

Candles for Ukraine. This collection is restarting this month. Should you have any candles or stub ends of candles to donate, please pass them to Goathurst Church or bring them to the Benefice Office.

Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, Wednesday 18th February.**

There will be two services in the benefices: 11:00am Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes at Holford Church.

7:00pm Service for Ash Wednesday in Nether Stowey Church Centre.

There are various opportunities being planned for Lent. Please look out for further details.

Ministry Team

The Ministry Team is here for everyone. If you would like prayer for yourself, or someone else, please do contact anyone on the list. Any of these people will be happy to talk to you, pray for you, add a name to the list in the Benefice News or send a prayer request round the prayer chain.

Rector: Revd. Eleanor King

01278 734777

Email: Eleanor.king@hotmail.com

(Usual day off Thursday)

Hon. Associate Priests:

Revd. Dawn Brimson 01278 741413

Revd. Stephen Campbell 01278 741329

Readers:

Sarah Upfield 01278 671539

Viv Chesterton 01278 733568

Alison Hoare 01278 732350

Lay Worship Assistants:

Preb. Sally Bult 07748 307105

Sarah King 01278 734777

Benefice Administrator: Alison

Usual office hours Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri from 9-11am

Telephone: 01278 732855

Email: qv.benefice@gmail.com

Website: www.quantockvillagesbenefice.org.uk

This Benefice takes Safeguarding seriously and follows the Diocesan Safeguarding policy, which includes the Church of England Policy on Safeguarding. If you have any concerns, please check the church notice boards for the full policy and a list of parish safeguarding officers, or the benefice website www.quantockvillagesbenefice.org.uk/safeguarding

<https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/diocese/safeguarding/>



Quantock Villages Benefice

Find Quantock Villages Benefice on Facebook for more information and updates as well as to see photos from past events

<https://www.facebook.com/qv.benefice>

Benefice News



Quantock Villages Benefice

***"Not just going to church,
but being the church"***

Parishes of Aisholt, Enmore, Goathurst, Holford with Dodington, Kilve with Kilton & Lilstock, Nether Stowey, Over Stowey, Spaxton with Charllynch, and Stringston



Sunday 15th February – Sunday before Lent

9:30am Holy Communion at Over Stowey

11:00am Holy Communion at Aisholt

11:00am Morning Worship at Kilve

11:00am Morning Worship at Nether Stowey CC

11:00am Holy Communion at Stringston

4:00pm Taizé Service at Enmore

6:30pm Evensong at Holford

Holy Baptism at Spaxton Church

Readings for Sunday before Lent

2 Peter 1.16-21 As eyewitnesses of glory, men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God

Matthew 17.1-9 The transfiguration

Collect for the Sunday before Lent

Almighty Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

or

Holy God,
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your goodness
and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion

Holy God,
we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:
may we who are partakers at his table
reflect his life in word and deed,
that all the world may know his power to change and save.

This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For our Prayers

Baptisms and Weddings: Please pray for Elsie and George who will be baptised on 15th February, and for those getting married this year.

Please note some people are asking for prayer but only wish their first name to be mentioned.

Please remember those who are sick or in need:

Those whom we keep in our prayers:

Please pray for the friends and families of those who have died recently:

Worldwide: The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean.

National: Those living in areas with flood alerts in place.

Church: Those leading Lent groups across our diocese.

Local: Over Stowey, Spaxton with Charllynch, and Stringston.

With thanks: For our shops, pubs and local services.

This Week's Events

Monday 16th - 9:00am Morning Prayer Nether Stowey Church

- Quantock Food Bank collection at 11:00am
- 7:30pm Nether Stowey PCC

Tuesday 17th

Wednesday 18th - ASH WEDNESDAY

- No Wednesday Club this week
- Celtic Morning Prayer at Goathurst
- **11am Imposition of Ashes** with Holy Communion at Holford
- 2pm Stringston PCC
- **7pm Service for Ash Wednesday** at Nether Stowey CC

Thursday 19th - 8pm A Moment of Prayer (see below)

Friday 20th - 10am Holy Communion in Church Centre

- 10am-11:15am Stay and Play at Goathurst
- Spaxton Rainbow Café 10:30-12:30

In Person Basic Safeguarding Training Saturday 7th March

10am – 12:30pm at the Church Centre Nether Stowey.

Please book your place as soon as possible with Alison in the office.

A Moment of Prayer Throughout 2026, our year of prayer, you are invited to stop on Thursday evenings at 8:00pm and join in with the Moment of Prayer for our local communities, for those around us and for the world, or you may wish to say the Lord's Prayer.

Thought for the week: Regardless of how things appear at a given moment in time, all of history will ultimately serve to accomplish God's purpose on earth. (Jean Pierre de Caussade.)

Next Sunday 22nd February – 1st of Lent

9:30am Holy Communion at Holford (BCP)

11:00am Morning Worship at Enmore

11:00am Holy Communion at Nether Stowey CC

11:00am Morning Worship at Spaxton

11:00am Family Service at Stringston

6:30pm Holy Communion at Goathurst

Readings for the first Sunday of Lent

Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7 *Adam and Eve in the garden commit the first sin and are punished*

Matthew 4.1-11 *Jesus tempted by Satan in the wilderness*

In and around the benefice ...

Regular Events

 **Nether Stowey Coffee Morning:** Saturday 14th February 10:30am

Over Stowey Coffee Morning: Saturday 21st

February 10.30am

Goathurst Coffee Morning: Tuesday 24th February 11am

Kilve Coffee Morning: Saturday 28th February 10:30am

Goathurst Handbells 1st & 3rd Saturdays 2-3:00pm

Save the Date ...

A visit from the Bishop of Bath and Wells.

Bishop Michael is planning to walk the Coleridge Way in Holy Week and will be visiting Nether Stowey on Maundy Thursday and into Good Friday (2nd and 3rd of April). He is keen to meet as many people as possible. We very much look forward to seeing him. Further information to follow.

Fish 'n chip supper in Goathurst 6:30pm Friday 6th March at the Village Hall and hear Part II of Gerry Wright's amazing life at sea. Signed copies of Gerry's recently published book 'Daughters of the Sea' will be available to buy. **Tickets £12 must be pre-booked** with Brenda at timpetillbrenda@hotmail.co.uk or 07790 825207

The World Day of Prayer Service 2026 will take place on Friday 6th March at 2.30pm at St Etheldreda's church, West Quantoxhead. This years' service is written by the Christian Women of Nigeria based on Matthew 11, is "I will give you rest, come." If you've never been to a WDP service before, why not come and hear the concerns of the women in Nigeria. The services are always well received.

Lent Lunches Please see 'This Week's Events' for dates, times and venues each week.

In Nether Stowey: Each Friday in Lent from 12.30pm a delicious range of homemade soups will be served with a roll, followed by fruit. It also comes with cheerful company. Open to all, no need to book. We look forward to seeing you there.



Easter Fair at Kilve Court on Easter Monday, 6th April, 10am-4pm. Celebrating its 30th anniversary this year!