

Sunday and Lent Services continued

13th March – Wednesday

Mission Church, 10.30 am Holy Communion followed by *conversation and coffee* discussing *Lent with New Daylight*
Bomere Heath

17th March – Second Sunday of Lent

Albrighton	9.15 am	Morning Worship	Psalm 27
Bicton	11.00 am	Eucharist	Philippians 3.17–4.1
Bomere Heath	9.00 am	Morning Prayer	Luke 13.31–end
Fitz	9.30 am	Eucharist	
Leaton	10.45 am	Eucharist	
Montford	11.00 am	Morning Prayer	
Shrawardine	9.30 am	Family Service	

20th March – Wednesday

Albrighton 10.30 am Holy Communion followed by *conversation & coffee*

24th March – Third Sunday of Lent

Albrighton		No service	Psalm 63.1-9
Bicton	11.00 am	Morning Worship	Isaiah 55.1–9
Bomere Heath	9.00 am	Eucharist	Luke 13.1–9
Fitz		No service	
Leaton	10.45 am	Family Service	
Montford	9.30 am	Eucharist	
Shrawardine	11.00 am	Eucharist	

20th March – Wednesday

Fitz 10.30 am Holy Communion followed by *conversation & coffee*

31st March – Mothering Sunday

Albrighton		No service	Psalm 34.11–20/127.1–4
Bicton	11.00 am	Eucharist	1 Samuel 1.20–end
Bomere Heath	9.00 am	Eucharist	John 19.25b–27
Fitz		No service	
Leaton	10.45 am	Family Service/School	
Montford	9.30 am	Family Service	
Shrawardine	9.30 am	Family Service	

(The usual fifth Sunday United Service has been put back to Palm Sunday)

Morning Prayer is held at 8.30 am on Monday and Thursday each week in the Mission Church in Bomere Heath.

March 2019

Priest in Charge:

The Revd Mary-Lou Toop
01743 851375

Curate:

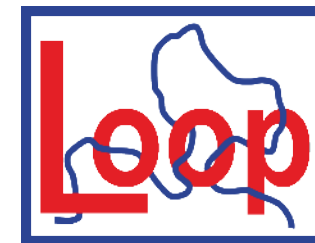
The Revd Hannah Lins
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Keep in the loop with what's happening in your churches



The Severn Loop Parishes
Albrighton Bicton Fitz Leaton Montord Shrawardine



Lent starts this month

Ash Wednesday Services – 6th March

Bicton, 11.30 am

Holy Communion with Ashing

for those who would like to receive it, followed by a soup lunch for anyone who can stay on. There will be a blessings basket for contributions towards the Bishop of Lichfield's Lent Appeal.

Bomere Heath, 6.30 pm

Methodist Church

All are welcome at the Methodist Church in Bomere Heath for an ecumenical service for Ash Wednesday.

Our Lent Book and Something New for 2019

As mentioned in February's Loop, due to the pressures of the vacancy, this year we are trying something new. Instead of separate study groups, each week on Wednesday mornings during Lent there will be a simple and short service of Holy Communion in our of our churches. Worship will begin at

Come follow Christ  **in the footsteps of St Chad**
Know the Story **Share** the Story **Live** the Story

10.30 am and will be followed immediately afterwards by conversation and coffee. Our conversation will be suggested by Lent with New Daylight, this year's Lent book. But don't worry if you haven't been following that, stay for the conversation anyway if you can! And you are most welcome just to come for the service:

13th March – 10.30 am at the Mission Church, Bomere Heath

20th March – 10.30 am at Albrighton

27th March – 10.30 am at Fitz

3rd April – 10.30 am at Montford

10th April – 10.30 am at Shrawardine

Lent with New Daylight

Mary-Lou still has some copies of the book available at a reduced price of £2.75, if you are quick! When this stock is gone, you will still be able to get a copy from BRF (the Bible Reading Fellowship) online at £2.99, or you could try Illuminate on Wyle Cop. If you'd like to use the book, please note the notes begin in the last week of February!

Lent Lunches

Ash Wednesday – Bicton, after the 11.30 am service (see above).

Friday, 15th March, noon–2.00 pm – Mission Church, Bomere Heath, with Various soups and rolls, fresh fruit. Donations for the Bishop of Lichfield's Lent Appeal.

