

FEBRUARY EDITION

Sunday 2nd February – CANDLEMAS

This Sunday in our churches...

All-age service for Candlemas

9.15am

St Peter's

East Bridgford

Readings: Luke 2:22-40



COMMUNION

11.00am

St Wilfrid's, Screveton

Readings: Hebrews 2:14-end

Luke 2:22-40

CELTIC EVENING PRAYER

5.00pm

Via Zoom

Readings:

Haggai 2:1-9



For our prayers

- For the fragile cease fire in Gaza to hold and for much needed aid to reach those who need it most.
- For peace in Ukraine and other places in our world that are in conflict.
- For all victims of abuse, especially those who have suffered abuse within the Church.
- For those who work to safeguard others in our churches, schools and communities.
- For lives shattered by natural disasters, and those who have lost loved ones in the plane crashes in the USA and stampede in India.
- For all who live in fear and those who are lonely.
- For those living with disability, illness, frailty and dementia and for those who care for them.
- For the recently bereaved and all who are missing loved ones.



Exploring Christian Art Candlemas

**Friday 7th February at 7pm
 on Zoom**

**Please contact
 reuruthcolby@gmail.com for
 joining details**

**See page 6
 for details
 of this
 year's Lent
 course**

February services

Sunday, 2nd February – CANDLEMAS

9.15am	All age service for Candlemas	St Peter's, East Bridgford
11.00am	Communion	St Wilfrid's, Screveton
5.00pm	Celtic Evening Prayer	Zoom

Wednesday, 5th February

10.00am	Communion (BCP)	St Peter's, East Bridgford
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Sunday, 9th February – 4th SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

10.00am	Pancakes & Praise	St Peter's, East Bridgford
10.00am	Morning Prayer (Lay led)	St Wilfrid's, Screveton
6.00pm	Evensong with hymns	St Helen's, Kneeton

Wednesday, 12th February

10.00am	Communion (BCP)	St Peter's, East Bridgford
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Sunday, 16th February – 3rd SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

9.15am	Sung Communion	St Peter's, East Bridgford
11.00am	Communion (BCP)	St Mary's, Car Colston
6.00pm	Evensong	St Peter's, East Bridgford

Wednesday, 19th February

10.00am	Communion (BCP)	St Peter's, East Bridgford
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Sunday, 23rd February – 2nd SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

9.15am	Sung Communion	St Peter's, East Bridgford
11.00am	Morning Worship	St Augustine's, Flintham

Wednesday, 26th February

10.00am	Communion (BCP)	St Peter's, East Bridgford
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BCP= Book of Common Prayer; CW = Common Worship

See next month's Fosse Group News for details
of our Lent and Easter services and events

In Britain, we spent around £1.5 billion on Valentine's Day last year. This is a significant increase from 2021, when spending was estimated to be around £926,000. In 2024, the top spending categories were flowers (38.3%), chocolate (21.3%), general gifts (21%), and jewellery (7.4%) and approximately £390m was spent on dining out on Valentines Day itself.



Those most likely to receive a token of our affection on Valentine's Day are, of course, our romantic partners, but we also lavish Valentine's Day gifts on our children, our pets, friends and co-workers, and perhaps rather surprisingly, the group most likely to receive a Valentine's Day card are teachers!

But all this outpouring of affection comes at a cost, not just to us but to the environment. In Britain, Valentine's Day generates a lot of waste, including 25 million Valentine's cards, 13,500 miles of wrapping paper, over 17,000 tonnes of cardboard packaging and nearly 7,500 tonnes of plastic packaging.

So, what is Valentine's Day all about? Why has this keeping of a 3rd Century Roman Saint's day become such a phenomenon? The answer is that St Valentine and the legends that surround him are all about love. The purpose of the gifts and cards we give on 14th February each year is to demonstrate that we care for someone, a sign of our love and affection; after all, we all like to let others know we love them and to know we are loved ourselves.

Human love, whether that be a romantic love, the love between parent and child or brother and sister, or the love and affection we hold for friends can all be amazing and important. They remind us that we are not meant to live in complete isolation from each other – that are lives are relational.

But there is another love which is stronger and more powerful than any form of human love. That is God's love for us.

The whole Bible is the story of God's love for us, not love in the romantic sense; God will not send us flowers from an ethereal garden. We won't see chocolates descending on a cloud with our name emblazoned on them or receive a free ticket for a meal out somewhere accompanied by fireworks. God's love is an 'every day' love, for always and for everyone – shown through Jesus.

The first letter of John says:

'let us love one another, because love comes from God....And God showed his love for us by sending his only Son into the world, so that we might have life through him. This is what love is: that he loved us and sent his Son to be the means by which our sins are forgiven....if this is how God loved us, then we should love one another.'

1 John 4:7-12

We are loved by God, and God wants us, in response, to love one another, not just on Valentine's Day but every day. Perhaps in all the hearts and flowers, cards and gifts on 14th February this year we might just remember that all love stems from God and take a moment to respond to that love.

Blessings and much love for February

Revd Ruth

News from our parishes...



