



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

Rector: Revd Juliet Jensen 01453 350810

Parish Office 01453 549280

www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk

Churchwardens

Parish of Uley

Moya Wallis 0771 9880451

The Church of St James the Great

Jan Vonberg 01453 519506 & Chris Tyler 01453 299162

Services for Sunday 2nd February 2025

Presentation of Christ in the Temple

St James Parish Centre

10am Parish Holy Communion
Revd Juliet Jensen

St Bartholomew's

10am Parish Holy Communion
Revd Ian Gardner/Revd David Vonberg

Collect

Almighty and ever-living God,
clothed in majesty,
whose beloved Son was this day presented in the
Temple,
in substance of our flesh:
grant that we may be presented to you
with pure and clean hearts,
by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

First Reading: Malachi 3: 1-5

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way
before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly
come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in
whom you delight - indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of
hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who
can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit
as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the
descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver,
until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness.
Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing
to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.
Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to
bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers,
against those who swear falsely, against those who
oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and
the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and
do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

Psalm 24: 7-end.

Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient
doors! that the King of glory may come in.
Who is the King of glory?

The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.
Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient
doors! that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?
The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Second Reading: Hebrews 2: 14-end.

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he
himself likewise shared the same things, so that through
death he might destroy the one who has the power of death,
that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held
in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not
come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham.
Therefore, he had to become like his brothers and sisters in
every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful
high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of
atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself
was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who
are being tested.

Holy Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the
law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present
him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every
firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and
they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law
of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'
Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was
Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking
forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit
rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy
Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the
Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into
the temple; and when the parents brought in the child
Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law,
Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,
'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word; for my eyes have seen your
salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all
peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory
to your people Israel.'

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what
was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and
said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the
falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that
will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be
revealed - and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'
There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel,
of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived
with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then
as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the
temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night
and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise
God and to speak about the child to all who were looking
for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of
the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of
Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with
wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Intercessions

We ask for your prayers for Dursley Academy as they are
inspected by OfSTED

We pray for those who are ill at this time or in other forms
of need, especially those we know. We remember Danny,
John, Sam, Jane, Paul, Edward, Liz, John, Mary, Thelma,
Ben, Paul, Phyllida and Rita. Be with them in their
suffering, support and comfort them and give them peace
of mind in times of trouble.'

We ask for your prayers for Bernard Bowden and Valerie
Mitchell, recently departed. We pray for their families and
friends and all those who grieve.

Post-communion prayer

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah; may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.
Amen

This Week

Mon 3rd February

OFFICE CLOSED all week, please contact Clare by email or phone 07778842060

Weds 5th February

6pm Evening prayer via Zoom

Thurs 6th February

9am Morning Prayer in St James

10am Holy Communion at St James

Sat 8th February

7pm Trivia Quiz in Uley Village Hall

Services for 9th February 2025 4th Sunday of Epiphany

St Giles

10am Parish Holy Communion

St James Parish Centre

10am Parish Holy Communion

Churchwardens-

St Giles, Holy Cross & St Bartholomew's

Moya Wallis 01453 619270

The Church of St James the Great

Jan Vonberg 01453 519506

Chris Tyler 01453 299162

Pastoral Care

Please let Revd Juliet (07776910890) know of those who need to be contacted or are in hospital and we will get in touch. Moya Wallis (01453 861675) and Pat Jones (860696) are happy to be contacted for Uley, Owlpen and Nympsfield.

You can also contact Clare in The Parish office-
ewelmebenefice@gmail.com 07778842060

Live Stream this week is from St James Parish Centre, please note it hasn't been streamed from here before so there may be some problems, we apologise in advance.

The next will be from St Giles on 16th February.

Service Sheet for Worship at Home

If you are unable to join the Sunday services, please do make use of the reflective service for use at home alongside the prayers and readings for the day which can be found on this pew sheet. If you would like a copy please contact the office ewelmebenefice@gmail.com

Morning & Evening Prayer

Morning Prayer

9am St James, every Thursday

Evening Prayer

6pm every Wednesday via Zoom

Zoom Meeting ID: 893 3298 0143

Passcode: 899154

Jean Bowden has let us know that Bernard died recently. Jean & Bernard moved away about a year ago but they were regular members of the church for many years. Bernard was also a bell-ringer inspite of being blind & partially deaf. We send our love and prayers to Jean.



