

Sunday next before Lent

Sunday 11 February 2018

when you have finished with this sheet pass it on to someone unable to get to church today

COLLECT

Holy God,
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING 2 Kings 2.1–12

A reading from the second book of Kings.

1 When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. 2 Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. 3 The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.' 4 Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. 5 The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.' 6 Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. 7 Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. 8 Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. 9 When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' 10 He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' 11 As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. 12 Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

This is the word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD**



Responsorial Psalm 50:1-6

Response: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving.

The Lord, the most mighty God, has spoken and called the world from the rising of the sun to its setting. Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth; our God comes and will not keep silence. **R** Consuming fire goes out before him and a mighty tempest stirs about him. He calls the heaven above, and the earth, that he may judge his people: **R** "Gather to me my faithful, who have sealed my covenant with sacrifice." Let the heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge. **R**

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 4.3–6

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.
3 Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.
4 In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
5 For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake.
6 For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

GOSPEL Mark 9.2–9

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

GLORY TO YOU O LORD

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, 3 and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. 4 And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. 5 Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' 6 He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. 7 Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' 8 Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. 9 As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

This is the gospel of the Lord. **PRAISE TO YOU O CHRIST**

POST COMMUNION

Holy God,

we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:

may we who are partakers at his table

reflect his life in word and deed,

that all the world may know his power to change and save.

This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LyCiG Prayer

God of Mission,

who alone brings growth to your Church,

send your Holy Spirit

to give vision to our planning,

wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness.

Help our church to grow in numbers,

in spiritual commitment to you,

and in service to our local community,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**





THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

The United Benefice of Sharnbrook, Felmersham and Knotting with Souldrop

St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook MK44 1HU, St Mary's Church, Felmersham MK43 7JP

All Saints Church, Souldrop MK44 1EX

www.sharnbrookcofechurches.org



Welcome as we think about getting ready for Lent 2018

Worship in the Benefice today...

Sunday before Lent

0830 **Souldrop** Holy Communion BCP—Rev Lionel

0930 **Sharnbrook** Parish Communion—Rev Lionel (*not AA*)

1100 **Felmersham** Parish Communion —Rev Lionel (*not AA*)

1800 Sharnbrook Benefice Evensong—LLW Andrea

Monday—feria

1100 Interment of ashes Late Martha Groger

1145 Messy Church

Tuesday—Shrove Tuesday

1500-1700 Pancake Party for RnS children

1930 LyCiG Main Session 2 at Souldrop Village Hall

Wednesday—ASH WEDNESDAY—Principal Holy Day

0930 Sharnbrook Holy Communion & Ashing 2nd Wed CW

1930 Sharnbrook Benefice Sung Communion & Ashing

Thursday—Commemoration-Sigfrid, Bishop, Apostle of Sweden, 1045

0930 Felmersham Holy Communion

Friday—feria

1800 Sharnbrook Reconciliation/Confession

1900 Sharnbrook Holy Hour *with incense as normal*

2000 Sharnbrook Lent Compline

Saturday—Lesser Festival-Janani Luwum, 1977

0930-11 Lent Book Group at Sports and Social Club chpts 1,2,3

Next Sunday morning—Lent 1

0930 **Sharnbrook** Parish Communion & RnS

1100 **Felmersham** Parish Communion

1500 **Souldrop** Parish Communion

1800 **Sharnbrook Benefice Evensong** – LLW Rosemary

A Book group for Lent “The Joy of being Anglican” in the

Sports and Social Club 9:30am Sats in Lent—Starts this Sat 17

Intercessions

The sick and in need: Barbara, Sally, James, Martin, Mary, Linda, Marjorie, Doreen, Angela & Rose

The Departed: Martha Groger

Send the names of people who have asked to be remembered in our parish intercessions to the Rector

Pray for our keeping of a good Lenten season

Pray for Fr Reuben as he leads the retreat at St Michael's Priory this weekend

Pray for our outreach to children and families

Pray for the Second LyCiG session—for a good attendance and engagement



Christian Meditation Group

meets on Mondays 2000 in SPR—all welcome!

LyCiG Local Study Course

Main Session 2: Tuesday 13 February 7:30pm

hosted at Souldrop

Main Session 3: Saturday 24 February 2pm-3:30pm

hosted in St Peter's Room

Leaders Session 2: Tuesday 27 February 7:30pm The Rectory

LyCiG Diocesan Day 3 March 9:30am-3pm

at The Rufus Centre, Flitwick MK45 1AH

– 10 places booked for the Benefice – cost free

Main Session 4: Friday 9 March 7:30pm

hosted at Felmersham school

Main Session 5: Tuesday 20 March 7:30pm

hosted at Souldrop

Main Session 6: Saturday 21 April 2pm-3:30pm

hosted in St Peter's Room



Sunday 18 March—7pm Darkness Falls—a play of St John's

Gospel—commissioned by the Deanery for you to bring your friends along to encounter St John's presentation of the Gospel message—entry free, retiring collection. See the posters and flyers in church to book your seats

Sanctuary Cleaning Rota

Can you spare an hour on a regular basis and become a member of the Sanctuary Cleaning Rota? Several folk have retired, in particular I would like to thank Marion and John Tyler for many years of service. If you can help, speak to Kate Ritchie (ph 781155)



Church Contacts

The Rector: Reuben Preston, The Rectory, 81 High Street, Sharnbrook MK44 1PE 01234 782000 07971 895897
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Lay Leaders of Worship: Rosemary Drewery 07792926004, Jane Templeman, Andrea Maffie 07881 046255

Churchwardens:-

St Peter's Church: Roland Carpenter 01234 781551

St Mary's Church: Jane Wells 01234 782462 &

Sue Whitehouse 01234 781300

All Saints Church: Nick Wells 07841 759497

Safeguarding Co-Ord: Rosemary Drewery 07792 926004

Items for inclusion should be sent to

sharnbrookbenefice@gmail.com by 0900 on Wednesdays.

To make arrangements for Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms/Christenings, Confessions, House Blessings etc. please contact the Rector

Sponsorship: in prayer for our work with children, young people and families & a good Lent

If you would like to sponsor this sheet please send you £5 donation to The Rectory along with details of the sponsorship (even if anonymous)