News from the Parish of Car Colston and Screveton

Last Saturday the two parish churches were delighted to join forces with the Village Hall to host our **Burns Night Supper** celebrating the life and poetry of Robert Burns. It proved to be a lively evening of fun and entertainment alongside the traditional three course homecooked meal of soup, haggis and cranachan. The support and participation of Car Colston's strong contingent of Scottish residents together with their friends and family lent great authenticity to the



ceremony that followed. In customary fashion after a few words of welcome from our Master of Ceremonies proceedings commenced with the Selkirk Grace. The presentation of the haggis on a silver platter was the focal point of the night and our cheerful whisky bearers ensured everyone was suitably prepared with a dram. It was a wonderful spectacle to watch Jo playing her saxophone to 'pipe' in the haggis with Alan presenting the haggis to the room as they processed to the top table. Once safely in place Alan gave a superb rendition of 'The Address to the Haggis' before making the first cut with a Ceremonial Scottish Dirk and then leading the toasts. The fun continued with a Scottish themed quiz which Alan compiled and led. The questions proved very challenging for some of us but less so it seemed



for our Scottish friends who triumphed and each team member won a pack of highly prized Tunnocks teacakes. To end the evening we were all invited to stand and join in a rousing rendition of Auld Lang Syne accompanied by Jo on her saxophone. It was a fitting end to a memorable occasion. Many thanks are due to Alan and Jo for their contributions which were integral to the success of the evening.

Whilst heavily involved in planning for the Burns Night celebration it was easy to forget that the important business of the church must continue. It was reassuring therefore to note that even in the depths of winter one man and his dog were out and about ensuring that **St Mary's** churchyard mower was safely dispatched for its annual service in good time to be ready for the excitement of the coming season.



Dates for your diary in February

Friday 7th - Car Colston and Screveton Parish Lunch

Sunday 16th Communion Service at St Mary's 11

The next Mustard Seed Meeting is Tuesday 18th February at Aslockton

News from St Wilfrid's church

St Wilfrid's held the funeral service for Mr Stan Renshaw (aged 98) on the 21st January. Family members and David Rose took part in the service attended by approximately ninety; family, villagers and friends. He was a prominent figure in Screveton community and will be greatly missed.



DIARY

correct at time of going to press
For all church services see page 2

Saturday 1st February

Car Colston and Screveton PCC meeting, 10.30am, Boundary House, Car Colston

Monday 3rd February

St Peter's Bellringers, 7.30-9pm, St Peter's, East Bridgford
Ministry Team Meeting, 2pm, Kneeton Road, East Bridgford

Thursday 6th February

St Mary's Bellringers, 10.30am-12.00pm, St Mary's, Car Colston
St Peter's Choir practice, 6.30pm, St Peter's, East Bridgford

Friday 7th February

Car Colston and Screveton Parish Lunch
Exploring Christian Art, 7pm, via Zoom

Sunday 9th February

Christian Youth Group, 5.30pm-7pm, East Bridgford Methodist Church

Monday 10th February

St Peter's Bellringers, 7.30-9pm, St Peter's, East Bridgford

Wednesday 12th February

Pancakes & Praise Planning meeting, 7pm College Street, East Bridgford

Thursday 13th February

St Mary's Bellringers, 10.30am-12.00pm, St Mary's, Car Colston
St Peter's Choir practice, 6.30pm, St Peter's, East Bridgford

Tuesday 18th February

Mustard Seed Prayer Group, 2pm-3pm, Aslockton

Thursday 20th February

St Mary's Bellringers, 10.30am-12.00pm, St Mary's, Car Colston
St Peter's Choir practice, 6.30pm, St Peter's, East Bridgford

Monday 27th January

St Peter's Bellringers, 7.30-9pm, St Peter's, East Bridgford

Thursday 27th February

St Mary's Bellringers, 10.30am-12.00pm, St Mary's, Car Colston
Car Colston, Screveton, Flintham Mother's Union, 2pm-3.30pm,
St Peter's Choir practice, 6.30pm, St Peter's, East Bridgford

CONTACTS

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Please Note:

Revd Ruth's day off is
Tuesday

Rector:

Revd Ruth Colby

Administrators:

Sherry Rudman

email: office@fossegroup.org.uk

Safeguarding

Any concerns about
safeguarding should be
directed to the Parish
Safeguarding Officers

Peter Golightly

Tel: **07768 401406**

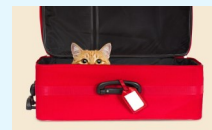
email:

pgolightly@btinternet.com

Mandy Beeby

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Please note that Reverend Ruth
will be taking annual leave
between **Monday 17th February**
and **Friday 21st February**

Wednesday 12, 19 & 26 March and 2 & 9 April 2025
3pm at the Methodist Church, East Bridgford

**The Fosse Group &
East Bridgford
Methodist Church**

Calling a Wounded Earth Home

**Exploring the themes of love, truth, wisdom,
justice and hope in the context of climate change.**

**LENT
COURSE
2025**

**Further details from: Revd Ruth email
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or Revd Tim Morris email reutimmorris@aol.com or
tel 01949 837330**