



Sunday 9th February 2025 — 4 Before Lent

WORSHIP TODAY

10:30am St Peter, Bromyard Holy Communion
 4:00pm St Peter & St Paul, Stoke Lacy PM Praise

TODAY'S READINGS – 4 BEFORE LENT

Morning: Isaiah 6.1-8 [9-13]; Psalm 138;
 1 Corinthians 15.1-11; Luke 5.1-11
Evening: Psalms [1] 2; Hosea 1; Colossians 3.1-22;
 Matthew 5.13-20

COLLECT FOR 4 BEFORE LENT

O God, You know us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: grant to us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; 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.

REFLECTION: 4 Before Lent

As you'll be aware, I'm an angler. I've been fishing since my mid teens.

Over the years I've learned to 'read the water', to be able to tell see where fish might be hiding, look for signs of feeding activity, to assess what might be the right approach.

Generally there are two techniques that I use to catch fish. One is the trusted float, hook, piece of sweetcorn, the other is a swimfeeder with a hair-rig. Most of the time, these two simple techniques are all that I need to catch fish.

There are days when I seem to daw a blank, with nothing apparently taking the bait. At these times I have to think differently, try a different technique, a different part of the lake or river, a different rod, a change of reel.

Peter was an experienced fisherman. He'd followed in his Dad's footsteps, watching and learning as he grew up. He knew how to catch fish, where to catch them, and the best time of day or night to catch them.

He and his friends had been fishing all night to no avail when Jesus comes along and says, 'Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.'

With, I think, immense self-control Peter replies:

'Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything.'

But then he adds:

'But because you say so, I will let down the nets.'

The result is a miraculous catch so large that he has to get help to bring in the net.

There are times when we think that we've got this church thing sussed. We use this or that particular liturgy, these set of hymns or songs, meet in this sort of building.

And then Jesus says:

'Put out into deep water, and let down your nets'.

Maybe there are times when Jesus is calling us to do it differently; a different liturgy; a change of hymns or songs; to try silence; change our building; a new location. Have we the faith, the courage, to follow Peter's example and say, 'Because You say so, we will'?

Maybe there's a miraculous catch waiting for us ...

Rev Phil

Tuesday 11th February 2025

11:00am St Peter & St Paul, Stoke Lacy Funeral: Malcolm Sheail

Wednesday 12th February 2025

10:00am St Peter, Bromyard Prayers

Sunday 16th February 2025 - 3 Before Lent

9:00am St Peter, Bromyard Holy Communion

10:30am St Peter, Bromyard Morning Worship

St Peter & St Paul, Stoke Lacy Holy Communion

READINGS – 3 Before Lent*Morning:* Jeremiah 17.5-10; Psalm 1;
1 Corinthians 15.12-20; Luke 6.17-26*Evening:* Psalms [5] 6; Hosea 10.1-8, 12;
Galatians 4.8-20; Matthew 5.21-37**STOKE LACY COFFEE MORNING**

The next Stoke Lacy Coffee Morning is on Saturday 8th February, 10am—12noon. Great coffee, great refreshments, great fellowship!

PEBBLES

Pebbles is the name of our new Parent and Toddler group which will be meeting twice a month on a Monday at The Falcon Mews, starting on Monday 10th February. We have a team in place to work with the toddlers, but we also need a team to sit and chat with the parents. If you would be interested in helping with this, please speak to Rev David or Betty Csullog.

YEAR OF ENGAGEMENT

2025 is the Diocesan Year of Engagement, when we are encouraged to look for ways in which we can engage with our communities. Besides activities such as Party in the Park, Stoke Lacy Coffee mornings, and the range of Bromyard Festivals, we need your thoughts and ideas for ways in which we can get to know our communities better. Please let Rev Phil or Rev David know your ideas.

HALF TERM FUN DAYSOn Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th February there will be Half-term Fun Days at Upper Sapey church. Music, crafts, games, and story for 4-11 year olds. £10 for two days, £5 for one day. To book places please contact Marion Symmons on 07483 895656 or marionsymmons@hotmail.co.uk**MARRIAGE PREPARATION DAY**

On Saturday 22nd February we will be hosting the Deanery Marriage Preparation Day at St Peter's. This is an opportunity for all the wedding couples in the Deanery to come together and think about what married life might be like, and to walk through the wedding service. Please hold our wedding couples in your prayers as they prepare for their 'big day'.

ST PETER'S CHURCHYARD

David Parker asks, 'would you be willing to make donations of snowdrops (plants or money) for the churchyard please? Perhaps remembering a child if that is something you would be happy to develop? What we have is looking even better this year but there's room for more!' For information please contact David on 07811 396020 .

BROMYARD FOODBANK*Items urgently needed this week:***Tinned meats, dried dog & cat food, tinned fruit, jam & spreads, pasta, tinned tomatoes, UHT milk, cereal, coffee, tinned big soup**

Foodbank are always willing to welcome potential new volunteers Please contact Emma Stapley or Rev Phil for more information.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Margaret Hamilton-Herbert, Iain Elliott, Alan Seabrook, Peter Cliff, Rita & Trevor Griffiths

Recently bereaved: the families of Netti Evans, Claire Hollis, Peder Nielson, Revd Michael Smith, TJ Biddle, Mary Watkins, Don Griffiths, Rachel 'Hartwright', Malcolm Sheail; Louise Spinks, Richard Orgee*Wedding Couples:* Henry Henshall & Sofi Buzzard; Ryan Skyrme & Jenna Arnold; Martyn Craddock & Amberley Schuck*Baptisms:* Chester Davis**CONTACTS****Revd Philip Miller** - Vicar (rest day—Monday)
01885 498200 revphilm@btinternet.com**Revd David Hall** - Curate (rest day-Friday)
revdavidhall24@gmail.comThe Parish Office is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:30am-12noon 01885 483749 admin@stpetersbromyard.org.ukParish website: <https://stpetersbromyard.org.uk/>

Find us on:

