



**Stretton Parish**

# CONTACT

News for weekend beginning Friday 6th February 2026

Parish Website: [www.strettonparish.org.uk](http://www.strettonparish.org.uk)

Parish office: 01694 724224 [office@strettonparish.org.uk](mailto:office@strettonparish.org.uk)

The next Contact will be issued on Friday 20th February 2026

## Parish Centre Update

I'm sure you'll all have noticed how things have progressed at the Parish Centre these past few weeks and perhaps some of you looked on as the tree was removed from the roof. What a busy and exciting day that was! But what next? Why has it all gone quiet? Well, we have to sit tight a little while as the insurance company considers whether we have to go 'out to tender' or whether our reasons are justified for taking on a single contractor who is well known to us, local and on the approved Diocese list. We have put forward our case to the Loss Adjuster who has given both his point of view and that of Stretton Parish's. In the meantime, we were given the go ahead to make the roof watertight and, following a structural engineer's report, a scope of work is currently being produced by the company who organised waterproofing.

If the single, as opposed to a three-tender route is given the go ahead we may see things coming to life again in a few weeks. It would take significantly longer than that if it is the latter. Please pray that we can start the repairs ASAP. We thank God for all the support we are being given elsewhere in the community to relocate our many activities.

With the Parish Centre Hall completely out of action, a number of our regular activities and ministries have had to be relocated to other venues around the town. This means that equipment and supplies will have to be moved and transported from one place to another on a regular basis, and there may be a need for extra helpers.

Would you be willing to be on an email list so that you can be contacted should we need additional help?

If this is something you feel able to contribute to, please contact me at [anna.hunt@strettonparish.org.uk](mailto:anna.hunt@strettonparish.org.uk)

*Anna Hunt, Operations Manager*





**Silent DISCO**

*Free Event*

**SAT 28 FEB  
7 - 9 PM**

**ST LAURENCE'S CHURCH  
CHURCH STRETTON  
FOR SCHOOL YEARS 6 - 11**

**BOOKING ESSENTIAL VIA THE QR CODE  
OR WWW.STRETTONPARISH.ORG.UK**



**BRING CHANGE FOR THE  
TUCK SHOP**

**Stretton Parish**

As part of our ongoing work to engage with the young people of the town, and building on our work in the local secondary school, we are organising a Silent Disco for school years 6 to 11.

Please do invite any young people that you know in schools years 6-11 (around ages 10 - 16) and also pray for this event:

- that we would be able to attract local young people
- would be able to make them feel welcome and comfortable
- would form meaningful relationships with them

*Sally Clilverd*

## Café Church in All Stretton

Following the decision of the St Michael's Ecumenical Church Council to try a new approach to Sunday services, the Café Church in All Stretton Village Hall on Sunday 1st February was a resounding success. An opportunity to flick through the Sunday papers, to relax, and to chat over a cuppa and some delicious pastries was followed by an uplifting act of worship with the theme "Lord of all hopefulness". We sang this and several favourite hymns, and we prayed for situations around the world which had been put on our hearts.

Plans are already underway for our second **Café Church on Sunday 1st March**, which this time will be followed by our Parish Lunch (see notice below). We look forward to seeing you there.



## Bring & Share Parish Lunch at St Michael's Village Hall, Sunday 1st March

Please join us for a Bring & Share Parish lunch at 1pm on Sunday 1st March at St Michael's Village hall. Baked potatoes will be provided, so you are invited to bring either:

- \* A cold filling for the potatoes, such as grated cheese, coleslaw, coronation chicken, tuna mayonnaise
- \* A dessert
- \* Salad
- \* Soft drinks.

Please [book in here](#), or phone the Parish Centre on 01694 724224 to book a place.

# NOTICE BOARD

## Ash Wednesday

To mark the beginning of Lent, we have a United Service of Holy Communion, with the option of Ashing on Wednesday 18th February at 7.30pm in St Laurence.



## Mothers' UNION

Mothers' Union meet in St Laurence Church on Tuesday 10th February at 2.30pm. Anna Hunt will be speaking on "A Single Mother's Working Life and Faith Journey". Do come along.

## World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice.

**Service at 2.30pm on Friday 6th March,  
URC Church, Church Stretton**

This year's program is written by the  
World Day of Prayer Committee of Nigeria for 2026  
Matthew 11:28-30

with the theme "I will give you rest: Come".

[Further details are found here.](#)



## All Saints, Little Stretton

welcomes you to

## A St Valentine's Coffee Morning

Wednesday 11th February

10.30am – Noon

All proceeds to All Saints' Roof Fund



## Illuminate Christian Bookshop

Illuminate Christian Bookshop on Wyle Cop in Shrewsbury have special offers on a selection of Lent books, new Bibles, Mother's Day gifts, biographies, Christian living and devotionals.

