

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

...for PEACE in the world especially where people are fighting and suffering and dying, for refugees and asylum seekers, for those kidnapped and hostages.

... *please pray for:* Tina, Jane, Karen, Mike and Marion, Eve, Sean, Sharon, Paul, Llawela, Andrew B, Paul M, Grahame, Nadia, Georgina, Autumn and parents Shauna and Pascal

....*for the family and friends* of those who have died.

... for The Benefice vacancy and the appointing of a new priest.

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

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

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

Benefice Prayer Diary- Paper copies are in each Church

Dates for your diary.

14th February Coffee Morning at Hardwicke Church 10.30 – 12.30

As it is on St Valentines Day we are especially inviting anyone who was married in St Nicholas to come for a look around. Have a coffee, cake and a chat and a photo if possible

The box for the City Mission has now gone to be delivered but we could collect again for Easter if you want to – please talk to the wardens and/or Sarah

Pray for Gloucester - to join in / find out more click on
<http://www.pray4gloucester.uk>

Anything for the newsletter to vannessa_moore@yahoo.co.uk by Monday if possible

Benefice of Hardwicke and Elmore with Longney

www.hardwicke-elmore-longney.church

Priest-in-Charge vacancy, vicar@hardwicke-elmore-longney.church
and 01452 720015 are still in use

Assistant Priests Revd George Parfitt

Licenced Readers Judy Cheshire

Reader in Training Richard Flower (on secondment)

Authorised Leaders of Worship: Neil Hollis, Doff Stone

Justine Sullivan and Linda Cook

Pioneer Sports Minister: Tim Fletcher

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

Today 1st February

9.30am - Elmore Holy Communion

11.00am – Hardwicke Simply Worship

Week beginning 1st February

3rd February Tuesday Prayer Group at Pam's 10.30am

4th February Toddler Service at Hardwicke 10.am

Next Sunday – 8th February

9.30am Longney Holy Communion

11.00am Hardwicke Holy Communion

4.00pm Elmore Evensong

Readings Romans 8 v 18- 25 Matthew 6 v 25 – end

Collect for – Sunday 1st February

Almighty and ever-living God,
clothed in majesty,
whose beloved Son was this day presented in the temple,
in substance of our flesh;
grant that we may be presented to you
with pure and clean hearts,
by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Reading Hebrews 2 v 14 – end

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death -- that is, the devil -- and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants. For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Gospel Luke 2 v 22 – 40

When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the

Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”), and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.” Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: “Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.” The child’s father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.” There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.