

Events this week:

- Mon 7:30 pm Alderford with Attlebridge PCC meets at Mortonray
Wed 9:00 am Ash Wednesday Eucharist at Weston Longville
7:30 pm Deanery Ash Wednesday Eucharist at Swannington
Fri 1:00 pm Lent Lunch at The Rectory: 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.
4:15 pm Weston Longville choir practice in church

Next Sunday: 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
6:30 pm Deanery Lent Evensong at North Elmham. Preacher – Revd Nicholas Varnon on *Temptation and crucifixion*.

Future Events:

- Tue 3rd March 3:30 pm “All Saints Alive” after-school club at Great Witchingham School
Wed 4th 6:30 pm Great Witchingham PCC meets at The White House
7:30 pm Swannington singers rehearse at The Firs
Fri 6th 7:30 pm Women’s World Day of Prayer service at Weston Longville
Sat 7th 10:00 am Spring-clean in Swannington church

Sunday 8th March: Lent 2

- 8:00 am Holy Communion (1662) at Weston Longville
10:00 am All Age Worship at Ringland
10:00 am The Eucharist at Swannington
6:30 pm Deanery Lent Evensong at Bawdeswell. Preacher – Miss Susan March on *Healing and crucifixion*.



Sunday 22 February 2009
LAST SUNDAY BEFORE LENT
8:00 am Great Witchingham
10:00 am Alderford
6:00 pm Weston Longville

Collect:

Almighty Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
who liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Old Testament Reading: 2 Kings 2.1-12

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, ‘Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.’ But Elisha said, ‘As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.’ So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, ‘Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?’ And he said, ‘Yes, I know; keep silent.’ Elijah said to him, ‘Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.’ But he said, ‘As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.’ So they came to Jericho.

The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, ‘Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?’ And he answered, ‘Yes, I know; be silent.’ Then Elijah said to him, ‘Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.’ But he said, ‘As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.’ So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the

water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.'

He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

New Testament Reading: 2 Corinthians 4.3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Mark 9.2-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.



All regular weekday services will be at their usual times this week; but on **Ash Wednesday morning**, instead of the usual service at Ringland, there will be a **Eucharist at 9:00 am at Weston Longville**. In addition there is the **Deanery Eucharist** for the beginning of Lent **that evening at 7:30 pm at Swannington**.

Both special services on Wednesday 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.*

All this week we pray particularly for those who live in **Post Office Lane** and work around **Pump Farm**, in Weston Longville.

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



Morton Hall Snowdrop Walk

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

Sunday 15th & 22nd February
12:00 noon to 4:00 pm

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

Donations to Quidenham Children's Hospice

Saints and observances this week:

Mon Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna, martyr (died 155)
Wed Ash Wednesday – the beginning of Lent