

Our prayers are also asked:

- for our parish and Cathedral Church that we might keep a Holy Lent as we journey towards Easter.
- for victims of knife crime.
- for our young people growing up in a world of many pressures.
- for peace and justice throughout the world especially at this time in the Holy Land & Middle East and Ukraine & Russia.
- for those who are sick, or undergoing medical treatment.
- for those who have died, including Modweena Clark and Ida Lander.

PARISH CONTACTS

Churchwardens

St Mary de Lode	Richard Lane	521670
St Mary de Crypt	Peter Gould	419840
St Swithun's	Nick Roberts	413105
Parish Safeguarding Officers	Mary Gould	419840
	Roxy Nicholls	507676
Parish Administrator	Claire Saunders	385070
	admin@swithunandmary.org.uk	

Ministry Team

Parish Clergy	Nikki Arthy	<i>on sabbatical</i>
	Geoff Eales	
	geoffeales@aol.com	
	Pauline Godfrey	0777 228 0344
	pgodfrey@glosdioc.org.uk	

Pastoral Assistant & Licensed Worship Leader	Mary Gould	419840
Pastoral Assistant	Cath Wain	521799
Children and Families Worker	Rachel Laughton	07999 481 451

www.swithunandmary.org.uk

The Parish of Hempsted with St Mary de Lode
and St Mary de Crypt, Gloucester
in partnership with Gloucester Cathedral



Lent 2

25th February 2024

10.00am Parish Eucharist St Swithun's
Readings Romans 4: 13-25; Mark 8: 31-38
Preacher Geoff Eales

3.00pm Choral Evensong Cathedral

3.30pm Messy Church Lysons Hall

Morning Prayer via Zoom is on Wednesday and Friday at 9.00am.

Compline via Zoom is on Thursday at 9.00pm.

Prayers for the City take place in St Mary de Crypt Church each Friday at 1pm. **Coffee, Cake and Conversation** takes place 11am-12.30pm beforehand in the Old Crypt Schoolroom.



Services for Lent 3, 3rd March

Parish Eucharist

St Mary de Lode 10.00am

Messy Church will take place this Sunday, 25 February from 3.30-5.30pm in the Lysons Hall, when we welcome children and families to explore activities based on the Lord's Prayer.

You are invited to join the **Parish Lent group** gathering at the Lysons Hall on six consecutive **Mondays (starting on 19 February) from 1.45pm-3.30pm**. This year we will be exploring different ways to pray using some material called "*The Prayer Course*". Through watching a video and then discussion we will be able to consider more deeply what it actually means to pray and different ways to do it. Contact Pauline Godfrey on pgodfrey@glosdioc.org.uk or 07772 280344 to register your interest or for more information

Read through Lent with our **Parish Lent book**, *Tarry Awhile*. The book makes the wisdom of Black spiritualities and faith available for all people, and we hope to gather and discuss it towards the end of Lent. Copies are available from Pauline Godfrey for £9.50 or as much as you can afford, or online stores such as [Amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk) and [Waterstones.com](https://www.waterstones.com).

Training Opportunities

This Lent some of you may well be praying and thinking about your journey of faith and wondering if you could take on a special role but not sure just what. Here are a couple of opportunities you may wish to consider:

Bereavement Visitor. The Diocese of Gloucester Funerals is offering Bereavement Visitor training, weekly on Mondays (24 June—15 July) from 7.30-9.00 pm. Bereavement visiting is a valuable and rewarding ministry.

Pastoral Assistant. Pastoral Assistants train to work in all sorts of

pastoral settings which might include visiting the sick or elderly, taking communion to the homebound, bereavement support and even baptism or wedding preparation. Each Pastoral Assistant specialises after they have trained. The next course starts in April.

If you would like to explore either of these roles further speak to Geoff or Pauline. Details of these and other courses are available on this website: <https://gloucester.anglican.org/events/category/ministry/cmd-all/list/>

Watch and Pray, A Lent journey for children, is to be given to all Key Stage 2 children (ages 7-11) at **Hempsted School**. The booklet encourages children to draw close to Jesus and to each other as they journey through Lent and life. Several from our congregation attended and helped at the marvellous school prayer day last Friday and this booklet will continue the theme as we look forward to Easter. Clearly buying booklets for over a hundred children is a considerable outlay even if the booklets only cost £1.50 each. We would welcome any contribution you may feel able to make. *Mary Gould*

Donations to the **Community Pantry** in St Swithun's porch are still much appreciated. We regularly need: fruit juice, squash, cooking oil, tea, coffee, tinned meat, tuna, tinned vegetables, beans, pasta sauces and pasta. Please leave at the back of the church. Thank you!

Prayer for the Week

God of compassion, the way of the cross is as much a mystery to us as it was to the immediate followers of Jesus. But we have heard how your grace is exercised in the journey of suffering and rejection experienced by Jesus. Help us to hear with ears inspired, to see with eyes opened to your ways, and to respond with lives committed to your service.

Bishop Telford Sartison