

GRABBIST HILL BENEFICE BULLETIN

Alcombe

Dunster

Feb 2026 Timberscombe Wootton

Courtenay

St Michael the Archangel, Alcombe

Chance Encounter Thursday 8th

Souper Thursdays Feb 12th & 26th

Seeds of Hope for those encountering grief 2-3.30pm Weds Feb 4th

St Petrock s, Timberscombe

'Warm Welcome' Thursdays in Feb (not Feb 19th) 10am - 12 noon Hot drinks & refreshments. All welcome!

Ferret Racing & Supper Feb 7th

info & tickets: Timberscombe Post Office or Marion Jeffrey 841500.

Wootton Courtenay

Songs of Praise Feb 8th

Iona Communion Feb 22nd

The choir will be singing at our Candlemas Service 11 am Feb 1st.

Lent talk Feb 25th 7-8 Praying in Lent

Ash Wednesday service: 10 am Weds Feb 18th

St Michael the Archangel, Alcombe.

For Lent Reflections (Wednesdays 25 Feb, 4, 11 & 18 Mar) see Separate Flyer

GRABBIST HILL BENEFICE SERVICE ROTA: FEBRUARY 2026

Service Leaders	Date:	1st	8th	15th	22nd	NOTES
KC=Rector Revd Kenneth Cross	Sunday:	PRESENTATION OF CHRIST (CANDLEMAS)	SECOND BEFORE LENT	NEXT BEFORE LENT	LENT 1	
	Liturgical Colour:	GOLD OR WHITE	GREEN	GREEN	PURPLE/LENT ARRAY	
NB=Revd Nicola Butcher	Readings:	<i>Please check readings with the service leader</i>				
NMB=Revd Nicola Butt	0930	WOOTTON COURTENAY HC (CW) KC				
	1000	ALCOMBE All-Age HC (CW) NB	ALCOMBE HC (CW) KC	ALCOMBE HC (CW) NB	ALCOMBE HC (CW) KC	
	1100	DUNSTER Candlemas Service KC	DUNSTER HC (CW) NB	TIMBERSCOMBE HC (CW) NMB	DUNSTER MP (CW) LC	
		TIMBERSCOMBE Messy Church NMB	TIMBERSCOMBE Iona Communion NMB	WOOTTON COURTENAY HC (BCP) said KC	TIMBERSCOMBE MP (CW) NB	
			WOOTTON COURTENAY Songs of Praise Local		WOOTTON COURTENAY Iona Communion NMB	
	1530			ALCOMBE Chance Encounters Local		
	1700	ALCOMBE Evensong Local	ALCOMBE Evensong Local		ALCOMBE Evensong Local	
OTHER EVENTS						
18th Ash Wednesday	10am	ALCOMBE	Eucharist	<i>Please note that the 10am Ash Wednesday Service replaces the 9am on 18th Feb.</i>		
Every Wednesday	9am	ALCOMBE	Eucharist			
Every Thursday	10am	TIMBERSCOMBE	Warm Welcome			
Every Thursday	11am	ALCOMBE	Eucharist			

As I metaphorically scan the horizon from the top of Grabbist, I find myself asking: where are there signs of hope amid unfolding crises.

I see many little lights in our communities. The day-to-day care in our communities (thank you, you who offer hidden kindnesses - these are fragrant love offerings, expressing the very heart of the Divine!), the provision of food to those in need (thank you West Somerset Food Cupboard, and others), the voluntary and professional public services: thank you, Village Agents, Micro Providers, Care Workers, Nurses, Health Visitors, Teachers, Classroom Assistants ... I could go on. These are undoubtedly signs of hope.

But is there any hope in the wider world?

I find my sights resting upon the United States of America!

"What?" I hear you say. "A nation divided, where violence proliferates, might is right, truth is betrayed, millions live in fear and democracy itself is threatened?"

Yes - precisely there!



Why? Because quietly, something else is happening in the USA. I think it has been most embodied by a group of travelling Buddhist monks distributing flowers and blessings. Walking from Texas to Washington DC, beginning with just 19 monks and a dog, this mushroomed as growing crowds joined them and welcomed them in churches, community halls and parks - people of all faiths and none. By time you read this they will have reached Washington, and who knows how many will have joined

them? The Walk for Peace has become iconic, capturing people's hearts. The monks echoed the hearts of so many American citizens who, without fanfare, labour for peace, love their neighbours, protect immigrants and threatened people of colour, reaching out across political divides and seeking reconciliation. The monks have embodied a response to violent division which does not fight fire with fire, but meets hatred with love, enmity with reconciliation, violence with peace. They speak silently across religious and cultural boundaries because that is what authentic spirituality does. As many have observed, they exhibit the true spirit of Jesus as many Christians (despite fundamentalist naysayers) openly recognise, celebrate and welcome with open arms.

Of course, things are still hanging in the balance, and there are many massive challenges ahead, including here in the UK. Precisely in such times, in Lent when we journey with Jesus, we can draw profound inspiration from the Walk for Peace. Sowing compassion and love requires of us that we transcend all political divisions and put our lot in with Kindness itself, to become Peace and make peace. For Jesus, who said '*blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God*' this led to the cross, from which blossomed life itself - and the reconciliation of all. As we journey with Jesus this Lent, as we walk for peace like the monks, may our journey - though it leads us through great difficulty, to the cross itself - bring life and light to all who live on the Earth. Let us, each day, say with the monks: '*today is going to be my peaceful day*'.



Kenneth

Have a look at: <https://youtu.be/V1dN13Kicyk?si=KfBxEvd6jUZnz4Yj>.

or https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walk_for_Peace, or simply do a search for 'Walk for Peace'

WHO'S WHO

Incumbent: Rev d Kenneth Cross 07708 925800, kennethjcross@gmail.com, usual days off: Monday & Tuesday
Associate Priests: Rev d Nicola Butcher 07740 081070, rev.nicolabutcher@gmail.com, usual day off: Monday (*Alcombe*)
Rev d Nicola Butt 01643 84171 3 (*Timberscombe & Wootton Courtenay*)

Admin: Tracey Staples 01643 709491, dunsterbenefice@gmail.com or alcombeangeloffice@gmail.com
Usual hours: Mondays (1.30pm-5pm) and Wednesdays (11.30am-1.30pm)