

Forthcoming Services & Events

Week beginning 10th March

Monday, 11th March

Stretton PCC Village Hall 7.00pm

Wednesday, 13th March

Burghill PCC St Mary's Burghill 7.00pm

Thursday, 14th March

Celtic Service St Mary's Burghill 9.30am

Friday, 15th March

Choir Practice St Mary's Burghill 7.00pm

Saturday, 16th March

The Alpha Course St Mary's Burghill 10.30am-12noon

Sunday, 17th March *Second Sunday of Lent*

BCP Holy Communion St Peter's, Pipe-cum-Lyde 8.30am

Parish Eucharist St Andrew's, Moreton 9.30am

Parish Eucharist St Mary Magdalene, Stretton 9.30am

Parish Eucharist St Mary the Virgin, Burghill 11.00am

Contact Information:

Rev Phill Brown — *Priest in Charge.*

Rest Day—Friday

Tel: 761821

Email: burghillchurch@gmail.com

BURGHILL GROUP OF PARISHES

First Sunday of Lent

Collect,

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Post Communion Collect

Lord God,
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith,
increase our hope, and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Readings

Deuteronomy 26.1-11

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Romans 10.8b-13

Luke 4.1-13

Introduction to the Season of Lent

Lent may originally have followed Epiphany, just as Jesus' sojourn in the wilderness followed immediately on his baptism, but it soon became firmly attached to Easter, as the principal occasion for baptism and for the reconciliation of those who had been excluded from the Church's fellowship for apostasy or serious faults. This history explains the characteristic notes of Lent – self-examination, penitence, self-denial, study, and preparation for Easter, to which almsgiving has traditionally been added.

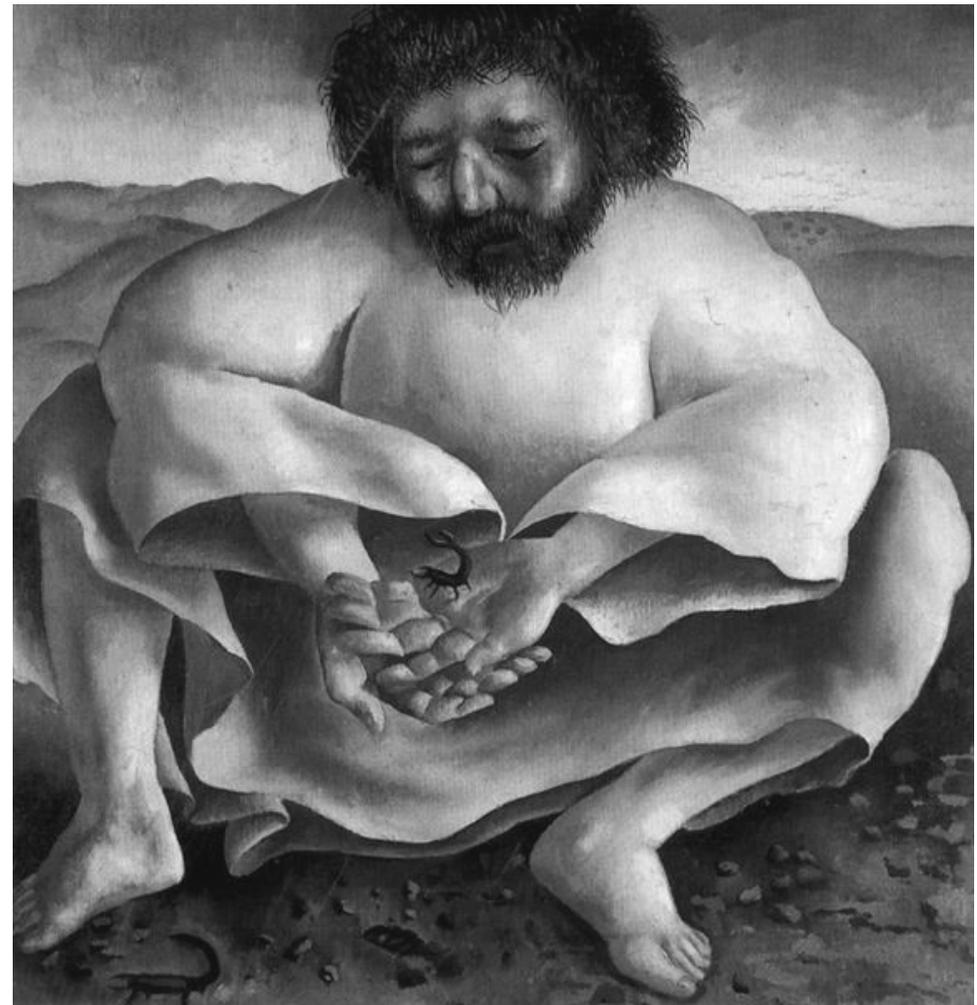
Now is the healing time decreed
for sins of heart and word and deed,
when we in humble fear record
the wrong that we have done the Lord.

(Latin, before 12th century)

As the candidates for baptism were instructed in Christian faith, and as penitents prepared themselves, through fasting and penance, to be readmitted to communion, the whole Christian community was invited to join them in the process of study and repentance, the extension of which over forty days would remind them of the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness, being tested by Satan.

Ashes are an ancient sign of penitence; from the middle ages it became the custom to begin Lent by being marked in ash with the sign of the cross. The calculation of the forty days has varied considerably in Christian history. It is now usual in the West to count them continuously to the end of Holy Week (not including Sundays), so beginning Lent on the sixth Wednesday before Easter, Ash Wednesday. Liturgical dress is the simplest possible. Churches are kept bare of flowers and decoration. *Gloria in excelsis* is not used. The Fourth Sunday of Lent (*Laetareor* Refreshment Sunday) was allowed as a day of relief from the rigour of Lent, and the Feast of the Annunciation almost always falls in Lent; these breaks from austerity are the background to the modern observance of Mothering Sunday on the Fourth Sunday of Lent.

As Holy Week approaches, the atmosphere of the season darkens; the readings begin to anticipate the story of Christ's suffering and death, and the reading of the Passion Narrative gave to the Fifth Sunday its name of Passion Sunday. There are many devotional exercises which may be used in Lent and Holy Week outside the set liturgy. The Stations of the Cross, made popular in the West by the Franciscans after they were granted custody of the Christian sites in the Holy Land, are the best known.



Christ in the Wilderness - The scorpion by Stanley Spencer

Hereford Cathedral and Chapter

Will be prayer for the Parishes of

**Burghill, Stretton Sugwas,
Pipe-cum-Lyde & Moreton-on-Lugg**

Thursday 21st March

7.30 am Morning Prayer , 8.00 am Holy Communion, 5.30 pm Evensong