

Notices Sunday 2nd February, 2025

Candlemas

Welcome to The Bridge church. If you are a visitor you can find out more about the life and ministry of the church by visiting our website www.thebridgeredditch.co.uk or by following our facebook page or X (formerly Twitter) account.

INTRODUCING ST BRIGID

Without using the internet, I wonder how many of us are aware of St Brigid - one of the key saints in Ireland? Come along to the first Forest Church of 2025 at 4pm today and discover more...

MARMALADE HAS LANDED

Judith's Jam Enterprises have been hard at work and have jars of marmalade ready for you to purchase at just £2.50 per jar! Proceeds to church funds. What better way to brighten up your breakfast!

PRAYER & PRAISE

Oasis Church are holding a Prayer & Praise night at Oasis on Sunday 9th Feb at 6pm to which all are invited. It is anticipated

NEXT BISHOP OF WORCESTER UPDATE

The Crown Nominations Committee met this month to draw up a person specification for the next Bishop of Worcester. Potential candidates will be shortlisted in May, with interviews scheduled for June. Hopefully an appointment will be made in July. Please pray for all who are involved in the process.

LISTED PLACES OF WORSHIP GRANT SCHEME EXTENDED

The government has confirmed a further years extension to the listed places of worship grant scheme that enables churches to reclaim VAT on eligible repairs and improvements. It was feared this scheme would not be extended due to budgetary pressures. It has, however, been limited to £25K between 1st April 2023 and 31st March 2026. Applications for works before 31st March are not affected and will be able to reclaim all VAT.

NEW CANONS

Four new Honorary Canons to Worcester Cathedral have been appointed - **Kath Davis**, Co-Warden of Readers and LLM in Pedmore and Wollescote (near Stourbridge), **Julie James**, Rector of Berrow w Pendock, Eldersfield, Hollybush & Birtsmorton and Curate in Charge of Longdon, Castlemorton, Bushley, Queenhill w Holdfast (in the south of our diocese), **Tim Reid**, Diocesan Director of Education and **Andy Todd**, Diocesan Secretary. Canons form an important bridge between the Cathedral and the wider Diocese. They meet regularly to reflect and advise on life in the cathedral.



Sunday 2nd February

Candlemas

10.30am Holy Communion with
Father Glenn Reading
Malachi 3:1-5, Psalm 24,
Hebrews 2:14 to end and
Luke 2:22-40.

4.00pm Forest Church@Peckwood



Collect for Candlemas

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. Amen.

Sunday 9th February, 2025

10.30am Morning Worship
with A Bidnell
Isaiah 61:1-8 [9 to end]
Psalm 138,
1 Corinthians 15:1-11,
Luke 5:1-11

Online Evening Prayer

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

CONTACT DETAILS

Rev. Ruth Wilson 01527 541885
ruth.wilson@methodist.org.uk

Fr. Glenn Reading 07964 282278
Glenn.reading@googlemail.com

Rosie (Safeguarding & Administrator)
thebridgeredditch@gmail.com

Diocesan Safeguarding Officer
Hilary Higton 01905 732800
safeguardingadvice@cofe-worcester.org.uk

Web Site www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/safeguarding

THE WEEK AHEAD

Events in the hall unless stated otherwise

Monday 3rd February

10.00am Toddlers

Tuesday 4th February

10.00am Little Fishes in Church

10.00am Exercise Class

10.00am Holy Communion
at Astwood Bank church

2.00pm u3a

6.30pm Girls' Brigade

7.00pm According to the scriptures -Zoom

Wednesday 5th February

10.00am Holy Communion

2.00pm Extra Wardens & Stewards Meet

Thursday 6th February

10.00am Charity Shop & Café

10.00am Holy Communion at Crabbs
Cross church

1.30pm Crafty Thursday

7.30pm Philatelic Society

Friday 7th February

10.00am Charity Shop & Café

6.30pm Boys Brigade

DISTRICT SECRETARY SOUGHT

A Secretary is sought for the new West Midlands District of the Methodist church, which will be formed by the merger of the existing Birmingham and Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury Districts, scheduled for 1st September, 2025. The new District will cover 320 churches in 21 circuits across Birmingham, Wolverhampton, the Black Country, Worcester, Warwickshire, Herefordshire, Shropshire and Staffordshire. This is an area diverse in many ways, including race and ethnicity, social and economic status. The District Secretary will have key responsibility for managing & leading the staff team as well as participating in planning for the District. Further details available at <https://www.methodist.org.uk/about/jobs-volunteering/jobs-around-the-connexion/district-secretary-for-the-west-midlands-methodist-district-closing-date-6-february-2025-12-noon/> Please pass on details to anyone you know who may be interested. Closing date 5th February, 2025.

