

**HAMWORTHY
CHURCH**

**THE BRIDGE
MARCH 2026**

**St Michael's Blandford Road Hamworthy
St Gabriel's Keyworth Road Hamworthy
Parish of Hamworthy Poole
Reg Charity 1163697**

www.hamworthychurch.co.uk

Clergy

Rector: Reverend Tessa Nisbet

St Michael's Rectory - 1 St Michael's Close,
Hamworthy, BH15 4QW

01202 674878

Tessa.nisbet@hamworthychurch.co.uk

Friday: Day Off

Associate Minister: Reverend Ashley Ross

07897182602

Ashley.ross@hamworthychurch.co.uk

Curate: Reverend Ruth Peers

07748097832

Ruth.peers@hamworthychurch.co.uk

Licensed Lay Ministers

Jenny Baldock 01202 976846

Church Wardens

Jude Perring

Ian Davey

wardens@hamworthychurch.co.uk

Parish administrator

Naomi Whayman -

[Hello@hamworthychurch.co.uk](mailto>Hello@hamworthychurch.co.uk)

07300232703

PCC Treasurer: Dave Coates -
treasurer@hamworthychurch.co.uk

PCC Secretary: Michele Hardwick -
pcc@hamworthychurch.co.uk

PCC Electoral Roll Officer: Joanna Sims

Parish Safeguarding Officer:

Tracey Lee - safeguarding@hamworthychurch.co.uk
07758673067

Wedding Baptism and Funeral Enquires

Contact: Revd

Tessa.nisbet@hamworthychurch.co.uk

Churchyard Enquires

Contact: Jan Davies hello@hamworthychurch.co.uk

Worship Team

Steve Perring/Kathryn Holt -

Worshipteam@hamworthychurch.co.uk

Hall and Church Centre Hire

www.Hamworthychurch.co.uk - Hall hire

VERSE OF THE 2026



OUR VISION AND VALUES

HAMWORTHY CHURCH VALUES



BE ROOTED IN PRAYER

WE RECOGNISE THAT WE ARE DEPENDENT UPON GOD AND CAN ACHIEVE NOTHING WITHOUT HIM.



DEMONSTRATE GENEROUS HOSPITALITY

WE LOVE AND VALUE EACH OTHER, RECOGNISING THAT THE WAY WE TREAT PEOPLE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN WHAT WE GET DONE.



CHOOSE BEAUTIFUL SIMPLICITY

WE DELIGHT IN CREATING BEAUTIFUL ENVIRONMENTS THAT ENABLE US TO WORSHIP IN SIMPLICITY, SEEKING TO FIND THE BEAUTY OF CHRIST IN IT ALL.



PRACTISE COMMITTED DISCIPLESHIP

WE SEE DISCIPLESHIP AS A CONTINUAL, LIFELONG PROCESS, WHERE WE CHOOSE TO BE SHAPED BY THE SPIRIT AND SCRIPTURE.



BOLDLY BRING HOPE

WE CHOOSE TO LIVE GOSPEL-SHAPED LIVES, UNAPOLOGETICALLY SHARING OUR CONFIDENCE THAT JESUS IS RESTORING AND TRANSFORMING ALL THINGS.

DEFINITIONS & VERSES

BEING IN CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD THE TRINITY IS CENTRAL TO BOTH OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY AND PERSONAL FAITH JOURNEYS. COMMUNICATING WITH HIM INFORMS AND SHAPES ALL THAT WE ARE AND ALL THAT WE DO.

JOHN 15:5 / EPHESIANS 6:18

WE WANT TO BE COMPASSIONATE HOSTS WHO EMBODY A GENEROUS SPIRIT; SHARING WHAT WE HAVE AND CREATING SPACES WHERE PEOPLE FEEL ABUNDANTLY WELCOME AND ABLE TO BELONG.

