

Avon Valley



Partnership

The Avon Valley Partnership

*Serving the Parishes of Fordingbridge (with Sandleheath and Godshill),
Breamore, & Hale with the Charfords (including Woodgreen).*

www.avp-benefice.org.uk

Your Guide to Lent and Easter 2016

This leaflet guides you through the various services and events taking place across the Avon Valley Partnership this Lent and Easter. Included are some prayers to add your journey through Lent.

Tuesday Feb 9th

Pancake Party
Fun for everyone, of every age. All welcome, just turn up!

Shrove Tuesday

5:30-6:45pm St Mary's Church Hall,
Fordingbridge

Wednesday Feb 10th

Holy Communion and Ashing
Lent Lunch, including
Traidcraft Stall
Sung Eucharist and Ashing

Ash Wednesday

11:30am St Mary's, Fordingbridge
12:15- St Mary's Church Hall,
1:30pm Fordingbridge
7:30pm St Mary's, Fordingbridge

Lent is a season of repentance and renewal. We turn away from our sinfulness and recommit ourselves to following Jesus.

Shrove Tuesday is traditionally the last day of fat-eating or gorging before the fasting period of Lent. Then we mark the start of Lent on **Ash Wednesday**, when we bless the ashes made from last year's palm branches and Palm Sunday crosses, and use them to make a visible cross on the forehead, as we start our journey together through Lent.

Sunday Feb 14th

First Sunday in Lent

Sermon Theme: Christians and the Environment

Holy Communion	8:00am	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Sung Eucharist	9:30am	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Morning Service	10:00am	St Boniface, Woodgreen
Morning Service	10:45am	Sandleheath Church
Morning Prayer	11:00am	St Mary's, Breamore

Wednesday Feb 17th

Holy Communion	11:30am	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Lent Lunch	12:15- 1:30pm	St Mary's Church Hall, Fordingbridge
Meditation Group	7:45pm	St Mary's, Fordingbridge

Lent Lunches 12:15-1:30pm St Mary's Church Hall, Fordingbridge. Each Wednesday during Lent, from February 10th to March 23rd, there will be a bread, soup and cheese lunch in the Church Hall at Fordingbridge from 12:15-1:30p.m. There will also be a Traidcraft Stall on the first and last occasions.

All are welcome to attend.



Lent and Easter Study Groups

Our Lent & Easter study groups are going to be arranged at times and places to suit those who would like to attend. Look out for the sign-up sheets in church and join in the conversation.

Quiet Day

10am-3pm, Saturday 12th March
St Mary's Church, Hale
Come and enjoy a Quiet day lead by Fiona Jenvey, inspired by Hildegard of Bingen, a German 12th Century Benedictine Abbess, writer, visionary and philosopher.
Coffee and lunch will be provided.
No charge, donations appreciated.

Why do we give up things for Lent?

In the early church, when people converted to Christianity they spent several years in study and intensive preparation. They went through a final period of 'purification and enlightenment' for the 40 days of Lent, before their baptism at Easter. The rest of the church began to observe the season of Lent in solidarity with these newest Christians. It became an opportunity for all Christians to recall and renew the commitment of their baptism, and remember Jesus' time in the wilderness.

Today there are many different ways that Christians mark Lent. It may be by giving something up, or fasting, or taking something on, or praying more.

- Christian Aid offer a thought-provoking '**Count your blessings**' calendar, to inspire you to give, act and pray to bring justice to our world across the globe.
 - www.40acts.org.uk offers you daily challenges & reflections through Lent, 40 nudges in a generous direction.
 - Love Life, Live Lent booklet gives lots of ideas of things to do in Lent
- Enjoy finding a way to journey through Lent, as we travel towards Easter.

Sunday Feb 21st

Second Sunday in Lent

Sermon Theme: Christians and Politics

Holy Communion	8:00am	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Morning Service	9:00am	St Giles', Godshill
Sung Eucharist	9:30am	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Morning Service	10:00am	St Mary's, Hale
Morning Service	10:45am	Sandleheath Church
Holy Communion	11:00am	St Mary's, Breamore
Refresh	3:30pm	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Evensong	6:30pm	St Mary's, Fordingbridge

Wednesday Feb 24th

Holy Communion	11:30am	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Lent Lunch	12:15- 1:30pm	St Mary's Church Hall, Fordingbridge
Meditation Group	7:45pm	St Mary's, Fordingbridge

Sunday Feb 28th

Third Sunday in Lent

Sermon Theme: Christians and Community

Holy Communion	8:00am	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Sung Eucharist	9:30am	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Holy Communion	10:00am	St Boniface, Woodgreen
Morning Service	10:45am	Sandleheath Church
Matins	11:00am	St Mary's, Breamore
Evensong	6:30pm	St Mary's, Fordingbridge

Wednesday Mar 2nd

Holy Communion Hymns & Homily	10:30am	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Lent Lunch	12:15-1:30pm	St Mary's Church Hall, Fordingbridge
Meditation Group	7:45pm	St Mary's, Fordingbridge

Sunday Mar 6th

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Mothering Sunday

Holy Communion	8:00am	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Holy Communion	8:30am	St Mary's, Breamore
Holy Communion	9:00am	St Giles', Godshill
Family Service & Holy Communion	10:00am	St Mary's, Hale
Allsorts	10:30am	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Morning Service	10:45am	Sandleheath Church

