



Chet Valley Churches

Weekly News 12 March – Second in Lent

Welcome to this church. We hope you will find the service thoughtful, prayerful and a chance to meet with God. If you are new to the church, or are a visitor, do introduce yourself to the person taking the service or to someone near you. The churches in our group have different facilities. The person handing out books can tell you such things as if there is a hearing loop, and if the building has a toilet.

Readings for today

Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7

Romans 5.12-19

Matthew 4.1-11

Psalm 32



Prayer for today

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Dates for your diary

This section is only useful if you tell us what's on! The contact details for this newsletter are on the back page.

- Mon 13 Monday Mardles, 10am-12noon, Chedgrave Church Centre
- Mon 13 Xplore, 7pm Chedgrave Church Centre, Meal & discussion—please book with Alison Ball
- Mon 13 Home group (Lent), 7.30, 31 Hillside, Chedgrave
- Tue 14 Senior Citizens' Lunch Club, 12.15, Loddon Junior School (book at church office)
- Tue 14 Time for Prayer & Space for Reflection, 7.30, St John's Chapel, Loddon
- Wed 15 Noah's Ark for children, 9.15am to 12noon, St John's Chapel, Loddon
- Wed 15 Second Lent Lunch, 12noon-1.30pm, St John's Lecture Hall, Loddon
- Wed 15 Home group (Lent), 2.30pm, Lodge Farm, Sisland
- Wed 15 Home group (Lent), 7.30, 9 Sycamore Close, Loddon
- Thur 16 Xtra! service, 3.15 for 3.45, St John's Chapel, Loddon
- Sat 18 Chedgrave churchyard clear-up morning 10am-12noon

Advance Dates

- Sat 25 Wedding Workshop for couples getting married in our churches this year
- Sat 25 Fashion Show and sale in aid of Red Cross in Syria 2pm St John's Chapel, Loddon
- Thur 30 Resources evening, 6.30-9.30pm, Belsey Bridge Conference Centre (Details from David Owen)
- Thur 13 Apr Chrism Eucharist 11am, Cathedral
- Sat 13 May Concert by Libricini, 7pm, All Saints Church, Chedgrave

Sat 20 May Chedgrave's Plant Fair. Please plant, pot-up, divide or re-plant anything suitable!

Prayers Please...

Please pray for people and situations in the locality and beyond...

Especially let's pray for those who are doing the Xplore course, and for people around us who are interested faith but are not yet part of the church. Let's pray that we may become increasingly attractive church communities that draw people to Jesus. On a wider scale let's pray for churches everywhere who are doing the same thing.

Use the Prayer Shower

We have a 'prayer shower' for urgent prayer requests. Contact Val Fryer, email

valfryer@btconnect.com tel 01508 521154. Also contact Val if you would like to pray for urgent needs as part of the shower.

Time for Prayer

On Tuesday evenings from 7.30 to 8.30pm we meet at St John's in Loddon for 'Time for prayer and space for reflection'. Just turn up or contact Jill Haylock on 520248.

Specifically for Healing

On the 3rd Tuesday of the month the meeting at St John's is a communion service with laying on of hands for healing.

Morning Prayer in Church

You are welcome to come to Morning Prayer at 9am as follows:

News and Events

Lent Lunches—You've got to eat lunch somewhere!

This week's Lent lunch (see diary) is hosted by the Roman Catholic community, with a simple menu of homemade soup, bread and tea or coffee and biscuit. Helpers are still needed for 22 & 29 March, and 5 April, and in particular people to serve. Please contact Belinda Barwick (520351). Any cash donations go towards the Diocesan Lent appeal for Hospice Ethiopia to reach those in need of palliative care. Do come!

Easter Cards

Nina is selling Easter cards again this year. All sales release a donation to the church in which they are sold, while those sold at Lent Lunches carry a donation to the Lent Project. Sending Easter cards is not only a way of contacting family or friends—it's also a way of celebrating our faith and highlighting Christ's death and resurrection. Do buy some!

Looking Ahead—Choir for Easter

If you'd like to be in a one-off choir for Easter Sunday in Chedgrave have a word with Alison Ball. There will be rehearsals in the afternoons of the three preceding Saturdays. More details nearer the time, but it is hoped that we'll sing the hymns, an Alleluia introit and one or two anthems.