LUKE 14:13-14 / HEBREWS 13:1-2

INTENTIONAL, UNCOMPLICATED, DEEPLY ATTENTIVE WORSHIP, GROUNDED IN WORD AND SPIRIT, IS KEY TO OUR EVERYDAY LIVES. WE COMMIT TO CARING FOR GOD'S CREATION AND WE TAKE JOY IN THE BEAUTY OF THE TRINITY REFLECTED IN NATURE.

ROMANS 12:1-2 / MATTHEW 22:37-39

WE ARE PLAYERS NOT SPECTATORS. WE ARE JOINED TO ONE ANOTHER THROUGH DEEP TRUST AND TRANSPARENCY, SHARING IN ONE ANOTHERS JOYS AND SORROWS AS WE LIVE AS APPRENTICES TO JESUS. TOGETHER WE DEVELOP DAILY HABITS AND RHYTHMS WHICH ENABLE US TO ENJOY LIFE IN GOD'S PRESENCE AND AT HIS PACE.

LUKE 9:23-24 / 2 TIMOTHY 1:6-8

WE SEEK TO GO AND SERVE ONE ANOTHER AND OUR NEIGHBOURS, BELIEVING IT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO ATTRACTS PEOPLE TO HIMSELF. WE PARTNER WITH CHRIST IN SHARING THE SHALOM [WHOLENESS] HE WON IN HIS DEATH, RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION WITH THOSE WHO DON'T YET KNOW HIM.

MICAH 6:8 / ISAIAH 61:1-3



Sunday 1st Morning Worship 10am St Michael's

Wednesday 4th Morning Worship 9.30am St Michael's

Sunday 8th Holy Communion 10am St Michael's

Sunday 8th The Well 3pm St Gabriel's

Tuesday 10th Prayers 7pm St Gabriel's

Wednesday 11th Holy Communion 9.30am St Michael's

Sunday 15th All Age (Mothering Sunday) 10am St Michael's

Sunday 15th The 4 o'clock 4pm St Michael's

Wednesday 18th Morning Worship 9.30am St Michael's

Sunday 22nd Morning Worship 10am St Michael's

Tuesday 24th Prayers 7pm St Gabriel's

Wednesday 25th Holy Communion 9.30am St Michael's

Sunday 29th Holy Communion 10am St Michael's

We do not usually take a “collection” at our services, but plates are available for your gifts on tables at St Michael’s. Gift Aid envelopes are available. We also have a card reader.

Hillside will be running each Sunday in the church lounge except for all age services when we welcome our young people to stay.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (TERM TIME ONLY)

Sunday - 10am "Hillside" St Michael’s Church Lounge - our intergenerational group that meets during our morning services.

Monday - 10am-11am Little Acorns St Michael’s Church Lounge

This is a baby and toddler group.

Followed by Picnic and Prayer 11am-12noon

Please contact Ashley

Ashley.ross@hamworthychurch.co.uk



Wednesday - 4.30pm-6pm “The Hangout” at St Gabriel’s Church

Games, chat and a bring and share community meal.

Please contact Ruth

(ruth.peers@hamworthychurch.co.uk)

Thursday - 6.30pm-7.30pm Kid’s Club, School Years 3-6

7.45pm-8.45pm “God and Grub” 11-14 Year olds
St Michael’s Church Centre

Please contact Tess

(tessa.nisbet@hamworthychurch.co.uk)

WHAT’S ON AT ST GABRIEL’S

2nd Sunday of the month

The Well: 3pm

Tuesdays

Food Bank: 1.30pm-3pm

Wednesdays (Term time)

The Hangout: 4.30-6pm. A space for games, chat and a bring and share meal.

WHAT'S ON AT ST MICHAEL'S

Wednesdays - Coffee Time: Join us for coffee after the service from 10.30am

First Friday of the month

First Friday: 10.30am

Join us in St Michael's Lounge to enjoy a cuppa, chat and maybe cake.

