



St Giles' Church, Bubbenhall:
Newsletter for February 2023.
Rector: The Reverend David Wintle
Tel No: 02476 301283
Reader: Mrs Rosemary King
Tel No: 01788 573067

Churchwarden: Mr Craig Greenway Tel No: 02476 303918

SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE: FEBRUARY 2023

DATE	Bubbenhall	Baginton	Ryton
Thursday, February 2: The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)			7.30 pm: Holy Communion.
February 5: The Third Sunday before Lent.	11.00 a.m: Holy Communion.	10.00 a.m: Village service for Candlemas.	9.30 a.m: Parish Communion. 6.30 p.m: Evensong.
February 12: The Second Sunday Before Lent.	6.30 p.m: Evensong.	10.00 a.m: Holy Communion.	8.00 a.m: Holy Communion. 9.30 am: Christingle Service <i>in aid of the Children's Society</i>
February 19 The Sunday Next Before Lent.	11.00 a.m: Mattins.	10.00 a.m: Holy Communion.	9.30 a.m: Parish Communion 6.30 pm: Evensong
Wednesday, February 22: Ash Wednesday.			11.30 a.m: Holy Communion 7.30 p.m: Holy Communion.
February 26 The First Sunday of Lent.	8.00 a.m: Holy Communion.	10.00 am: Holy Communion.	9.30 a.m: Family Service. 6.30 pm: Holy Communion

DATE	Bubbenhall	Baginton	Ryton
March 5: The Second Sunday of Lent.	11.00 a.m: Holy Communion.	10.00 a.m: Village Service	9.30 a.m: Parish Communion. 6.30 p.m: Evensong.
March 12: The Third Sunday of Lent.	6.30 p.m: Evensong.	10.00 a.m: Holy Communion	8.00 a.m: Holy Communion. 9.30 a.m: Village Worship
At Ryton: EVERY WEDNESDAY except February 8, February 22 and March 8: 9.30 a.m: Holy Communion. February 8 , February 22 and March 8: 11.30 a.m: Holy Communion.			
At Ryton: Every Thursday in Lent. 6.30 p.m: Stations of the Cross.			

Next PCC meeting: tba

Christmas Flowers

Many thanks to those who gave their time to arrange flowers, for donations and flowers given for Christmas. The Church looked lovely: Thank you all very much.

Ryton's Tree of Light: June Backholler writes: *"I would like to thank the many people who remembered their loved ones with a light on the Tree of Light. The Tree looked very lovely, and I would like to thank Mark Jones and Geoffrey Marsh for, once again, transporting the tree, putting it in the ground and decorating it."*

Thank you to June and all who helped her organise, supply and erect the Tree of Light- Donations from the Tree of Light service totalled £ 877. Editor.

From the Church Registers:

Funerals

5 January at Canley, **Tracey Andrews** of Baginton

16 January at Baginton, **Brian Whale**

May they rest in peace.



Christmas Eve Crib service at Bubbenhall



The **Crib service** at St Giles' Church on Christmas Eve was well attended, with about 60 of us coming to the traditional service. It was lovely to be back in church for our Christmas Crib and carol service, this time led by Jade Greenway, ably assisted by her Dad!

Organist Mike Spencer from Ryton kindly played for us to sing the familiar carols, the children (some of them dressed up as Wise Men and other Christmas story characters) put the figures in the Crib, and we all lit red tealights in front of the Crib, just like we used to before the three-year gap imposed by the Pandemic.

On Saturday, December 17th, the Carols by Candlelight service was held in Ryton Church. The congregation was much reduced, probably because the service was moved from Sunday to Saturday to avoid the World Cup Final. Nevertheless, the collection for the Air Ambulance was £70.70. raised. Thank you to our choir, organist, and to all who came and contributed.



On February 12, the Village Worship/ Family Service at Ryton will take the form of a Christingle Service, at which donations to the Children's Society will be welcomed. Thank you to the family service team for organising this popular event. Please come and join in!

Your Churchyard: a place for peace and reflection.



Thank you to those who are continuing to maintain the churchyard. If you would like to help keep our churchyard looking beautiful, and providing a place for peaceful reflection for everyone, please contact Craig Greenway on 02476 303918

Our sincere thanks to all of you who work so hard and so skilfully to ensure that we have an immaculate churchyard – something the whole village can be proud of – Editor.



