



# St John the Evangelist, Dormansland Newsletter – February 2026

<https://lingfieldparishchurch.org/>

## Thought for February

**Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, “Who do people say I am?” They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?” Peter answered, “You are the Messiah.” Mark 8:27–29**

Ash Wednesday is on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February! I know. Christmas is hardly over and we are reminded that Easter is coming. At least we get the four weeks of Lent to prepare.

Now imagine someone asked you, ‘Who do you say Jesus is?’ What might you say? It is a good question for Lent as we remember Jesus’ journey to Calvary. After all, who we think Jesus is and what we think he is like will have a significant bearing on our own hopes, aspirations, prayers, and actions.

Jesus was asking the question in the reading above, in a context where his identity was a matter of urgent public debate. Responses differed – John the Baptist, prophet, Elijah, blasphemer, madman, agent of the devil.

And in your answer to that question, the first words that occur to you might not be to do with Jesus’ role as Saviour, Teacher, King of kings or the Incarnate Word of God... No, your first word might be ‘kind’, or ‘friend’, in line with your own experience of walking with Jesus and his promise to those who he could trust with his plans. Whatever your answer, give thanks for its reality in your life.

Peter, of course, got the answer right, even if it then became clear that he didn’t understand what kind of Messiah Jesus would turn out to be. Certainly, after the cross, resurrection, ascension, Pentecost, and years of relationship, Peter’s understanding of Jesus deepened and expanded. Similarly, Lent, in its movement towards Jesus’ loving sacrifice on the cross, represents an opportunity to allow God to expand our own wonder at who he is.

What aspects of who Jesus is might you reflect on in this season of Lent?

If he is sovereign Lord of all creation, what might you ask for? If he is the one who knows ‘what is in each person’ (John 2:25) might you ask for wisdom to know how to help a friend? Or even to know what he might want to transform in you?

If he is the one who came ‘not to be served but to serve’ (Matthew 20:28), what might that mean for you in your various roles in life? If he is the image of the invisible God, through whom and by whom all things were made (Colossians 1:15–16), and yet also the one who gave his life for yours, how might that enrich your worship, and shape your everyday interactions in his world?

Take time this Lent to ask yourself the question, who is Jesus Christ?



## Services at St John’s in February 2026

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> Feb. - 8am – Said Communion, 10am – Family Communion, 5pm – Informal Worship

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Feb. - 8am – Said Communion, 10am – Parish Communion with Sunday Smilers, 5pm – Informal Worship

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb. – 8am – Service of the Word, 10am – Parish Communion, 5pm – Informal Worship

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb. - 8am – Said Communion, 10am – Parish Communion, 5pm – Informal Worship

**Morning Prayer at St John's**  
**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>** at 10am

**Breakfast Hub**  
**Every Saturday, 9am-11am** at St Peter & St Paul, Lingfield

**Compline on Zoom**  
Every Wednesday at 8pm  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74615258857?pwd=QXfPyoDEbLeuxPq5sCNBcQDsITCgyX.1>  
Meeting ID: 746 1525 8857  
Passcode: compline

**Messy Church**  
**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb** - 3:30pm



**Meeting Up & Warm Hub**  
We meet in the Centenary Room  
**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> Feb.** – 10am-12pm

**Saturday Lunches**  
A free simple lunch is offered in St Bernard's on the last Saturday of every month from **12.30 pm**. The next one will be on **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb.**

**Friday Prayer**  
Jesus prioritised prayer in his busy life. We are setting aside an hour each Friday to pray from 4pm in St Andrews Chapel for the needs of the parish and the wider world.

**Wine & Wondering**  
**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb** – 7:30pm  
at The Star Inn, Lingfield

### **Online Home Group Gathering**

Join Melinda for a contemplative-focused home group that meets every other Wednesday from 11:00am to 12:00pm on Zoom.  
This is a space for reflection, connection, and quiet encouragement on our journey of faith. All are welcome.  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83085759497?pwd=YIUmUGGMAT8slzZNgoVbjYgZ2ivQZD.1>  
**Meeting ID:** 830 8575 9497 **Passcode:** 57N5yU

### **Home Groups**

These groups meet in people's homes on a regular basis. They involve times of Bible study/or discussion, a time of prayer and mutual support. The group meets at various homes on a **Wednesday** afternoon beginning at **2:30pm**. Please see Jackie Harrison for further information.

## **2026**

2026 holds some exciting new or different-to-usual ventures for St John's and we would love any help you can offer!

**Open The Book:** We are going to be taking a team into Dormansland School once or twice a term to do some Open the Book assemblies. The book being, of course, The Bible. If you would like to be part of this team, please talk to Revd Annie asap.

**Bubble Church:** This is a new style of children's service which will probably be in addition to our usual All Age Service, which includes puppets, Bible stories and action songs. Early days but if you would like to join the team to take this forward and join us for training, please talk to Revd Annie asap

**Toddler Group:** From January we will be welcoming a toddler group into the church. Most likely it will meet on a Wednesday morning once the Cafe has stopped trading. Volunteers to help would be gratefully received. Please see Revd Annie.