

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*: Julie and Trevor, Tina, Jane, Karen, Mike and Marion, Eve, Sean, Paul, Andrew B, Paul M, Grahame, Georgina, Nadia, Baby Autumn and parents Shauna and Pascal.

....*for the family and friends* of those who have died especially Arnold Cleaverly and his daughter Christine

... 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 March – Wedding at St Nicholas - Georgina and Oliver

18th March – St Nicholas Court – Holy Communion 10.30am

21st March – Coffee Morning at St Nicholas Hardwicke

Don't 'Give up' 'Give' At St Nicholas many of us are going to 'give' this lent – something little every day / or weekly to either the City Misson or the food Bank. Boxes will be at the back of church during Lent for your gifts. Please join in if you would like to.

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 Priest Revd George Parfitt

Licensed Reader 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 March Lent 2

9.30am - Elmore Holy Communion

11.00am – Hardwicke Simply Worship

Week beginning 1st March

3rd March Tuesday Prayer Group Lent lunch at Sandra's 11.30 for 12.00

4th March Toddler Service at 10.00am

Next Sunday – 8th March Lent 3

9.30am Longney Holy Communion

11.00am Hardwicke Holy Communion

4.00pm Elmore Evensong

Readings Romans 4 v 1 – 5, 13 – 17 John 3 v 1 – 17

Collect for – Sunday 1st March Lent 2

Almighty God,
you show to those who are in error, the light of your truth,
that they may turn to the way of righteousness;
grant to all those who are admitted
into the fellowship of Christ's religion,
that they may reject those things
that are contrary to their profession,
and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Reading Romans 4 v 1 – 5, 13 - 17

What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, discovered in this matter? If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. What does Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.” Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation. However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness. It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression. Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be

guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

Gospel John 3 v 1 – 17

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.” Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again. ” “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!” Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. How can this be?” Nicodemus asked. “You are Israel's teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.” For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.