

Sunday 29th January (Candlemas)

11.00am Longney school – Benefice all-age worship

Reading: John 2: 1-11

1pm Hardwicke - baptism

3pm Hunts Grove school – Messy church

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 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 2nd Sunday each month.

CONFIRMATION The Bishop is conducting a Confirmation in the Cathedral on Easter Eve. 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, during Lent

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 22 February – there'll be a service at 9.30am at Hardwicke. I am thinking about running Lent groups, one in the daytime, the other on an evening (probably Tuesdays). If you'd be interested in joining one of these please let me know so I can plan, and buy sufficient resources.

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

Priest-in-Charge Rev Richard Martin 01452 720015

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 22nd January (Epiphany 3)

9.30am Longney: Holy Communion

11.00am Hardwicke : Holy Communion

4pm Elmore: Evening Worship

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

Week beginning 22 January

Wed 25th, Hardwicke 9.30am Holy Communion with prayers for Hunts Grove

Fri 27, 11am guildhall – event for Holocaust Memorial Day

Sat 28th 10.30-12.30, St James Quedgeley, Fundraising event for families in Ukraine

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 17th, 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 22 January

Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles
the wonder of your saving presence:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your mighty power;
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 22 January

1 Corinthians 1: 10-18

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters,^[a] in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought. ¹¹ My brothers and sisters, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. ¹² What I mean is this: one of you says, 'I follow Paul'; another, 'I follow Apollos'; another, 'I follow Cephas^[a]'; still another, 'I follow Christ.'

¹³ Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I did not baptise any of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so no one can say that you were baptised in my name. ¹⁶ (Yes, I also baptised the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptised anyone else.) ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the gospel – not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. ¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Matthew 4:12-23

When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali – ¹⁴ to fulfil what was said through the prophet Isaiah:

¹⁵ 'Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,
the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles –

¹⁶ the people living in darkness
have seen a great light;

on those living in the land of the shadow of death
a light has dawned.'^[a]

¹⁷ From that time on Jesus began to preach, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.'

¹⁸ As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ 'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, 'and I will send you out to fish for people.' ²⁰ At once they left their nets and followed him.

²¹ Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, ²² and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³ Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and illness among the people.