

# THE PARISH OF ABBOTS LANGLEY

St Lawrence the Martyr, Abbots Langley  
with the Church of the Ascension, Bedmond

22nd March 2026

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT / PASSIONTIDE



## TODAY

- 8.00am** Eucharist at St Lawrence Church
- President & Preacher:** Revd Peter Waddell
- Reader:** Joan Sutton
- 9.30am** Eucharist at St Lawrence Church
- President & Preacher:** Revd Peter Waddell
- Reader:** Linda North
- Intercessions:** Roland Maxted
- 11.30am** Eucharist at the Tin Church
- President & Preacher:** Revd Peter Waddell
- Reader:** Ann Bolitho-Jones
- Readings:**  
Ezekiel 37: 1 - 14 (P.820)  
Romans 8: 6 - 11 (P. 153)  
John 11: 1 - 45 (P. 101)
- Hymns:**  
499: Lift high the Cross  
111: Jesu, thy blood and righteousness  
565: Rock of ages, cleft for me  
308: Just as I am  
376: And it can be
- 5.00pm** BCP Evening Prayer at St Lawrence Church

## WELCOME

Welcome to our worship today, especially to visitors and newcomers! Do please make yourself known, and stay for refreshments in the church hall afterwards.

All baptised Christians are welcome to receive communion here. If for any reason you'd rather not, do come for a blessing instead, bringing the service booklet with you as a sign that's what you'd prefer.



Please tell a welcomer before the service if you would like a gluten-free wafer at communion. There is no obligation to receive the wine if this causes anxiety.

**Our main Sunday morning service is filmed for live video streaming as well as other special services and can be viewed at [www.churchmedia.tv/abbotslangley](http://www.churchmedia.tv/abbotslangley) or via our website [www.abbotslangley.org.uk](http://www.abbotslangley.org.uk).**

Recordings may also be retained and made available through other sites (e.g. Facebook and YouTube). The objective of this is to provide accessibility to those who are unable to attend.

For those unable to attend church due to medical reasons, we will be delighted to bring communion to you at home: please do ask! A T-loop is provided for hearing-aid users.



**Refreshments will be served in the hall after the 9.30am service**



[www.abbotslangley.org.uk](http://www.abbotslangley.org.uk)

## THE PRAYERS AND BIBLE READINGS

### COLLECT:

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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.

### POST COMMUNION:

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

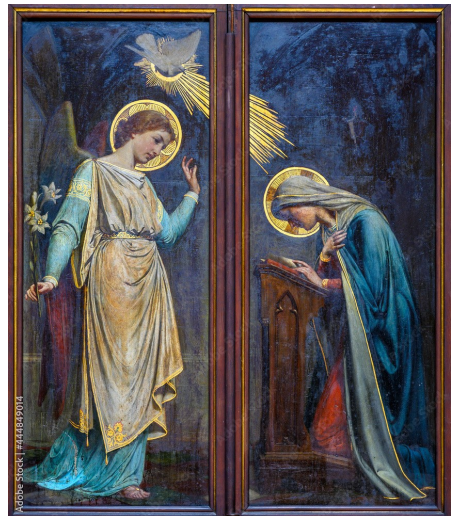
### A READING WE'RE NOT LOOKING AT:

There's not actually *much* of a belief in life after death in the Old Testament: on the whole, it is much more concerned about the life of God's people here and now. However, **Ezekiel 37:1-14** shows how this latter concern eventually begins to give rise to resurrection hope. Israel was, Ezekiel saw, *so* battered, so broken, so defunct that the only hope for it would be like dry bones coming to life. Maybe this was first heard metaphorically – but over time it came to be understood quite literally: if God was to prove truly faithful to Israel, to really keep his promises, then the dead would have to be raised. That's why this passage tends to be heard as we begin to move towards the great celebration of Easter.

## The Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary

25 March

The story of the announcement of the coming of God made flesh in the person of his Son, Jesus the Christ, the Anointed One, is heard in today's proclamation of the good news from the gospel of Luke. The feast marks the conception of Christ in the womb of Mary and has been celebrated in the Church at least since the late fourth century. The perfect humanity and the complete divinity of Jesus is affirmed, following the controversies around those orthodox assertions, which themselves led to the acknowledgement of Mary as Theotokos, God-bearer, which in the West became translated as Mother of God. The celebration thus took on strong associations with the person of Mary, and became known in England as Lady Day. In recent years, the Church has re-affirmed the day as a Feast of our Lord, on which his virgin- mother has a unique place of honour and veneration.



## FOR OUR PRAYERS

- For Bishop Andrew Rumsey, new Bishop of St Albans
- For Breakspeare School
- For peace between nations
- For Helen and the Parish of Bricket Wood

### FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR IN NEED

Chris Ballard; Christopher Seabrook; Sandra Clarke; Bernard Eamer; Clive Moon; William Kimber; Joan Harding

### FOR THE DEPARTED

Audrey Woods

## NEXT SUNDAY

**Sunday 29th March 2026**

### Palm Sunday

8.00am Eucharist at St Lawrence Church

11.30am Eucharist at St Lawrence Church

*There is no 11.30am service at Bedmond today*

5.00pm The Spark Service at St Lawrence Church

## READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

Psalms: 118: 1 - 2, 19 - end (P. 576)  
Matthew 21: 1 - 11 (P. 21)

## AVAILABILITY

Peter is off on Monday.

