

This week's services



Sunday 2nd February

9.00am, Holy Communion, BCP, Ramsden
10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, Leaffield
3.00-4.30pm, Messy Church, Leaffield Village Hall

Sunday 9th February

9.00am, Holy Communion, BCP, Finstock
10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, Ramsden
6.00pm, Evensong, Leaffield

Notices:

Tue 4th February 7.00pm	Ramsden PCC meeting	St James', Ramsden
Wed 5th February 7.30pm	Leaffield PCC meeting	At Honeysuckle Cottage



We welcome into the Forest Edge Benefice Rev'd Prof Alister McGrath. Alister has a keen interest in CS Lewis; they were both born in Belfast and were both atheists, before discovering Christianity at Oxford. Alister was ordained deacon in 1980 and has previously served in the rural benefice of Broadshire and Shill Valley. Alister currently holds the Professorship of Science and Religion at Oxford University.

Friday 7th February
St James' Church, Ramsden

12.30pm

Join us for a simple lunch of soup, bread and cheese

Meet friends and neighbours

And raise some money for charity



**If we as a Church can help in any way,
please contact:**

The Rev'd Paul Mansell – 01993 868687
vicar@forestedgebenefice.co.uk

Jane Hanson – 01993 868264
admin@forestedgebenefice.co.uk
www.forestedgebenefice.co.uk



PEW SHEET

Candlemas
2nd February 2020

**Please take this pew sheet with
you when you leave**



A loop system for the hard of hearing is fitted
in all our churches
(with the exception of St Peter's, Wilcote)

Benefice website:

<http://www.forestedgebenefice.co.uk>

Also follow us on Twitter & Instagram



@forestbenefice



forestedgebenefice

The Collect



Almighty and ever-living God,
clothed in majesty, whose
beloved Son was this day
presented in the Temple, in substance of
our flesh: grant that we may be presented
to you with pure and clean hearts, by your
Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive
and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading Malachi 3: 1-5

See, I am sending my messenger to
prepare the way before me, and the Lord
whom you seek will suddenly come to his
temple. The messenger of the covenant in
whom you delight—indeed, he is coming,
says the Lord of hosts. But who can
endure the day of his coming, and who can
stand when he appears? For he is like a
refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will
purify the descendants of Levi and
refine them like gold and silver, until they
present offerings to the Lord in
righteousness. Then the offering of Judah
and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord
as in the days of old and as in former
years. Then I will draw near to you for
judgement; I will be swift to bear witness

against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

Second Reading **Hebrews 2: 14-end**

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Gospel Reading **Luke 2: 22-40**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have

prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

These Bible readings are designated for each day

Monday	<i>1 Timothy 1: 1-17</i>
Tuesday	<i>1 Timothy 1: 18-end of 2</i>
Wednesday	<i>1 Timothy 3</i>
Thursday	<i>1 Timothy 4</i>
Friday	<i>1 Timothy 5: 1-16</i>
Saturday	<i>1 Timothy 5: 17-end</i>

Please pray for the following throughout the week

Monday *Those who are sick or grieving within our community.*
Tuesday *Those who are suffering in this country and around the world.*
Wednesday *The Queen and other leaders in this country.*
Thursday *For the troubled areas around the world, we pray for peace and justice.*
Friday *For the ministry of the Forest Edge Benefice and for those who lead us.*
Saturday *For an abundance of love, peace, harmony and forgiveness to reign within families and relationships.*

Please also pray for the Chipping Norton Deanery, and particularly this week:

St Michael & All Angels, Leafield.
Please pray for Paul Mansell, Alister McGrath and the Church Warden
Simon Salome-Bentley.