Thursday, 21st March, 12noon–2.00 pm – Monford & Shrawardine at Corrie Doon, Montford, SY4 1AD. Hosts Andrina and Paul Lowe. Parking available at Montford Parish Hall or at the house for the less able. All welcome.

A New Assistant Priest – Important Dates for your Diary

As many of you know, we have been advertising through February for a new House-for-Duty priest as Robert's successor. If we have applicants we feel it is appropriate to interview, they will be invited to come and visit our parishes for a **Familiarisation Day on Friday 8th March**. Mary-Lou would be grateful to receive a few more offers to drive the candidates on the day, just in case!

Interviews will then be held on **Tuesday 19th March**. Lots of you will remember this happening four years ago when Mary-Lou was appointed and we are following a similar pattern again.

On **19th March** anyone who wishes to come from our churches is invited to Leaton Church in time for a short service of Holy Communion at 9.30 am. There will then be coffee/tea, before we hear the candidates preach. The interviews follow at Pevere House, courtesy of Nicholas and Avril Stephens.

Please put the 19th March in your diaries and come along.

If you are able to offer to bring some biscuits or small traybake cakes, please let Pat Hall know on 01939 290637 or pat_a_hall@hotmail.co.uk, after 1st March.

Vocations in Severn Loop – Lay Leaders of Worship...

With Diana preparing for her curacy in the summer, she will be stepping down as a Lay Leader of Worship for us. We will not only miss her presence and her gifts, the end of her training will mean we have another loss from our team of Lay Leaders of Worship. It is time to recruit some new people, to assist with this vital part of our church life.

During March we will be asking all our churches to pray at every act of worship for God to call those new people. We also ask you all to pray privately, using the special Collect that will be available from the first Sunday in March. At the end of March, you will be able to let Mary-Lou know anonymously if you wish and privately, who you believe God is calling. When we pray, God always answers! Let's pray with a real focus about this and listen for those the Holy Spirit prompts us to suggest. Sometimes it is surprising who God suggests! And if anyone feels a personal call to this ministry, please speak to Mary-Lou or Hannah.

...and a Vocations Day – Saturday 18th May

For anyone who'd like to spend some time thinking about God's call to ministry, there is a *Called to be Me* day happening at St Mary's House, Lichfield, on 18th May. You'll find details on the Diocesan website. Ask Mary-Lou or Hannah for more information if you'd like to – or speak to Diana. Her journey started with a day like this!

Also coming up in March

1st March

World Day of Prayer

Prepared by the Christian women of Slovenia: "Come – Everything is Ready". Friday 1st March at 2.30 pm at the Mission Church, Bomere Heath, followed by refreshments. Everyone welcome.

5th March

Shrove Tuesday Pancakes & Quiz Evening

To be held at Bomere Heath Mission Church at 7.30 pm. Tickets £5 from Stella Beale on 01939 290485, or Pat Hall 01939 290637.

12th March

Severn Loop Prayer

We meet next on Tuesday 12th March at Leaton Hall, 7.30 pm. Huge thanks to Philippa Herbert and her family for their hospitality (Call Philippa for directions on 01939 291352). A major focus for our prayers will be the interview process for our assistant House-for-Duty priest.

14th March

CAMEO Coffee Morning

CAMEO – Come And Meet Each Other – in Holy Trinity Church, Bicton, on Thursday 14th March at 10.30 am. In aid of church funds.

19th March

Filling Station

Filling Station meets at Knockin Assembly Rooms on Tuesday 19th March, 7.30 – 9.30 pm. Hellie Brunt is the speaker and she is the area director for the Filling Station. Contemporary worship, good teaching and time for prayer.

27th March

Stepping Out Café

Wednesday 27th March at Bomere Heath Mission Church from 2.30 pm to around 4.00 pm for free tea, cake and good company.

Easter Remembrance Lilies

Holy Trinity Church, Bicton

If you would like a lily in remembrance of someone at Easter, please let me know by the Friday, 5th April. The cost of a lily will be £3 each. Wendy Horan – 01743 850237.



Looking further ahead

Annual Meetings 2019

Below is a list of Annual Vestry and Parochial Church Meetings around Severn Loop this year:

Albrighton	2nd April at the Huffley Estate Office, 6.30 pm
Bicton	Sunday 28th April at the Church, 4.00 pm, to be followed by refreshments and an Easter Carol Service at 6.30 pm
Fitz	30th April, at the Church, 7.00 pm
Leaton	10th April, at the Mission Church, 7.15 pm
Montford & Shrawardine	9th April, at Montford Church, 7.30 pm

Nominations for Churchwardens: there are nomination papers required which need to be signed and passed to Mary-Lou please, before the Annual Meeting. Anyone newly nominated this year will need to apply for a DBS check before the meeting – please see your parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator who will guide you through the process. All wardens in post who had their DBS check done last year and are continuing do not need to be checked again this year.

