

Day	Date	We pray especially for...
Sunday	30th	...all mothers, whether still with us or not, on this their special Sunday.
Monday	31st	...peace in the world now and always.

Throughout, we pray for those who especially need your help at this time, remembering: Martin, Ian, Emma, Helen, Michael, Ann

Bedingham/Woodton: Sheila, Hilary, Peter, Liz, Anne, Barrie, Bruce, Harry, Sally, Kath, Richard, Susan, Marco

Fritton/Morningthorpe: Jason

Hempnall: Lesley and family, Sophia, Claire, David

Long Term Care...

Bedingham/Woodton: Dennis, Shirley, Jacob, Ruth

Fritton/Morningthorpe: Beryl

Hempnall: Colin

Mundham/Seething: Margaret, Nancy



Recently Deceased and Upcoming Funerals...

Ian King, Jonathan Johnson, June Todd, Ian Miller, Kath Wilby,
Pat & Basil Walpole

(Compiled by and for the Brooke Benefice and the Hempnall Group of Parishes)



***The Brooke Benefice and
The Hempnall Group
Thoughts and Prayers
March 2025***

“Mad as a March hare”

Whatever the month of the year, we nearly always have a favourite image that we associate with it, even if our changing climate means it’s not quite synchronous with reality. Snow and ice-skating for December or perhaps golden harvest for August. March is no different, heralding the start of spring, with pictures of new life emerging all around us. We have swathes of golden daffodils, lambs gambolling in the field and yellow fluffy chicks hatching all over the place. The one that has always appealed to me is the celebrated “mad March hare”.



The European or Brown Hare, while not classified as endangered, has definitely declined in numbers over the past decades in the UK due to changes in farming practices, hunting and the like but nevertheless I still see them in the fields around our house on a regular basis. Shy and well camouflaged, they are not so obvious at other times of year but now are seen running round in circles and even boxing each other while standing on their hind legs. Both males and females are involved in what is a combination of competition and courtship. This madcap behaviour is a sure sign that the dreary winter is over and that there is the promise of new things to come.

I sometimes wonder whether modern life doesn’t have us all running round like March hares, sparring with each other and seeming to be going in circles but, unlike the hares, without achieving our desired goals. Perhaps what we ought to do is simply stop for a moment and see if that description looks accurate and, if it does, resolve to try and focus on things that really matter a little more.

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Most of this March is taken up by the season of Lent, reflecting on the travails and temptations of Jesus in the desert, but also allowing us to look forward to the new birth promised by the Resurrection at Easter. We can also use the time to embrace the joy in our lives while endeavouring to remove some of the madness from it that prevents us truly taking on board the Easter message. We can be successful March hares if we try.

~Tim Francis~

Sunday Readings	
2nd March 2025 Sunday next before Lent	<i>Psalm 99</i> <i>2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2</i> <i>Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]</i>
9th March 2025 Lent 1	<i>Psalm 91:1,2,9-end</i> <i>Romans 10:8b-13</i> <i>Luke 4:1-13</i>
16th March 2025 Lent 2	<i>Psalm 27</i> <i>Philippians 3:17-4:1</i> <i>Luke 13:31-end</i>
23rd March 2025 Lent 3	<i>Psalm 63:1-9</i> <i>1 Corinthians 10:1-13</i> <i>Luke 13:1-9</i>
30th March 2025 Lent 4 Mothering Sunday	<i>Psalm 34:11-20</i> <i>2 Corinthians 1:3-7</i> <i>Luke 2:33-35</i>

Day	Date	We pray especially for...
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>1st</i>	...the population of Wales and all who have connections there on this St. David's Day.
Sunday	2nd	...all those working to alleviate poverty as the church concentrates action on that today.
<i>Monday</i>	<i>3rd</i>	...the deaf, those with any hearing loss and all those who help to make their way in the world easier.
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>4th</i>	...our churchwardens and designated persons maintaining the operation of our churches so selflessly.
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>5th</i>	...all Christians entering Lent by marking Ash Wednesday.
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>6th</i>	...those encouraging and enabling literacy on World Book Day.
<i>Friday</i>	<i>7th</i>	...the multitudes joining in World Day of Prayer today.

Day	Date	We pray especially for...
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>8th</i>	...all those attending or taking part in sporting events.
Sunday	9th	...congregations gathering to worship today at Thwaite and Topcroft.
<i>Monday</i>	<i>10th</i>	...those working to ensure Human Rights for all people.
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>11th</i>	...all those in hospital and the staff caring for them.
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>12th</i>	... the Samaritans and all those suffering alone in need of a listening presence.
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>13th</i>	...those whose lives are affected by domestic violence of any kind.
<i>Friday</i>	<i>14th</i>	...local shop workers and other providers in our villages. .
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>15th</i>	...those working in media and news that they might keep us reliably informed.
Sunday	16th	...all those gathered to worship in places where that is difficult and dangerous.
<i>Monday</i>	<i>17th</i>	...all those celebrating and commemorating St. Patrick's Day.
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>18th</i>	...for all refugees and migrants forced into seeking safe places to live.
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>19th</i>	...fathers and male carers everywhere on the feast of Joseph of Nazareth.
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>20th</i>	...those who have been affected by the gloomy months as the days lengthen at the Spring Equinox.
<i>Friday</i>	<i>21st</i>	...the disabled that they may live fulfilled and meaningful lives.
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>22nd</i>	...our bishops, archdeacons, clergy and all who minister in Christ's name.
Sunday	23rd	...the people of Kirstead and Fritton worshipping today.
<i>Monday</i>	<i>24th</i>	...all with debt and financial worries.
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>25th</i>	...victims of slavery throughout the world.
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>26th</i>	...all working to maintain or improve our environment.
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>27th</i>	...those who have recently died and their grieving families and friends.
<i>Friday</i>	<i>28th</i>	...the Emergency Services who help us in times of need and danger.
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>29th</i>	...anyone finding love and support in the Church for the first time.