Prayer List

Those in Residential and Nursing Home Care: Doreen Purnell, Mim Smith and Mrs Pike.

Those at home or being cared for in hospital or at home

From Hullavington we pray for, Jebbie Hewitt, Eileen Fry, Jan Lane and Lis & David Cheshire.

From Luckington we pray for Lynne Simpkins and Kate Vittle

From Sherston we pray for Shane Housden, Leanne, Pam Forster & Ena.

From Stanton St Quintin we pray for Ruth Plowright and Gwen Hale.

We also pray for Indie with heart issues, Bridgette, Jennifer, Paige, Colby and his family.

Those who have died

We pray for Christopher Brooks, that he may rest in peace and for his family and friends as they mourn and prepare for his funeral, and all the families as they mourn.

Baptism and Weddings

We pray for those who are preparing for marriage over the next few months that they will be filled with love and joy. Also, those who are preparing for baptism, their family and friends, parents, God parents.

We pray for all those recently baptised and confirmed.

Please pray for our four schools in the Gauzebrook group

Please contact someone from the Ministry team if you would like to be placed on the prayer list.

News

This week's Sunday Services, 26th April

9.30am **Holy Communion**, Sherston

9.30am **Contemporary Holy Communion,** Stanton St Quintin

11.00 am **Worship Together**, Hullavington

11.00am **Holy Communion**, Norton

Next week's Sunday Services, 3rd May

9.30am **Holy Communion**, Alderton

9.30am **Morning Praise,** Stanton St Quintin

9.30am **Worship Together,** Sherston

11.00 am, **Holy Communion,** Hullavington

11am, **Holy Communion**, Luckington

The Gauzebrook Group of Churches

LOVING GOD, LOVING NEIGHBOUR

26h April 2026

Welcome to this this week's Gazette

How well are we doing at hearing what Jesus might be saying to us during this Vacancy?

We are now on the 4th Sunday after Easter and each week the readings have been focussed on how different people struggled to recognise the risen Jesus. It's not surprising given the trauma they had all been through watching him suffer and die. Mary Magdalene in her grief at the empty tomb didn't recognise the man she was talking to but immediately recognised his voice when he called her by name. Thomas couldn't or wouldn't accept what the other disciples told him about seeing Jesus until he had himself seen and touched Jesus. Cleopas and his wife, or so we believe, enjoyed talking to a stranger as they travelled back to Emmaus after the crucifixion, but it wasn't until he broke bread in front of them in their home that they knew who it was who was with them.

Today's readings are focussed on us being like sheep! The well-known Psalm 23 where the Lord is described as our shepherd who will protect us and provide all our needs, and the Gospel story where Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who will go ahead of his sheep and they follow because they **know his voice and trust him**. Unlike today where we see sheep being herded from the rear by quadbikes, in the Middle East in Jesus' time, shepherds cared for their sheep on open hillsides with no boundaries or fences. The sheep learnt to recognise the voice of their shepherd.

How good are we at recognising Jesus' voice amidst the clamour of loud media opinions that don't recognise his existence at all?

We are praying for a new leader, but until the Lord answers that prayer with a Yes, we can perhaps endeavour to do better at recognising His voice even though we can't see him, or touch him, or hear him in a human sense. But that is why we have been given his Holy Spirit to live in us and help us to recognise His voice. Most readily we can do this by spending time with Him reading the Bible and being still enough and quiet enough to let what we read sink in and speak to us. Of course we can also hear His voice through others, or through watching the beauty of creation, or in worship as we sing psalms and hymns.

During this Vacancy let's get better at listening and sharing what we hear with one another.

Henny Metters

*Contacts : **Interim Priest in Charge** Rev'd Steve Wilkinson, interim@gauzebrook.org 07786228436.*

***Associate Priest** Revd Susan Harvey, susan@gauzebrook.org 01666 840696 (rest day: Tuesday)*

***Administrator** Kathryn Talboys, bbbandgb@gmail.com 01666 825019(Monday 9-4, Wednesday 9-4 and Fridays 9-3.30).*

Readings 29th March

Acts 2.42–end

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.
Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved**.**

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd;
therefore can I lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.
He shall refresh my soul
and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
You spread a table before me
in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil
and my cup shall be full.
Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

1 Peter 2.19–end

For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.
'He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.'
When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

John 10.1–10

'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.
So again, Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

What's on this week?

Monday	**7.30pm – 9pm**	**Bible Study in SSQ at the home of Ruth Williamson**
	2.00-3.30pm	**Bible Study at the home of Marjorie Morgan, 3 Bouverie Park SSQ**
	7.30pm -9pm	**The Alpha Course, Court House, Hullavington**
Tuesday	**2.00pm-3.30pm**	**Luckington Bible Study, Hullavington Church Room (14/4 to 2/6/26) To join please contact: Helen.m.daviesllm@gmail.com**
	2.00pm-3.30pm	**Sherston Bible Study, starting April 21st in the Vestry; meeting every other Tuesday (May: 5th and 19th. June: 2nd, 16th, 30th. July: 14th) To join please contact: Helen.m.daviesllm@gmail.com**
Thursday	**10am – 12noon**	**Holy Cross Café @ Sherston**
	2pm – 4pm	**Coffee Shop @ Stanton St Quintin**
Friday	**10am – 12noon**	**Coffee Shop @ Hullavington**
	10am – 11am	**Little Lights @ Hullavington, an informal pre-school service in Hullavington church.**