**Services for next week:**

**Hampton-in-Arden**

**Thursday 30th:**

10am Communion

**Sunday 2nd:**

8.15am Common Worship

11am All-Age

6.30pm Healing Communion

**Bickenhill**

**Sunday 2nd**

11am Morning Prayer

**Barston**

**Sunday 2nd**

9.45am Prayer Time

10.30am All-Age Service where we welcome Matt Collins and family. Matt will be speaking.

**Readings for next week**: Hebrews2. V14-18; Luke 2 v22-40.

**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, Gloria Stidworthy, Richard Stretton, David Scannell and Colin McDonald.

We also pray for the families of those who have died; Bill Jones, Matthew Hunt, Martin Cox, Audrey Hurdley, Moira Kyles, Coralie Cain, Pamela Wilson and Celia Heron.

(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)

 **BARSTON. BICKENHILL. HAMPTON**

**Three Churches Together**

* Sharing God’s Love
* Growing Faith
* Worshipping Together

**26th January 2025 3rd Epiphany.**

1 Corinthians12 v12-31a; Luke 4 v14-21.

**Thought for the week**.

Luke 4:14-21

Donald Trump, at his inauguration, has set himself an ambitious manifesto. Return of hostages, repatriation of asylum seekers, ending a war in Ukraine, and many other targets. All in days rather than weeks, and months rather than years. Will he make it?

In our Gospel reading, Jesus sets out his manifesto. Good news for the poor, -

freedom for prisoners, - recovery of sight for the blind, - release for the oppressed. He seals his promises by quoting Isaiah: and says, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing”.

What amazing promises, what a vision. Justice, equality, love and peace. I know which manifesto I back. The one which is immortal, the one which is eternal, the one which is underwritten by love, and sealed with Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross.

RM

**Collect**

God of all mercy,

your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,

release to the captives,

and freedom to the oppressed:

anoint us with your Holy Spirit

and set all your people free

to praise you in Christ our Lord.

**BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL.** Saturday 8th February Licensing Service at 11am of new Lay Readers and re-dedication on existing Lay Readers. Craig will be licensed and Martin will have his permission to officiate renewed – this happens every three years when you reach 70. We really hope you will be able to go along to support them both. Please pray for them both too.

**The Alpha Course** is running at Knowle Church on Wednesday evenings 7.30-9.30pm which started on 22nd January 2025. This provides a chance to freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment. Everyone is very welcome. To book e-mail alpha@kpc.org.uk or phone Knowle Parish Office 01564 779123.

**Filling Station** restarts on Monday February 3rd. Speaker is Professor David Cheetham. David preached at Barston several times last year and he is a wonderful speaker unpacking Biblical truths in an easily relatable way. Great worship and teaching in our local area – Knowle Village Hall 7pm for 7.30pm start. Again if you’ve never been, maybe this year you will consider popping along as this promises to be a very special evening.

**Hampton**

* The church will be **closed** on Tuesday 28th January due to a private booking.
* **PCC meeting** Wednesday 29th January at 7.30pm in the vestry.
* Priscilla has decided to step back a little from the enormous workload that she shares with Vickki, including working with our younger church members. A huge thank you to you both for all that you do for us.
* Judith Weir has kindly volunteered to act as a **Treasurer**, looking after all our church’s day to day financial activities including bookkeeping, payments, regular production of accounts for PCC meetings etc. She is presently commissioning and installing a new software system to improve our financial reporting. **Thank you, Judith,** for your help and commitment.
* Our next fundraising event is a **Lenten Frugal Lunch** on Sunday 16th March. Tickets cost £10 to include lunch of soup and bread and the event is being run at no cost with all proceeds to the church. Evan Grant from the **Cameron Grant Memorial Trust** will be our speaker. Everyone welcome, bookings through the church office.
* **Tea and Toast** Friday 31st January 9-10.15am.

**Barston**

* **No Big Breakfast** in February. Richard is recovering well, but no lifting or rushing around still! Definitely back on in March… we can’t wait!
* Next Sunday is our **Bring and Share Lunch** after the service in the House. If you do not normally stay then perhaps consider it? It’s always a great spread and a chance to catch up with people you might not normally chat to, over a delicious meal.
* **Barston Association**. During the last year the Association, run by a small committee in the village, raised £15000 through three fundraising events, the fete being the main one. All the money raised is given to local charities. On Thursday of this week 12 charities were given cheques of either £500 or £1000. Each charity had a short slot to say how this money will help them. It’s a truly inspiring evening to hear what people are doing to help others. For example, Midland Air Ambulance, which covers six counties, Solihull Carers’ Trust, MAPA children’s playground in Chelmsley Wood and Warwickshire Wildlife Trust to name but a few. A wonderful evening.**All Sorts Sale on 3rd May.** First event of the year. Raised nearly £2000 last year so well worth going along to.
* Monday February 3rd **Filling Station.**
* Tuesday February 4th in St. Swithin’s House. **Hobby House** and **Tea Club**.
* Saturday February 8th at 11am – **Licensing service** at Birmingham Cathedral. Be advised to get there by 10.30am latest to ensure getting a seat.