Find Your Secateurs

Chedgrave churchyard's annual tidy-up is on 18 March from 10am to 12noon. Do join in—fresh air, exercise and refreshments provided. Details from Richard Ball (528126) or Jen Hayden (528454).

Lent Groups

From 6 March for 4 weeks the **Monday evening home group** (7.30 at 31 Hillside, Chedgrave) is following a course entitled Walking with Jesus, that helps us to look at the senses and feelings involved in Jesus' life journey. For details contact Jen Hayden (528454).

From 8 March for 5 weeks the **Wednesday afternoon group** is studying Discipleship, meeting at Lodge Farm, Sisland, starting at 2:30. For details contact Jill Haylock (520248) or Belinda Barwick (520351).

Again from 8 March the **Wednesday evening group** is looking at the Embrace the Middle East lent course Moving to the Margins, meeting at 7.30 at 9 Sycamore Close, Loddon. For details contact Richard Hull (520123).

Maundy Thursday

It's a little way ahead, but you might want to note that we shall have a Seder meal on Maundy Thursday evening (based on the Passover), incorporating an opportunity to mark the Last Supper when Christ washed his disciples' feet. Last year we did this, and it was a very moving occasion. The meal is free of charge so there are no tickets, but we do need to know numbers. Please tell David or Nina Owen (522993) if you want to come.

Church Explained

Here we continue our brief explanation of some of the services and meetings within the Chet Valley Churches. Of course everyone is welcome to come along, but sometimes it's good to have an idea of what to expect when you open the door. So today we'll unpack ...

Lent (the 40 days before Easter)

In the church's year, Lent is a time of fasting

and drawing closer to God. It's not just about giving up something such as chocolate or cake, but rather it's about finding ways of putting God first as we look towards the celebration of Easter. That's why we often think of *taking up* rather than *giving up* something in Lent, or making extra charity donations. Some people choose to have a 'Lent discipline' by joining a study group or following a daily bible reading.

Things to Note

Chris Sparkes writes...

Yesterday we completed our Diamond Duke of Edinburgh Challenge and during the six days we walked 110 km - ten more than our target. The longest walk was just over 26km and the shortest just under 16km. Our days were very varied and we saw some lovely scenery and a lot of interesting wildlife. The weather and mud were challenging at times, but we enjoyed every day. We would like to thank everyone who has supported us.

Sadness

We were sad to hear that Father Pdraig's mother died very suddenly on 28 February, at the age of 63. Please pray for Pdraig and his family.

Information

Clergy

Rev. David Owen 01508 522993
david.chetvalley@gmail.com (Not Thur)

Rev. Richard Seel 01508 521938
richard@emerging-church.org (Not Fri)

Rev. Ros. Hoffmann 01508 548200
ros@hoffmann2011.plus.com (Not Mon)

Rev. Alison Ball 01508 528126
ball880am@btinternet.com (Not Fri)

Rev. Jill Haylock 01508 520248
jillhaylock@aol.com (Not Mon)

Rev. Ernie Bossé 01502 470815
bosse@telkomsa.net (Not Mon, Methodist)

Church Office

To contact the Church Office call 01508 521179 or email office@chetvalleychurches.org or . The Church Office is just inside the door at St John's Chapel, Loddon. It opens Mon, Tues, Thur & Fri 10am-4pm and 10am-1pm on Weds.

Prayer Shower

For situations that need urgent prayer, or to pray for others, contact Val Fryer at valfryer@btconnect.com or 01508 521154

Newsletter Editor

Send items for the Weekly News to news.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com (preferred) or on paper to the Church Office or by phone to the Office on 521179, by Wednesday mid day. Please include your name and phone number in case we need to contact you.

Newsletter By Email?

Would you like to receive your Weekly News by email, making sure you get the news even if you can't be in church on Sunday? If so, send an email to news.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com

Website, including events diary

(www.chetvalleychurches.org)
To submit information for the website, email website@chetvalleychurches.org

Food Bank Contributions

To donate items to the Norwich Food Bank put them in the collecting boxes in Chedgrave church or St John's Chapel, Loddon (open 10am – 4pm week days).

Services and readings next week—19 March (3rd in Lent)

10.45am	Holy Communion	Loddon (St John's)
11.00am	All Together Worship	Chedgrave (followed by bring & share lunch)
5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Sisland

You might take time to look at next week's readings:

Exodus 17.1-7, Romans 5.1-11, John 4.5-42, Psalm 95

Tailpiece Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power. (Abraham Lincoln)
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