



St Andrews Update 229



Sunday 1st March 2026 (Lent 2).

10:00 Parish Communion Service.



The Blackthorn Trust Food Bank is open for Food donations.



The Vine Food and clothing bank is open for donations and would really appreciate some items of **warm clothing** (Socks, gloves, vests and hats).

Change to Sunday Services. In March we will be amending the monthly pattern of services. We are going to interchange the services on the Second and Fourth Sundays. This will enable us to hold youth group meetings in the afternoon of the Second Sunday in the Hall. See over for more details



Lights, Camera... Collar!

Today I was followed around by a cameraman — which is not something I can say happens often! He's creating a series of short films for the Church of England to encourage people to consider Self-Supporting Ministry.

He came to Community Café (so if you spotted a camera near the cake table, that's why), then interviewed me in church about calling, juggling church and salon life, and what I'd say to someone wondering whether God might be nudging them. Later, he followed me to the salon to film the reality of ministry in secular employment — scissors in one hand, theology somewhere in the other.

I'll admit, I sometimes feel a tiny bit of a fraud. I'm technically "self-supporting" — though I do receive 20% of a full-time stipend as your Priest-in-Charge. But many ministers choose this path very deliberately. Ministry looks different in different contexts — and that's no bad thing.

Who knows? Perhaps someone watching might begin to wonder about their own calling.



Boughton Morris

Finally, the incessant rain seems to have paused soaking the ground but at the same time it has given the life-reviving drink to so many of the flowers & plants that are now lifting their heads & greeting us. Spring certainly seems to be coming into view & flowers are on some early bushes & trees as well as in gardens & window boxes. Near to where I live, over a mile of grass verges & roundabouts have been planted with a vast variety of daffodils, hyacinths, narcissi, tulips, grape hyacinths & many more Spring bulbs, all flowering in succession year after year; thousands of yellow & white nodding heads as far as the eye can see. A real joy to behold & many times every year I say a "Thank You" to the Council that had the forethought many years ago to plant all these bulbs. I don't know if any businesses donated the bulbs, but what joy the sight has given to so many of us that use that highway & brightened our days as we travel along. A time to rejoice & say Thank You to all that provide such joy. What better way to celebrate than by dancing!

Best wishes for a good week.



If you want to know more, please contact Andrea **01795 843331** or check out our website - www.boughtonmorris.uwclub.net

Hymns for 1st March

Hymn 1: 275 Guide me O thou great redeemer.

Hymn 2: 19 All my hope on God is founded.

Offertory Hymn 3: 807 We want to see Jesus lifted high.

Communion hymns:

850 You laid aside your majesty

170 Father I place into your hands

Hymn 4: 732 The Spirit lives to set us free.

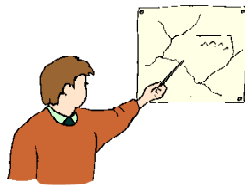
COMMUNITY CAFÉ - Our free Community Cafe is open **Wednesdays from **10:00 – 12:00** If you feel able to help, then please let Anthea know.**

Sunday 8th March 2026 (Lent 3).
10:00 Family & Children Service.



In March, we are changing our service provision slightly. 1st and 3rd Sundays will remain as Holy Communion. 2nd Sundays will become the Family Service (with Youth Group at church the same afternoon, 4.30-6.30pm). 4th Sundays will be Service of the Word led by one of the two Worship Teams, and SAYF will take place in the hall on these days for the duration of the service. All Sunday morning services remain at 10.00am with breakfast at 9.00am and refreshments served straight after the service.

Readings for 01/03/2026



First Reading – Genesis 12.1-4

12 God told Abram: "Leave your country, your family, and your father's home for a land that I will show you.

2-3 I'll make you a great nation and bless you. I'll make you famous; you'll be a blessing. I'll bless those who bless you; those who curse you I'll curse. All the families of the Earth will be blessed through you."

4-6 So Abram left just as God said, and Lot left with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his nephew Lot with him, along with all the possessions and people they had gotten in Haran, and set out for the land of Canaan and arrived safe and sound.

Abram passed through the country as far as Shechem and the Oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites occupied the land.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading – John 3.1-17

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

3 Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. 2 He came to Jesus[a] 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.' 3 Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.'[b] 4 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?' 5 Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. 6 What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.[c] 7 Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You[d] must be born from above." [e] 8 The wind[f] 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.' 9 Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' 10 Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

11 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you[g] do not receive our testimony. 12 If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? 13 No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.[h] 14 And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.[i]

16 '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.

17 '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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.