Wednesday Mar 9th

Holy Communion	11:30am	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Lent Lunch	12:15-1:30pm	St Mary's Church Hall, Fordingbridge
Meditation Group	7:45pm	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Quiet Day - Hildegard	10:00am	St Mary's, Hale

Sunday Mar 13th

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sermon Theme: Christians and Fairtrade
to mark the end of Fairtrade Fortnight

Holy Communion	8:00am	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Sung Eucharist	9:30am	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Morning Service	10:00am	St Boniface, Woodgreen
Morning Service	10:45am	Sandleheath Church
Morning Prayer	11:00am	St Mary's, Breamore

Wednesday Mar 16th

Holy Communion	11:30am	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Lent Lunch	12:15- 1:30pm	St Mary's Church Hall, Fordingbridge
Meditation Group	7:45pm	St Mary's, Fordingbridge

Saturday Mar 19th

Easter Activity Morning	10:00am- 12.00noon	St Boniface, Woodgreen
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Easter Activity Morning

Saturday March 19th

10:00 - 12 noon

St Boniface Church - Woodgreen



For more details, please contact
Rev Nicky Davies: 07931 413629

Sunday Mar 20th

Sixth Sunday in Lent

Palm Sunday

Holy Communion	8:00am	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Palm Sunday Procession and Eucharist	10:00am	St Mary's, Breamore
Morning Service	10:45am	Sandleheath Church
Refresh	3:30pm	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
'We Were There' The Redlynch Players (see more information below).	6:00pm	St Mary's, Fordingbridge

Monday Mar 21st

Music and Reflection	7:30pm	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
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Tuesday Mar 22nd

Holy Week Reflective Service	7:30pm	St Boniface, Woodgreen
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Wednesday Mar 23rd

Holy Communion	11:30am	St Mary's, Fordingbridge
Lent Lunch, including Traidcraft Stall	12:15-1:30pm	St Mary's Church Hall, Fordingbridge
Meditation Group	7:45pm	St Mary's, Fordingbridge

Holy Week

Holy Week starts on **Palm Sunday**, as we remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on the donkey. On Palm Sunday evening we welcome the Redlynch Players who will lead us, with monologues, music and drama themed around eye witness accounts of the events leading up to Christ's crucifixion.

On the following days we remember the events around Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem. On Thursday there is a special Eucharist at the Cathedral, during which the Bishop blesses the holy anointing oils that will be used

throughout the diocese. We will bring back some of the oil from this service to be used in our churches here in our baptismal services and other occasions of anointing.

On Thursday evening we start the period of the **Easter Triduum** - the three days - leading through Good Friday, Holy Saturday and on to Easter Sunday. During the service on Thursday evening, there is the ritual of the washing of feet, a chance to remember Jesus call to serve, as well as the stripping of the altars, as all ornaments and decorations are removed.

On **Good Friday** we have various opportunities to meet together and remember the passion and crucifixion of Jesus. The Tenebrae service on Good Friday evening is following traditions going back to the ninth century. During the service there is a gradual extinguishing of candles, during a series of readings and psalms (the opposite of the darkness to light services that happen during Advent.) As we approach the darkness, we remember the time in which Jesus lay in the tomb.

Thursday Mar 24th

Sung Eucharist and
Renewal of Ordination Vows

Maundy Thursday

11:00am

Winchester Cathedral

Maundy Thursday Eucharist

7:30pm

St Mary's, Fordingbridge

Friday Mar 25th

Good Friday Service

10:00am

St Mary's, Hale

A Short All-Age Service for
Good Friday

11:00am

St Mary's, Fordingbridge

Walk of Witness

11:40am

Leave St Mary's,
Fordingbridge

Walk of Witness Service

12:00noon

Town Centre,
Fordingbridge

Good Friday Service

2:00pm

St Mary's, Breamore

Good Friday Evening
Service, with Choir – A
Service of Tenebrae, as the
lights are extinguished.

7:00pm

St Mary's, Fordingbridge

Holy Saturday

is also known as Black Saturday, and commemorates the day that Jesus lay in the tomb. The Easter Vigil service is held after nightfall on the Saturday to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus.

An Easter fire is lit outside the church, and the new Paschal candle is lit from the fire, symbolising the resurrection of Christ from the dead. Other candles are lit from this candle as it is brought into church, and we renew our baptismal promises, at the start of the Easter celebrations.

Easter Sunday

On Easter day, we gather from dawn at Godshill to mark this new day, to remember Christ's resurrection. We have services of Communion across the benefice, as we meet together to celebrate Easter.

Saturday Mar 26th

Easter Vigil

Easter Eve

8:00pm

St Mary's, Fordingbridge

Sunday Mar 27th

Sonrise Service, followed by breakfast

Easter Sunday

6:30am

Godshill Cricket Pitch

Holy Communion

8:00am

St Mary's, Fordingbridge

Easter Communion

9:00am

St Giles', Godshill

Easter Communion

9:30am

St Mary's, Fordingbridge

Easter Communion

10:00am

St Boniface, Woodgreen

Easter Communion

10:45am

Sandleheath Church

Easter Communion

11:00am

St Mary's, Breamore

We would love to see you at any of these services and events during Lent and Easter. To find out more information:

- contact the Church Office on 01425 653163 or,
- contact our Priest in Charge Gary Philbrick on 01425 839622
 - talk to any of the Ministry Team or
- check out the website: www.avp-benefice.org.uk