HOLLAND HOUSE PROGRAMME 2025

The 2025 programme at the diocesan retreat centre, **Holland House**, is now available [on their website](#).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tue 4 Feb	7.00pm	According to the scriptures - Zoom
Wed 5 Feb	2.00pm	Extra Wardens & Stewards Meeting
Sun 9 Feb	6.00pm	Praise and Prayer Night at Oasis Church
Thur 13 Feb	11.30am	Wardens & Stewards Meeting
Sat 15 Feb	10.30am	Peckwood Spring Clean
Sat 22 Feb	9.30am	Ukrainian Café at the Ecumenical Cent.
Wed 26 Feb	7.30pm	Church Council in the small hall
Thur 13 Mar	11.30am	Wardens & Stewards Meeting
Wed 2 Apr	7.30pm	Jesus:The Evidence @ Red Bapt Church
Thur 10 Apr	11.30am	Wardens & Stewards Meeting
Thur 8 May	11.30am	Wardens & Stewards Meeting
Thur 12 June	11.30am	Wardens & Stewards Meeting
Wed 25 June	7.30pm	Church Council
Thur 10 July	11.30am	Wardens & Stewards Meeting
Thur 11 Sept	11.30am	Wardens & Stewards Meeting
Thur 9 Oct	11.30am	Wardens & Stewards Meeting
Thur 13 Nov	11.30am	Wardens & Stewards Meeting

EVERYDAY INSPIRATION

Daily reflections are available from the Everyday Faith app, which you can download the app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#)

EverydayFaith.

from
THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Daily reflections
to inspire and
encourage you in
your everyday faith

PEPPING UP PECKWOOD CENTRE

Banish any thoughts of dusting daffodils from your mind... Instead you are invited to come and help give Peckwood a bit of love, make sure that the buildings and grounds are well maintained for 2025. For those who like a dust, there will be opportunities to give the buildings a bit of a spring clean. Windows need to be washed, floors hoovered, places dusted. Hot drinks and cakes will be provided, but bring your own packed lunch. Come for half an hour, an hour or two, or stay all day...

If you can flick a duster, wash a window, tackle a vacuum, sweep up leaves, or even make a cuppa and cut a slice of cake, then we need you.

A great opportunity for Forest Church folk to mingle with Wanderers & Wonderers or to meet Seeds & Saplings grown ups, and to meet the Committee and other friends of the wood.

Are you a regular or an occasional visitor to Peckwood Forest Space?

How about joining us for our annual spring clean day?

An opportunity to join others who care for the wood and its facilities, and spruce up the premises ready for the new season.

10.30am till no later than 3pm
Drop in at any time,
come for as long as you're able,
or stay all day!
It's up to you.

Hot drinks and sweet refreshments provided, but please bring your own packed lunch.

SPRING CLEANING
Saturday 15th
February

SUPPORTING THE LIFE & MINISTRY OF THE BRIDGE

We realise that many of you will want to make a donation to the life and ministry of the church, but many of us do not carry cash. Good news there are other ways to give. You can scan the QR code or go to our website <https://www.thebridgeredditch.co.uk/> and click the link at the top of the home page which will provide details of the church bank account as below. The Bridge Church Sort code 40-43-54 Account 81604015 Please put ref as "QR (then your name or leave blank)".

If you would like your donation to go to any specific use, then please email our treasurer

terry.bill@blueyonder.co.uk and let him know. If you prefer more traditional methods of payments you are still able to make donations by cash or cheque.

Cash donations are particularly welcome as we can reclaim Gift Aid even if you are not a tax payer. For further information speak to our Treasurer, Terry Bill. Thank you for supporting the life and mission of The Bridge.

