

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE... for PEACE in Palestine and Israel, Ukraine, Sudan, Haiti, Yemen, Ecuador, the Sahel region.

..... for all refugees and asylum seekers, those kidnapped and hostages.

...Thank God for diplomats and peace-keepers

...for the sick and struggling: Chris and Pam, Sean, Lesley, Tina, Colin, Mair, Marion, Philippa, Pauline, Becci, Jess, Claire and John (x2), Mark, Jade, Eve.

.....for the family and friends of Gail, Rosie, Graham, Judy, Jim, Diana, Rev Betty Humphries

.....for Longney's re-ordering, Hardwicke's plans, Elmore's new organ

..... For staff and pupils at Longney, Hardwicke and Hunts Grove schools

.....for Jane Edwards in Mozambique. Her latest prayer letter is here:- [0224-Edwards.pdf \(bmsworldmission.org\)](#)

.....for Tim Fletcher Pioneer "Sportily" Minister, working on Hunts Grove.

Please use the newly revised Benefice Prayer diary. It is on our website and paper copies are available in each Church

Dates of APCMs Elmore 21 April 1030am, Longney 28 April 1030am

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is an important marker on our spiritual journey. It is a public confession of faith for anyone over the age of 12, stating that you wish to "confirm" the promises made for you by your godparents at your baptism. It centres on a prayer for the Holy Spirit to be at work in your life. After confirmation you become a full member of the Church of England, able to receive Holy Communion (and sit on the PCC!)

Bishop Robert will be confirming candidates from our Benefice at Elmore on Sunday 16 June, 3pm. There will also be the chance for adults to be baptised, if they weren't in childhood, and for people brought up in another denomination (eg Roman Catholic) to be 'received' into the Church of England.

This is a significant step and careful preparation is needed. **A group will meet at Elmore church for 10 weeks, beginning on Sunday 21 April at 2.30pm.** We will be exploring Christian teaching using as our framework the Holy Communion service. All are welcome, whether as a candidate, an enquirer, or because you want to refresh the teaching you had before. Please pray about whether God is calling you to join the group. By doing so you are not committing to being confirmed.

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.

Please take this sheet away with you

Today Sunday 14 April, Easter 3

9.30am Longney, Holy Communion

11.00 Hardwicke, Holy Communion followed by APCM

4pm Elmore, Evensong

Readings Acts 3: 12-19. Luke 24: 36b-48

Week beginning 14 April

Wednesday 17th, 10.30am Holy Communion AT ST NICHOLAS COURT

Thursday 18th, 5pm Elmore, wedding rehearsal

Friday 19th, 2pm Elmore, Wedding

4pm Elmore Wedding rehearsal

Saturday 20th 1030-1230 Hardwicke, Coffee Morning

1.30pm Elmore, Wedding

Next Sunday 21 April, Easter 4

9.30am Elmore, Holy Communion followed by APCM

11.00 Hardwicke School – all age-worship,

Readings Acts 4: 5-12, John 10: 11-18

Collect for Easter 3

Almighty Father,
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples
with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
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 Easter 3

Acts 3: 12-19

When Peter saw the people so excited at the healing of the lame man, he said to them: 'Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? ¹³ The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. ¹⁴ You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. ¹⁵ You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. ¹⁶ By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.

¹⁷ 'Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. ¹⁸ But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹ Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,

Luke 24: 36b-48

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'

³⁷ They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, 'Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.'

⁴⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. ⁴¹ And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, 'Do you have anything here to eat?' ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate it in their presence.

⁴⁴ He said to them, 'This is what I told you while I was still with you: everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.'

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, 'This is what is written: the Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.