

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

25th March – 8th April 2026

Services

29th March – Palm Sunday

9am – West Hendred – Holy Communion with procession from gate

10am – East Hendred – Family Service with procession from war memorial

11:15am – Ardington – Holy Communion

2nd April – Maundy Thursday

6:30pm for 7pm service – East Hendred – a simple meal followed by Holy Communion

3rd April – Good Friday walk

Walk or join us for a short time of reflection at any or all of the churches.

10am – St Augustine's, East Hendred

10:45am – Holy Trinity, West Hendred

11:30am – Holy Trinity, Ardington

12:30pm – All Saints, Lockinge

4th April – Easter Vigil (Saturday)

8pm – Ardington – a candlelit service to welcome the good news of Resurrection with hymns and readings

5th April – Easter Day

9am – West Hendred – Holy Communion

10am – East Hendred – Holy Communion

11:15am – Ardington – Holy Communion

6pm – Lockinge – Holy Communion

12th April – Second Sunday of Easter

9am – West Hendred – Holy Communion

10am – East Hendred – Morning service with Children's Church

11:15am – Ardington – Holy Communion

Readings for Maundy Thursday (2nd April)

1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17,31b-35.

Readings for Good Friday (3rd April)

Psalm 22:1-11; Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18-19.

Readings for Easter Vigil (4th April)

Exodus 14:10-31; Ezekiel 37.1-14; Zephaniah 3:14-20; Romans 6:3-11.

Readings for Easter Day (5th April)

Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 28:1-10.

News

Music in the Benefice

This week I met with a working group that will lead the fundraising for our project to hire a Music Director to support our services across the benefice as well as our work with children and youth. We are looking for individuals or households who feel called to support this project financially. If you would like to hear more about the project, please get in touch. Thank you!

Nikolaj

Annual meetings

This year's Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) for each parish will take place on the following days:

- Ardington with Lockinge: Sunday 26th April after the 11:15 service in Ardington
- East Hendred: Sunday 3rd May after the 10am service
- West Hendred: Sunday 17th May after the 9am service

Come along to hear about the work of the church in the past year, to support and thank our volunteers, and to elect our officers and representatives. If you would like to get more involved in the life of your church, please speak to Nikolaj who will be able to tell you more about the roles available. He would love to hear from you!

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 Stutt, Colin Stutt.

Readings for Palm Sunday (29th March)

Psalm 118:1-2,19-29; Matthew 21:1-11.

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.