Soup and Puds.

Hazel Smith is hoping to hold this event on Thursday March 2nd from 11.30am in the Ryton church centre. All monies raised will be donated to Motor Neurone research in memory of John Hathaway. She will be grateful for donations of homemade soup and puddings and raffle prizes. Please let her know if you are able to contribute anything and also if you plan to come along. Thank you. 02476456711.



Action Medical Research:

Sylvia Dixon writes:

Action Medical Research are having a quiz on Saturday 25th March in Ryton village hall starting at 7pm. Tickets £8 to include a ploughman's and pudding. Carol singing at the Blacksmith's raised £30 and Jay organised a Christmas paper Quiz which raised £90. Thank you to everyone who supported us.

Mummers The Rector reports:

Ryton Mummers went out on Friday 16 December. Some of the pubs we usually visit were closed, but we still had a good time, performing to unusually attentive audiences, and collected £126, which was distributed equally between our three churches. If you missed us, you can see almost all of the performance from the Blacksmith's on Youtube:

[നമുക്കു ഒരുമിച്ചു ഇങ്ലണ്ടിലെ Mummers play കണ്ടാല്ല്യോ ?#Meera #EnglishMalayali - YouTube](#)

See dance of Ryton Mummers 2022 here:

<https://www.facebook.com/rytonondunsmore/videos/2411424025777368/>

Video link contributed by Steve Garrett.

TWIRLS – Women's Institute

Meet every third Thursday of the month at Ryton Village Hall.

7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Further details from Claire Jones The Old Post Office Church Road Ryton-on-Dunsmore CV8 3ET

07721 560349

TWIRLSRYTONONDUNSMOREWI@GMAIL.COM

Ryton on Dunsmore History Group 2023.

We hope you will join us this year and help support your history group, preserving Ryton's rich and historical heritage. For more information, contact Steve Garrett, on 07587699234 or e mail carrotfromryton@gmail.com

Admission £15 per annum or £2.00 on the night.

Looking for something to do on a Wednesday morning with your children/ grandchildren?

Then Provost Williams Primary School in Ryton have just the answer. FREE fun activities at the Stay and Play.

All welcome. Please check for details with the school on 02476 302166.

January 14: Here we come a-Wassailing.

The Ryton Wassail took place on 14 January. After a spirited and well-received performance by the Knightlow Morris Men, the procession set off through the village for the Community Orchard, where the trees were duly wassailed, and the company assembled round the fire to share mulled cider and apple cake.



The Knightlow Morris Men started the proceedings at the Blacksmith's Arms.



The Rector blessed the apple trees.

The Wassail queen and king put toast in the branches and poured cider on the roots

We sang the wassailing songs, and enjoyed a cider punch and apple cake around the fire.



Shrove Tuesday, February 21 2023:

St Leonard's Church Centre

7.30 pm



Puzzles & Pancakes

A quiz for Shrove Tuesday

£5 per person

Pancakes, tea & coffee in the interval

Feel free to bring your own drinks

Proceeds to the

United Society Partners in the Gospel

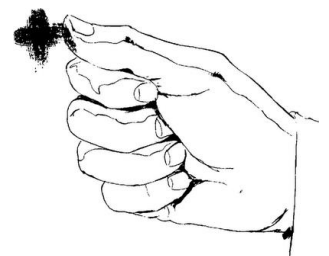
- church missionary society

February 22: Ash Wednesday

There will be services of Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes (for those who wish): at 11.30 a.m.

and at 7.30 p.m. at Ryton Church. These services are for all our three parishes.

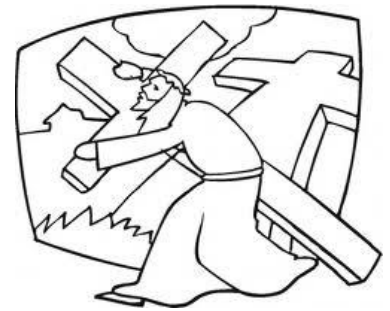
The morning service will include hymns.



Lent Service: Stations of the Cross

For all three parishes.

On Thursdays in Lent (starting March 2nd) we shall meet at Ryton Church to meditate on the Way of the Cross- Jesus' last journey as he carried his cross through the streets of Jerusalem to the place of his crucifixion. Service begins at 6.30 p.m. and lasts about 40 minutes.



