



PARISH OF NESTON

PRAYER

&

ACTION



SUNDAY 18th JANUARY 2026 SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Readings: Isaiah 49.1-7 (P.689) 1 Corinthians 1.1-9 (P.162) John 1.29-42 (P.88)

St Mary & St Helen 8.00am. Holy Communion

10.45am Sung Eucharist

9.15-10am *Jesus and Me* for young families

St Michael's 9.30am Sunday Praise

St Thomas' 9.30am Eucharist

URC Parkgate Rd **6.30pm Ecumenical Christian Unity Service followed by N&DCT AGM. All are welcome.**

YouTube Live Stream 10.45am Sung Eucharist. Search: Parish of Neston

Collect for Second Sunday after Epiphany: Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever.

We pray for Peace in our increasingly troubled World

CALENDAR FOR NEXT WEEK

Mo - Thur 9am Morning Prayer in the Parish Church

Mo 19 *Ps 50.8-10, 16-17, 24; Mk 2.18-22*

Compline online this evening via Spotify "The Rest Is Gospel" or on Facebook www.facebook.com/parishofneston

Tu 20 *Ps 89.19-27; Mk 2.23-end*

We 21 *Ps 144.1-2, 9-10; Mk 3.1-6*

10am Holy Communion in the Falklands Chapel followed by coffee

Th 22 *Ps 56.1-2, 8-end; Mk 3.7-12*

2pm Holy Communion in St Michael's

Fr 23 *Ps 57.1-2, 8-end; Mk 3.13-19*

9.15-11.15am Stay in the Parish Church

5pm Parish Prayers on Zoom:

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/89035035754?pwd=Ds1dYJAowcHXjCtPWsqyauQxxjFEK9.1> Meeting ID: 890 3503 5754 Passcode: Neston24

Sa 24 *Ps 80.1-6; Mk 3.20-21*

SUNDAY 25th JANUARY 2026 CONVERSION OF ST PAUL

Readings: Jeremiah 1.4-10 (P.708) Acts 9.1-22 (P.123)

Matthew 19.27-end (P.20)

St Mary & St Helen 8.00am. Holy Communion

10.45am Sung Eucharist

9.15-10am *Jesus and Me* for young families

St Michael's 9.30am Sunday Praise

St Thomas' 9.30am Sunday Praise

YouTube Live Stream 10.45am Sung Eucharist. Search: Parish of Neston

PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING

PARISH Peter Coward and Val Kay.

HOSPITAL Wendy Bayldon (Arrowe Park)



We remember those who have died: We give thanks for the lives of those who have died recently: Susan Coyle, Harry Dodd, Mary Kathleen McVicker, Maureen Morley, Ronald William Owen, Sheila Robinson and Nicholas Anthony Sharp. We pray for their families and friends at this sad time. We remember anniversaries that fall at this time.

HOME COMMUNIONS: Anyone wishing to receive Holy Communion at home because of illness or infirmity, please contact Kevin on 353 1000.

HARRY DODD R.I.P.

Sadly, our good friend, Harry, from the 10.45 Service, died suddenly on Wednesday 7th January. Harry used to be a Sides-person, together with his late wife Gloria, at the Parish Church and a member of the Oasis group. His ready smile and cheerfulness will be missed by all of us. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. Harry's Funeral is 12 noon on Wed 11th Feb in the Parish Church.

SHROVE TUESDAY MEAL

Monday 16th February, 6.30pm at the Royal Oak, Little Neston.

First 40 people, please give your details to Sue Thomas at Neston Parish Church, Val Johnson at St Thomas's, or Carol at St Michael's.

The menu for the meal is a choice of: Soup or Paté; Turkey Roast, Beef roast or Vegetable lasagne; Lemon Drizzle, Trifle, Ice cream sundae. Total Cost £20. Please let us know your selection and if you have mobility issues to assist with the seating.

Carol 07929 096443

JOB VACANCIES - CHURCHWARDEN (2)

The Parish of Neston is in need of two new Churchwardens. These are to be elected at the Annual Meeting of Parishioners this year. If you are interested in this role, or just want more information, you are invited to have an informal chat with either of the current Churchwardens Marion and Terry.

Briefly the role of a Churchwarden (CW) is an ancient one. Given the passage of time it could be assumed the responsibilities of the CW would be clearly defined. However, they aren't.

The office of CW has three distinct aspects, but they do require, at times, a balancing act:

- The CWs of a parish are officers of the bishop;
- The CWs of a parish are the parish priest's principal collaborators;
- The CWs are the principal representatives of the laity on the Parochial Church Council (PCC).

A CW should under Canon Law '*discharge such duties as are by law and custom assigned to them*'. This is very general. If in doubt as to where the responsibility lies, in any instance, then it's likely to be the responsibility of the CW. However, whilst the CW is responsible they don't necessarily have to do everything, just be experts at delegating.

As '*an officer of the bishop*' means the CW has direct access to the bishop. They can if necessary bypass the vicar and go further up the line. It is hoped that this never has to happen.

The CWs '*shall be foremost in representing the laity, and in cooperating with the incumbent*' means the CW should be a focal point for the laity, who might find it easier to speak to them than to the vicar. A CW must be approachable, known and respected. The CW also needs to maintain a good relationship with the vicar to ensure the flow of information in both directions.

In the same way the CW '*shall use their best endeavours by example and precept to encourage parishioners in the practice of true religion and promote unity and peace among them*'. Promoting Unity and Peace is not easy at all times but worth striving for.

The CW '*shall also maintain order and decency in the church and churchyard, especially during the time of divine service*'. Hopefully this responsibility will never need to be exercised.

CWs role legally also covers the responsibility for the church inventory, terrier, log book and the annual fabric report. These cover all the moveable objects, including the church silver; the fabric of the church, including the stained glass windows; routine checks and inspections, such as the gas boiler and fire alarms; all alterations, additions or repairs to the fabric of the church. All these need to be kept up to date and made available to the Archdeacon when requested.

Whilst this list appears endless, and it is, there is help from Deputy Wardens, sides-persons, building manager and the PCC. The Diocese provide two training days, on Saturdays, each year, a chance to meet other CWs and Church House personnel. These days will prove you are not alone in the role.

The best advice would be, if you think you can do it, is 'To make the role your own' and build a team.

Marion and Terry

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(Not available on Fridays)

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CONGRATULATIONS!

On Monday 29th December a team from the Parish entered a quiz at the Hinderton Arms, calling themselves "Santa's Little Helpers". We won the quiz and were presented with a fabulous trophy 🏆. By the way we didn't take the team photo, which is why we only have half of Tony!!

Carol

