

You are very welcome to take your Pew Sheet home.
Please see the back page for a list of upcoming services in the United Benefice

Sunday 5th February 2017 - CW edition



**The United Benefice of Long Crendon (LC),
Cheersley (Ch) & Nether Winchendon (NW)**

WELCOME EVERYONE TODAY AND EVERY DAY

Prayer



Lord of the hosts of heaven, our salvation and our strength,
without you we are lost: guard us from all that harms or hurts and
raise us when we fall; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Collect for the Fourth Sunday before Lent

O God, you know us to be set in the midst of so many and great
dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always
stand upright: grant to us such strength and protection as may support
us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; 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**



Readings for Today:

The Old Testament: Isaiah 58.1-9a

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce
to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day
after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a
nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of
their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near
to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves,
but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast
day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to
fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not
make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to
humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in
sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the
Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to

undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer.

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 2.1-12

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him" - these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

The Gospel: St. Matthew 5.13-20

"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled underfoot. "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish

but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Post Communion Prayer

Go before us, Lord, in all we do with your most gracious favour, and guide us with your continual help, that in all our works begun, continued and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name, and finally by your mercy receive everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Notes for your diary:

Saturday 4th February, Monthly Prayer Gathering at St. Nicholas' Chearsley, 9:30 -10:30 am. Our prayer focus will be on the three villages and wider issues. All are welcome. Ray Copping and Geoff Hogbin

Saturday 4th February, Safari Supper organised by the Friends of St. Mary's, and all proceeds go to help preserve and improve the fabric of our lovely old village church, St. Mary's Long Crendon. Applications closed on 21st January. All enquiries through www.FSMLongCrendon.org or e-mail friends@FSMLongCrendon.org or call Geoff Smith 01844 208205 or Chris Miller on 208027 (Gift Aid form available from Geoff).

(The 11th February Dinner and Entertainment at the Manor is now fully booked – many thanks to all those who have bought tickets.)

Sunday 5th February, 5:00 – 7:30 pm, the Rock Solid Youth Group will be watching the film "God's not dead", followed by a meal and debate with Rev. Richard. Please note the earlier start time. For more information contact Sharon on 208740.

Services in the United Benefice

Sunday 5th February 2017 – Fourth Sunday before Lent, Proper 1 (CW) or Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany (BCP)

9:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	NW	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Café Sunday	LC	Lay Led
10:00 am	Family Holy Communion	Ch	Richard Phillips/John Scholefield
5:00-7:30pm	Rock Solid		

Sunday 12th February 2017 – The Third Sunday before Lent, Proper 2 (CW) or Septuagesima (BCP)

8:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	LC	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Morning Celebration	Ch	Lay Led
10:00 am	Matins	NW	Robert Spencer Bernard
10:30 am	Holy Communion	LC	Derek Witchell
6:00 pm	Evensong	Ch	John Scholefield

Sunday 19th February 2017 – Second Sunday before Lent (CW) or Sexagesima (BCP)

9:00 am	Holy Communion	Ch	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Family Service	NW	Richard Phillips
10:30 am	Family Service	LC	tbc

Sunday 26th February 2017 - Sunday next before Lent (CW) or Quinquagesima (BCP)

8:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	LC	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Family Service	Ch	Richard Phillips
10:30 am	Holy Communion with choir	LC	Steve and Rose Williams
5:00 pm	Evensong	NW	Robert Hutton

Wednesday 1st March 2017 – Ash Wednesday

7:30 pm	Benefice Service	Ch	Richard Phillips
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Sunday 5th March 2017 – The First Sunday of Lent (CW) or the First Sunday in Lent (BCP)

9:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	NW	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Café Sunday	LC	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Family Holy Communion	Ch	Derek Witchell

If you have events coming up in the Benefice and would like them included in future Pew Sheets, please let us have the details on llm.chearsley@btinternet.com Please note that your wording may have to be edited to fit the available space - John and Jenny Scholefield