

# THE PARISH OF ABBOTS LANGLEY

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

28th January 2024

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY



## TODAY

**8.00am** Eucharist at  
St Lawrence Church

**President &  
Preacher:** Revd. Peter Waddell

**Reader:** David Staines

**9.30am** Eucharist at St Lawrence  
Church

**President &  
Preacher:** Revd. Peter Waddell

**Reader:** Phill Higgs

**Intercessions:** Maureen Finerty

**11.30am** Eucharist at The Church of  
the Ascension

**President &  
Preacher:** Revd. Peter Waddell

**Reader:** John Noonan

**Readings:**  
(Deuteronomy 18: 15 - 20) (P. 181)  
Revelation 12: 1 - 5a (P. 250)  
Mark 1: 21 - 28 (P. 33)

**Hymns:**  
230: Ye Watchers and ye Holy Ones.  
490: Jesus shall reign  
278: Alleluia, sing to Jesus  
324: Sweet sacrament divine  
435: Glorious things of thee are spoken

**3.30pm:** The Spark Service

## 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!



**Refreshments  
will be served  
in the Church  
Hall after the  
9.30am service.**



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

## THE PRAYERS AND BIBLE READINGS

### COLLECT:

God our creator, who in the beginning commanded the light to shine out of darkness: we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief, shine into the hearts of all your people, and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the face of 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 PRAYER:

Generous Lord, in word and eucharist we have proclaimed the mystery of your love: help us so to live out our days that we may be signs of your wonders in the world; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

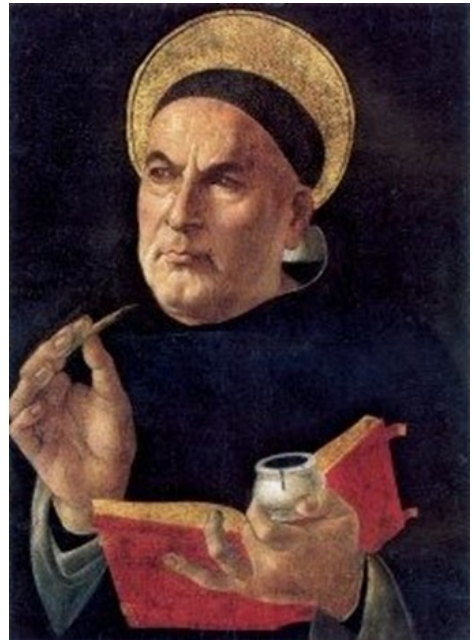
### ‘FOOD FOR THOUGHT’

'...the faith that we as Christians proclaim will need not to be a clever system, but the possibility of dependable relationship. We need to point quite simply to the God who does not let go, to the Christ who does not run away. And (here's the rub) we ourselves need to be dependable people, who are there for those who feel abandoned and those who don't know who and where they are. By our faithfulness to the lost, the suffering and the marginal, we begin to show what it is to have faith in the one who doesn't let go. And one of the biggest challenges to the Church today is how we embody that kind of dependability in this society and throughout the world.' (Rowan Williams, *Being Disciples*, p.25-6)

## Thomas Aquinas, Dominican Friar

28 January

Thomas Aquinas has been described as the greatest thinker and teacher of the mediæval church. Born at Rocca Secca, near Aquino, in Italy, Thomas was educated first by the Benedictines at Monte Cassino and then at the University of Naples. Against his family's wishes, he joined the mendicant Dominican Order of Preachers. His profound, theological wisdom and capacity to impart this, as well in homilies as in hymns, along with his gentleness of spirit in dealing with all, earned him the title "the angelic doctor". He died on 7 March 1274, en route to the Council of Lyons, and his feast has been celebrated on this day since 1970.



## FOR OUR PRAYERS

- For St. John's Church, Watford, as they seek a new vicar
- For all involved in fighting in the Middle East
- For all who use the foodbank
- For the work of the Citizens Advice Bureau

## FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR IN NEED

Chris Ballard; Martin Greeves; Ray Wicks; Jo;

## FOR THE DEPARTED

Karin Cutting; Jan Sanders; Russell Smith;

## NEXT SUNDAY

**4th February 2024**

### The Second Sunday before Lent

- 8.00am Eucharist St. Lawrence Church  
9.30am Eucharist St Lawrence Church  
11.30am Eucharist The Church of the Ascension  
3.00pm Candlemas Service  
St Lawrence Church  
5.00pm Breathing Space -  
Why aren't people getting married?

## READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

Proverbs 8: 1, 22 - 31 (P. 602)  
Colossians 1: 15 - 20 (P. 197)  
John 1: 1 - 14 (P. 88)

## AVAILABILITY

Peter and Helen are off on Friday.

## THE COMING WEEK

### **Monday - Saturday, 9.15am**

Morning Prayer

*In the Corpus Christi Chapel*

### **Monday 29th January**

10.00am Coffee Morning  
*Breakspear Room*

1.45pm Tiny Tots  
*Breakspear Room*

7.30pm Bell ringing practice  
*St Lawrence Church*

### **Tuesday 30th January**

8.00pm PCC Meeting  
*Breakspear Room*

### **Wednesday 31st January**

11.15am Contemplative Prayer  
*In the Corpus Christi Chapel*

12.00pm Eucharist  
*St Lawrence Church*

6.30pm Youth Choir  
*St Lawrence Church*

8.00pm Choir practice  
*St Lawrence Church*

8.00pm CTAL Committee Meeting  
*Methodist Church*

### **Thursday 1st February**

*Church Office is closed*

12.30pm Women of the New Testament  
*Breakspear Room*

8.00pm Friends and Faith Group  
*Breakspear Room*

### **Friday 2nd February**

10.00am Bedmond Bells Craft and Chat  
*The Church of the Ascension*

2.00pm Craft and Conversation  
*Breakspear Room*

### **Saturday 3rd February**

9.30am Churchyard Working Party (CWP)  
*St Lawrence Churchyard*

11.00am Burial of Ashes Ann Brown  
*Garden of Remembrance*

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. 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.parishgiving.org.uk](http://www.parishgiving.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: [giving@abbotslangley.org.uk](mailto:giving@abbotslangley.org.uk). Parish Giving Packs can be collected from St Lawrence Church or from the Church Office.

**A new service is starting today!** The Spark @ St Lawrence's. This service is for people of all ages, there will be activities for children and a space for adults to explore faith and a chance to meet new people. Held on the last Sunday of each month, starting at 3.30pm for drinks and snacks, with the service starting at 4.00pm. All are very welcome to attend.

**Women of the New Testament - Thursdays from 12.30pm - 2.00pm** in the Breakspear Room. This daytime Bible group will be turning to look at some of the women of the New Testament (bring your lunch!).

**Breathing Space - Why aren't people getting married?** Sunday 4th February, 5pm in St Lawrence Church. Refreshments will be provided. All are welcome.

Outside of the Gospels, Paul's Letter to the Romans has a good claim to be the most influential Christian writing ever. For good or ill, it has shaped how Christians think for two thousand years. It is glorious, infuriating, complex, simple, bewildering, good for the soul and rich for the mind. Come and find out why, as our **Friends and Faith sessions** look at this letter over the coming weeks. **Thursday at 8pm in the Breakspear Room**, and everyone is very welcome!

**CTAL Choral Evensong for Candlemas**, Sunday 4th February, 3.00pm, St Lawrence Church. Join us in celebrating the feast of Candlemas (the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple) at our Churches Together in Abbots Langley evensong service. Refreshments served after the service.

**Mother's Union Pancake Lunch** Tuesday 13th February at 12.30pm in St Lawrence Church Hall. Come along and enjoy a cheese roll and pancakes! £5 per person. Profits to Mothers' Union projects. All are very welcome.

**The Friends of St Lawrence** are holding an evening at the popular village restaurant, La Banq, on Monday 19th February 7pm for 7.30pm. Tickets £20pp for two courses (drinks not included). This is a new venture for the Friends and promises to be a wonderful evening. Contact: Wendy Meldrum for tickets on [wendymeldrum@gmail.com](mailto:wendymeldrum@gmail.com) or text 07710 688633.

**Malawi trip in May** - we are asking people to do some knitting and sewing for the nurseries we will be visiting when we are there. If you are a knitter, there are some patterns at the back of the Church for knitting animal glove puppets. If you are a sewer we will have some alphabet panels for you to sew. See Wendy Meldrum for advice. **Do you have any white or plain coloured sheets** that you no longer need? We need them for making the alphabet panels that we will be taking to Malawi.

## CONTACT NUMBERS

**Vicar:**

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

**Reader:**

Mrs Sally Sanderson - 01923 265963

**Director of Music**

Marianne Ryall  
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)

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