

East Loveden Churches And Parish News MARCH 2026

www.eastlovedenchurches.co.uk



**All enquiries, including Services, Bible Course, Baptisms, Funerals
and Weddings, please contact:**

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**Please send any copy for APRIL 2026 Church News by
MARCH 15th at the latest to: rectoreastloveden19@gmail.com**

FROM THE RECTORY

March Reflection: Walking Toward the Light

March is a month of turning. The days stretch a little longer, the earth begins to soften, and signs of new life quietly appear. Buds form on branches that looked lifeless only weeks ago. In the Church calendar, March often leads us through Lent—a season of reflection, repentance, and preparation. It is a time when we are invited to walk honestly with God, not in despair, but in hope.

Lent reminds us that faith is not only about celebration; it is also about renewal. Just as the soil must be broken for seeds to grow, our hearts sometimes need gentle breaking open so that God can plant something new within us. We may carry burdens—worries about the world, griefs we rarely name, regrets we wish we could undo, or simply the quiet tiredness that comes from daily life. Yet this season assures us that none of these are beyond God's transforming love.

The prophet Isaiah offers a tender promise:

***See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.
(Isaiah 43:19)***

God does not wait for perfect conditions to begin anew. He creates paths in wilderness places—those dry, uncertain seasons when we feel lost or alone. March speaks this same message through nature: what appears barren is often only resting before renewal. Lent also calls us to return—to prayer, to compassion, to the quiet practices that draw us closer to Christ. It is not meant to be a season of harshness, but of honesty. When we pause to listen, we may discover that God has been present all along, walking beside us in ordinary days.

The Psalms give us words for this journey:

***The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?
(Psalm 27:1)***

Light is a fitting image for March. Each morning arrives a little earlier, each evening lingers a little longer. In the same way, God's light gently pushes back the shadows in our lives—not always suddenly, but faithfully.

As we move through this month, perhaps we can ask ourselves:

Where do I need new life?

What am I being invited to release?

Where is God already at work, even if I cannot yet see the full picture?

May we walk these Lenten days with courage and trust, believing that Easter's joy is already on the horizon. And may the small signs of spring remind us daily that God is always in the business of resurrection—bringing hope out of weariness, peace out of turmoil, and life out of what once seemed lost.

Rev Georgie

Prayer for MARCH

Heavenly Father

Lord Jesus

We are often so busy Lord that Your little promptings get drowned out in the noise and we choose not to listen. May we rediscover silence during the holy days of Lent; time to reflect, with penitent hearts, on Your journey to the Cross. By Your grace help us to share a few moments of each day in prayerful communication with You, refreshing our souls, and enabling us to reflect Your loving kindness to those we meet.

Amen

BENEFICE PRAYER

Heavenly Father

As we put our trust in you, send Your Holy Spirit to bring vision to our planning, and guidance and direction for the future of our churches.

May we be the salt and light to this place as we embrace our diversity and work together in unity to make disciples of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

AROUND THE PARISHES

ANCASTER

The church is open most days.

The foodbank box is available in the church for donations, also available is an Ink Jet recycle box.

Ancaster Coffee Morning:

1st Friday every month. 10:00 am till 12:00 noon.

In Ancaster Village Hall.

Diocesan Statement Regarding the Status of the Bishop of Lincoln

We wanted to acknowledge the recent announcement of Bishop Stephen's suspension on Friday 20 February.

The Diocese of Lincoln released this statement :

The Bishop of Lincoln, The Rt Revd Stephen Conway, has been suspended from ministry while a complaint made to the National Safeguarding Team is responded to according to House of Bishops Code of Practice.

This includes referral to the appropriate statutory authorities.

The Bishop of Grantham, The Rt Revd Dr Nicholas Chamberlain, will be performing the function of the Diocesan Bishop during this period.

Support is in place for those affected and there will be no further comment while the process is ongoing.

We understand that this will be a deeply unsettling time. The Diocesan Safeguarding Team is available for anyone who wishes to contact them.

They can be contacted via email: safeguarding@lincoln.anglican.org or by phone:

01522 504070.

Alternatively, Safe Spaces is an independent and confidential support advocacy service. Contact their free helpline: 0300 303 1056.

And there is also support from ThirtyOneEight, a safeguarding support line. Their number is **0303 003 1111.**

Celebrate Mothering Sunday Holy Communion with us



*SUNDAY, 15th MARCH 2026
ST NICHOLAS, BARKSTON
AT: 10:00 AM*



PALM SUNDAY SERVICE

MARCH 29th, 2025

10:00 a.m.

ST MARY, WILSFORD



Celebrate



Holy Week with us

2nd APRIL

18:00 at St Martin, Ancaster

Maundy Thursday Holy Communion

3rd APRIL

14:00 at St Martin, Ancaster

Good Friday Easter Meditations

5th APRIL

06:00 at Slate Farm, Wilsford

Easter Sunrise Service

10:00 at St Martin, Ancaster

Easter Holy Communion service

All welcome

EAST LOVEDEN GROUP



1st MARCH

10:00 ANCASTER MORNING PRAYER

11:00 BELTON BCP SERVICE

8th MARCH

9:00 SYSTON BCP SERVICE

11:00 ANCASTER HOLY COMMUNION

15th MARCH

GROUP MOTHERING SUNDAY

10:00 BARKSTON HOLY COMMUNION

22nd MARCH

10:00 ANCASTER HOLY COMMUNION

17:00 WILSFORD VILLAGE HALL COMMUNITY PRAISE

29th MARCH

PALM SUNDAY

10:00 WILSFORD HOLY COMMUNION

ALL WELCOME