




## Sunday 2nd March 2025 — Sunday Before Lent

### WORSHIP TODAY

9:00am St Peter, Bromyard Holy Communion  
10:30am St Peter, Bromyard   
St Peter & St Paul, Stoke Lacy Holy Communion

### TODAY'S READINGS – SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

*Morning:* Exodus 34.29-end; Psalm 99;  
2 Corinthians 3.12 - 4.2; Luke 9.28-43a  
*Evening:* Psalm 89.1-18\*; Exodus 3.1-6;  
John 12.27-36a

### COLLECT FOR SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Almighty Father,  
whose Son was revealed in majesty  
before He suffered death upon the Cross:  
give us grace to perceive His glory,  
that we may be strengthened to suffer with Him  
and be changed into His likeness, from glory to glory;  
who is alive and reigns with You,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### REFLECTION: Sunday Before Lent

We seem to like to leave permanent markers of our presence.

Go to the top of a mountain and there you'll find a cairn.

At either end of a long-distance walk there'll be a pile of stones.

Sometimes we mark significant, holy places – an emergent natural spring; burials in the form of long barrows; sites of martyrdom; holy appearances, such as at Walsingham.

Permanent structures, shrines to a past event.

On the Mount of Transfiguration, Peter wanted to put up 'shelters' for Moses, Elijah and Jesus. Permanent markers, shrines to a holy appearance. It's as if he wanted to freeze that moment in time.

But before he could go any further with his plan, Moses and Elijah have left, leaving Jesus.

Jesus cannot be constrained, we cannot tie Him down.

Jethro Tull, a '70's folk rock band, sang:

*'People, what have you done  
locked Him in His golden cage.  
Made Him bend to your religion  
Him resurrected from the grave.'*

Are we in danger of trying to constrain Jesus, to freeze Him in time and place, to bind Him into our own particular church or world view? Or are we prepared to allow Him to move freely in the world, in our communities, in our churches, in our lives.

*But we make His love too narrow  
by false limits of our own;  
and we magnify His strictness  
with a zeal He will not own.*

*If our love were but more simple,  
we should take Him at His word;  
and our lives would be all gladness  
in the joy of Christ our Lord .*

*Rev Phil*

**Wednesday 5th March 2025—Ash Wednesday**

10:00am St Peter, Bromyard Holy Communion

7:00pm St Peter, Bromyard Holy Communion

**Sunday 9th March 2025 - Lent I**

10:30am St Peter, Bromyard Holy Communion

4:00pm St Peter &amp; St Paul, Stoke Lacy PM Praise

**READINGS – Lent I***Morning:* Deuteronomy 26.1-11; Psalm 91.1-2, 9-16; Romans 10.8b-13; Luke 4.1-13 43a*Evening:* Psalm 119.73-88; Jonah 3; Luke 18.9-14**PEBBLES**

Praise God! On Monday we had 23 children and their parents/carers in the Falcon Ballroom. Please continue to hold Pebbles, and David and Betty, in your prayers.

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

Next Wednesday, 5th March, is Ash Wednesday when we will be marking the beginning of our journey through Lent with Holy Communion and Ashing. There are services at 10:00am and 7:00pm both in St Peter, Bromyard.

**ELECTORAL ROLLS**

This year the electoral rolls for both Bromyard and Stoke Lacy are due for a complete renewal. The Electoral Roll is the membership list of the church and is formal recognition of your wish to be an active member of the church. Being a member of the church means taking on personal responsibility for growing in faith and sharing fully in the life of the church family. If you were previously on the electoral roll you will be receiving a letter inviting you to join the new electoral roll. If you haven't been on the roll before and would like more information, please speak to Rev Phil.

**APCM's**

Our Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCM's) are a chance for us to celebrate all that God has been doing in and through His church, and to elect members to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of each church. Please do pray about who you would like to be representing you on the PCC—voting papers will be available at the back of both churches.

Stoke Lacy APCM will be on Sunday 16th March, 12noon at St Peter & St Paul, Stoke Lacy.

Bromyard APCM will be on Sunday 6th April, 12noon at St Peter, Bromyard.

**HOLY WEEK**

Holy Week leads us from the triumphal entry into Jerusalem, via the Last Supper and Gethsemane, to Good Friday and the Cross.. We will be journeying through Holy Week with:

Sunday 13th April	10:30am	St Peter, Bromyard	Palm Sunday Stations
Monday 14th April	7:00pm	St Joseph, Bromyard	Ecumenical Stations
Tuesday 15th April	7:00pm	St Peter & St Paul Stoke Lacy	Compline
Wednesday 16th April	6:30pm	Bromyard Public Hall	Passion Play
	8:00pm	St Peter, Bromyard	Compline
Thursday 17th April	7:00pm	St Peter, Bromyard	Holy Communion & Stripping the Altar
Friday 18th April	10:00am	St Peter, Bromyard	Good Friday Devotion
	11:00am	Bromyard	Ecumenical Walk of Witness#
	3:00pm	St Peter & St Paul, Stoke Lacy	Hour at the Cross

**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**

**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, Pauline Cooke

*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](mailto:revphilm@btinternet.com)

**Revd David Hall** - Curate (rest day-Friday)

[revdavidhall24@gmail.com](mailto:revdavidhall24@gmail.com)

The Parish Office is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:30am-12noon 01885 483749 [admin@stpetersbromyard.org.uk](mailto:admin@stpetersbromyard.org.uk)

Parish website: <https://stpetersbromyard.org.uk/>

Find us on:

