

**YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE...** for PEACE in Palestine and Israel, Ukraine, Sudan, Haiti, Syria, the Sahel region, Greenland.

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

**...for the sick and struggling:** Chris and Pam, Tina, Marion, Jade, Becci, Claire, Eve, Jessica, Karen and Keith, Carrie, Joyce, Katie and Lucas, Lesley, Denise, Mike, Steve, Sean, Eric, Dee, Jen, Sally

**.....for the family and friends of** Max, Evelyn, Don, Matthew

.....Hardwicke's plans, Elmore's new organ, Longney urgent roof repairs

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

.....for Jane Edwards in Mozambique. Her latest prayer letter is here:-

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

**GIVE THANKS** Longney's re-ordering and Church heating is **COMPLETED!**

**.... But now please pray for Urgent roof repairs there**

*New Benefice Prayer - Paper copies are in each Church*

### **Electoral Rolls**

Every 6 years Electoral Rolls have to be completely re-written. 2025 is one of those years! Whether or not you are currently on your Church's roll, if you'd like to be on the new one, you must fill in a form by the due date. If you are on the current one, The Electoral Roll officer will send you the form with an explanatory letter saying where it should be returned. If you're not on the ER at present and would like to join, forms will be available at the back of each Church for completion and handing in. Many thanks to Pat, Sue and Will who will be collating the forms and producing the new Rolls.

### **Dates for your diary**

Sat 8 Feb, 10-1230, Hardwicke Coffee morning

– and then the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday every month.

Friday 9 May, Hardwicke Skittles evening, RBL club, Green Lane

## **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 Priests** Revd George Parfitt (currently on Sabbatical)

Rev'd Duncan Hutchison, on secondment from Hucclecote

**Licensed Readers** Pat Buckland and Judy Cheshire

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

**Pioneer Sports Minister:** Tim Fletcher

*Please take this sheet home and use it for your prayers and Bible study*

### **Today Sunday 26 January, Epiphany 3**

9.30am Longney: Storyteller Holy Communion for Plough Sunday

11am Hardwicke: Holy Communion

4pm Elmore: Evening worship

Readings: 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a, Luke 4:14-21

### **Week beginning 26 January**

Tues 28th 1.15pm Hardwicke: Yr 3 school lesson

Wed 29<sup>th</sup>, 9.30am Hardwicke: Holy Communion

### **Sunday 2 February, Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)**

9.30am Elmore: Holy Communion

11am Hardwicke: Holy Communion

Readings: Hebrews 2: 14-end, Luke 2:22-40

### **Confirmation 2025**

If you are not confirmed and feel this is the right time to take that important step in your Christian journey, I will soon begin preparing candidates (for a service on Sunday 6 April). Please be in touch and we can arrange a convenient day/time/place to meet, starting in February.

### **Collect for 26 January, Epiphany 3**

God of all mercy,  
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,  
release to the captives,  
and freedom to the oppressed:  
anoint us with your Holy Spirit  
and set all your people free  
to praise you in Christ our Lord. Amen

### **Readings for 26 January**

#### 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a

Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For we were all baptised by<sup>[a]</sup> one Spirit so as to form one body – whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free – and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. <sup>14</sup> And so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

<sup>15</sup> Now if the foot should say, ‘Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,’ it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear should say, ‘Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,’ it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup> But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.

<sup>19</sup> If they were all one part, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many parts, but one body. <sup>21</sup> The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I don’t need you!’ And the head cannot say to the feet, ‘I don’t need you!’ <sup>22</sup> On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and the parts that we think are less honourable we treat with special honour. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, <sup>24</sup> while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater

honour to the parts that lacked it, <sup>25</sup> so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. <sup>26</sup> If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it.

<sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. <sup>28</sup> And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup> Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup> Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues<sup>[b]</sup>? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup> Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

#### Luke 4:14-21

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. <sup>15</sup> He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

<sup>16</sup> He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

<sup>18</sup> ‘The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to set the oppressed free,  
<sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’

<sup>20</sup> Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. <sup>21</sup> He began by saying to them, ‘Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.’

