



norton parish pew sheet

Lent 1
22nd February 2026
9:30am

We welcome Helen Giles as our preacher today

HYMNS (NEH)

Entrance	67	Forty days and forty nights
Offertory	495	God is working his purpose out
Communion	383	Jesu, lover of my soul
Final	74	O for a heart to praise my God

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.'

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die." ' But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

New Testament Reading

Romans 5:12-19

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." ' Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone." ' Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." ' Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him." ' Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Our Readings for next week (Lent 2) are:

Genesis 12:1-4a; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

Foodbank needs

Thank you to everyone who regularly supports the local foodbank. As well as the usual household needs the Foodbank currently has particular need of the following items:

Toothpaste	Washing up liquid
Tinned soup	Long life milk UHT (not plant milk)
Jam	Tinned vegetables
Carrier bags / bags for life	

Please note that we are unable to take out-of-date food.

The latest newsletter from the foodbank tells us that during October to December 2025 they distributed 1,263 parcels of food. Over the Christmas school holidays they gave out 6 tonnes of food. In January this year they used a whopping 400 “bag-for-life” bags containing the food given to needy people. It is a huge undertaking so all contributions are gratefully received.

Daily Bible Reading booklets



It's a great idea to read our bibles daily and Bible reading notes help us understand what we read.

The **NEW February—April UCB 'Word for Today'** bible reading booklets are now available at the back of the church, as well as the **30 day 'Word for Today Just for You'** booklet which is more for those interested in or new to faith. Both are free, so please help yourself.

The **Bible Reading Fellowship daily reading** booklets can be ordered, at a small cost, through Martin and Christine Walker. (martinwalker1951@gmail.com).

Fundraising and Community Engagement Committee

A new committee to look at how we engage with the local community, raise funds, and run events is being formed and we want to invite 2 or 3 volunteers to help.

This committee would renew each year at the APCM so you would not be tied in for more than a year (unless you want to).

The committee currently has 2 members:

Rev. Eugene and Neil (churchwarden).

Please speak to either of them for more information or to put your name forward.

Messy Church

A huge thank you to all who helped at Messy Church on the 19th. It was a great fun event with lots of people enjoying the activities.

100 Club

The winners for the last two months are as follows:

January: 1st Prize - Norton Bell Ringers
2nd Prize - Janice Bolton

February: 1st prize - Pat Timms
2nd Prize - Janice Bolton

Snowdrop Garden open day – last chance today

The Bishop of St Albans garden will be open for the final time this afternoon (22nd) between 2pm and 4pm. Entry is £5 with funds going to the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust.

Unfortunately, it is not suitable for wheelchairs.

Address is Abbey Gate House, 4 Abbey Mill Lane, St Albans AL3 3HD. Please park in nearby car parks.

Today

Coffee in the Hall

There will be coffee served in the hall today (22nd February) after the 9:30 am service at St Georges.



This week

Prayer meeting

**Wednesday 25th February
at 7.00pm in the Clulow Room.**

Please join us for prayer for our community and world. Our theme this month is Lent.



Next week

Lent Course

Stop and Stare

Join us for our reflective 5 week Lent course.
**Sunday evenings at St George's - 7:30pm
Starting on 1st March.**



Future Events

World Day of Prayer Service "I will give you rest, Come"

This annual event is being held at St Paul's Church this year (on the junction of Pixmore Way and Baldock Road).

11am Friday 6th March

There will be refreshments after the service.

All are welcome.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE SAVE THE DATES!

**April 2nd
Maundy Thursday Supper**

**April 18th
Beetle Drive**

**June 6th
Afternoon Tea**

Please reserve the dates in your diaries now and further details will be provided closer to each event.

The Social Committee

Regular services and events during the week

Monday:

7:30pm Housegroup 29A Eastern Way

Tuesday:

9:00am Zoom Morning prayer (see Karen for link)

10:00am Housegroup 29A Eastern Way

8:00pm Zoom Housegroup - 1st & 3rd of the month (see Keith for link)

Wednesday:

8:45am Zoom Morning prayer (see Karen for link) [Note different time]

10:00am Said Communion in the Lady Chapel

10:00 - 11:30am Norton Coffee Shop in the Clulow Room

10:00am Health Walk (Grade 1) meets at St George's Car park

700pm Prayer meeting - last of the month in the Clulow Room

Thursday:

9:00am Zoom Morning prayer (see Karen for link)

1:30pm— 2.45pm Norton Nippers (under-4's children's group) in the Parish Hall

Sunday:

8:00am Said Communion at St Nicholas

9:30am Holy Communion at St Georges

11:00am Altogether service at St Georges - 2nd of the month

5:30pm Choral Evensong at St Georges - 2nd of the month

Kids' activities (all in the Parish Hall)

1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday of the month : 9:15am Little Dragons (4-11yrs old)

1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday of the month : 9:30am Dragonflies (0-3/4 yrs old)

4th Sunday of the month: 9:15am Dragons (0-11 yrs old)

with coffee from 10:30am

Parish contacts:

Office: Email: office@parishofnorton.org.uk

Telephone: 01462 678133

Vicar: Email: rev.eugene@outlook.com

Telephone: 07735 714774

Please submit notices by Wednesday for inclusion in the next pew sheet.