

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

28th January – 11th February 2026

Services

1st February – Presentation of Christ in the Temple

9am – West Hendred – Holy Communion
10am – East Hendred – Holy Communion
6pm – Lockinge – Evensong

8th February – Second Sunday before Lent

9am – West Hendred – Holy Communion
10am – East Hendred – Morning Service
11:15am – Ardington – Holy Communion

15th February – Sunday next before Lent

9am – West Hendred – Holy Communion
10am – East Hendred – Holy Communion
6pm – Lockinge – Evensong

18th February – Ash Wednesday

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

Readings for 1st February

Exodus 13:1-12; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Luke 2:22-40.

Readings for 8th February

Romans 8:18-25; Matthew 6:25-34.

News

Vision Process

Our first meeting last summer was a very encouraging discussion on prayer, using the Thrive Course. Whether you made it to the last meeting or not, all are invited to gather again from across the parishes on Tuesday 10th February, 7:30pm at Holy Trinity Ardington, OX12 8QA. We will continue the conversation on how we can share resources

for the good of each church and the local community that it serves, and how we can all walk together in the way that Christ shows us.

East Hendred

As many of you know Michael Evans passed away recently. He was St Augustine's church's most wonderful organist for over 60 years to whom we will always be indebted. He will be dearly missed. This has left us with a huge space to fill and we know that Michael would welcome the next generation to come and support us. We are really keen to know if there are any budding musicians in the village interested in playing the organ, keyboard or any other instrument for our services. We would welcome anyone with an interest to get in touch and hopefully with a few people, we may be able to share the load instead of weekly commitment. Please get in touch with Jill Cook to express an interest - churchwardeneh@gmail.com

West Hendred

The funeral of Daphne Hitchcock will take place on Thursday 12 February at 11am.

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.wantagedowns.org/newsletters

Please remember in your prayers

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

The departed: Michael Evans, Daphne Hitchcock, Marion Hilton, Ruth Stanfield, Yvonne Hawkins, Gordon Pill.

Clergy

Rector: Nikolaj Christensen: rector@wantagedowns.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@wantagedowns.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@wantagedowns.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.