



**St Lawrence Church**  
LECHLADE-ON-THAMES

**Vicar's Letter**  
**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

### **Lent Special**

Lent is that season of the year that prepares for the momentous events of Easter- the death and resurrection of Jesus the Messiah. It is a time of reflection, of considering our frailty before God and asking for his mercy and forgiveness. It is a time to reconnect with God, to listen once again to His voice and to think what it means to follow Christ in our lives.

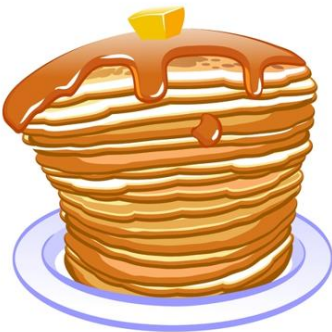
#### **Beginning of Lent**

We start off with our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Quiz in the church, when our quizmaster this year will be our very own Rev Gareth Griffith! Lots of fun questions, a pleasing assortment of prizes, and fantastic crepes from The Twinning Association. £5 per team of five – come as a team or make up a team on the evening. Everyone is very welcome.

The next evening is the traditional start to the Lent season, our service of Holy Communion with the choir singing and also an opportunity, if you would like, to receive a sign of the cross in ash on your forehead. It is a powerful symbol of our humility and submission before the God who made us and loves us in Christ.

**Shrove Tuesday**  
**(13 Feb)**

**Pancake Quiz**



**Ash Wednesday**  
**(14 Feb)**

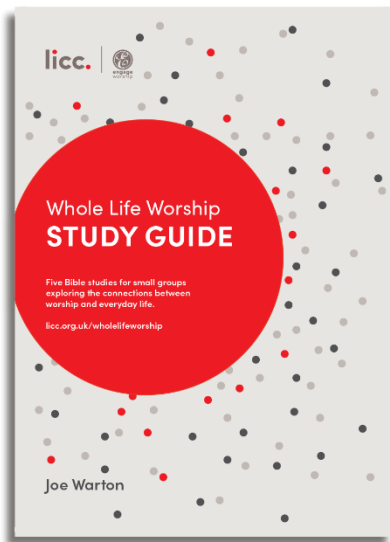
**Holy Communion**  
**& ashing**



#### **Lent Course 2024**

Every year we put together a course for local Christians from different churches. It is always a great time of teaching, prayer and fellowship, as together we commit ourselves to being disciples of Jesus and following in His ways. This year we are using the excellent materials from LICC (the London Institute of Contemporary Christianity) called 'Whole Life Worship'. It is a course that makes connections between what we do when we gather together in a Sunday service and what happens in the rest of our life during the week. There is a mixture of Bible study, discussion and a short, animated video to accompany each of the five sessions.

Please do sign up for a group on the sheets at the back of church on a Sunday, or contact the Parish Office to request a place. There are a variety of leaders and a choice of either daytime or evening groups. Whether you a seasoned veteran of Lent Groups or have never been on one before you are very welcome to join in this year.



*Connect your Sunday services with Monday life – from their biblical foundations through to practical ideas. Sunday worship has the potential to transform our daily actions.*

*Help each and every person in your church recognise the value of their work, activities, and relationships in God's economy. The retired-busy crowd, the living-life-to-the-full crowd, the uncertain-in-faith crowd, the juggling-work-and-family crowd: come together and re-dedicate it all to God on Sundays.*

*Make your Sundays about breathing in the Spirit of God, so you can breathe out the Spirit throughout the week.*

## **Easter Services 2024**

This is a version of the parish card that will be sent to every household very soon in preparation for Easter. There will be spare copies at the back of church for those who do not live in the parish, or would like additional copies to give to others. Why not take a few extra to use as personal invitations to friends and neighbours? Easter is a great time to invite people to services to discover for themselves what the Christian faith is all about.

You are invited to our 2024 Easter events in Church

### **Palm Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March**

Services at **8am**, **10am** and **5pm**  
Procession from the school at **10am** with palms



### **Maundy Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

Shared Agape Fellowship meal at **7.30pm**



### **Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March**

Quiet Reflections on the Cross at **10am**  
Family Easter Trail & refreshments **2pm-3:30pm**



### **Easter Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

Communion services at **8am** and **10am**  
Easter Celebration (music & readings) at **5pm**



[stlawrencelechlade.org.uk](http://stlawrencelechlade.org.uk)

May this time of Lent be a time of spiritual refreshment and nourishment for us as individuals, but also for us as a whole church family.

Yours in Christ's name,

Andrew Cinnamond  
Vicar