

THE PARISH OF ABBOTS LANGLEY

St Lawrence the Martyr, Abbots Langley
with the Church of the Ascension, Bedmond

9th March 2025

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



TODAY

- 8.00am** Eucharist at
St Lawrence Church
- President & Preacher:** Revd Peter Waddell
- Reader:** David Staines
- 9.30am** Second Sunday Service at
St Lawrence Church
- President:** Revd Helen Neville
Preacher: Revd Peter Waddell
- 11.30am:** Eucharist at The Church of
the Ascension
- President Preacher:** Revd Peter Waddell
- Reader:** Anne Goldsmith
- Readings:**
Deuteronomy 26: 1 - 11 (P. 188)
(Romans 10: 8b - 13) (P. 156)
Luke 4: 1 - 13 (P. 58)
- Hymns at Bedmond:**
95: Forty days and forty nights
391: Blest are the pure in heart
308: Just as I am, without one plea
455: Guide me, O thou great Redeemer
- 5.00pm** Choral Evensong at
St Lawrence Church

*Helen is preaching at the 5.30pm service at
St Luke's, Watford.*

WELCOME

Welcome to our worship today, especially to visitors and newcomers! Do please make yourself known, and stay for refreshments in the church hall afterwards.

All baptised Christians are welcome to receive communion here. If for any reason you'd rather not, do come for a blessing instead, bringing the service booklet with you as a sign that's what you'd prefer.

Please tell a welcomer before the service if you would like a gluten-free wafer at communion. There is no obligation to receive the wine if this causes anxiety.



Our main Sunday morning service is filmed for live video streaming as well as other special services and can be viewed at www.churchmedia.tv/abbotslangley or via our website www.abbotslangley.org.uk. Recordings may also be retained and made available through other sites (e.g. Facebook and YouTube). The objective of this is to provide accessibility to those who are unable to attend.

For those unable to attend church due to medical reasons, we will be delighted to bring communion to you at home: please do ask!



Refreshments will be served in the Church Hall after the 9.30am service.



www.abbotslangley.org.uk

THE PRAYERS AND BIBLE READINGS

COLLECT:

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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.

POST COMMUNION:

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

'The perilous tendency among us is always to appeal to averages or majorities; to ask ourselves what kind of religion we can induce people in general, rich or poor, to accept and welcome; to make religion easy; to abstain from asking too much; to accommodate the requirements of religion to what we suppose people will be ready to accept ... our Lord chose and sanctified exactly the opposite method. He appealed with the whole truth, for the whole heart.' (Charles Gore).

Patrick, Patron Saint of Ireland

17 March

Patrick was born in Celtic Cornwall around the year 390 and was captured by Irish raiders when he was sixteen years old and taken to Ireland as a slave. After six years, he escaped and seems to have gone to the Continent. He eventually found his way back to his own family, where his previously-nominal Christian faith grew and matured. He returned to Gaul and was there trained as a priest and much influenced by the form of monasticism evolving under Martin of Tours. When he was in his early forties, he returned to Ireland as a bishop, and made his base at Armagh, which became the centre of his See. He evangelised the people of the land by walking all over the island, gently bringing men and women to a knowledge of Christ. Although he faced fierce opposition and possible persecution, he continued his missionary journeys. Despite being unsuccessful in his attempts to establish the diocesan system he had experienced in Gaul, his monastic foundations proved to be the infrastructure required to maintain the faith after his death, which occurred on this day in the year 460.



FOR OUR PRAYERS

- For those entrusted with great power
- For St Mary's, Watford
- For our Junior Choir
- For those being married in St. Lawrence this month

FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR IN NEED

Chris Ballard; Liz Brooker; Christopher Seabrook; Alan Alexander; Graham Page; Olive Reeder; Pope Francis

FOR THE DEPARTED

Peggy Picco

NEXT SUNDAY

16th March 2025

The Second Sunday of Lent

- 8.00am Eucharist at St Lawrence Church
- 9.30am Eucharist at St Lawrence Church
- 11.30am Eucharist at The Church of the Ascension
- 5.00pm Taizé Service at St Lawrence Church

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

Genesis 15: 1 - 12, 17 - 18 (P. 12)
Philippians 3: 17 - 4.1 (P. 196)
Luke 13: 31 - end (P. 73)

AVAILABILITY

Peter is off on Wednesday and
Helen is off on Friday.

