

Hello everyone,

This Sunday, please pray for a world where economic systems serve the needs of all, not just a select few, and where nations built constructive relationships and deal fairly with one another. Pray for a more equitable future where the profits of the well-off are not built through exploitation of the weak and where the needs of the poor and vulnerable are met so that all people may be treated with dignity and respect.



Services this week:

This Sunday we have services of Holy Communion at Measham and Snarestone, Morning Prayer at Donisthorpe and Normanton, and Breakfast Church at Packington, all at 10.00am.

Looking ahead:

Activeage meet again at 11.00am in Measham Church Hall on Wednesday;

Packington & Normanton Ladies Group meet in Packington church at 2.30pm on Wednesday with guest speaker Susie Lickman who will be sharing her love of houseplants including trends and care tips.

On Thursday, Kids' Kingdom Baby & Toddlers is from 9.00am to 11.00am in Appleby Church Hall.

This year's Lent course, 'From Now On', concludes on Thursday at 10.30am in Donisthorpe Church.

Woodfield Singers meet every Thursday evening at 7.30pm in Swepstone Church Hall.

On Friday, Little Fishes pre-school group will be in Measham Church Hall from 10.00am.

Next Sunday (13th April) is Palm Sunday with 10.00am services of Holy Communion at Appleby, Donisthorpe, and Swepstone, and Palm Sunday worship at Measham and Packington.

Woodfield Team prayer

God our Father, you long to draw all people into your love.

Increase in number your church throughout the Woodfield Team;

deepen us as followers and learners of Christ;

and give us courage to share the good news of your kingdom.

We pray this in the power of your Spirit,

to the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Collect for Sunday 30th March - Mothering Sunday

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Reading for 6th April - John 12.1-8 New International Version (UK)



Jesus anointed at Bethany

12 Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honour. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³ Then Mary took about half a litre of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

⁴ But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵ 'Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages.' ⁶ He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

⁷ 'Leave her alone,' Jesus replied. 'It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me.'

Prayers for today:

We pray:

Eternal Lord, you are our creator and sustainer. We bring before you the needs of our church, our world, our communities, and ourselves:

- Gracious God, we pray for your blessing to be upon our Woodfield team of churches and upon our mission to serve the communities to which we belong. We pray for your presence to be seen in what we do and say each day. We pray for the final session of our team's Lent course; help us to feel the benefit of our reflections through the disciplines of Lent and be encouraged by the opportunities we have had to learn together.

- Creator God, drive away despair from our politics, revive our dreams of justice and truth, and restore our passion for what is good and right. Establish your just and gentle rule throughout the world especially where there is conflict; where peace seems so far away and so many have lost everything, even the faint hope of a peaceful future. We pray for the nations of the world and for their right dealing one with another, politically and economically.
- Healing God we raise before you those we know and love who are ill or in need at this time, and we pray for all who care for them at home or in hospital.
- Merciful God, we remember the slenderness of the thread which separates life from death, and the suddenness with which it can be broken. Help us also to remember that whatever occurs in life, we are surrounded by your love. Help those bereaved by the loss of a loved one to find peace and comfort in your love.
- Everlasting God, send us out into the world this week, renewed and strengthened by our prayers, so that we may embody our faith and our lives and be freshly determined to bring healing and reconciliation to our wounded world.

Amen.