

Sunday, Lent and Holy Week Services

Readings

Wednesday 3rd April

Montford 10.30 am Holy Communion followed by conversation & coffee

Sun 7th April – Passion Sunday & 5th of Lent

Albrighton	9.15 am	Eucharist	Psalm 126
Bicton	11.00 am	Eucharist	Philippians 3.4b–14
Bomere Heath	9.00 am	Morning Prayer	John 12.1–8
Fitz	9.30 am	Eucharist	
Leaton	10.45 am	Eucharist	
Montford	11.00 am	Morning Prayer	
Shrawardine	9.30 am	Matins	

Wednesday 10th April

Shrawardine 10.30 am Holy Communion followed by conversation & coffee

Sun 14th April – Palm Sunday

Albrighton 10.30 am United service Philippians 2.5–11
Luke 19.28–40

Holy Week

Maudy Thursday

Bomere Heath	7.00 pm	Agape	1 Corinthians 11.23–26
Bicton	7.30 pm	Holy Communion	John 13.1–17 + 31b–35

Good Friday

Bomere Heath	2.00 pm	The Final Hour
Bicton	2.30 pm	The Final Hour

Sun 21st April – Easter Day

Albrighton	9.15 am	Eucharist	Acts 10.34–43
Bicton	11.00 am	Eucharist	John 20.1–18
Bomere Heath	8.00 am	Eucharist	
Fitz	9.30 am	Eucharist	
Leaton	10.45 am	Eucharist	
Montford	10.00 am	Family Holy Communion & Easter Egg Hunt	
Shrawardine	8.00 am	Easter communion, followed by breakfast	

Sun 28th April – 2nd Sunday of Easter

Albrighton		No service	
Bicton	6.30 pm	Easter Carol Service	Psalm 118.14-29
Bomere Heath	9.00 am	Eucharist	Acts 5.27–32
Fitz		No service	John 20.19–31
Leaton	10.45 am	Family Service	
Montford	9.30 am	Eucharist	
Shrawardine	11.00 am	Eucharist	

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

April 2019

Priest in Charge:

The Revd Mary-Lou Toop
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Curate:

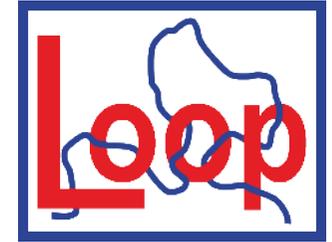
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Keep in the loop with what's happening in your churches




The Severn Loop Parishes
Albrighton Bicton Fitz Leaton Montford Shrawardine



Easter Greetings

Mary-Lou & Allan, Hannah & Richard, Jude, Aloma and Henia join in sending you greetings for Easter when it comes. May the rest of our journey through Lent and Holy Week prepare us all for celebrating once more the joy and gladness of what God has done for us in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ! Remember our precious greeting for the season:

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Lent and Easter services and events

4th April

Montford & Shrawardine Lent Lunch

The postponed Lent lunch will now be held on 4th April, 12noon – 2.00 pm, at Corrie Doone, Montford, SY4 1AD. Hosts Andrina and Paul Lowe. Parking available at Montford Parish Hall or at the house for the less able. All welcome.

Come follow Christ  in the footsteps of St Chad

Know the Story *Share* the Story *Live* the Story

3rd and 10th April Communion, coffee and conversation

The Lent series of short, Wednesday morning communion services, followed by coffee and chat based around *Lent with New Daylight* continues. Join us at Montford on the 3rd and Shrawardine on the 10th, both at 10.30 am.

Palm Sunday 14th April: United Service at Albrighton, 10.30am

This year we begin Holy Week together at St John the Baptist, Albrighton. Weather permitting, we plan to gather in the car park for the Blessing of Palms, before processing into church for the rest of our service, so allow yourself time to arrive and be ready!

...and the consecration of a new altar frontal

A year in the making: Last year, when Albrighton got out their red altar frontal it was found to be falling to pieces, so the suggestion was made that we could make a new one. By courtesy of a coffee morning by Margaret Thrower, funding was obtained. Given modern fabrics and a design by artist Clare Lea, a small group from Albrighton and Bomere was persuaded to accept the challenge. All were busy people so no time restraints were made.

None had done anything like it before but Trixie Cooper explained that the skill of turning up hems (or sewing up horses after surgery) was enough to start with. Trixie coordinated the work and Clare Kirk, David Jagger, Julia Browne and Hazel Johnson added gold and silver work to their skills! They have produced a stunning altar frontal. We aimed for perfection but participation was more important. The design, incorporating the flames of Pentecost with the dove of peace will be consecrated and used for the first time at the united service on Palm Sunday.

