

SUNDAY 15th FEBRUARY

Sunday next before Lent

8am Holy Communion (Rev. Topé)

9.30am Parish Eucharist (Canon Malcolm/Rev. Topé) *also live-streamed*

11.30am All Age Communion (Preb. David/Rev. Topé)

6pm Sung Evensong (Geoff Huskisson)

MONDAY 16th FEBRUARY

TUESDAY 17th FEBRUARY *Janani Luwum, Archbishop of Uganda, Martyr, 1977*

9am Morning Prayer 10am – 2pm Coffee Shop

11am Laburnum Court Communion 11am Staff Meeting 7pm RBL Band Practice

WEDNESDAY 18th FEBRUARY **Ash Wednesday**

9am Morning Prayer 10am Holy Communion with Ashing (Preb. David/Rev. Topé)

7.30pm Sung Eucharist with Ashing (Preb. David)

THURSDAY 19th FEBRUARY

9am Morning Prayer 10am Holy Communion MU Corporate (Rev. Topé)

11am Lent Course

FRIDAY 20th FEBRUARY

9am Morning Prayer 10am – 2pm Coffee Shop 1.30pm Crafty Natter

6.30pm Young Singers Club 6.30pm Treble Choir Practice

7.30pm Full Choir Practice

SATURDAY 21st FEBRUARY

9am Holy Communion (Canon Malcolm) 10am – 12noon Coffee Shop

SUNDAY 22nd FEBRUARY

8am Holy Communion (Rev. Dave)

9.30am Parish Eucharist (Preb. David) *also live-streamed*

6pm Stations of the Cross (Geoff Marchant)

Lent I

We would like to politely request that you turn off your mobile phones or switch them to flight-safe mode.

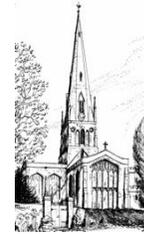
All Saints Parish Church, Leighton Buzzard

Within the Ouzel Valley Team Ministry

Web address: www.allsaintslb.org.uk

Facebook: [All Saints', Leighton Buzzard](https://www.facebook.com/allsaintslb)

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Sunday 15th February 2026

Sunday next before Lent

We warmly welcome all visitors and newcomers to our church. If any of you are from other denominations and are accustomed to receiving Communion in your own church, you are welcome to here. Please notify a sidesperson if you require a gluten free wafer. For the hard of hearing the church is equipped with a loop system. Switch to T please. The news sheet is for you to retain and use for reference and prayer.

Getting ready for Lent

As far as most of us are concerned, the chief and perhaps the only way we get ready for Lent is by having pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. This however just one part of a wider tradition which especially those countries, where the Roman Catholic Church is predominant, continue to follow. In many places, there are carnivals; the ones in Brazil are quite spectacular. But why carnival? The word comes from two Late Latin words which mean 'good bye to meat.' The devout would give up meat and other rich food for Lent and instead eat much plainer food. The French name for Shrove Tuesday, Mardi Gras, or 'fat Tuesday' reflects this.

Shrove comes from the Old English word 'shrive' which means to go to confession and receive absolution as this used to be the practice of the faithful before Ash Wednesday. I doubt if many of us follow that practice now. The nearest we get to this is when at the beginning of the Ash Wednesday service, the priest invites us to the observance of a holy Lent, 'by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy word.'

So enjoy your pancakes as we look forward to a holy Lent as a time for spiritual growth and renewal, both as individuals and as we witness to God's love.

John Wallace

Collect for the week: Almighty and everlasting God you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent, create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that, lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect forgiveness and peace: through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

IN YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE REMEMBER

Sick: Sheila Tate, Steve Cross, Valerie Jackson, Zachary Stewart and family, Chris Szczepanski, Chris Chase, Alan Gomersall

RIP: Shirley June Moore

Year's Mind: Nina Bolton, Winifred Turner, Gillian Marchant, Bessie Scraggs, Andrew Cooper, Frank Bates, Pamela Gilbert, Ivy Wood, Margaret Marsh

In our Team: Pray for Crombie House and those involved in mental health

In the World: Pray for Amnesty International

In the Diocese: Pray for The Archdeacon of St. Albans

In the Wider Church: Pray for The Roman Catholic Church

NOTICES

APCM: Sunday 26th April, 11am. Please send your APCM reports to parish@allsaintslb.org.uk as soon as possible.

SICK LIST: We will include names for a period of 4 weeks. After this time, please let the office know if you wish them to remain on the list for a further 4 weeks.

NEW SERVERS: New recruits will be made very welcome so if you would like to join our team then please have a chat with me or Lindsay. Thank you, Mike.

TODDLER TIME: Can anyone spare 1.5 to 2 hours on Wednesday mornings (term time) to serve refreshments at Toddler Time? Please contact Alison 07913 232007 or Jule 07954 148128 for more information.

CONFIRMATION: If you are interested in Confirmation, please complete the card available from the sidemen's table and return to the Parish Office.

OPEN PLATE GIVING: While we are grateful for all donations, we are trying to reduce the amount of cash that the Church has to manage. Please scan this QR code to securely donate to the Church on your phone – all donations are used to maintain the church and its services in the community. There is an option to increase your giving by Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer.



ASH WEDNESDAY: There are services at 10am and 7.30pm on 18th February, both with Ashing for those who wish.

