



OLD HILLS MALVERN HEADLINES

1st & 8th February 2026



Keeping you in touch with your churches across Powick, Callow End, Guarlford and Madresfield with Newland

SERVICES FOR THE COMING PERIOD

SUNDAY 1ST FEBRUARY

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany or
Septuagesima celebrating

Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)

9.30am Epiphany Communion at Guarlford

11.00am Epiphany Communion at Powick

(Both with Rev Gary Crellin)

Readings:

Malachi 3: 1-5

Hebrews 2: 14-end

Luke 2: 22-40

Collect:

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

SUNDAY 8TH FEBRUARY

Second Sunday Before Lent

9.30am Living Communion at Callow End

(With Rev Dr William Rumball)

11.00am Living Communion at Madresfield

(With Fr Chris Sterry)

Readings:

Genesis 1: 1-2:3

Romans 8: 18-25

Matthew 6: 25-end

Collect:

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Intercessions for each week will be available to download from the website each Friday.

Midweek Communion – The Orchard Room

10.30-11.30am 29th January & 12th February

THE VICAR'S BLOG

“My eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people; a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.” Luke 2:30-32 NRSV

Simeon's song at Candlemas gives us words full of wonder, peace, and completion. He recognises, in the fragile presence of the Christ child, the fulfilment of God's long promises. Candlemas is a moment of radiant revelation: light held in the darkness, salvation seen and named, God close enough to touch.

And yet, as Simeon sings, he also speaks of cost — of hearts being revealed and a difficult road ahead. With Candlemas, the Epiphany season draws to a close and we step into the quieter, more searching weeks that lead us towards Lent. This pre-Lenten season is not simply a waiting room or a pause before Ash Wednesday, but a threshold — a time that invites both reflection and readiness.

So, is this a season of revelation or preparation? In truth, it is both. We continue to discover who Christ is, while also being gently prepared to follow him more deeply. Preparation here is not about doing more, but about paying attention: to what needs warming in us, what needs repair, and what helps us stay faithful on the journey.

That language of warmth and repair feels especially close to home this year. The heating and electrical issues affecting Guarlford, Callow End and Powick were keenly felt. Cold churches inevitably meant fewer people able to gather, and we felt that absence. Thanks to a great deal of work behind the scenes, these issues have now been resolved, and our churches are once again open with a very warm welcome — in every sense.

It also feels fitting that this threshold moment coincides with the beginning of Bishop Hugh's ministry as our new Bishop of Worcester. As a diocese, we step forward together — thankful for light already revealed, attentive to what God is doing now, and ready, hearts and buildings alike, for the journey into Lent. Every blessing - Rev Gary.

GOOD NEWS

1. We have a new Bishop - his installation was a wonderful and uplifting service
2. All of our churches have heating or electrics restored - BUT the cumulative bill for the three faults = £2200



Vicar: Revd Gary Crellin – revgarycrellin@gmail.com 01905 830270

31 The Greenway, Collett's Green, Powick, Worcs. WR2 4RZ

For more information, please see our website: www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk

If you would like to be included in the email circulation list for this newsletter, please contact Liz Edwards, the Parish Administrator on oldhillsmalvern@gmail.com



SCAN ME

LENT OBSERVANCES

Ash Wednesday

Physically and spiritually mark the start of our Holy Lent.
18th February 2025 at 11am at Christ Church for the Old Hills Malvern Churches

Lent Course

" Hope is not waiting for something. we create hope through our actions" *Revd Dr Munther Isaac*

This Lent we are invited to journey together with *Acts of Hope*, Embrace the Middle East's new Lent resource and the final part of a trilogy on the theme of Hope, we began with in 2024. Rooted in the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, it encourages us to explore how the early Church lived with courage, generosity, and trust in the Holy Spirit in times of uncertainty. Alongside Scripture, we will hear stories from Embrace's partners in the Middle East, offering powerful, present-day examples of hope lived out in challenging circumstances. Through shared study, prayer and conversation, *Acts of Hope* invites us not just to reflect on hope, but to discover how we might live it — together — in our own time and place.

Dates and Venues to be confirmed.

HEADLINES PRAYER

God of light and love,
you have opened our eyes to see your salvation
and set our feet on the road that leads to life.
As we journey from Candlemas towards Lent,
warm our hearts where they have grown cold,
mend what is fragile,
and prepare us to follow Christ with honesty and hope.

Bless our churches, our communities,
and Bishop Hugh as he begins his ministry among us.
May our buildings be places of welcome,
and our lives are signs of your light in the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,
the light of the world. **Amen.**



Unwanted 6ft M & S
artificial Christmas Tree
needs new home if
anyone knows of a
church, charity, etc
who would like it.
Call Marguerite on
01684 891760

Soup Lunch at St James, Callow End

Our next **Soup Lunch** is on
Saturday 21st February, 12noon -2pm
Donations will be for our Lent charity

Further Soup Lunch dates for your diary for 2026:
Saturday 9th May
Saturday 19th September
Saturday 28th November

Join the Journey!
22nd - 26th June 2026
We're looking for volunteers

Enjoy being part of a big happy team?
Enjoy working with or for children?
Got a few hours (or more!) free this June?
We'd love to hear from you

lifepath.malvern.2026@gmail.com
or
(01684) 561020 (answerphone)

From the Parish Registers

Funerals:

Becky Cowell (Madresfield)
Gill Purdham* (Powick)
Patrick Woods (Madresfield)
Christopher Knight (Callow End)
Robert Jenkins (Callow End)
John Hubbard* (Powick)

May they rest in peace and rise in glory, and our prayers remain with those that grieve.

(* non church funerals but resident in the respective parish and known to us)

FUND RAISING QUIZ FOR MAF – MISSION AVIATION FELLOWSHIP

SATURDAY 7th FEBRUARY

Lansdowne Crescent Methodist Church
Doors open 6.30pm - Quiz starts 7.15pm
Admission £8 to include Baked Potato (choice of filling)
Donation for Drinks - Produce and Cake Stall

ZOOM ACCESS CODES

Codes and access numbers for ALL Old Hills Malvern Meetings and Services 2026:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86594255282?pwd=UkZ2cytyMUd2OWN2Sy8yZndoMS8rZz09>

SAFEGUARDING: We are all responsible for protecting ourselves and others from abuse, harm, or neglect, especially our children, young people, and vulnerable adults, and report safeguarding concerns. If you have any concerns or questions, then please contact Gary (01905 8303270) or Sheila (07912 030805).