## THE COMING WEEK

### Monday - Saturday, 9.15am

Morning Prayer

*In the Corpus Christi Chapel*

### Monday 23rd March

10.00am Coffee Morning

*Breakspeare Room*

12.00pm Bedmond Bells Community Café

*The Tin Church*

7.30pm Licensing of Revd Helen Neville

*St Luke's Church, Bricket Wood*

7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice

*St Lawrence Church*

### Tuesday 24th March

10.30am Tiny Tots

*St Lawrence Church*

8.00pm Standing Committee Meeting

*Breakspeare Room*

### Wednesday 25th March

10.00am Palm Cross Making

*Breakspeare Room*

12.00pm Eucharist

*St. Lawrence Church*

2.00pm Breakspeare School Visit

*St Lawrence Church*

6.30pm Junior Choir Rehearsal

*St Lawrence Church*

8.00pm Choir Rehearsal

*St Lawrence Church*

### Thursday 26th March

10.00am Pastoral Visitors Meeting

*Breakspeare Room*

1.00pm Lent Course and 8.00pm Lent Course /

Friends and Faith

*St Lawrence Church*

### Friday 27th March

10.00am Bedmond Bells WI Craft and Chat

*The Tin Church*

2.00pm Craft and Conversation

*The Breakspeare Room*

There is no collection during today's service. If you would like to give this morning, please use the contactless giving point at the back of Church, or just leave your gift on the offering plates at the back or scan the QR code. Thank you.



Many of our worshippers **support the work of the Parish financially** through regular planned giving. If you don't yet, please do—ideally using the Parish Giving Scheme. It is really easy to do: just visit [www.paritygiving.org.uk](http://www.paritygiving.org.uk) and search for 'Abbots Langley and Bedmond'.

Alternatively, please call 0333 002 1260. For any queries about giving to the parish, please email: [churchwarden2@abbotslangley.org.uk](mailto:churchwarden2@abbotslangley.org.uk)

**The Diocese of St Albans is delighted to welcome the appointment of The Right Reverend Dr Andrew Paul Rumsey as the next Bishop of St Albans.** The nomination, approved by His Majesty the King, was announced by 10 Downing Street on Thursday 19th March. Bishop Andrew is currently the Suffragan Bishop of Ramsbury in the Diocese of Salisbury.

**Palm Cross Making** - All are welcome to join Mothers' Union on **25<sup>th</sup> March in the Breakspear Room** to make Palm Crosses from 10.00am onwards - please bring some scissors - instructions will be available.

**The Annunciation** – led by Peter, at St Albans Cathedral. Join Peter for an evening exploring what makes the Virgin Mary so remarkable. Wednesday 25th March. Eucharist at 7pm is followed by the lecture.

**Tickets will be on sale until midday on the day of the event.** Visit:

[www.stalbanscathedral.org/Event/the-annunciation](http://www.stalbanscathedral.org/Event/the-annunciation). Phone bookings possible on 01727 890290.

**Palm Sunday, 29th March** - at 11am there will be a service at Kitters Green, followed by a service in St Lawrence Church at 11.30am. All are warmly welcome.

**Easter Monday Pilgrimage to St Albans:**

Leave church hall car park at 11am. Breakfast available at 10am, after 9:30am Communion in St Lawrence - please sign the sheet at the back of church by 2 April. We expect to reach St Albans Abbey at 1pm - you are welcome to meet us there. Bring a packed lunch for the Abbey Orchard. We will process into the Abbey at 2:30pm for the 3pm service. The Church of the Ascension, Bedmond will be open 11am–2pm for refreshments for those walking from elsewhere.

**The Foodbank** would really appreciate donations of toiletries, especially sanitary towels/tampons. If you can donate, please leave at the back of the Church. Thank you.

**We're delighted to be bringing several candidates to the Cathedral for**

**confirmation this Easter Eve** (Saturday April 4th, 8pm). Please keep Teresa Fitzgibbon, Edward Johnston, Craig French, Anthony Batchelor, Terry Chiles, Mike Davis and Sam Waddell in your prayers - and come and support them, as our Easter celebration begins in the best possible way.

## CONTACT DETAILS

**Vicar:** Revd Dr Peter Waddell 07552 359046  
Email: [vicar@abbotslangley.org.uk](mailto:vicar@abbotslangley.org.uk)

**Safeguarding Officer:** Roxanne Yau  
[safeguarding@abbotslangley.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@abbotslangley.org.uk)

**Churchwardens:** Tom Betteridge and Richard Baldwin ([churchwardens@abbotslangley.org.uk](mailto:churchwardens@abbotslangley.org.uk))

**Director of Music:** Marianne Chapman  
Email: [directorofmusic@abbotslangley.org.uk](mailto:directorofmusic@abbotslangley.org.uk)

**Church Office Opening Times:**  
10.00am until 12.30pm Mon - Fri - 01923 261795  
Email: [adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk](mailto:adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk)

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***If anyone needs the ministry of a priest at any time,  
please contact Peter directly.***