For details see their [Take Note leaflet.](#)

Orders can be made by emailing  
[admin@illuminatebooks.org.uk](mailto:admin@illuminatebooks.org.uk)

You are warmly invited to come along to our

## Winter Warmer on

Saturday mornings

10 - 12 noon

January 24<sup>th</sup> - March 28<sup>th</sup> 2026

Hot drinks, new breakfast menu, games,  
newspapers & conversation

**NEW VENUE:**

Church Stretton United Reformed Church Hall,  
High St, Church Stretton SY6 6BY



## Eeyore's eco tips



Collect used batteries and take them to Mayfair, the Coop or the special container at the tip. Alternatively put them in a clear bag and leave out with the regular rubbish collection.



# PRAYER FOCUS

## We pray for our Parish

- ◆ Thank God for the opportunity at CAMEO for friendship and fellowship. May all those attending, experience God's love and blessing.
- ◆ Pray for those attending the Alpha course, that God will open their hearts and minds to the challenge of the Gospel.
- ◆ Praise God for the first Café Church at All Stretton village hall. Thank God that friends of St Michael's joined us.
- ◆ Pray for the children from the four schools coming to St Laurence for Experience Lent next week.
- ◆ Please pray that the Holy Spirit may draw the visitors to Winter Warmer into an understanding of God's love for them.
- ◆ Give thanks to God that no one was hurt when the Parish Centre was damaged. Give thanks for the town council and the URC church and others who have offered help to allow our activities to continue.
- ◆ Pray that God will give wisdom and skill to all those involved in repairing the Parish Centre.
- ◆ May all those involved in running events in temporary accommodation be given the energy needed to help things run smoothly.

**We pray for those who mourn**, particularly the family and friends of:

**Susan Deards**, whose funeral is at 3.30pm on Wednesday 11th February at St Laurence Church, and

**Trevor Morris**, whose funeral is at 1.15pm on Monday 16th February at the crematorium, followed by a thanksgiving and celebration at 2.30pm in All Stretton Village Hall.

We are saddened to share news of the death of **David Young** this week. David was a member of the choir for many years and regularly read the lesson in church. His funeral will be at 11am on Wednesday 4th March in St Laurence Church.

**We pray for those who are sick**, particularly remembering Valerie and David M.

### Residential Homes

We pray for all our residential homes, this month particularly remembering Stretton Hall Nursing Home.

### Memorial Book

We give thanks for the lives of those in our memorial book in February:

Joseph Powell, Maureen Lloyd, Wilkie Marsden, Emilie Burnett, Audrey Powell, Gwyneth Whitrick, Glynne Medicott, Doris Fleming, Muriel Worthing, Marian Lewis, John Littleford, Thomas Round, Olive Jones, Eleanor Trewinnard, Mary London, Ernest Broxton, Harry Luty, William Coles

### A prayer for Lent:

Lord Jesus Christ,

Help me reach out to others, seeing their needs as you see them and caring for them with your compassion.

May I love as you love: extravagantly and indiscriminately.  
May I care as you do: without counting the cost.

Lead me deeper into your generous, sacrificial heart so that by following your lead, I will move with compassion, especially toward those suffering in places and situations I may never fully understand.

Amen.

# DIARY

## Saturday 7th February

10.00am Winter Warmer, **URC hall**

## Sunday 8th February Readings Genesis 1.1-2.3, Matthew 6.25-end

St. Laurence's 8.30am Holy Communion, Order 1

10.30am Morning Worship

St Michael's 10.30am Holy Communion, URC

All Saints 10.30am Morning Prayer (Common Worship)

Parish Centre 5pm Young People's Life Group

Online Service 10.00am Online, via website

## Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday—Experience Lent in St Laurence Church