With a time for fellowship, a short time of reflection and prayer.

PLANS FOR THE BRIDGE

The Bridge magazine has long been a valued part of parish life, keeping many informed about services, events, and all that is happening within the church. For some, it is a much-anticipated feature in the monthly calendar, and we are mindful of how important it is — particularly for those who prefer a printed copy.

At the same time, as the world around us changes, so too must we. Increasingly, people access information online, and we want to ensure that *The*

Bridge continues to serve both present and future generations. With this in mind, we will begin publishing the magazine online. Printed copies will still be available for those who need or prefer them.

Following a recent review, we have also decided that from April onwards *The Bridge* will move to a bi-monthly format. Rather than being published every month, it will now be produced once every two months.

As we move forward, our aim is not to leave the past behind, but to build upon it — celebrating all that has been, while embracing what lies ahead with renewed energy and vision.

Naomi will now be the main contact for *The Bridge*. If you have anything you would like included in the magazine, please email **hello@hamworthychurch.co.uk** or speak with her in the office.

We look forward to this new season together



TESS WRITES:

As usual at this time of year the appearance of the crocuses and daffodils coincide with the beginning of Lent. The cheerful brightness of the colourful flowers are a stark contrast to the seemingly dreary anticipation of a 40 day season of fasting, prayer, and repentance, starting on Ash Wednesday (Feb 18, 2026) and concluding on Easter Sunday.



Lent seeks to imitate Jesus's 40 days of temptation in the wilderness, and Christians through the ages have chosen to fast from various things (normally food of some type), but a modern equivalent could be to fast from social media.

The objective of fasting is to give more time to prayer and growing in intimacy with Jesus. As we feel the desire to eat chocolate or doomscrolling social media sites, it triggers a reminder to feed on

the things of God. Alternatively, rather than 'giving up' something, we could 'take up' something. We could take up sending an encouraging message, or prayer walking for example. The idea is to choose something that is life giving and reflects something of Christ in our lives.

Here is something I have found helpful each Lent for the last few years:

FASTING AND FEASTING THIS LENT

Fast from CRITICISM and feast on PRAISE.

Fast from SELF- PITY and feast on JOY.

Fast from RESENTMENT and feast on CONTENTMENT.

Fast from PRIDE and feast on HUMILITY.

Fast from ANGER and feast on PATIENCE.

Fast from WORRY and feast on TRUST.

Fast from UNCERTAINTY and feast on PRAYER.

Fast from BITTERNESS and feast on FORGIVENESS.

Fast from DISCOURAGEMENT and feast on HOPE.

Fast from FEAR and feast on FAITH.

Lent is a journey through the wilderness towards the cross and the joyful expectation of resurrection through all that Jesus accomplished on the cross. I pray that we will all come through this season a little closer to Jesus.

Please keep a lookout on our website and social media feeds for reminders of our Easter services. You are so welcome to join us!

Many blessings.

Tessa.

A PIECE FROM STEVE

The St Cuthbert's Way

Jude and I have recently returned from walking the St Cuthbert's Way. This is a (relatively short at 67mile) long-distance footpath linking Melrose Abbey in the Scottish borders, where St Cuthbert first became a monk and eventually abbot, to Lindisfarne or Holy Island on the Northumberland coast. This island is where the most important northern priory of the time was established, and this is where St Cuthbert became bishop until his death in AD687. His remains were buried there until AD875 when the monks removed them to Durham Cathedral to protect them from the frequent and destructive attacks of the Vikings. The St Cuthbert's Way was conceived as a secular long-distance walk, but has been adopted by the British Pilgrimage Trust and has now become a popular British pilgrimage route. The route passes by 2 further abbeys (Dryburgh and Jedburgh), as well as including an extensive walk along a roman road (Dere Street).

