**Services for next week:**

**Hampton-in-Arden**

**Wednesday 5th**

7.30pm Ash Wednesday

**Thursday 6th:**

10am Communion

**Sunday 9th:**

8.15am B.C.P.

11am Eucharist

6.30pm Compline

**Bickenhill**

**Sunday 9th**

11am Eucharist

**Barston**

**Sunday 9th**

9.45am Prayer Time

10.30am MAF Sunday. We welcome Alistair Crookes who will be preaching.

**Readings for next week**: Deuteronomy 26.1-11; Luke 4.1-13

**We pray for:** Bob Middleton, David Mort, Mike Beasley, Ann Hall, Tony Worthington, Andrew and Rene Sumner, Derrick Hill, Angela Jones, Mona Cardall, Dot Barton, Richard Herne, Barrie and Mavis Thompson.

Rick Smallwood, Paul Pilkington-Birch, Richard Stretton, David Scannell and Colin McDonald.

We also pray for the families of those who have died; Martin Cox, Audrey Hurdley, Moira Kyles, Coralie Cain, Pamela Wilson, Celia Heron, Richard Bibbings, Karoline Dearden, David Howells, Ivan Eley, June Hand and John Vaughn.

(Please note, to keep the names of those we pray for up to date, they will be reviewed each month, so if you would like people to be prayed for do let us know at office@hamptoninardenchurch.org.uk)



**Hampton. Barston. Bickenhill.**

**Three Churches Together.**

**Sharing God’s Love, Growing Faith and Worshipping Together.**

**2nd March 2025- Sunday before Lent**

2 Corinthians 3. 12-4.2; Luke 9.28-36[37-43a]

**Thought for the week**.

Suffer us not to mock ourselves with falsehood (From Ash Wednesday by TS Eliot).

This Wednesday, March 5th, is Ash Wednesday. Having our foreheads marked with ashes (Hampton 7.30pm) is, in my experience, both humbling and yet unexpectedly affirming. We may be remembering that we are but dust, but God hasn’t deserted us.

On Ash Wednesday, we hear God’s call to take an honest look at ourselves and our lives and to turn away from the stuff that doesn’t stand up to God’s scrutiny.

Some people do that daily. We can all manage it once a year, can’t we?

Oh, and don’t forget Tuesday, March 4th, is Pancake Day. **MC**.

**Collect**

Holy God,

you know the disorder of our sinful lives:

set straight our crooked hearts,

and bend our wills to love your goodness

and your glory

in Jesus Christ our Lord

Monday 3rd **FILLING STATION** at Knowle Village Hall at 7pm for 7.30pm. A time of worship, a talk and ministry. We hope to see some of you there.

**PANCAKES AND TEA CLUB** from 1-4pm on Tuesday 4th as we celebrate Pancake Day at St. Swithin’s House in Barston. If you enjoy eating a pancake made by someone else then this is for you! Please bring neighbours, friends and family. **All welcome**. No charge, donations for charity as you wish.

In our **Lent Course** this year we will be following the BRF book “**The Whole Easter Story” by Jo Swinney**. Sessions on Wednesday afternoons at 2pm at St Swithin’s House, Barston and on Thursdays at Hampton in the church hall starting with coffee at 10.45am. It’s not essential to have a book but Mary has five available at £9 each. E-books available for £7.49 at <https://www.eden.co.uk/> or paperbooks at Paperbacks at £9.99 from <https://www.brfonline.org.uk/>

**Hampton**

* **There are still a few numbers remaining for our 100 club** which will have monthly prizes of £50, £25 and £15 all for a one-off payment of just £25. Contact our Treasurer judithweir53@gmail.com for an application form.
* **Electoral roll forms are now available at the back of church of via e-mail from the office.** Please complete these this week and give to Anna or post in the labelled black box by the South door. **Our APCM will be held on 9th April.**
* **Tea and Toast** this week Friday 9-10am in the church hall.
* **Afternoon Jam** for children March 9th 4-6pm, meeting in the church.
* Please contact the church office if you need a lift to the **World Day of Prayer** event on 01675 442769 or office@hamptoninardenchurch.org.uk
* Please buy your tickets for our **Lenten Frugal Lunch** on Sunday 16th March. Tickets cost £10 to include lunch. Everyone welcome, bookings through the church office.
* The churches of Knowle, Dorridge, Hampton in Arden and Bentley Heath invite you to celebrate this year’s **World Day of Prayer** at Knowle URC, Station Road, Knowle B93 0HN on Friday March 7th 2025 at 7.30pm.
* **Funeral** of June Hand on March 10th at 2pm at Hampton Church.
* **Lent course** at Hampton will start on 13th March.

**Barston**

* **Welcome** back to Matt Vaughan who will be preaching.
* **Bring and Share Lunch** after the service today – all welcome.
* Next Sunday. **Missionary Aviation Fellowship** has been in existence for many years and it works in remote parts of the world to bring the message of Jesus. It also offers medical help to these areas. Pilots fly small planes that can take off and land on very small landing strips. We have supported this society for many years and since Covid we have not had a dedicated Sunday to focus on what is happening now. Thank you Rachael for organising the speaker and to Margaret for your continued support for this vital work and keeping the notice board in the House up to date.
* Tuesday 4th **SHROVE TUESDAY**. **Hobby House** from 10-12noon. All welcome. **PANCAKES and TEA CLUB** from 1-4pm.
* Wednesday 5th Service at Eastcote Park at 11am. All welcome to go and join in, you will receive a warm welcome.
* Thursday 6th **PRAYER TIME** from 9am. This is to pray for the future of St. Swithin’s House and our church.

“Prayer is the best tool we have in terms of the way forward.

When you pray, God listens,

When you listen, God talks

When you believe, God works.”

* **LENT COURSE** at St. Swithin’s House on five Wednesday afternoons at 2pm. Dates are 12th, 19th, 26th March and 2nd and 9th April. More details to follow. It will be repeated in Hampton on Thursday mornings.
* **Women’s World Day of Prayer**, March 7th at 7.30pm. Every year the World Day of Prayer unites people across the globe in a spirit of worship, solidarity and shared faith. This year’s focus is on Cook Islands. Traditionally it was for women but it's open to all now. In our area we have a service at Knowle United Reform Church or St. Peter’s Balsall Common. If you need a lift please ask Linda.
* **ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION**. This has to be done this year by EVERYONE by filling out a simple form. Please ask Mary for a form and give it back to her – this is VERY IMPORTANT. Thank you.
* **Future date** – Thursday 13th March, funeral and burial of Ivan Eley at 1pm.