#### This week's services



Sunday 25th February 10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, Finstock

Wednesday 28th February 7.30pm, Lent Group, Ramsden

Friday 1st March 11.00am, World Day of Prayer Service, Leafield 6.30pm, Evening Prayer, Wilcote

Sunday 3rd March 10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, Leafield 6.00pm, Evensong, Ramsden

These Bible readings are designated for each day

Monday	Hebrews 1
Tuesday	Hebrews 2: 1-9
Wednesday	Hebrews 2: 10-end

ThursdayHebrews 3: 1-6

FridayHebrews 3: 7-end

Saturday Hebrews 4: 1-13

#### 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 King 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 with Wychwood. Please pray for Paul Mansell, Gail Ward & Hadley Bennet.



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

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

Mrs Gail Ward LLM – 01993 878835 gail.ward@forestedgebenefice.co.uk

The Rev'd Hadley Bennet – 01993 869093 bennetd28@gmail.com

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



# The Collect



Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may

return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

# First Reading Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, 'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

#### Second Reading Romans 4: 13-end

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')---in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

# Gospel Reading Mark 8: 31-end

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests. and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this guite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it. and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

# \_ent Groups 2024

#### The way of love

Come and See is a series of daily emails and a short video to watch each Sunday during Lent.

This year we're exploring how each of us is called into a deep relationship of love with God, and what it means to love others well.

Whether you're exploring faith for the first time or have been coming to church for many years, *Come and See* offers life-giving reflections before the busyness of each day begins.

Thousands of people take part in Come and See each year. Join us and others this Lent. Find out more online. oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see St James' Church, Ramsden Ash Wednesday Service: Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb at 7:30pm. The Lent Group then meets on: Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> Feb, 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> March. All meetings begin at 7:30pm.

> COME AND SEE

# World Day of Prayer

Please join us for a special service St Michael's, Leafield Friday 1st March, 11.00am

Leafield Coffee Morning Saturday 2nd March St Michael's Church, Leafield 10.30am-12.00pm Join us for coffee, tea, cake and chat!