

**Churches of St James,  
St Giles, Holy Cross & St Bartholomew**

**Rector:** Revd Juliet Jensen 01453 350810  
Parish Office 01453 549280  
[www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk](http://www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk)

**Services for Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026  
Second Sunday of Lent**

**St James, Dursley**

**10am** Parish Holy Communion  
*Revd Juliet Jensen*

**St Bartholomew's, Nympsfield**

**10am** Parish Holy Communion  
*Revd Colin Lunt*

**Dursley Tabernacle**

**6pm** Lent Worship "George Whitefield"  
*Revd Simon Helme*

**Collect**

Almighty God,  
you show to those who are in error the light of your truth,  
that they may return 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.

**Amen**

**First Reading: Genesis 12: 1-4a**

Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

**Psalm 121**

I lift up my eyes to the hills - from where will my help come?  
My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.  
He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.  
He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.  
The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.  
The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.  
The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.  
The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and for evermore.

**Second reading: Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17**

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was

justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations') - in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

**Holy Gospel: John 3: 1-17**

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

**Intercessions**

We pray for those who are ill at this time or in other forms of need, especially those we know. We remember Joyce, Fiona, Brendan, Keith, Kath, Ann, Albie, Carol, Sam, Jane, Marion, Charlie and Rita. Be with them in their suffering, support and comfort them and give them peace of mind in times of trouble.

We give thanks for the life of Dorothy Sutton, recently departed, and we pray for her family, friends, and all those who grieve.

### **Post Communion Prayer.**

Almighty God,  
you see that we have no power of ourselves to  
help ourselves:  
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,  
and inwardly in our souls;  
that we may be defended from all adversities  
which may happen to the body,  
and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the  
soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen**

### **This Week.**

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**  
12noon Light Lent Lunches in the Parish Centre  
**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**  
2pm PCC Training in Thornbury  
**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March**  
6pm Evening Prayer via Zoom  
**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March**  
9am Morning prayer at St James  
10am Holy Communion at St James  
7.30pm Lent Course via Zoom  
**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March**  
3pm Young musical talent concert at St Giles,  
Uley

### **Services for 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026 Third Sunday of Lent**

**St James, Dursley**  
10am Parish Holy Communion  
**St Giles, Uley**  
10am Informal Worship "Water of Life"  
**The Quarry Chapel**  
6pm Churches Together Lent Service

**Evening prayer via Zoom is on Wednesday at  
6pm, to join please use this login  
Meeting ID: 811 3331 8043 Passcode: 346570**

### **Dursley Electoral Roll review 2026**

The roll will be open from 15<sup>th</sup> until 1<sup>st</sup> March There  
are forms in church, you only need to make an  
amendment if there are any changes in your details,  
or if you wish to be added.

### **Treasurer**

**From 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026 we will no longer have a  
treasurer in Dursley when Sally Pearson  
stands down.**

**Please come forward if you are able to take  
on this role, Sally will guide you. The job can  
also be shared with others.**

**Live Stream this week is from St James,  
Dursley.**

**[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1PWvY0  
HMxrQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1PWvY0HMxrQ)**

### **Safeguarding Officers**

**Heather Arnold**

Safeguarding Officer for the Parish of Dursley  
07757 468371

Email: [arnoldheather@icloud.com](mailto:arnoldheather@icloud.com)

**Pat Jones**

Safeguarding Officer for the Parish of Uley,  
with Nympsfield and Owlpen  
01453 860696

Email: [patjones117@btinternet.com](mailto:patjones117@btinternet.com)

## **Light Lent Lunches 2026 Starting on 23rd February, from 12 noon in St James Parish Centre, Dursley.**

**Soup, bread, cake and tea or coffee will be  
served each Monday during Lent.**

**All are welcome.**

**All donations will be donated  
to our nominated charities.**



## **St Giles Church, Uley**

**presents**

## **A Celebration of Young Musical Talent**

**Sunday 8th March at 3pm**



**A free, informal concert in the church followed  
by tea and cake.**

**Proceeds toward the well at Kachikho Primary  
School, Nkhotakota, Malawi**



# Uley Village – Malawi Well Project



## Kachikho Primary School, Nkhotakota, Malawi Needs a Well

People get water from a swamp and cholera is rife  
It will cost around £3750 to build a well

- St Giles Church are working with WellBoring to help Uley villagers provide clean water