LENT COURSE: Led by Geoff Huskisson, starting Thursday 19th February at 11am. The books suggested this year are: 'Dancing to the Heartbeat of God' by The Archbishop of Canterbury and 'Draw near' Daily Reflections for Lent. For those signed up to the course, books have been ordered on your behalf, however Preb. David encourages you to use one or the other book (available online) during your Lent preparation.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Every Sunday at 6pm during Lent, starting 22nd February.

BARN DANCE: Come along to stomp the night away at All Saints' Preservation Trust Barn Dance on Saturday 7 March at St Leonard's Church Hall, Heath and Reach. Dancing starts at 7.30pm. Ploughman's supper provided, bring your own drink and glasses. Tickets £15, pay on the door; family tickets available, speak to James Legg or Stephen Edwards for these. Please reserve your tickets on Eventbrite, using QR code on posters in Coffee Shop or links on social media - this will help with catering arrangements.

BIBLE BOOK CLUB: The next Bible Book Club will meet at 7pm in the Saunders Room in St. Barnabas Church Hall on Friday 13th March. We will be discussing the book of Tobit in the Apocrypha.

PULFORD PRE-SCHOOL: The next prospective parents "stay and play" afternoon for Pulford Pre-School is 28th April, between 3.45pm and 4.15pm. No need to book – just turn up on the day. If you would like more information, please contact the school.

Team Rector: Preb. David MacGeoch
Email: vicar@allsaintslb.org.uk Tel: 01525 373217 / 07949 401942
Rest Day: Monday

Assistant Curate: Revd. Topé Aregbesola
Tel: 07448 535032
Rest Day: Friday

Sunday next before Lent

15th February

Sunday Services

Readings: RCL: Year A: Page: 79

Collect: Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

8.00am Holy Communion Celebrant: Revd. Topé Preacher: Revd. Topé

Reading: Exodus 24: 12-18 or 2 Peter 1: 16-end

Gospel: Matthew 17: 1-9

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9.30am Parish Eucharist Celebrant: Canon Malcolm Preacher: Revd. Topé

Setting: *Music for Common Worship* Hymn Book: AMNS

Introit: 346

1st Reading: Exodus 24: 12-18

Psalm: 2

Refrain: *Let us break their bonds asunder and cast their chains from us.*

Why are the nations in tumult: and why do the peoples cherish a vain dream? The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers conspire together: against the Lord and against his anointed, saying, 'Let us break their bonds asunder: let us throw off their chains from us.'

He that dwells in heaven shall laugh them to scorn: the Lord will hold them in derision. Then will he speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury: 'I, the Lord, have set up my king on Zion my holy hill.'

I will announce the Lord's decree, that which he has spoken: 'You are my son, this day have I begotten you. Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance: the uttermost parts of the earth for your possession.'

'You shall break them with a rod of iron; and shatter them in pieces like a potter's vessel.' Now therefore be wise, O kings: be advised, you that are judges of the earth. serve the Lord with awe, and govern yourselves in fear and trembling: let he be angry, and you perish in your course. For his wrath is quickly kindled: blessed are those that turn to him for refuge.

2nd Reading: 2 Peter 1: 16-end

Gradual Hymn: 318

Gospel: Matthew 17: 1-9

Intercessions: Margaret Birtles

Offertory Hymn: 263

Anthem: Quicumque Christum Quaeritis - Lassus

Quicumque Christum quaeritis, oculos in altum tollite, illic licebit visere signum perennis gloriae. Illustre quiddam cernimus, quod nesciat finem pati, sublime, celsum, interminum, antiquius caelo et chao. Hic ille Rex est gentium populique Rex Iudaici, promissus Abrahae patri eiusque in aevum semini. Hunc et prophetis testibus iisdemque signatoribus, testatur et Pater jubet ipsum audire et credere. Gloria tibi Domine, qui apparuisti hodie, cum Patre et Sancto Spiritu, in sempiterna saecula. Amen.

(Prudentius, selected verses from the Cathemerinon)

Lift up your eyes, whoe'er ye be That fare the glorious Christ to see: For yonder is the shining sign Of grace perennial and divine. Sure 'tis the sign most reverend Of Being that doth know no end: Of One in state sublime arrayed Ere sky and chaos yet were made. This is the King of Israel, Of all in Gentile lands that dwell: The King to Abram and his seed Throughout all ages erst decreed. The prophets witnessed to the bond Which sealed to Him the realm profound: The Father's Kingdom He received And the vast legacy perceived. All glory be to you O Lord, Son of the Virgin, blessed Word, With Father and Blest Spirit One

Until the ages' course is done. Amen.

tr. R. Martin Pope (alt.)

During this time, please observe a period of quiet reflection, as we receive Communion

Communion Hymn: 238

Post Communion: 520

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11.30am All Age Communion Preb. David/Revd. Topé

Hymn Book: HON 532, 145, 311, 235

Reading: Joseph the Dreamer

Gospel: Matthew 17: 1-9

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6.00pm Sung Evensong Geoff Huskisson

Hymn Book: HON

Introit: 220

Responses: Ferial

Psalm: 84

1st Reading: 2 Kings 2: 1-12

Office Hymn: 27

Magnificat: Set C

2nd Reading: Matthew 17: 9-23

Nunc Dimittis: Set C

Hymn: 287