

Alderford with Attlebridge PCC meets on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 pm** at Mortonray.

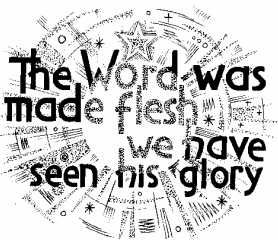
On **Ash Wednesday** (25<sup>th</sup>) there will be a Eucharist at Weston Longville at **9:00 am**, and the joint benefice Eucharist will take place at **Swannington at 7:30 pm**, when members of all the other churches in our deanery will also be present to mark the beginning of Lent. The preacher will be Revd David Head, with the first of this year's Lenten addresses on the theme *The Crucified Christ*. Both services will as usual include the imposition of ashes as a mark of the beginning of our common preparation for Holy Week and Easter. *The ashes are made by burning last year's Palm Crosses – so it would be helpful if you could return yours to Selwyn, either in church or through the rectory letterbox, by lunchtime on Shrove Tuesday, please.*

Further deanery services, following the same theme, will take place in various churches around the deanery on **most Sunday evenings in Lent**. Our own Sunday evening services do not take place while these are going on, and there are now posters in all our churches giving full details of all these special Evensongs.

On **Friday 27<sup>th</sup>** there will be the first of this year's Lent Lunches at the Rectory, starting at **1:00 pm sharp**. An opportunity to learn a little about this year's diocesan lent Appeal, to meditate about it, to enjoy a bread-and-cheese lunch, and to make a contribution towards the Appeal.

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March: Lent 1**

9:00 am The Eucharist (Common Worship) at Ringland  
10:00 am Stations of the Cross at Swannington  
10:15 am The Eucharist at Weston Longville



Sunday 15 February 2009  
**SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

### **Collect:**

Almighty God,  
who hast created the heavens and the earth  
and hast made us in thine own image:  
teach us to discern thy hand in all thy works  
and thy likeness in all thy children;  
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord,  
who liveth and reigneth with thee,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **Old Testament Reading: Proverbs 8.1 & 22-31**

Does not wisdom call,  
and does not understanding raise her voice?

The LORD created me at the beginning of his work,  
the first of his acts of long ago.  
Ages ago I was set up,  
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.  
When there were no depths I was brought forth,  
when there were no springs abounding with water.  
Before the mountains had been shaped,  
before the hills, I was brought forth –  
when he had not yet made earth and fields,  
or the world's first bits of soil.  
When he established the heavens, I was there,  
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,  
when he made firm the skies above,  
when he established the fountains of the deep,  
when he assigned to the sea its limit,  
so that the waters might not transgress his command,  
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,

then I was beside him, like a master worker;  
and I was daily his delight,  
rejoicing before him always,  
rejoicing in his inhabited world  
and delighting in the human race.

### **New Testament Reading: Colossians 1.15-20**

Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers – all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

### **Gospel: John 1.1-14**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.



All regular weekday services will be at their usual times this week. In addition there will be a **Eucharist on Saturday at Morton-on-the-Hill at 12 noon**, as the annual commemoration of St Robert Southwell.

All this week we pray particularly for those who live or work along **Paddy's Lane** in Weston Longville and **Porter's Lane** in Lenwade.

**Please continue to pray for the sick & those in need:** *Tottie Ottaway*

### **Saints this week:**

Tue Janani Luwum, Archbishop of Uganda, martyr (died 1977)  
Sat Robert Southwell, priest, poet, martyr (died 1595)

### **Events this week:**

Wed 7:30 pm Great Witchingham Fuel Allotment Trustees  
meet at The Pightle  
7:30 pm Benefice choir rehearsal at The Firs, Swannington



**Morton Hall**

## **Snowdrop Walk**

Morton-on-the-Hill, off the A1067  
*by kind permission of Lady Prince-Smith*

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

**12:00 noon to 4:00 pm**

*Sorry, no dogs • Sturdy footwear • Refreshments available*

**Donations to Quidenham Children's Hospice**

### **Next Sunday: Last Sunday before Lent**

8:00 am Holy Communion (1662) at Great Witchingham  
9:00 am Morning Prayer (Common Worship) at Ringland  
led by the churchwardens  
10:00 am The Eucharist at Alderford  
6:00 pm Evensong at Weston Longville