Maundy Thursday – Chrism Eucharist at Lichfield Cathedral

If anyone would like to join Mary-Lou, Hannah and Joyce in attending the service at Lichfield this year, please let Mary-Lou know by 2nd April.

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. All welcome to come and spend time viewing this unique presentation of Easter with us.

Easter Remembrance Lilies at Holy Trinity Church, Bicton

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

Also coming up in April

Annual Meetings 2019

Albrighton	2nd April at the Huffley Estate Office, 6.30 pm
Bicton	Sunday 28th April in Church, 4.00 pm, 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

Nomination papers for churchwardens standing for election must be with Mary-Lou prior to the various meetings. Anyone resident in the relevant parish is entitled to attend the first meeting, the Annual Meeting of Parishioners and to vote for churchwardens. Only those on the Electoral Roll may attend and vote in the second meeting, the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

3rd April

Messy Church Coffee Shop

An invitation for those involved in leading/helping with Messy Church to join our Area Co-ordinator, Cerys Hughes, at Dobbies for a Messy Church Coffee Shop, on Weds 3rd from 1.00 – 3.00 pm. We buy our own coffee then enjoy conversation about how things are going, sharing our questions and ideas, etc.

5th & 6th April

Messy Church

Friday, 5th April at 3.15 pm in Bomere Heath and Saturday, 6th April at 3.00 pm in Bicton Village Hall.

11th April

CAMEO Coffee Morning

Thursday 11th in Holy Trinity Church, Bicton at 10.30 am, in aid of Church funds.

30th April

Stepping Out Café

At Bomere Heath Mission Church from 2.30pm to 4.00pm for free tea, coffee and good company.

Other news and forthcoming events

Praying for more Lay Leaders of Worship

Thank you to all who have prayed. It's now time to let Mary-Lou know how our prayers have been answered. If you'd like suggest or nominate a possible leader, please use one of the forms still available at church or simply put a name in a sealed envelope and mark it 'Leaders of Worship'. You can do this anonymously. A further time of prayer and discernment will follow.

House-for-Duty Assistant Priest

As announced last month, we sadly received no applications through the first round of advertising. At the time of writing there is nothing definite to share, but should there be any developments in the meantime, we will share them with you through Sunday notices in our churches.

Filling Station

It has been decided not to hold Filling Station this month, as it would fall during Holy Week when there are several other services and events.

Growing Together in Prayer – Prayer Calendar

New for the spring in Severn Loop is our Prayer Calendar, available on the Severn Loop website (address on front page.) Daily suggestions for prayer, for each part of the Loop! Please contact Mary-Lou or Hannah for specific requests for prayer. Going live this month!

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.

14th May

Next Severn Loop Prayer Evening

Tuesday 14th May at 26 Brook Road, Bomere Heath SY4 3PU, Mrs Pat Hall kindly hosting. Our thanks to Philippa Herbert for her hospitality at our March gathering. We'll be continuing to focus on prayer for the ongoing vacancy as well as our plans for marking the season of prayer known as *Thy Kingdom Come*.



1st June

Meet in the Middle! Save the date...

As part of the Archbishop's *Thy Kingdom Come* prayer initiative, we are organising an all-age, Loop-wide event on Saturday, 1st June, 10.30 am to 1.00pm (ish), at Fitz Village Hall. In our Mission Action Plan we identified *Bread Church* as something we'd like to explore, along with opportunities for informal worship. *Meet in the Middle* is a chance for us to try this out – to all join together for fun, fellowship and food. We will prepare a meal together (in a way that involves bread!) then have a short service of informal worship, followed by lunch. There will be some interactive prayer and reflection areas, tea and coffee and a chance to chat. We are encouraging our Messy Church congregations to come along, as well as our regular Sunday congregations. We hope it will be a great event to bring grandchildren to, or local families who have come to Christmas/Easter/Harvest services, etc. – a truly all-age experience.

So do come to the middle of Severn Loop, in the middle of the year for a celebration of our life together as the Body of Christ across our communities. More details to come in the next edition of the Loop!

26th June

Loop Quiet Day

After a lovely experience at St Chad's, Boningale last year, we are going again! We've booked for Wednesday, 26th June – do save the date. The theme will be Psalm 23, lunch is included and the cost of the day is £6. Further details next month.

Next time... an early deadline for May

Easter Sunday – 21st April – is the third Sunday in the month, which would also be the normal Loop deadline. After a very busy Lent and Easter, however, both Mary-Lou and Hannah will be taking some time out immediately afterwards. This means that they won't be around to check the Loop content, so we have decided to bring the deadline forward to Friday, April 12th. Thank you. Gillian Steedman, gillian.steedman@gmail.com, 01743 850027.