

Day	Date	We pray especially for...
Friday	20th	...all who run businesses/offer services in our communities.
Saturday	21st	...all offering support to older people.
Sunday	22nd	... those taking and attending services in our Churches today.
Monday	23rd	...all involved in the Mission of the Church in our Benefices and in the world.
Tuesday	24th	...those who need the services of local foodbanks and those who make donations to them.
Wednesday	25th	...our church premises and all involved in looking after them; ...our Churchwardens and Designated Persons; ...our Fabric Officers and Building Administrators; ...our cleaners and those who tend our churchyards.
Thursday	26th	...all who provide pastoral support in our parishes, in many different ways.
Friday	27th	...all school children and teachers and classroom assistants they break up for the Easter holidays.
Saturday	28th	...for peace in a divided world where war, unrest and uprisings are causing death, homelessness and tragedy to so many.

Throughout, we pray for those in special need at this time, remembering:

Martin, Ian, Emma, Helen, Michael, Ann

Bedingham/Woodton: Sheila, Hilary, Anne, Bruce, Harry, Sally, Richard, Susan, Marco

Fritton/Morningthorpe: Jason, Carol

Hempnall: Lesley and family, Sophia

Topcroft: Candy, Gail

Long Term Care...

Bedingham/Woodton: Dennis, Shirley, Jacob

Fritton/Morningthorpe: Beryl

Hempnall: Colin

Mundham/Seething: Margaret, Nancy

Recently Died and Upcoming Funerals...

Glen Swain, Robin Bartram



**The Brooke Benefice and
The Hempnall Group
Thoughts and Prayers
February 2026**

Although we have recently seen snow, cold and rain, the days are getting lighter and as we move into spring, we look for new beginnings in the garden. The bulbs are showing leaf and the snowdrops and primroses are out. Climate change has made a difference, where is the very deep snow and weeks of heavy frosts, why were roses still in flower over Christmas? I am sure you will have noticed other changes. The Met Office have just reported that 2025 was the warmest year since records began over 100 years ago. There is now no doubt that human influence over the past centuries has led to this change. The changing climate has led to more flooding, heatwaves and a warming ocean and sea level rise. All these affecting how we in the world live now and how we need to plan for the future. In the Old Testament, the prophet Hosea, writes about a breakdown in the relationship between humans and God (chapter 4; vs 1-3), which led to a breakdown in relationships among people and between humans and the rest of creation. Human injustice was rife and the inevitable result was bloodshed and pain – a good description of many areas of the world today!

It is interesting to read in verse 3 “the land mourns” and “together with the wild animals and the birds of the air, even the fish of the sea perishing”. A prophecy perhaps for today? Have we lost the connection between creation and our responsibilities, between nature and our integral part of it. Have we taken advantage of the world without a thought of the damage it could do? Well of course hindsight is a wonderful thing to have, and yes we should have been more caring for the world we live in. But we need to look forward. How can we

improve the world we live in? How can we help those who are so dramatically affected by the changing climate, that is our challenge for the coming years. We need to prioritise ways of living lightly, to give the planet space to renew itself.

Use less, waste less, that must be our challenge for the good of the planet and for all its inhabitants and, improve the relationship between us and God and between us and the natural world.

May God keep and bless you all,
John Ash

Sunday Readings	
1st February 2026 Candlemas	Psalm 24. 7-end Hebrews 2. 14-end Luke 2. 22-40
8th February 2026 2 before Lent	Psalm 136 Romans 8. 18-25 Matthew 6. 25-end
15th February 2026 Sunday next before Lent	Psalm 2 2 Peter 1. 16-end Matthew 17. 1-9
22nd February 2026 Lent 1	Psalm 32 Romans 5. 12-19 Matthew 4. 1-11

Day	Date	We pray especially for...
Sunday	1st	...for those attending services and keeping Candlemas, recognising Jesus as the light of the world.
Monday	2nd	...our intercessors, lesson readers and Churchwardens all who share in enabling our worship together.
Tuesday	3rd	...peace in a divided world especially in the Ukraine, Israel and Palestine and other countries at war.

Day	Date	We pray especially for...
Wednesday	4th	...our Ministry Team (Rev Canon Susanna Gunner), (John and Liam as a Licensed Lay Ministers and Angela, Tim and Jackie as Authorised Worship Assistants).
Thursday	5th	...our Home Communion Assistants and all whom they visit; ...all in our communities who are especially vulnerable.
Friday	6th	...all organising and attending community and social events in our villages.
Saturday	7th	...those taking part in sports activities today as part of a team.
Sunday	8th	...for those leading and participating in services in Brooke and Hempnall today
Monday	9th	...those we know who are experiencing physical or mental ill health issues and those who provide care and support.
Tuesday	10th	...all involved in church governance, serving on Church Councils and acting as representatives in decision making and forward planning.
Wednesday	11th	...all involved in the administration of our church activities, including Frances as our administrator and our PCC Secretaries and Treasurers.
Thursday	12th	...those who are involved in the running of the community cafes in Brooke and Seething.
Friday	13th	...all who volunteer in offering communal and social activities in our villages and all who participate in them.
Saturday	14th	...those gardeners looking to spring, planning for this year, perhaps thinking how to provide more wildlife friendly places.
Sunday	15th	...congregations worshipping in our Churches today.
Monday	16th	...our organists, singers and musicians; bell ringers, flower arrangers, 'meeters and greeters' and refreshment servers.
Tuesday	17th	...all who give generously to the work of the church, financially or in other ways.
Wednesday	18th	...for those attending services on this Ash Wednesday.
Thursday	19th	For those attending Depwade Deanery Synod this evening.