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Please send your news, thoughts, messages, helpful suggestions, requests etc. to Bob Hunter by Wednesday lunchtime. Either by phone on 01295 712265 or email: [hunter\\_r\\_s@btinternet.com](mailto:hunter_r_s@btinternet.com)



### Sunday 26th March 5<sup>th</sup> in Lent

9.00am Holy Communion Chacombe

10.30am Holy Communion Sulgrave

10.30am Holy Communion Middleton Cheney

10.45am Sung Mass Marston St Lawrence

### Wednesday 29th and Thursday 30th March

10.00am Holy Communion at Middleton Cheney

### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April Palm Sunday

9.00am Holy Communion Chacombe

10.30am Morning Praise Middleton Cheney

10.45am Holy Communion Greatworth

11.00am BCP Communion Thorpe Mandeville

### Wednesdays at All Saints

The church will be open every

Wednesday morning from 10.00 until 12.30

10.00 – 10.30 Said Communion service

10.30 – 12.30 **Jolly Teapot!**

A chance to chat over coffee/tea, cakes and biscuits

*As we are coming to the end of the winter season there will no longer be a "warm space" on Wednesday. But do join us at Jolly Teapot.*

**First Steps** 2.00 – 3.00 pm

A weekly service of songs, stories and activities for babies and toddlers with their parents or carers

### Foodbank

If you know of an individual or family that would benefit from a food parcel please do let

**Mary Phipps, Rose Steele or Rev. Nick know.**

*Parcels may be collected on Wednesdays from All Saints during Jolly Teapot – see above.*

### John 11:21 Jesus arrives in Bethany

"Lord", Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died, But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask"

Jesus said to her, "your brother will rise again. I am the resurrection and the life, He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and who ever lives and believes in me will never die."

Bethany, where Jesus stayed on his final journey to Jerusalem



### From Paul Franklin

**A very big THANK you** everyone for all your encouragement and support over 4 decades of our working together and for marking my retirement in such a positive and generous way. It is very much appreciated and I look forward to our sharing many more times of friendship.

**P.S.** The pictures are truly iconic being not only eye catching but also giving out a lovely warm glow.

### MOZAMBIQUE: SEVERE TROPICAL STORM FREDDY

Storm Freddy made its second landfall in Malawi and Mozambique on 11 March, with maximum winds of 100 mph and gusts up to 145 mph. This has been the worst storm to hit East Africa in recorded history. Extreme heavy rains up to 15 inches over three days and flooding are a concern as the cholera outbreak continues to spread.

As we no longer have an annual **Christian Aid week** Collection in Middleton Cheney, please consider donating by bank card to **Christian Aid Supporter Care Team** by phoning **0333 555 2025**.

## **For those who worship at home**     *Fifth Sunday of Lent (Passion Sunday)*

And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.’ Ezekiel 37: 13

### **Thought for the Day**

This verse comes near the end of the vivid, rather horrific picture painted by the prophet Ezekiel. I’ve always thought of it as the aftermath of an ancient battle – perhaps fought months or years before. All that remains are the bones, nameless and abandoned, the bodies robbed and long decayed. Ezekiel reflects the despair of the exiled community in Babylon, in his vision, he sees what seems to be death and abandonment. What possible future can there be? Why has God seemed to abandon his people? For the prophets, the answer was because they abandoned their ancestral faith and did not obey the commandments. Yet here is, in verse 13 the message of hope and renewal. The bones, seemingly dead are joined together, with muscles and flesh and skin. But they are not fully alive, fully recreated without the spirit of God breathed into them. As Christians, we would go further and see this vision as a pointer to the resurrection of Christ, and the new life promised to us after our bodily death.

### **Hymn**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;  
Melt me, mould me,  
Fill me, use me,  
Spirit of the living God,  
Fall afresh on me.

*(Daniel Iverson)*

### **Collect**

Holy God, our lives are laid open before you:  
rescue us from the chaos of sin and through the death of your Son  
bring us healing and make us whole in Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

## **Brahms Requiem**

Chipping Norton Choral Society

at

St Mary's Church, BANBURY

26<sup>th</sup> March 7.30 p.m.

Tickets: [www.cncs.org.uk](http://www.cncs.org.uk)