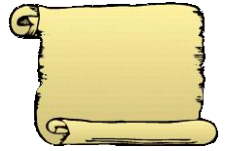


Parish of Cirencester with Watermoor and Chesterton



**Sunday 19th February
2nd Sunday before Lent**

Parish Notices are posted on the Parish Website: www.cirenparish.co.uk

Office email enquiries@cirenparish.co.uk

Confirmation Service at Holy Trinity – Many thanks to all the groups of people who rallied round in typical HT style before, during and after the recent confirmation service with Bishop Rachael. Those who ensured that everything ran so smoothly were (in alphabetical order): Acolytes, Bell ringers, Brass Cleaners, Candidates, Choir, Cleaners, Coffee team, Congregation, Collection counter, Flag wavers, Flower arrangers, Furniture movers, Gospel presenter, Intercessor, Music group, Organist, Parish Office staff, Pew leaflet deliverer, Readers, Sidesmen, SingIt, Staging assemblers and disassemblers, my fellow Wardens and then anyone else I might have overlooked.

Peter Cottey

Abbey 900 Opening Ceremony On Wednesday February 22nd Bishop Rachael will formally open the anniversary year of celebration with a Tree Planting at 3pm (gathering in Parish Church from 2.30pm) and Service at 6.30pm, both to be held in the presence of the High Sherriff of Gloucestershire and the Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucestershire. All are warmly invited to attend. For further information please see posters and invitation cards in the churches.

Rev Katie

Abbey 900 - A tree (*Quercus Pallistris*) is to be planted in the Abbey Grounds by Bishop Rachel at 3.00pm on the 22nd February 2017 as part of the opening events of a year-long celebration of Abbey 900. Should anyone wish to financially support this please send your donation or pay in at Barclays Bank CCDT (A) Account Sort Code 20-84-58 Account Number 53573842 Ref Trees. Donations may be Gift Aided.

A Flower Festival is to be held in the Parish Church at the beginning of June and if you would like to donate to this event please send what you can to Barclays Bank CCDT (A) Account Sort Code 20-84-58 Account 53573842 Ref Flowers. Any donations may be Gift Aided; please see the Abbey 900 leaflets available in Church.

Advance Notice - Saturday 25th March, making posies for distribution in churches to Mothers on Mothering Sunday – Watermoor Church Hall from 10am

Another Advance Notice – Date for your diary – Tuesday 28th February @6pm – Parish Pancake Party in the Abbey Room, Parish Centre – where the clergy toss the pancakes – all are welcome.

Another Advance Notice - A MU Deanery Lady Day Service will be held in Holy Trinity Church at 12 noon on the 25th March, followed by a bring-and-share lunch in the Church Hall, Watermoor. All welcome.

Rosemary Roberts

Mothers' Union. Our next meeting is on **Wednesday March 1st** at 2.30pm in Watermoor Church Hall. Our guest speaker is the Revd. Paul Springate. All are very welcome at our meetings, members or not. Refreshments are served at the end of the meeting.

A big thank you to all those who supported the Mothers' Union Charity lunch on Wednesday February 8th in the Parish Centre on such an awful day. The money raised, £181.50p, will go towards MU projects at home and overseas.

Prayer Morning – for our Churches, Schools, our Town and all relevant needs across our world. 10.30am on **Thursday March 2nd** at 22 Abbey House, Cirencester, GL7 2QU. Tel: 655900. Stay for coffee and biscuits. *Val Manson*

Fridays in Lent: The Lent discussion group will read together *The Passion and The Cross* by Ronald Rolheiser. This is a collection of daily readings centred around one theme for each chapter (Garden of Gethsemane, Moral Revolution, Revelation, Salvation, Resurrection). Copies are available at the Parish Church bookstall. Ronald Rolheiser is among the most popular and inclusive spiritual writers today. Groups will take place at my home between 2-3.30pm beginning on Friday March 5. An evening group can also be offered if required - please let me know if you would like this. *Rev Katie* (revkatie@cirenparish.co.uk or 01285 652576).

Parish Fayre 2017 - I have been asked if there is to be a Fayre in September this year. My response has been that if the Parish and PCC support it and a small group of parishioners across the Parish are prepared to help organise it then it would be scheduled to take place on the second Saturday in September i.e. 9th. It has also been suggested that if we go ahead it might be a good idea to decide the beneficiaries before the event so that it can be included in the publicity and in particular on the raffle tickets. The PCC has offered their support and if anyone feels they would like to be involved in the organisation or would like to suggest beneficiaries please get in contact with Peter Cottey (654038 or pcottey@talktalk.net). In the past we have met just 4 times before the event and once afterwards. I am particularly looking for volunteer(s) to take charge of the Raffle which normally raises about a third of the profit.

Women's Word Day of Prayer - This annual event, organised by Churches Together in Cirencester, is looking for volunteers to help plan this year's day of prayer on Friday March 3 2017 in the new Baptist Church at 2pm. If you are able to help please contact Gill Keen on gloskeens@btinternet.com or on 01285 652069 by Wednesday February 15. Thank you. *Rev Katie*

Annual Report - Every year, as PCC secretary, I am required to submit a report to the Archdeacon which reflects the activities and development of our Parish. Please, therefore, would leaders of groups and those who hold positions of office within our churches, submit a short report to me outlining what has happened in their area of responsibility during the last calendar year. Copies of last year's Annual Report can be found in each church, obtained from the Parish Office or downloaded/viewed on the parish website. Please either leave your report at the Parish Office marked for my attention or email: howardgray55@outlook.com **Closing date: last week in March.** Thank you *Howard Gray*

Lunchtime organ recitals: A birthday series - Mondays, 13:10-13:50. To celebrate a 'milestone birthday' Anthony Hammond will be playing a series of free, lunchtime organ recitals at the Parish Church every Monday in February. Featuring some of his favourite pieces of organ music they will include works by Bach, Elgar, Liszt and Vierne.

