

St Mary's & St Luke's Weekly Information Sheet

Sunday 26th March 2023 – Passiontide begins

This sheet is also available online at www.stmaryswistaston.blog

Worship & Prayer in church & online for Sunday and the coming week
Holy communion will be distributed at Communion Rail with 'Priest intinction'

In Church Worship

Sunday 26th March 2023 – Fifth Sunday of Lent

We Welcome Canon David Taylor to our Churches

9am at St Luke's – A Service of Holy Communion

10.40am at St Mary's – A Service of All Age Worship

Ezekiel 37.1-14 & verses from John 11.1-3,30-44

12.30pm at St Mary's - Baptism Service

All readings are taken from New International Version – UK edition

Every Wednesday - Holy Communion at St Mary's at 10am

Followed by refreshments

Next Sunday 2nd April 2023 – Palm Sunday

9am at St Luke's – A Service of Morning Prayer

10.40am at St Mary's – A Service of Holy Communion & Junior Church

Psalms 118.19-24 & Matthew 21.1-11

Online Worship

The 10:40am service is streamed from St Mary's each Sunday

[YouTube.com/StMarysWistaston1](https://www.youtube.com/StMarysWistaston1) & Facebook: bit.ly/facebookstmarys

You can also join in by phone: just before 10:40am Call: 0203 051 2874

Meeting ID: 838 7878 9259 Participant ID (if asked): # Passcode: 567119

Morning Prayer

on Zoom bit.ly/930mp, 9:30am on Monday & Thursday



To view/download this Weekly Sheet and Sunday Service Sheets then simply scan the QR code to the left with your smartphone camera or go to this address.

bit.ly/stmarysresources

First Reading: Ezekiel 37.1-14

A reading from the Book of Prophet Ezekiel

The hand of the LORD was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me to and fro among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. He asked me, 'Son of man, can these bones live?' I said, 'Sovereign LORD, you alone know. 'Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones and say to them, "Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.'"

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.'" So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet – a vast army.

Then he said to me: 'Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off." Therefore prophesy and say to them: "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: my people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.

This the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

The Collect

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross, we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Post Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Gospel Reading: John 11.1-3,30-44

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you O Lord.

Now a man named Lazarus was ill. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay ill, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) So the sisters sent word to Jesus, 'Lord, the one you love is ill.'

Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there.

When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.'

When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. 'Where have you laid him?' he asked.

'Come and see, Lord,' they replied.

Jesus wept.

Then the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!'

But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. 'Take away the stone,' he said.

'But, Lord,' said Martha, the sister of the dead man, 'by this time there is a bad odour, for he has been there four days.'

Then Jesus said, 'Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, 'Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.'

When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth round his face.

Jesus said to them, 'Take off the grave clothes and let him go.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

News & Information

stmaryswistaston.blog & stmaryswistaston.org.uk

St Mary's Wistaston & St Luke's Willaston Holy Week and Easter Services 2023

Maundy Thursday

7pm Holy Communion at St Luke's

Good Friday

2pm An Hour at the Cross at St Mary's

Easter Sunday

9am Holy Communion at St Luke's

10:40am All Age Holy Communion St Mary's



Rachael Rivers will be joining us on a placement for Reader Training from Palm Sunday to early May. Rachael is based at St Mary's, Nantwich, and we look forward to welcoming her with us at our churches.

The next Lent Lunch is this Wednesday, 29 March, in the Church Hall and will be Ploughman's Lunch at 12 noon priced at £4.50. Everyone welcome, Thanks, Chris.

Lent Groups continue: Tuesdays 7.30pm at the Rectory & 10am Fridays at St Luke's
Preparing St Mary's for Easter Sunday - Please if anyone can help on Saturday 8th April, please come along at 10am. Thank you Di Carter. All help appreciated!

Good Friday Crewe Walk of Witness: Fr Nick, from St Mary's RC Church, says we will gather for a short time of prayer at 10.45 in St. Mary's RC Church (CREWE) and will begin our Walk of Witness at 11am. All welcome!

Christian Aid Sponsored Swim - Thank you to all who supported our swimmers, we raised £870 which is a wonderful amount to help a project in Malawi. This will be added to the money collected by the Crewe Churches that took part. Thanks to Malcolm Crook from Wells Green Methodist Church for organising this excellent event. Sarah Turnbull

Bell Tower and Church Open Day: Thanks to all those who came on Saturday 18 March, we had over 100 people attend and, potentially, some new Bell Ringers. Many thanks to Frank and all the Bell Ringers who were on hand to demonstrate the art of campanology and also to all who helped with refreshments during the day. If you would ever like to try Bell Ringing, they practice each Monday evening at 7:30pm.

Thanks to those who have volunteered to clean at St Mary's. Please if anyone else can help. It can be done at any time the church is free, towards the end of the week preferred. There is a cleaning kit & vacuums avble and a key safe so as you can clean at a time to suit you. For safety, please do it in pairs, there's a rota in St Mary's porch.

Prayer for Ukraine Blog: bit.ly/weprayforukraine