Lent Group.

For all three parishes.

The Rector writes: I hope to run a Lent Group using the latest York Course, "You can be Serious! Meeting Jesus afresh in John's Gospel". Sadly, publication has been delayed and it's not available yet. In any case, the Lent Group for all three parishes will meet in St Leonard's Church Centre, Ryton on Thursdays in Lent at 7.00-7.15, after Stations of the Cross. Meetings begin on 2 March, starting each meeting with a simple meal, and we will be looking at the previous Sunday's Gospel reading. Further details to follow.

Lent Jars.



This Lent, many of us will give up glasses of wine, coffee or chocolate, to mark the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the desert.

Jars will be available at the back of church and in Ryton church centre from Sunday 5 February. Please take a jar (or use one from home) and put in it what you save by giving up something for Lent. Bring your jar to church at Easter as a thank-offering. This year, we shall be supporting Ukrainian Refugees with our donations.

Thank you so much for your support.

Village Worship and Family Services: for young and old!

Second and Fourth Sunday in every month at 9.30 a.m. in **Ryton Church**.



Children in Church.



We love having children in our churches, and there is **always provision for them** at our **9.30 a.m.** services at St. Leonard's Church, Ryton. All families with babies and children are sure of a warm welcome whenever they can join us. **Families from Bubbenhall are especially welcome.** All Ryton Sunday morning services start at **9.30 a.m.**, and the pattern is:

2nd Sunday in every month: Village Worship.

The most informal of all our services. We start in the Church Centre (warm and welcoming) with workshop activities for children, and coffee, puzzles and chat for grown ups to get to know one another.

At about 10.00 we move into church for a short and child-centred service.

There is no need to be there on the dot of 9.30- people drift in as soon as they can make it.

4th Sunday in every month: Family Service.

An all-age service of readings, songs and activities with everybody young and old in church together. Children always participate in the readings/ drama sketches etc. and several people bring instruments to accompany the songs. (and any other musicians among you and your children would be very welcome to join them) Tea/coffee and cake after the service in the Church Centre.

1st and 3rd Sundays in every month: Parish Communion with Sunday School.

Tea/coffee and the chance to socialise after every service. Children start the service in church with their parents, and after the first hymn go out for Sunday School activities in the Church Centre, returning to receive a blessing at the time of Communion. Parents are welcome to accompany their little ones to Sunday School and stay with them if they lack confidence at first.

At these services, we also have a robed choir which includes older children (aged about 8 and upwards) and teenagers: anyone whose son/daughter likes singing might consider encouraging them to join the choir.

If your son/daughter might like to be part of the choir, please contact Barbara Marsh, our choir mistress on geoffandba@gmail.com (tel. 02476 304295)



We also offer the opportunity for children, young people and adults to train to become altar servers at the Parish Communion services at both Bubbenhall and Ryton.

Contact Rosemary on rbking007@btinternet.com (tel 01788 573067) about this. We value children, and make them and their parents welcome.

The Bells of St. Leonard's...

Tower captain John Hammond has moved on to Devon, but we are very pleased to welcome our new Ryton Tower captain, Bob Taylor.

If you would like to try bellringing for yourself, or have any enquiries, please contact Bob on bob-bob49@hotmail.co.uk mobile 07979868260, or Beverley Whiting on 07715 454636. **We meet at the church on Monday evenings from 7:30pm.**

Bubbenhall and Baginton ringers and enquiries very welcome! Contact Bob or Bev- details above



John Church writes: Thank you to everyone that has donated their cartridges. This money will be sent to our account at the end of the quarter.

Overall since we started we have gained £71.95 which is a great help and it doesn't cost us a penny. If anyone has the chunky printer cartridges that we can recycle, please let me have them- there is a plastic box for them just outside the Church centre door at Ryton. At Bubbenhall, please leave your used cartridges at the back of church, or drop them off at Craig's house.

Thought for the month: Valentine's Day.



I don't know how you feel about Valentine's Day- a bit of harmless romanticism to cheer us up at the end of a long winter, or another chance for the firms that make cards to boost their profits in the gap between Christmas and Mothering Sunday?

Or is it a sad sort of day for many people?

Sad for those who once were dearly loved, but the loved one has died.

