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REGULAR VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

1st Wednesday in each month	7 pm Wednesday Sisters. For more details please phone Rosie on 781046.	The Sun
Every Tuesday	7.30pm Table Tennis	Village Hall
2nd Wednesday every other month	7.30pm Parish Council Meetings (Jan/Mar/May/July/Sept/Nov)	Committee Room

CHURCH OFFICERS

Rector	Revd Paolo Di Leo	(782000, 07968 606 377)
Lay Leader of Worship	Rosemary Drewery	(07792 926 004)
Churchwarden	Sue Whitehouse	(781300)
Treasurer	Stephen Hill	(781064)

Editor of Ouse News: Jane Carwithen (782185) or email janecarwithen@gmail.com
 Items to be with the Editor for the next edition by NOON on 25th of the month



FORTY DAYS AND FORTY NIGHTS

Stephen Hill

We entered the season of Lent on Ash Wednesday 18th February this year. So, what have you given up? Or indeed, should the question be whether you have kept your new year's resolutions before you start making new ones?

After all, if the new year's resolutions have fallen by the wayside within seven weeks, is there any point in making any fresh resolutions for Lent? Well, as we were all taught, "If at first you don't succeed...". So perhaps, Lent could be the chance to try again.

New Year's resolutions tend to be about starting something new or making improvements. Lent is all about giving something up. Really? Why?

Lent is a so-called penitential season of self-examination in preparation for the great events of Easter, just as Advent serves the same purpose for the four weeks that are now usually called "the run up to Christmas". These seasons are ancient traditions of the Christian church, but they are not directly derived from the teachings of the Bible.

That is not to say that we should disregard Lent, but there is no good reason to think of it in terms simply of giving up something that is fun and putting on the hair shirt. Just like your new year's resolutions, it can be a chance to start good things. Unlike the new year's resolutions, which are seen as being permanent, or at least for the year, Lent only runs for a few weeks. (Ctd overleaf)

Header photo: "Spring is Coming"

The United Benefice of Sharnbrook, Felmersham and Knotting with Souldrop

St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook MK44 1HU, St Mary's Church, Felmersham MK43 7JP All Saints Church, Souldrop MK44 1EX

www.sharnbrookcofechurches.org



Welcome



FORTHCOMING CHURCH SERVICES FOR MARCH

Sun 1 March	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's
<i>Lent 2 /St David</i>	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's
Wed 4 March	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
Sun 8 March	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's
<i>Lent 3</i>	10.30am	Holy Communion at All Saint's
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's
	3.00pm	Faith Explorers at St Mary's
	3.00pm	Evensong at St Peter's
Tues 10 March	7.30pm	Lent Reflections on Zoom
Wed 11 March	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Sun 15 March	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's
Mothers Sunday	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at Peter's
Wed 18 March	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Sun 22 March	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's
Lent 5	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's
	3.00pm	Evensong at St Peter's
Wed 25 March	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Sun 29 March	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's
	10.15am	Liturgy of the Palms (Village Car Park)
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's
	6.00pm	The Passion of Jesus Christ at St Peter's

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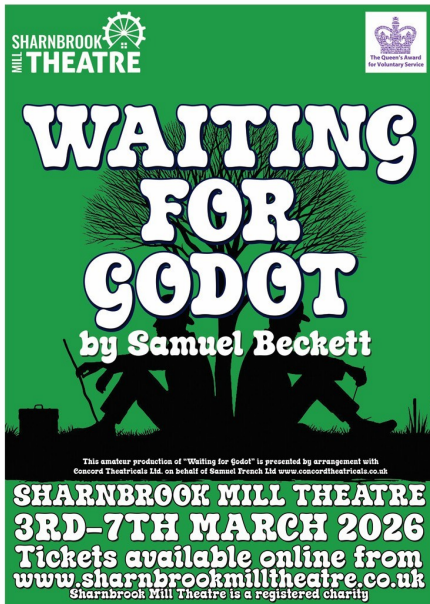
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VILLAGE SERVICES

Babysitting (Felmersham)	Laura Hewlett 782063	Electrical Services	Martin Blizard 782527
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Community Care	07786 344 176	Vinyl and Carpet Fitter 8 years experience	Danny O'Grady 07720 779275
General Plumber	Frank Darrieulat 07768 511871	Animal Care and Dog Walking	Annette Courtney 783164
		Dog Walking, feed- ing/ boarding	Ch. Tweed- dale 781279



Coming soon to your local theatre!



Later in 2026...

Dinner - 15th-19th September

Matilda Jr - 29th-31st October

Come From Away - 8th-12th December

Tickets and more information from www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk Sharnbrook Mill Theatre is a registered charity

(Ctd from page1) The Lent resolution of giving up chocolate (or whatever it is) has light at the end of a short tunnel. At the outset, it doesn't carry that weight of expectation that everything changes now and today and forever. But if it is the right resolution for you, it may become permanent anyway, whether giving up something bad or starting something good.

Try before you buy.

So for Lent, why not give up being gloomy, give up being pessimistic, give up not liking your neighbour, give up being stuck in a rut. If none of these things apply to you in the first place, congratulations, keep up the good work, and keep spreading the happiness!

The following are all on Zoom this month

Compline continues at 9pm on every Wednesday and Friday during March

Lent Reflections every Tuesday at 7.30pm starting 10 March

Morning Prayer every Thursday in March at 9.30am

Zoom Link for our Benefice Online Services https://zoom.us/j/763110804

Password: 079014

THE BENEFICE CHOIR

Janet Welsh

We would like to add a few more choristers to our Benefice Choir who sing at the main 10.30 am Communion Services at St Peter's or St Mary's each week. If you like singing and would like to join us or find out more about us, please contact Janet Welsh on 01234 781010 or Colin Scott on 01234 781559.