Cirencester International Organ Festival - 22nd-29th April - We're delighted to announce the line-up for the 2017 Cirencester International Organ Festival. Tickets and a full programme are available now via <http://cirencesterorganfestival.co.uk/>

Some highlights: We have an amazing opener to the 2017 festival this year with international virtuoso, Stephen Tharp. This is Stephen's first (and only planned) recital in the UK in over 10 years. Described by The Diapason as '*the best organist in America*' A once in a lifetime concert, coming to Cirencester and not to be missed. **Tickets £12** Back by popular demand Anthony Hammond will be closing the festival with one of his exciting and innovative improvised silent movies. This will be the highest grossing film of the silent movie era, '*The Big Parade*', commemorating the centenary of America's involvement in WW1 (April 2017).

In addition to our free week-day lunchtime concerts we have two new events:

Thursday 27th April - Family Gala Concert: Peter & the Wolf - with organ (Hugo Kennard), poetry and pictures.

Friday 28th April - Gala Wine Recital This year you can hear Heilscher's *California Wine Suite* played alongside a tutored wine tasting!

Dates for the Week

Monday 20 February,

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| 13.10pm | Anthony Hammond's Lunchtime Recital (Parish Church) |
| 2.00pm | Croome Lecture Set Up Time (Parish Church) |
| 7.00pm | Cirencester Male Voice Choir (Holy Trinity) |
| 7.30pm | Croome Lecture (Parish Church) |

Tuesday 21 February,

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| 11.30am | Funeral – Sheila Fletcher (Holy Trinity) |
| 7.30pm | Bell Ringing Practice (Holy Trinity) |
| 7.30pm | PCC Meeting (Parish Centre) |

Wednesday 22 February,

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| 9.00am | St Lawrence Drop in |
| 11.30am | Powells School Yr 3 visit (Parish Church) |
| 2.30pm | Abbey 900 gathering for Bishop's Tree Planting (Parish Church) |
| 6.30pm | Abbey 900 opening – Festive Choral Evensong (Parish Church) |
| 7:00pm | Eucharist (Holy Trinity) |

Thursday 23 February, Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c.155

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|--------|----------------------------------------------|
| 2:00pm | Little Angels (Parish Church) |
| 5.30pm | SingIt! (Parish Church) |
| 7:30pm | Parish Church Choir Practice (Parish Church) |

Services at St John Baptist (Parish Church)

Morning Prayer – 8.30am (subject to clergy availability)

Eucharist – 12 noon (N.B. Bank holidays at 10am)

Evening Prayer – 5.00pm (subject to clergy availability)

Next Sunday's Services (26th February)

Parish Church

8am	Holy Communion	Revd Canon Leonard Doolan
10.00am	Eucharist	Revd Colin Mattock with Revd Katie Richardson
6pm	Evensong	Revd Katie Richardson with Revd Canon Leonard Doolan

Holy Trinity

8.00am	Holy Communion	Revd Howard Gilbert
10.00am	Eucharist	Revd Howard Gilbert

St Lawrence

10.30am	Eucharist	Revd Rosemary Franklin
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This Sunday's Services (19th February)

Parish Church

8am	Holy Communion	Revd Canon Leonard Doolan
10.00am	Eucharist	Revd Katie Richardson with Revd Canon Leonard Doolan
6.00pm	Evensong	Revd Canon Leonard Doolan with Revd Katie Richardson

Holy Trinity

8.00am	Holy Communion	Revd Paul Springate
10.00am	Eucharist	Revd Canon Karen Schmidt

St Lawrence

10.30am	Eucharist	Revd Canon Dr Philip Thomas
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Lent and Holy Week Programme 2017

We hope and pray that everyone will have a blessed Lent as you prepare for Holy Week and Easter. Through Lent we are aiming to have something daily for the congregations to engage with. Every day in Lent there will be a Lent Labyrinth in the Lady Chapel of the Parish Church, and in the Trinity Chapel a 'prayer cross' to remind us of the need for light in the desert of the Lenten season.

As well as all the normal mid-day Eucharist we are offering the following:

Mondays in Lent: 4.00pm – an hour of silent prayer in the Catherine Chapel

Tuesdays in Lent: Noon Eucharist with a short Lenten Address

Wednesdays in Lent: 6.30pm Stations of the Cross at Holy Trinity

Thursdays in Lent: A Lectio Divina (Bible Study) at 1.30pm at the Vicarage in Dollar St.

Fridays in Lent: a Lent Discussion Group 2.00pm (contact Revd. Katie Richardson)

Saturdays in Lent: for families and children – the Labyrinth and/or candle prayers all day in the chapels.

Holy Week

Monday: Noon Eucharist in Parish Church

6.30pm Stations of the Cross at Holy Trinity (HTW) followed by 7.00pm Eucharist

Tuesday: Noon Eucharist in Parish Church

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6.30pm Stations of the Cross at HTW followed by 7.00pm Eucharist

Maundy Thursday: Chrism Mass at Cathedral (all welcome at 10.30am)

Noon Eucharist at the Parish Church

7.00pm Sung Eucharist at HTW with Vigil

7.30pm Sung Eucharist at Parish Church with Vigil

Good Friday: 9.00am Ante communion at HTW

10.00am Ecumenical Service of Witness beginning at Ashcroft Church

Noon -1.50pm Service of Meditations (Led by The Revd. Howard Gilbert)

2.00pm Good Friday Liturgy

For Easter services see additional posters and advertising.