And each year, as they see others receiving Valentine's Day cards or gifts, they are reminded of the fact that no human being left on this earth loves them as they were once loved.

Sad for those whose loving relationship has ended in separation or divorce.

Sad for those who for one reason or another, or indeed for no reason at all, have never been blessed with a loving relationship, never heard anyone say "Will you be my Valentine?"

It may come as a bit of a shock if I tell you that today is NOT St Valentines Day anyway. Not according to the Church of England anyway, along with most other mainstream Christian denominations. If you look in the church calendar, you'll see that February 14th is dedicated to saints Cyril and Methodius, the Apostles to the Slavs, who in the eighth century led the movement to bring the Christian religion to much of Eastern Europe.

I don't know why St. Valentine has been banished from the Church's official list of saints' days- perhaps because his life story, like the stories of many of our saints, shrouded in legend.

Apparently, Valentine was a Christian priest near Rome in about the year 270 A.D. At that time the Roman Emperor was imprisoning Christians for not worshipping the Roman gods. The Emperor also issued an edict forbidding soldiers to marry- and there is some suggestion that Valentine may have been a soldier, perhaps before he became a priest- or maybe he was both at the same time- sort of 3rd Century Army chaplain.

The idea behind forbidding soldiers to marry was that if they had wives and children they would be less prepared to die in battle, because they would be thinking of how their dependants would manage without them. And so they would not be such ruthless fighters as those with no family ties. Anyway, Valentine is said to have carried out secret marriage ceremonies, until eventually he was arrested.

During the trial they asked Valentine why he refused to worship the traditional Roman gods such as Jupiter, Venus and Mercury. In no uncertain terms, Valentine said they were false gods. "I say none other thing of them but that they were men mortal and mechant and full of all ordure and evil," he is reported as having declared.

The God that Jesus called Father was the only true God, Valentine maintained. and consequently he was thrown into prison for "insulting the gods."

While in prison Valentine continued to minister as a priest. One of the guards was man called Asterius who had adopted a blind girl. He asked Valentine if his God could help his daughter. Valentine prayed and the girl was given her sight. The guard and his whole household of 46 people, came to believe in Jesus and were baptized. When the emperor heard about this he was furious that Valentine was still making converts even in prison, so he sentenced Valentine to be beaten, stoned and when he had suffered enough, beheaded.

The legend says that on the morning of his execution, Valentine wrote a final message to the daughter of the prison guard, the one whose blindness had been healed as a result of his prayers. The last words of the message were:

From your Valentine.

For your Diary: Upcoming events and services:

February 21 – Shrove Tuesday: Puzzles & Pancakes 7.30 pm at Ryton Church Centre.

February 22- Ash Wednesday: 11.30 am & 7.30 pm:
Services at Ryton for all 3 parishes.

Thursday, March 2: Lent Course begins at Ryton for all three parishes. (7 pm for 7.30 pm)

March 19: Mothering Sunday

April 2: Palm Sunday - the beginning of Holy Week.

April 7: Good Friday

April 9: Easter Day

Tailpiece: the long drop



There were these three trainee Army padres undergoing assessment, who were told they had to undertake a parachute drop. They could refuse, but were urged to take the plunge and identify with the life of a soldier.

Up in the plane, the R.C. trainee waited for the green light. When the sergeant signalled him, he stood still. The sergeant touched his shoulder and said: 'The Cardinal orders you to jump'.

He jumped.

The Free Church minister likewise froze. The sergeant leant forward and said: 'Your congregation wills you to jump'.

He jumped.

Finally the Anglican was called forward - and he too froze at the doorway. The canny sergeant shouted across to him: 'Your bishop absolutely forbids you to jump!'

He jumped.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MARCH NEWSLETTER BY FEBRUARY 20th PLEASE!

Do you receive your Newsletter by email? Please encourage others to do so too!

- Email version normally reaches you before the printed version.
- Less work for our committed volunteer deliverer, (to whom we are most grateful)
- Easier to read.
- No charge.
- Email version often contains material which there wasn't room for in the printed version, e.g. extra news, pictures, cartoons, jokes...
- Environmentally friendly if you choose not to print it out, instead saving it to refer to when you want to.
- Rosemary's email is rosiking2963@gmail.com If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, but aren't yet on the recipients' list, please just get in touch.