

The Benefice of Wantage Downs East Hendred, West Hendred, and Ardington with Lockinge

11th – 25th February 2026

Services

15th February – Sunday next before Lent

9am – West Hendred – Holy Communion

10am – East Hendred – Holy Communion

6pm – Lockinge – Evensong

18th February – Ash Wednesday

6pm – Holy Communion with imposition of ashes – West Hendred

All welcome from the whole benefice

22nd February – First Sunday of Lent

9am – West Hendred – Holy Communion

10am – East Hendred – Family Communion

11:15am – Ardington – Holy Communion

1st March – Second Sunday of Lent

9am – West Hendred – Holy Communion

10am – East Hendred – Holy Communion

6pm – Lockinge – Evensong

Readings for 15th February

Exodus 24:12-18; Matthew 17:1-9.

Readings for 18th February (Ash Wednesday)

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6,16-21.

Readings for 22nd February

Genesis 3:1-7 or Deuteronomy 6:4-19; Matthew 4:1-11.

News

Lent and Easter

Lent begins in one week on Ash Wednesday. We will gather from across the parishes for our Ash Wednesday service at

6pm, which this year takes place at Holy Trinity West Hendred. On the First Sunday of Lent, 22 February, we will have Holy Communion again at all our services, including our Family Service, an opportunity for all ages to worship together. All are welcome to come to the Lord's table, and if you have not begun to receive communion yet, you can hold your hands down and receive a blessing instead.

East Hendred - Silent Disco

Join us for a night of fun and dancing. You will have a choice of playlist to listen to in headsets provided and dance the night away! The event is hosted by DJ Dom Hones who will be able to tune into everyone's headset and pump up the fun! A bar will be available on the night and the event is strictly over 18's only. Saturday 14 March 2026, 7.30pm doors open till 11pm, at Snells Hall. Tickets can be purchased here: www.ticketsource.co.uk/wantage-downs-benefice.

West Hendred

On the six Sundays of Lent this year, we will try out sitting in the chancel for our Sunday services. We hope that gathering "in the round" will enhance the sense of fellowship and prayerfulness in our services.

Ardington with Lockinge

The next midweek communion service will be on the feast of the Annunciation, Wednesday 25 March 11am at All Souls Chapel, Lockinge Cemetery. Holy Communion will now also be celebrated at some of the Sunday evening services at All Saints Lockinge, beginning with Easter Day, 5 April at 6pm.

For more news and updates sign up to our online newsletter: www.wantedowns.org/newsletters

Please remember in your prayers

Health and healing: Susie Freeman, Sidney H, Ewan and Colin Stutt.

The departed: Yvonne Hawkins, Gordon Pill.

Clergy

Rector: Nikolaj Christensen: rector@wantedowns.org | 01235 634940 | Usual working days: Sunday–Friday. NB! Emails sent after 3pm on a Friday may not be seen until Monday.

Associate Vicar: John Durant: associatevicar@wantedowns.org | 01235 234001

Church Wardens

Ardington: Patrice Vogt: Patrice_vogt@yahoo.fr **Lockinge:** Thomas Loyd: tloyd@lockinge-estate.co.uk; Liz Townsend: liztownsend@qi.com

East Hendred: Jill Cook: churchwardeneh@gmail.com **West Hendred:** Hugh Rees: hugh@citidata.co.uk

Church Office: office@wantedowns.org, Open: 9am-1pm Monday, 1pm-4pm Wednesday, 9am-1pm Friday.

This newsletter is sent out fortnightly. Material for inclusion should reach our administrator (email above) by 9am Monday.