### Tuesday 10th

9.15am Parish Prayer Meeting, **Children's Room, Parish Centre**

2.30pm Mothers' Union, **St Laurence**

### Wednesday 11th

3.30pm Funeral of Susan Deards, St Laurence

7.30pm Alpha, Children's Room

### Thursday 12th

10.00am Parents and Toddlers, **Silvester Horne Institute**

10.30am Holy Communion, Order 1, St Laurence

3.30pm Messy Church, **St Laurence**

### Friday 13th

9.00am Prayer Meeting, St Michael's

5.00pm Choir Practice, St Laurence

### Saturday 14th

10.00am Winter Warmer, **URC hall**

## Sunday 15th February Readings Exodus 24.12-end, Matthew 17.1-9

St. Laurence's 8.30am Holy Communion, Order 2

10.30am Holy Communion

St Michael's 10.30am Morning Worship

All Saints 10.30am Holy Communion, Order 1

Online Service 10.00am Online, via website

### Tuesday 17th

9.15am Parish Prayer Meeting, St Laurence

### Wednesday 18th

7.30pm Ash Wednesday Holy Communion with Ashing service, St Laurence

### Thursday 19th

10.30am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Order 2

### Friday 20th

9.00am Prayer Meeting, St Michael's



5.00pm Choir Practice, St Laurence

### Saturday 21st

10.00am Winter Warmer, Venue to be confirmed

# Vulnerable residents in wintertime



We have been reminded this winter that the weather can have a big impact on us all and our activities. This is particularly true for those people who may be more vulnerable and isolated. Some people find themselves in really challenging circumstances, such as homelessness. As Christians we are called to respond with compassion and to ensure they are linked into supports they may need. You may have checked in on somebody who lives local to you who you think may struggle to get out and about, or you may have popped in for a chat with a neighbour who might be isolated or lonely. These are really good and kind things to do. But what do you do if you don't feel that this is sufficient and the person really needs more support or support that you can't offer? We are blessed in the Strettons with some fantastic support services and links into other services that are provided more widely. So, there is usually some other source of support for people. We have some links on our parish website to some of these services which you could share with them ([strettonparish.org.uk/support-links/](http://strettonparish.org.uk/support-links/)). If the person doesn't feel confident about taking up some support and you are still concerned, you can speak to our Parish Safeguarding Officer, Chrissie Pepler or contact her via email, [chrissie.pepler@strettonparish.org.uk](mailto:chrissie.pepler@strettonparish.org.uk). If you are unable to use email call the Parish Office, leave a message and Chrissie can call you back.

## Our verses for 2026

"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

**Hebrews 10:23-25**

<b>Rector</b>	Rev Steve Johnson	<a href="mailto:steve.johnson@strettonparish.org.uk">steve.johnson@strettonparish.org.uk</a>	01694 722585
<b>Curate</b>	Rev Mary Carter	<a href="mailto:mary.carter@strettonparish.org.uk">mary.carter@strettonparish.org.uk</a>	01694 328649
<b>Associate Minister</b>	Rev Preb Christobel Hargraves	<a href="mailto:chris.hargraves@strettonparish.org.uk">chris.hargraves@strettonparish.org.uk</a>	01547 550311
<b>LEP URC Minister, St Michaels</b>	Rev Hazel Allen	<a href="mailto:hazel.allen@strettonparish.org.uk">hazel.allen@strettonparish.org.uk</a>	01694 751400
<b>Children &amp; Families Worker</b>	Sally Clilverd	<a href="mailto:sally@strettonparish.org.uk">sally@strettonparish.org.uk</a>	07985 943 906
<b>Readers</b>	Gillian Taylor	<a href="mailto:gillian.taylor@strettonparish.org.uk">gillian.taylor@strettonparish.org.uk</a>	01694 724224
	Chris Lear	<a href="mailto:chris@barcombe.net">chris@barcombe.net</a>	07514 738 653
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Stephen Carter	<a href="mailto:stephen.carter@strettonparish.org.uk">stephen.carter@strettonparish.org.uk</a>	01694 328649
	Julie Lawton	<a href="mailto:julie.lawton@strettonparish.org.uk">julie.lawton@strettonparish.org.uk</a>	01694 723750
<b>Deputy Wardens</b>			
St Laurence	James Foster	<a href="mailto:james.foster@strettonparish.org.uk">james.foster@strettonparish.org.uk</a>	07736 324 160
All Saints	Moira Matthews	<a href="mailto:moiraemathews@gmail.com">moiraemathews@gmail.com</a>	01743 455005
<b>Pastoral Coordinator</b>	Rev Nancy Cleaton	<a href="mailto:nancy.cleaton@strettonparish.org.uk">nancy.cleaton@strettonparish.org.uk</a>	01694 328132
<b>Treasurer</b>	Graham Vince	<a href="mailto:graham.vince@strettonparish.org.uk">graham.vince@strettonparish.org.uk</a>	01694 328478
<b>Rector's PA</b>	Jo Aze	<a href="mailto:jo.aze@strettonparish.org.uk">jo.aze@strettonparish.org.uk</a>	01694 724224
<b>Operations Manager</b>	Anna Hunt	<a href="mailto:anna.hunt@strettonparish.org.uk">anna.hunt@strettonparish.org.uk</a>	07543 400524
<b>Parish Safeguarding Officer</b>	Chrissie Pepler	<a href="mailto:chrissie.pepler@strettonparish.org.uk">chrissie.pepler@strettonparish.org.uk</a>	01694 771888
<b>Life Group Coordinator</b>	Rev Caroline Windley	<a href="mailto:caroline.windley@strettonparish.org.uk">caroline.windley@strettonparish.org.uk</a>	
<b>Rector's Day Off</b>	Fridays	<b>Church office hours:</b> 9am-12.30pm Monday to Friday	