Our Severn Loop Safeguarding Co-ordinators:

Albrighton - Mr Martin Davies

Bicton - Mrs Clare Dixon

Fitz - Mr Nicholas Stephens

Leaton - Mrs Philippa Herbert

Montford & Shrawardine - Mrs Victoria Everall

Electoral Roll Revision 2019

This year we are required to revise our Electoral Roll in every church. Listen out for announcements in each church which will tell you when it is happening (please note that it will not be the same time in every church). There will be a brand new roll for each parish, and each person wishing to be part of it needs to complete an application form. *This is necessary even if you were on the previous Electoral Roll.* Your Electoral Roll Officer and church will

have forms available for you to complete – but do be careful to return them by the appropriate deadline. A copy of the Privacy Notice issued by the Church of England will also be at the back of each church.

18th, 20th and 21st April

Six Stations of the Cross

Montford Church is exhibiting a Passion Week tableau of six Stations of the Cross, designed in miniature to a scale of 1/12. The Church will be open on Maundy Thursday from 2.00 pm til 6.00 pm, Easter Saturday from 2.00 pm til 5.00 pm and Easter Sunday morning from 10.00 am til 1.00 pm. Everyone is welcome to come and spend time viewing this unique presentation of Easter with us.



3rd May

Fish & Chip Supper and Quiz

In Bicton Village Hall on Friday, 3rd May at 7.30 pm. Tickets £5 available from Clare – 01743 361906 or Wendy – 01743 850237. In aid of Church Funds.

Around and About

Welcome to Shrewsbury Deanery

We welcome the Revd Yejide Peters as the Rector of St Chad's & St Alkmund's. Please pray for Yejide as her ministry in Shrewsbury begins. Her Induction is/was at 7.00 pm on Monday 25th February.

From 21st March

Lent talks at St Alkmund's Church

The Revd Yejide Peters will be giving the first of a series of Lent Talks in St Alkmund's church on four consecutive Thursdays, starting on 21st March. Her talk is entitled 'Is Christianity past its sell-by date?' 6.30–7.30 pm.

Thursday 14th March

The Sacred Art of Joking

What do you get when a professional comedy writer, with a degree in theology and membership of the Church of England's General Synod, turns his

hand to writing a book? The Sacred Art Of Joking! Award-winning BBC Comedy writer and stand-up theologian James Cary (Miranda, Another Case of Milton Jones) will be at St George's Church, Drinkwater Street, Frankwell, SY3 8QA, at 7.30pm on 14th March to explain why Christians should be able to joke and how the Bible is funnier than you think.

Tickets £7 are available from www.stgeorgesshrewsbury.church/sacred-art or can be paid for on the door.

Next time

If you have any church-related announcements to go in the next or future editions of Loop, please send them to me by 6pm on the third Sunday in the month prior to publication month. Thank you. Gillian Steedman, gillian.steedman@gmail.com, 01743 850027.

Sunday and Lent Services

Readings

3rd March – Sunday Next before Lent (Quinquagesima)

Albrighton	9.15 am	Eucharist	Psalm 99
Bicton	11.00 am	Eucharist	Exodus 34.29–end
Bomere Heath	9.00 am	Morning Prayer	Luke 9.28–43a
Fitz	9.30 am	Eucharist	
Leaton	10.45 am	Eucharist	
Montford	11.00 am	Morning Prayer	
Shrawardine	No service	– worshipping with Montford or Fitz	

6th March – Ash Wednesday

Bicton	11.30 am	Holy Communion with Ashing, followed by soup lunch	2 Cor. 5.20b–6.10 Matthew 6.1–6+16–21
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10th March – First Sunday of Lent

Albrighton		No service	
Bicton	11.00 am	Family Service	Psalm 91.1–2,9–16
Bomere Heath	9.00 am	Eucharist	Romans 10.8b–13
Fitz	9.30 am	Matins	Luke 4.1–13
Leaton	10.45 am	Matins	
Montford	9.30 am	Eucharist	
Shrawardine	11.00 am	Eucharist	