

THE PARISH OF ABBOTS LANGLEY

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

23rd February 2025

THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT



TODAY

- 8.00am** Eucharist at
St Lawrence Church
- President & Preacher:** Revd Peter Waddell
- Reader:** Joan Sutton
- 9.30am** Eucharist at St Lawrence Church
- President:** Revd Helen Neville
Preacher: Revd Peter Waddell
- Reader:** Nigel Higgs
- Intercessions:** Tom Betteridge
- 11.30am:** Eucharist at The Church of the Ascension
- President & Preacher:** Revd Peter Waddell
- Reader:** Linda Ball
- Readings:**
Micah 6:6-8
Matthew 6:19-21
- Hymns:**
413: Eternal Father, strong to save
469: I heard the voice of Jesus say
557: Praise to the Holiest
519: Make me a channel of Your peace
380: At the name of Jesus
- 3.30pm** The Spark Service
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 or via our website 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

THE PRAYERS AND BIBLE READINGS

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.

POST COMMUNION:

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ANTHEM:

Locus Iste

Anton Bruckner

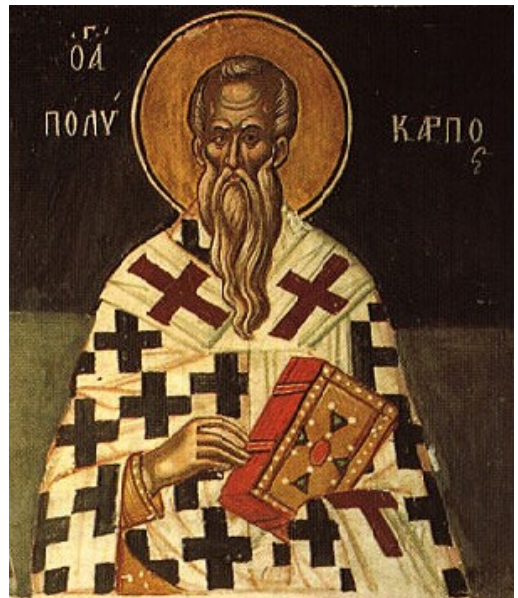
Locus iste a Deo factus est,
Inaestimabile sacramentum,
irreprehensibilis est.

This place was made by God,
a priceless sacrament;
it is without reproach.

Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna

23 February

Honoured as one of the first Christian martyrs, Polycarp had been Bishop of Smyrna on the Adriatic coast of Asia Minor for over forty years when the persecution of Christians began. He was arrested and given the option to renounce his faith and so save his life. His response was: "I have been Christ's servant for eighty-six years and he has done me no harm. Can I now blaspheme my King and my Saviour?" He was immediately burnt at the stake. His remains were gathered together and buried outside the city; thus began the practice of celebrating the eucharist over his burial place on the anniversary of his death, a practice which also grew over the martyrs' tombs in the Roman catacombs. Polycarp died in the year 155.



FOR OUR PRAYERS

- For the people of Sudan
- For all living with food insecurity
- For the social life of this parish
- For the parish of All Saints, South Oxhey

FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR IN NEED

Chris Ballard; Liz Brooker; Christopher Seabrook; Alan Alexander; Joyce Sones; Graham Page; Olive Reeder; Marcus Coultrup

FOR THE DEPARTED

Sandra Smalley; Astrida Meija

NEXT SUNDAY

2nd March 2025

The Sunday Next Before Lent

- 8.00am Eucharist at St Lawrence Church
- 9.30am Eucharist at St Lawrence Church
- 11.30am Eucharist at The Church of the Ascension
- 5.00pm Breathing Space
St Lawrence Church
- 6.30pm Nameless Youth Group
St Lawrence Church

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

Exodus 34: 29 - end
2 Corinthians 3: 12 - 4.2
Luke 9: 28 - 36 (37 - 43a)

AVAILABILITY

Peter is off on Monday, and at a conference Tuesday and Wednesday.
Helen is off on Friday.

THE COMING WEEK

Monday - Saturday, 9.15am

Morning Prayer

In the Corpus Christi Chapel

Monday 24th February

10.00am Coffee Morning

Breakspear Room

7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice

St Lawrence Church

Tuesday 25th February

10.30am Tiny Tots

Breakspear Room

Wednesday 26th February

12.00pm Eucharist

St Lawrence Church

6.30pm Youth Choir Practice

St Lawrence Church

8.00pm Choir practice

St Lawrence Church

Thursday 27th February

Church Office is closed

8.00pm Friends and Faith Group

Breakspear Room

Friday 28th February

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

2.00pm Craft and Conversation

Breakspear Room

Saturday 1st March

9.30am Churchyard Working Party (CWP)
St Lawrence Churchyard

11.30am Wedding of Megan Turner and
Andrew McKenna
St Lawrence Church

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 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

Thank you to everyone who donates to the Watford Foodbank. Those items most needed at the moment are: Cereals, Milk (long life), Fruit Juice (long life), Tinned Fruit, Tinned Meat, Tinned Fish, Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Vegetables, Rice Pudding, Custard, Jam, Tea/Coffee, Mashed Potato, Pasta, Pasta Sauces, Biscuits/Snack Bars. **Please make sure that all donations are unopened and are within the use by date. Items can be left at the collection point at the back of church, or in the dedicated basket at Sweeneys. Thank you.**

Today marks the beginning of our **Stewardship Campaign:** four weeks when we think about how we give financially to the church and God's work in the wider world. Please find a letter at the back of church—if you can't find yours, ask Peter, Helen or Tom Betteridge!

Ash Wednesday is 5th March. If you would like to do so please return your palm crosses from last year to be used to make the ash for the services on Ash Wednesday. You can leave them at the back of the church or drop them in to the office.

Malawi Quiz Night: Saturday 22nd March 7pm for 7.30pm start. Come and join in the fun. Put together your own table of 8 or join a table on night. Price £15, includes a two course supper. BYO drink. For tickets, please contact Wendy Meldrum: wendymeldrum@gmail.com.

This Lent, we invite you to join us for a lent group looking at some of the most notable heresies in the history of the Church. *Heresy 101: A Lent Journey Through Error and Truth.* Starting on Thursday 6th March at 12:30pm in the Breakspear Room, St Lawrence Church. All are welcome.

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar:

Revd Dr Peter Waddell 07552 359046
Email: vicar@abbotslangley.org.uk

Curate:

Revd. Helen Neville 07718 172642
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Safeguarding Officer:

Roxanne Yau
safeguarding@abbotslangley.org.uk

Churchwarden

Tom Betteridge
churchwarden2@abbotslangley.org.uk

Director of Music

Marianne Ryall
Email: directorofmusic@abbotslangley.org.uk

Church Office Opening Times:

10.00am until 12.30pm Mon-Fri - 01923 261795
Email: adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk

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