Near the roman road is a stone where monks presided over meetings of Scottish and English barons to try to broker peace between the warring nations. The route also passes an imposing castle at Cessford, crosses the Cheviot hills and passes by the moor where tradition suggests St Cuthbert was a shepherd in his youth and a cave where the monks taking St Cuthbert's body to safety from the Vikings temporarily hid his remains.

We were rightly concerned that we were attempting this pilgrimage rather early in the year, and indeed it was at times very wet and rather cold, with us climbing over some snow-covered hills. We did come to understand that we were the first pilgrims to attempt this route in 2026. There is a wonderful simplicity of the process of just walking (after a good night's sleep and hearty breakfast at a B&B). We stopped to contemplate at the ruined abbeys, admired the sometimes-stunning views, enjoyed communing with nature (including a brief chat with an otter!) and walked in companionable silence (or chatting about sore legs and feet).

We had the company of our friends Kevin and Trina one night, staying in the Border Inn which sits at the very end of the Pennine Way. Holy Island is separated from the mainland by a causeway that floods at high tide, so we had to time our arrival carefully. Tradition dictates that pilgrims should avoid the road over the causeway but instead follow a line of poles dug into the sand exposed at low tide on bare feet. This we did and found it excruciatingly cold and in places rather horribly muddy; definitely an act of penance. Once across we warmed ourselves with soup from a lovely café, visited the various churches on the island, brought holding crosses and attended the evening service at the Church of St Mary the Virgin there.

The next day we walked off the island and up the coast to Berwick-on-Tweed in order to get a bus back to Melrose and pick-up our car. It felt good to have dedicated that time to be together with a common and simple purpose and to have achieved a somewhat challenging walk. But a pilgrimage is more than a walk; it is an offering of time and leg-work to God. Next month I will examine the

purpose of pilgrimage, why it disappeared from British tradition and why it has become more important in recent years.

Steve Perring



HAMWORTHY AFTERNOON TOWNSWOMEN GUILD



PRESS REPORT

19 February 2026

Chairman Andrea Johnson opened the February meeting of Hamworthy Afternoon TG and welcomed everyone. She was pleased to announce that we had been joined by 3 members of Newtown TG which had recently closed. Andrea then asked for a minutes silence in memory of Marlene Lloyd who had recent passed away.

The first part of the meeting was the AGM. Doreen Wearing gave the Secretary's report and a vote of thanks was given to Doreen by Janet Finn. Sue Diaper gave the financial statement and a vote of thanks was given to Sue by Celia Harwood. Andrea then gave the Chairman's report and a vote of thanks was given to Andrea by Doreen Hadland. Andrea confirmed that she would be guild Chairman

for the next years. Doreen Wearing will be guild Secretary and Sue Diaper will be guild treasurer. Vice Chairman's will be Sandra Andrews and Sue Diaper. Tanis Ticehurst will be joining the committee and Doreen Hadland would be retiring from committee. Andrea then presented Doreen with flowers and a gift in gratitude for her time serving on committee for very many years.

Various reports were read by the leaders of the craft group, drama, reading group and grumpy old ladies discussion group. Sue Diaper gave a report of the Federation council meeting held recently in Wimborne. Janet Barrett gave a report on the Federation general knowledge quiz held recently in Wimborne when the guild had 2 teams competing. Sue Diaper gave a report of the Poole Quays Forum meeting she had recently attended. Andrea then gave an update of the changes that have been made now that national headquarters had closed down at the end of January and that we are now a stand-alone guild.

The annual handicraft competition for the Betty Barker cup was won by Sue Diaper with her crystal

art picture of spring flowers. 2 for Betty Barker's daughters Ann Curtis and Christine Bessant presented Sue with the trophy. They were so pleased to see that the award in memory of their Mum was still being competed for some 25 years after she had passed away as she had loved her crafting and the companionship of the TG members.

The members enjoyed taking part in a pictorial quiz based on famous sayings, whilst enjoying refreshments and chatting to friends.

