

Thought for the Day

This week sees the beginning of Lent, a period of 40 days traditionally a time of fasting, repentance and spiritual preparation leading up to Easter. On Ash Wednesday a Priest or Minister applies ashes in the shape of the cross on the foreheads of worshippers whilst reciting the words “*Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.*” The ashes symbolise grief over sin, humility before God, and the hope found in Christ’s sacrifice on the cross. They remind us of our humble origins, how the body of Adam, our forefather was formed out of the dust of the earth; it also reminds us of our death, when bodies will return to dust.

I want to use these words from Sarah Bessey as a blessing for you for this Lent season: “*My friend I bless you in the complicated space of these days, caught between beginnings and endings, where the dust settles on your forehead, reminding you of your mortality and your belovedness all at once. May you journey through this season with hands capable of holding the grief and the grace that surrounds us. May you allow the ashes to mark you as a reminder of the strength found in vulnerability, the beauty found in surrender, that death that doesn’t get the last word, and the truth that all things end except the everlasting One. May you be given the strength to release what no longer serves you, the lies that weigh you down, the distractions that pull you away from your purpose and calling, the illusions of control. Set it down, cast it off, shake it loose.*”

May you remember that you are dust, yes but that dust is holy, crafted by the hands of the Creator, held in love, formed for Good. Cate Bennett

Please Remember in your prayers:

Mason Green, Paul Cowley, Siobhan and Darlene, June McCoy, Pauline Wells, Joyce Hancock, Maureen Black, Steven Fearon, Greta Lacey, Gabriella Young, Matthew Coulter, Margaret Roper, Eddie Matthews, Mary Barnes, Kate Charalambous, Donald Bullas, Fiona Fendick, Kath Baylis, David Hanson, Lyn Taylor, Angela Brady, Don and Family, Lorraine Langdon, Darcey, Annette Dicker, Byrnice McMullen and Claire Phillips.

Those Who have died and those who grieve for them: Terry Firmedow, Estella Westwood and Farideh Drever 

Notices

Prayer Ministry – Will be available after the service in the Lady Chapel on 15.2.26, 01.03.26, 15.03.26 and 29.3.26. If you would like prayer at other times, please approach one of the Ministry Team.

January Fundraiser – We invite you to bring any unwanted or broken gold or silver items which can be exchanged via bank transfer for money at the bullion store in the jewellery quarter. We will store donated items safely and off-site during January and February and take it all in one session. We have extended the fundraiser to include February too.

Thank You - Thank to everyone who supported Dorothea and me on Saturday at our licensing: those attending in person and those who watched on line. Thank you too to all those who provided food for our shared lunch on Sunday: a great coming together of our various heritages. We each felt and feel very surrounded by prayer and fellowship. Sylvia

Lent Course - Acts of Hope

Starting on 25th February, every Wednesday at 11am in the Old Grammar School. Evening course will be available via zoom, details to follow. Participant Books are available on a Sunday morning or via the parish office, they are £6.99 per copy.

B30 and South Birmingham Foodbank -Many thanks for your ongoing support. Our most urgent needs remain tinned fish (particularly non tuna), tinned meat and meat products, rice (500g) and tinned spaghetti.

Services During Winter – with the weather conditions being unpredictable over this winter period we may occasionally have to cancel the evening services at short notice, for health and safety reasons. While we endeavour to let people know it would be wise to check the website **www.kingsnorton.org.uk** before you leave the house to see whether the service is going ahead.

15th February 2026
St. Nicolas, Kings Norton

**Sunday Next Before
 Lent**

Incorporating Hawkesley LEP



THIS WEEK	
SUNDAY 15TH FEBRUARY	9.00 am BCP Holy Communion (Rev Laura Ward) 10.30am Holy Communion (Rev Laura Ward & Cate B) 12.30 Baptisms (Rev Eliakim Ikechukwu & Pauline W) 6.00 pm Compline (Sylvia Fox & Ruth Howman)
MONDAY 16TH FEBRUARY	10.00 -12.00pm Churchyard Team
TUESDAY 17TH FEBRUARY	6.00 -8.00pm Junior Choir (Please speak to Sylvia if interested)
WEDNESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY ASH WEDNESDAY	10.00am-12.00pm Open Church 10.00am-12.00pm Knit & Natter @ Hawkesley Church B38 9TR. 12.00 Ash Wednesday Holy Communion with Bishop Michael followed by simple lunch 1.30 pm Women's Group 7.30 pm Ash Wednesday Holy Communion with Canon Rob Morris
THURSDAY 19TH FEBRUARY	9.00-11.00am Tiny Tots 10.00-12.00pm Churchyard Team
FRIDAY 20th FEBRUARY	7.15-8.30pm Adult Choir Practice (please speak to Sylvia if interested)
SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY	10.00 am – 12.00 pm Open Church
SUNDAY 22ND FEBRUARY	9.00 am Matins (David Ash) 10.30am Morning Service (Pauline W & Ruth H) 6.00 pm Holy Communion (Rev Dele Sotonwa)

DATES FOR THE DIARY:

Monday 16th February 7.30 pm PCC

Ash Wednesday 18th February 12.00 pm Ash Wednesday Service with Bishop Michael followed by simple lunch. Readings: Isaiah 58:1-12 and Matthew 6: 1-6; 16-2

7.30 pm with Canon Rob Morris, Readings: Isaiah 58: 1-12 and John 8:1-11

Women's Group follows the Ash Wednesday Service at 1.30 pm. Travelling across North India with Sylvia.

READINGS TODAY

2 Peter 1:16-end p.234

Matthew 17:1-9 p.17

NEXT WEEK

Psalm 32 p.518

Matt 4:1-11 p.3

Collect for the Week

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
 set straight our crooked hearts,
 and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory
 in Jesus Christ our Lord
 Amen.

QR To Donate! Alternatively, donate at the back of church or using our donation boxes!



Contact Details

Parish Office, 81 The Green, Kings Norton, Birmingham B38 8RU

Tel: 0121 458 3289 Email: parishoffice@kingsnorton.org.uk

Website: www.kingsnorton.org.uk

Office Hours: Mon – Thurs 10 – 2 pm Closed on Fridays