Lunch Together

Maggie Spoor, Jane Rhodes, Jane Wells

The next lunch at The Sun will be on Friday 13th March at 12.30. The cost is £7 a head for homemade soup and a sandwich or toastie (drinks not included).

Our thanks to Pete and everyone at The Sun who are always so welcoming.

Please remember to book your place this month by calling Maggie on 01234 782031 so that we can let Pete know numbers.

Thank you, see you there!

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CARERS TOGETHER

Come and join us for tea, cake, and a chat.

The next meetings will be at 2.30pm on Monday **2nd & 16th March**

Meet with other Carers knowing the person you care for is enjoying activities in a safe and friendly environment.

The Methodist Church, Park Lane, Sharnbrook

For more information contact the group's Co-ordinator

Linda Hoar 07791214148 lindahoar@hotmail.co.uk

Here's what happens behind the scenes:

Food waste collected from your kerbside is delivered to Biogen.

It's checked and cleaned to remove any plastics or liners - any liners you use are mechanically removed.

Inside sealed tanks, natural bacteria transform it through anaerobic digestion into biogas.

That biogas is used to generate renewable electricity, while the leftover digestate 'soup' helps local crops grow.

So when you recycle your food waste, you're helping power homes and nourish Bedfordshire's fields - all from your kitchen caddy.

If you haven't received your kitchen caddy or outdoor food waste bin yet, they'll be with you soon!



We know everyone's doing what they can to cut costs and reduce food waste - from meal planning and writing shopping lists, to composting and keeping pets and birds well-fed! For any unavoidable scraps, your new weekly food waste collection is the next best step - turning leftovers into renewable energy and fertiliser for local fields.

Garden Waste Collections start again in March

Did you know ?

Batteries can catch fire if crushed or damaged in bins or recycling vehicles.

Household battery collection – place your batteries in a clear sealed bag and put them on the top of your bin on any collection day.

Weekly Food Waste Collections begin on Monday 30 March

It is expected that the food caddies will be delivered in early March to our villages.

A Facebook posting from Bedford Borough Council

(24 February 2026)

You've been asking us lots of questions about the new food waste service - so we joined Councillor Gribble at Biogen to show you exactly what happens next!

Food waste collections begin Monday, 30 March.

Every week, your food waste from homes and flats across Bedford Borough will be taken to Biogen, where it's turned into renewable energy to power homes and create a nutrient-rich liquid fertiliser for local farmland.

From removing plastic and newspaper liners to harnessing renewable energy, every peel, teabag, and scrap of food has a purpose - helping make Bedford Borough cleaner and more environmentally friendly. (Ctd on next page)

SHARNBROOK LENT PROJECT 2026

Hope Works

Supporting the Homeless in Bedford and Milton Keynes

You may wish to take home a Lent collection box, to serve as a daily reminder, or alternatively make a one-off donation using one of the following methods:-
by cheque / online banking OR online, by card payment

payable to

Sharnbrook PCC

Sort Code 20-05-74

Acc. No. 80821632

Reference Hope Works

click or scan this QR code

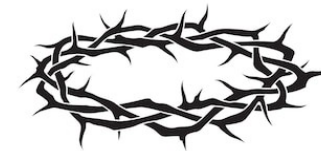


Janet Welsh

The Benefice Choir and Friends
present a devotional evening of

The Passion of Jesus Christ

according to St Mark's Gospel
with narrative and music



Narrator: Ernest Carwithen

**on Palm Sunday, 29 March at 6pm
at St Peter's Church**

Please join us as we start Holy Week



HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2026 SHARNBROOK BENEFICE

SUNDAY 29th MARCH – PALM SUNDAY

- 9.00AM Said Communion – St Mary’s Church, Felmersham
- 10.15AM Blessing of the Palms Procession (Gather in car park next to St. Peter’s)
- 10.30AM Choral Communion & Family Service - St Peter’s Church, Sharnbrook
- 6.00PM The Passion Story in words and music - St Peter’s Church, Sharnbrook

WEDNESDAY 1st APRIL

- 9.30AM Midweek Communion - St Mary’s Church, Felmersham

THURSDAY 2nd APRIL - MAUNDY THURSDAY

- 7.30PM Holy Communion of the Last Supper - St Peter’s Church, Sharnbrook

FRIDAY 3rd APRIL – GOOD FRIDAY

- 9.40AM Walk of Witness (starting at Sharnbrook Academy)
- 10.00AM Open Air Service on Sharnbrook Village Green
Followed by Tea/Coffee and Hot Cross Buns in
St Peter’s Room, St Peter’s Church
- 12.00PM “Stations of the Cross” Service - St Peter’s Church,
Sharnbrook

SATURDAY 4th APRIL – HOLY SATURDAY

- 8.00PM Service of Light & Renewal of Baptismal Vows – St Mary’s
Church, Felmersham

SUNDAY 5th APRIL – EASTER SUNDAY

- 10.30AM Easter Family Communion – All Saints’ Church, Souldrop
- 10.30AM Easter Choral Holy Communion & Family Service - St Mary’s Church,
Felmersham
- 10.30AM Easter Choral Holy Communion & Family Service - St Peter’s Church,
Sharnbrook

The United Benefice of Sharnbrook, Felmersham, Radwell & Knotting with Souldrop

For more details please contact:
Rev. Paolo Di Leo: 07968 606377 rev.pdileo@gmail.com



Ouse Valley Mothers’ Union



Something to inspire

Bring a picture, sampler, ornament or verse
which inspires you during Lent

Thursday 12 March 2.30pm, St Peter’s Room

New members and visitors welcome (suggested donation £4 for MU charities)

Details: contact Jackie Biggs (782517) or Hazel Scott (781559)

Charity No.249814

