried to intimidate the Mizens. Remarkably, Margaret and Barry forgave him and have dedicated their life to sharing their message of forgiveness through The Forgiveness Project <https://www.theforgivenessproject.com/stories-library/barry-margaret-mizen/>

**Inspiring Women.** The latest webinar organised by the National Board of Catholic Women is on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March, you are invited to join a webinar organised by the Women in the Church Committee from 11 AM – 12.45pm. Avril Baigent and Helen Burgess, from our Diocese, will be sharing on the theme of 'Women and Synodality'.

**Pilgrimages** As we prepare for the Jubilee year in 2025 as 'Pilgrims of Hope' you are invited to join our diocese on pilgrimage. There are plenty to choose from including the Shrines of Northern France in October 2024, Lourdes in August 2024, Walsingham in June 2024 and Rome and Assisi in 2025. For more information on all of these pilgrimages and our diocesan walking pilgrimage, 'The Way of Our Lady of Guadalupe' visit <https://northamptondiocese.org/pilgrimage/>

**Diocesan Mission Conference.** Please note that there is a change of date for the Mission Conference this year. The conference will now take place on **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November in Woburn Sands**.

**Notre Dame Cathedral.** The Archbishop of Paris, Laurent Ulrich has presented several initiatives for the reopening of the Cathedral of Notre Dame on December 8, 2024, including an inaugural triduum and an octave of prayer. More here <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2024-02/france-paris-cathedral-notre-dame-reopening-schedule.html>

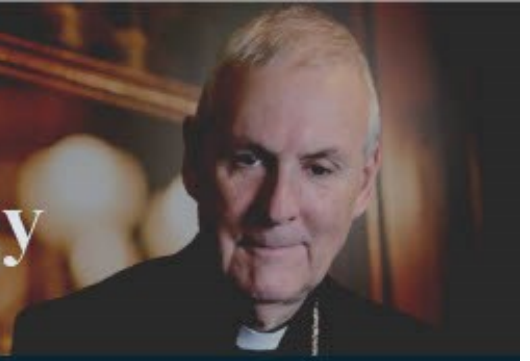






# Bishop David Oakley

Bishop of Northampton



## Letter for the First Sunday of Lent 2024

February 18 2024

### To my dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

This year, we hear a very short account of Jesus' time in the wilderness. In fact, unlike the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, Mark does not give us any detail of the temptations Jesus faced during this time in the desert. Maybe there is something very helpful to us in this. We do not have the power to change stones into bread. We would be very foolish to try throwing ourselves off high places, in the hope we would be caught by angels. And then, isn't every sin a bowing down to worship our enemy? We are simply told that our Lord was 'tempted by Satan'.

I love these encouraging words from the Letter to the Hebrews, 'For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.' (Heb 4.15-16)

We are not disciples of a Lord who stands apart from our weakness and temptations. But Jesus has overcome these temptations. And this means a powerful grace for ourselves. It means we can drink deeply from the mercy he has won for us on the throne of his glorious Cross.

What we hear in today's Gospel is very much part of our heavenly Father's loving plan of salvation. Because of the Fall, humanity fell from the life of grace. We lost our relationship of intimacy with God. And let's be honest here, we struggle to get along with each other most of the time. And so God found a way to bring us back home.

The Holy Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness. This sounds a bit more than just a suggestion or a hint. Jesus is compelled to go out into the desert with the loving obedience of a Heart that is totally focused on the Father's will. And this becomes our vision for the Season of Lent. This is a time of great blessing. What a gift is offered us over the coming days.

Jesus was with the wild beasts. It is relatively safe to be a Christian in our part of the world. Sadly, this is not so for every disciple of the Lord. And it wasn't for those first Christians who read this Gospel. They were being persecuted and martyred for their faith by the Roman authorities. They were keeping company with wild beasts in the circuses of the Empire.

But then we hear something else. We hear what happens when Jesus' forty days in the wilderness were over. Jesus began his Galilean ministry. He proclaimed the good news of the Kingdom. The work of bringing home the lost and suffering begins. And this work still continues today. And this mission is our task today.

I truly hope and pray, we all have a blessed and grace-filled Lent this year.

Sincerely,

**Bishop David Oakley**

Bishop of Northampton