TRIVIA QUIZ NIGHT

**Friends of St Giles Present
A TRIVIA QUIZ NIGHT**
With Quiz Master Angela Jones
Saturday 8th February 2025
7.00 p.m. Uley Village Hall
Teams of 6 people @ £10 per head
including light refreshments
Cash bar serving beer and wine
Tickets available from
Marion Mills 07855 609703
marionmills@btinternet.com
Or Uley Community Stores
Proceeds in aid of St Giles

Quiz & Hot Supper

St James Parish Centre
February 22nd
7pm
Teams of 6 max. £10/person
Bring own drinks.
Raffle.
Come along and join a team.
Proceeds to St James Church
funds and and Teckels
Animal Sanctuary
To book text to 07837265024
or
leave a message 01453 546895

Lent Lunches

We would like to restart the Lent Lunches this year – but with a new format. It will be in the Parish Centre, on Fridays, and will only offer soup, bread and tea or coffee. The idea is for three volunteers, each to bring an agreed soup, and to run the session. Expenses will be met. If you would like more information, please contact Ann King wathy@gmx.co.uk or 01453 298897

Our Safeguarding Officers are:



Heather Arnold
Safeguarding Officer for the Parish
of Dursley
07757 468371
Email: arnoldheather@icloud.com



Pat Jones
Safeguarding Officer for the Parish of Uley,
with Nympsfield and Owlpen
01453 860696
Email: patjones117@btinternet.com

Saturday Book Stall

The number of books to be put out has certainly increased and I shall put a temporary stop on accepting donations for a few weeks. We are seeing an increasing number of people coming in for the first time. The Klarinetts played and were really good too. We were given an amazing £164 on Saturday morning which, with the contribution we are expecting from online sales, means we have taken over £600 in 3 weeks.

Please can I appeal for more help take books out of boxes on Friday afternoons at 4pm and back into boxes on Saturdays at 12noon!

Thank you all.

Clive

The office is currently closed I am working from home, you will still be able to contact me by email.

ewelmeeparishoffice@gmail.com or on 07778842060 *Clare*

Volunteers are needed after the service on Sunday to take down the Crib in church, please, Sarah Hodge.

THANK YOU !!!

Thank you all so much for your lovely cards, messages and the beautiful flowers.

I was astonished and humbled to be also given such a generous gift of money.

Most of all thank you for everything we have shared.

I am more me because of knowing you and I carry you with me in my heart.

With my love, prayers and thankfulness for all that has been and looking forward with hope to all that God is still yet to do.

Every blessing, Revd Jane



This year's Lent study is called "Difference"

It is a course set up by the Church of England on the theme of difference and how we work with that in our faith and in our contemporary world.

There will be five themes:

- 1 God's call
- 2 Crossing divides
- 3 Navigating disagreement
- 4 Practising forgiveness
- 5 Risking hope

This will take place by Zoom on Thursday evenings beginning on 13th, 20th 27th March, and 3rd and 10th April. Each evening starting 7.30pm and lasting about an hour to an hour and a half.

For further details see David Vonberg.

difference.
The power of faith
in a conflicted world

Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme to be extended

It was announced in the House of Commons Westminster Hall debate on Wednesday (22 January 2025) that the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme will continue for another 12 months from March 2025, with a cap of £25k per place of worship. Furthermore, the total amount available will be capped at £23m. For comparison, £29m was spent last year. The announcement was summarised in a ministerial written statement. (See Gloucester Diocese website) <https://gloucester.anglican.org/2025/listed-places-of-worship-grant-scheme-to-be-extended/>

Adam Klups, Care of Churches and DAC Team Lead said: "There was a realistic prospect of the scheme being scrapped, therefore the outcome is to be celebrated.

"Yet, the news will be disappointing for churches planning for larger projects as the cap is likely to affect their fundraising needs.

"I want to thank our parishioners and clergy who wrote to their MP and the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) in support of the scheme. Your help and determination have paid off. The DCMS received more than three hundred letters on the topic, and some three thousand letters were sent to MPs.

"The advice we are giving to parishes is to submit any eligible claims by the end of this financial year, to maximise the grant amount available to them in the next financial year.

"The National Church, Gloucester DAC and other partners will continue to engage with the government on this important issue."



Tyndale Trail

There are many connections to William Tyndale in our area, and we are hoping to make these facts more available and accessible as part of a Tyndale Trail.

This will help highlight some of our historic churches, provide opportunities for people to encounter a faith-filled story in faith-filled places, and provide an opportunity for those people to support those historic buildings financially.

This is part of our deanery strategic plan: to make the best use of our current assets, of which our historic church buildings are a significant part.

We already have some data, made some connections with The Bible Society and The Tyndale Society, and have an enthusiast who has put in some groundwork.

The next step is to hold a gathering of interested people to review what we have, hear some different voices and perspectives, and work out our next steps. This meeting is taking place on 25th March at 10am. Venue to be confirmed. If you wish to attend please fill in this RSVP link

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfU61MFX5qLSjNum7VlyP3lr74H2vJBCyuR_38J5ayCmcCacq/viwwform?usp=dialog