

### **Sunday 22nd January (Epiphany 3)**

9.30am Longney: Holy Communion

11.00am Hardwicke : Holy Communion

4pm Elmore: Evensong BCP

Readings: 1 Corinthians 1: 10-18, Mark 4:12-23

**PRAYERS PLEASE...** for PEACE in Ukraine, South Sudan, West Bank, Haiti, , Burkino-Faso

**...Thank God for grain shipments resuming from Ukraine, and a peace agreement between Eritrea and Ethiopia**

**...for the sick and struggling:** Lesley, Chris, Sean, Tim, Michelle K, Hilarie, Louie, Karen and Keith, Les, Sharon, Mair, Sue, Nick, Ian, Vicky, Roger, Sheryl

**.....for the family and friends of** Brian Strange, Ann Vick, Mary Alder, Jamie Guise, Royston Woods, Brenda Lovell, Ron Radley, Alison Evans, Pam Bodle

.....for Longney and Hardwicke PCCs' re-ordering plans, Elmore's organ and Hardwicke's bells.

.....for Jane Edwards in Mozambique. Her latest prayer letter is at [O-oh, Star of Wonder – Jane in Mozambique \(wordpress.com\)](#)

.....for Tim Fletcher Pioneer "Sportily" Minister, working on Hunts Grove. **Please use the Benefice Prayer diary. It is on our website**

**The 11am Hardwicke service will take place at Hardwicke Parochial Primary Academy, Poplar Way, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday each month.**

**CONFIRMATION The Bishop is conducting a Confirmation at St James' Quedgeley on 19 February 2023. If you sense this is the time God is calling you to take this important step, please speak to Richard and we will arrange your preparation, starting straight after Christmas.**

**No-one shivering!** Please remember that we are collecting duvets and sleeping bags to give to folk who are at home unable to afford to put the heating on. I have now given out all those I'd been given. Richard

## **Benefice of Hardwicke and Elmore** **with Longney**

[www.hardwicke-elmore-longney.church](http://www.hardwicke-elmore-longney.church)

**Priest-in-Charge** Rev Richard Martin 01452 720015

[vicar@hardwicke-elmore-longney.church](mailto:vicar@hardwicke-elmore-longney.church)

**Assistant Priest** Revd George Parfitt

**Licensed Readers** Pat Buckland, Judy Cheshire and Mike Williams

**Authorised Leaders of Worship:** Neil Hollis and Doff Stone.

### **Today Sunday 15th January (Epiphany 2)**

9.30am Elmore: Holy Communion

11.00am Hardwicke: Holy Communion

Readings: Isaiah 49: 1-7, John 1: 29-42

Week beginning 15 January

Monday 16<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm Ministry Team , Church House

Wed 18<sup>th</sup>, Hardwicke 9.30am Holy Communion

Elmore, 12noon, funeral of Pam Bodle

Sat 21st, 3pm Church House, Benefice PCC members' meeting re Deanery Plan

### **HUNTS GROVE MESSY CHURCH – could you help us?**

Following the success of the carol service on 17 December, the next step in our outreach is to establish a new regular worshipping community on the estate. A golden opportunity has been opened up as the school have invited us to run Messy Church 6 times a year.

The first of these is scheduled for Sunday 29 January, 3-4.30pm, in the school. Tim Fletcher, Justine and Richard are meeting to plan this on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>, 5.15pm at Church House. If you'd like to come to share your ideas or find out more, please join us!

In the long-term the aim is that people from Hunts Grove will take the lead, but for now we need volunteers to supervise the various stalls. Could this be something you could offer? It will be fun but also pioneering! We need about 6 people, so don't be shy, give it a try!

### **The Collect for 15 January**

Almighty God,  
in Christ you make all things new:  
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,  
and in the renewal of our lives  
make known your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### **Readings for 15 January**

#### **Isaiah 49: 1-7**

Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations:  
before I was born the LORD called me;  
from my mother's womb he has spoken my name.  
<sup>2</sup> He made my mouth like a sharpened sword,  
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;  
he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver.  
<sup>3</sup> He said to me, 'You are my servant,  
Israel, in whom I will display my splendour.'  
<sup>4</sup> But I said, 'I have laboured in vain;  
I have spent my strength for nothing at all.  
Yet what is due to me is in the LORD's hand, and my reward is with my God.'  
  
<sup>5</sup> And now the LORD says –  
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant  
to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself,  
for I am<sup>[a]</sup> honoured in the eyes of the LORD  
and my God has been my strength – <sup>6</sup> he says:  
'It is too small a thing for you to be my servant  
to restore the tribes of Jacob  
and bring back those of Israel I have kept.  
I will also make you a light for the Gentiles,  
that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

<sup>7</sup> This is what the LORD says – the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel –  
to him who was despised and abhorred by the nation,  
to the servant of rulers:  
'Kings will see you and stand up, princes will see and bow down,  
because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'

#### **John 1: 29-42**

The next day John saw Jesus coming towards him and said, 'Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup> This is the one I meant when I said, "A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me." <sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptising with water was that he might be revealed to Israel.'

<sup>32</sup> Then John gave this testimony: 'I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. <sup>33</sup> And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptise with water told me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptise with the Holy Spirit." <sup>34</sup> I have seen and I testify that this is God's Chosen One.'<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>35</sup> The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. <sup>36</sup> When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, 'Look, the Lamb of God!'

<sup>37</sup> When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> Turning round, Jesus saw them following and asked, 'What do you want?'

They said, 'Rabbi' (which means 'Teacher'), 'where are you staying?'

<sup>39</sup> 'Come,' he replied, 'and you will see.' So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon.

<sup>40</sup> Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. <sup>41</sup> The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, 'We have found the Messiah' (that is, the Christ). <sup>42</sup> And he brought him to Jesus.

Jesus looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas' (which, when translated, is Peter<sup>[b]</sup>).