THE COMING WEEK

Monday - Saturday, 9.15am

Morning Prayer

In the Corpus Christi Chapel

Monday 10th March

10.00am Coffee Morning
Breakspeare Room

7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice
St Lawrence Church

Tuesday 11th March

10.30am Tiny Tots
Breakspeare Room

8.00pm Finance Committee Meeting
Breakspeare Room

Wednesday 12th March

11.00am Mothers' Union
Breakspeare Room

1.00pm Funeral of Peggy Picco
North Watford Cemetery

3.30pm Messy Church
Methodist Church

6.30pm Junior Choir Practice
St Lawrence Church

8.00pm Choir Practice
St Lawrence Church

Thursday 13th March

10.00am Pastoral Carers Meeting
Breakspeare Room

12.30pm Lent Course: Heresy 101
Breakspeare Room

8.00pm Friends and Faith Group
Breakspeare Room

Friday 14th March

10.00am Bedmond Bells Craft and Chat
The Church of the Ascension

2.00pm Craft and Conversation
Breakspeare Room

Saturday 15th March

12.00pm Wedding of Callum Blumire
and Megan Wickens
St Lawrence Church

2.00pm Bell Ringing Course
St Lawrence Church

There is no collection during today's service. If you would like to give this morning, please use the contactless giving point at the back of Church, or just leave your gift on the offering plates at the back. Thank you.

Many of our worshippers **support the work of the Parish financially** through regular planned giving. If you don't yet, please do—ideally using the Parish Giving Scheme. It is really easy to do: just visit www.parishgiving.org.uk and search for 'Abbots Langley and Bedmond'. Alternatively, please call 0333 002 1260. For any queries about giving to the parish, please email: churchwarden2@abbotslangley.org.uk

Thank you to everyone who donates to the Watford Foodbank. Those items most needed at the moment are:

Cereals, Milk (long life), Fruit Juice (long life), Tinned Fruit, Tinned Meat, Tinned Fish, Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Vegetables, Rice Pudding, Custard, Jam, Tea/Coffee, Mashed Potato, Pasta, Pasta Sauces, Biscuits/Snack Bars. **Please make sure that all donations are unopened and are within the use by date. Items can be left at the collection point at the back of church, or in the dedicated basket at Sweeneys. Thank you.**

The Stewardship Campaign was launched on Sunday 23rd February: four weeks when we think about how we give

financially to the church and God's work in the wider world. Please find a letter at the back of church—if you can't find yours, ask Peter, Helen or Tom Betteridge! Don't forget to bring your pledge cards back by Sunday 16th March 2025.

Malawi Quiz Night: Saturday 22nd March 7pm for 7.30pm start. Come and join in the fun. Put together your own table of 8 or join a table on night. Price £15, includes a two course supper. BYO drink. For tickets, please contact Wendy Meldrum: wendymeldrum@gmail.com.

This Lent, we invite you to join us for a Lent group looking at some of the most notable heresies in the history of the Church. *Heresy 101: A Lent Journey Through Error and Truth*. Starting on Thursday 6th March at 12:30pm in the Breakspear Room, St Lawrence Church. All are welcome.

This year we need to prepare a new electoral roll. Being a member of the electoral roll of a parish entitles a person to take part in the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), to elect members of the PCC and Deanery Synods. If you wish to be a part of the new electoral roll, please complete the form at the back of the church and return it to the church office by **Friday 25th April 2025**.

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar:

Revd Dr Peter Waddell 07552 359046
Email: vicar@abbotslangley.org.uk

Curate:

Revd. Helen Neville 07718 172642
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Safeguarding Officer:

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Churchwarden

Tom Betteridge
churchwarden2@abbotslangley.org.uk

Director of Music

Marianne Ryall
Email: directorofmusic@abbotslangley.org.uk

Church Office Opening Times:

10.00am until 12.30pm Mon-Fri - 01923 261795
Email: adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk

If anyone needs the ministry of a priest at any time, day or night, please contact Peter or Helen directly.