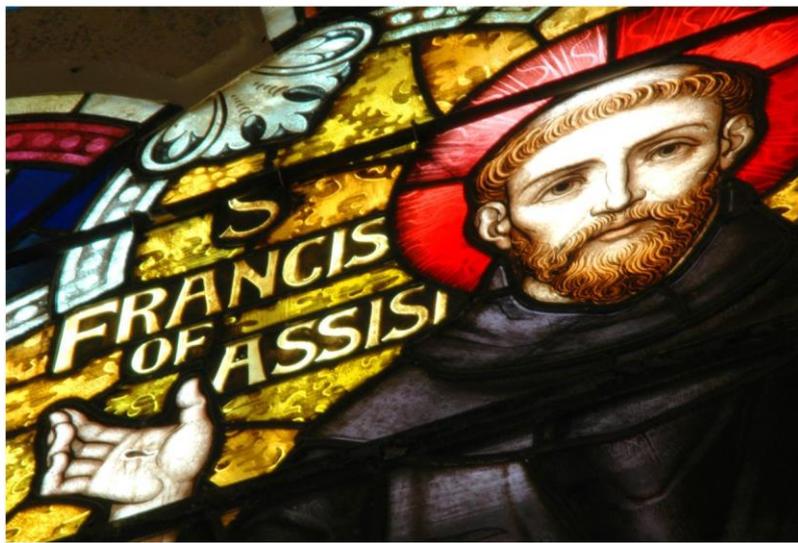
## We can do this together!

You can give via JustGiving:  
<https://bit.ly/uleyvillage-well>

scan QR code.



or donate at Uley Community Stores.



## Ewelme Benefice

### 2026 Lent study course on Zoom

#### “The way of the Franciscans A prayer journey through Lent”

There will be 6 evening sessions when we will be reflecting on St Francis’ simple desire to live the gospel more fully and follow Christ more closely. We will be thinking how that can have resonances for us today. Not only will we be looking at St Francis himself but also some of his followers who continued in his footsteps.

We will meet on zoom at 7.30pm for an hour on each occasion.

#### Themes:

##### February

- 19. St Francis: Solitude and relationship
- 26. Clare of Assisi: Poverty, contemplation and the cross

##### March

- 5. Bonaventure: Prophecy and everyday mysticism
- 12. Angela: Love of Christ, love of the world
- 19. Duns Scotus: Discovering God and our true self
- 26. The way of the Franciscans continues

Each session will be made up a short Bible passage and a reflection on that, with some questions for discussion.

Zoom details: Meeting ID: 811 3331 8043. Passcode: 346570

Please contact David Vonberg if you are interested or if you want to know more.  
(revdavid.vonberg@gmail.com)

## LENT 2026 A CLOUD OF WITNESSES



All the services take  
place at 6.00pm  
at different churches

A series of  
Ecumenical  
Evening Services  
reflecting on some  
of the great people  
of the faith in the  
past centuries, and  
what they can  
say to us today

**22nd February**  
“William Tyndale”  
**St George’s Cam**  
**GL11 5PQ**

**1st March**  
“George Whitefield”  
**Dursley Tab**  
**GL11 4LW**

**8th March**  
“Thomas Merton”  
**The Quarry Chapel**  
**GL11 6JA**

**15th March**  
“Mother Julian of  
Norwich”  
**Dursley Methodist  
Church GL11 4BS**

**22nd March**  
“St Benedict”  
**St Dominic’s**  
**GL11 4ES**

**Don’t forget the  
Walk of Witness on  
Good Friday  
3rd April**

# St Giles, Uley

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March

10am

"Water of Life"

With Nigel Linacre from  
WellBoring

An informal service reflecting on the  
importance of water for life and  
the Uley Village Well in Malawi.



Hot drinks and Croissants served  
from 9.45am

St Giles Church, Uley

presents

**Words & Music for a Spring  
Afternoon**

**Sunday 22nd March at 3pm**



A free, informal concert in the church followed by  
tea and cake.

Donations welcome for Church Funds.

## St James the Great, Dursley Coffee, Cake and Music 2026



10.30am coffee,  
tea and cake  
11-11.40am  
Recital

There is no charge, but a retiring  
collection will be taken, the proceeds of  
which go to the work of  
St James' Church

### Recitalists

April 25<sup>th</sup> Stephen Power

(Monmouth Parish Church)

May 30<sup>th</sup> Tim Selman

(Organ Scholar Lincoln Cathedral)

June 27<sup>th</sup> Keith Hearnshaw

(Concert Organist)

July 25<sup>th</sup> Piers Maxim

(Malvern Priory)

August 29<sup>th</sup> William Reynolds

(Minster Church of St Mary, Swansea)

September 26<sup>th</sup> Andrew Millington

(Former DoM at Exeter Cathedral)

October 31<sup>st</sup> Bernard West

(Oxford)

St James the Great, Dursley

## Music for Passiontide

29<sup>th</sup> March 2026

*Palm  
Sunday*

**6.30pm**

with St James' choir  
featuring music by  
Louis Vierne, Bob Chilcott and  
selections from Handel's "Messiah".