Andrea then presented all the committee with hand tied bunches of flowers and thanked them all for the support that have given to her and TG throughout the past year. The drawing of the raffle kind arranged by Judith Ambrose was drawn.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 17 March 2026 at St Michaels Church Hall Hamworthy at 2pm when Jan Davies will be giving a talk on PWP Missionary in Sudan. New members are welcome.

Sue Diaper – Press Officer



St Gabriel's Pre-School

We treasure our Children

St Gabriel's Pre-School

Keysworth Road, Turlin Moor BH16 5BH

Opening Times 7.30am - 6pm

We offer high quality learning opportunities, through a child led approach with responsive adults in a fun and engaging environment.

We are delighted to share that our preschool is now welcoming babies.

We welcome you to pop in and have a look around our play areas.

St Gabriel's Pre School Manager: Kerry Clemons
manager@stgabrielspreschool.com
01202 678333

Ofsted: 2643918



January 2023 - January 2026

WHO'S WHO

Lay Pastoral Assistants

Jan Davies

Bryan and Elaine Sullivan

Audrey Stayman

Verger and Sacristan (St Michael's)

Audrey Stayman

Sub-Chairs of PCC Committees and Teams

Standing Committee & Finance: Tessa Nisbet

Worship: Tessa Nisbet

St Gabriel's Pre School: Jude Perring

Mission: Jan Davies

Fabric: Jim Fagan-King

The Green Team (Eco Church): Ruth Dollerson

Hillside Children: Ashley Ross

Deanery Synod Representatives

Dave Coates

Jan Davies

Elaine Sullivan

Home Groups

Please contact Tess or Ashley

Open the Book

Christine Lim - 07813188336

CHURCH & USEFUL CONTACTS

St Gabriel's Church

The Hangout - Ruth Peers

The Well - Ruth Peers

Hillside Sundays Children's Group

Ashley Ross

Bible Reading Notes

Christine Lim

Gift Aid Secretary

Treasurer - Treasurer@hamworthychurch.co.uk

CAP Team - help@cap-pole.org

Mother's Union Enrolling Member

Elaine Sullivan

Hamworthy Satellite Food Bank St Gabriel's Church

Every Tuesday 1.30pm-3pm

Moor Community Food Store - Tuesdays

12.30pm-4pm St Gabriel's Hall, Keyworth Road

Mel 07714450180

Waste Not Want Not Fresh food for those on low incomes

07968903063

Prama Care Friendship Line - 01202 022987

Local Councillors Contacts -

Cllr Julie Bagwell - 07540332435

Cllr Brian Hitchcock - 0776812778

Cllr Peter Cooper - 01202 126764

Home Library Service - 07811787963 (David)

BCP Council Helpline - 0300 123 7052

Domestic Abuse 24hr Helpline BCP 01202 710777

Win on Waste - 1st Saturday of the month 10am-12pm
Hamworthy Library (See website)

MISSION GROUP CONTACTS

Children's Society - Jan Davies

Samaritan's Purse - Audrey Stayman

Church Mission Society - Jan Davies

World Horizons - Jan Davies

Routes to Roots - tbc

MAF - Dave Coates

RespectEd - Tess Nisbet

Poole/Wau Partnership - Jan Davies

Open Doors - Dave Coates

PACE - Ruth Peers



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residential and dementia care

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CQC rating

Good

September 2022

Coles Avenue | Hamworthy | Poole | BH15 4HL
01202 712463 | care-south.co.uk

Proud to be part of Care South, a not-for-profit charity and leading provider of residential, dementia and nursing care, as well as care at home services across the south of England. Registered Charity No. 1014697.
* Correct at time of print.

**Care
South**
It's the care that counts...

The Bridge magazine is published free of charge 10 times per year. The information contacted is produced in good faith. We welcome articles and information from readers.

The Bridge is available free of charge, from St Michael's & St Gabriel's, Port of Call Cafe, Coles Ave and Hamworthy Library