

Wollaston Free Church
Lent Services 2025

Jesus entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to fulfil the scriptures - to give his life as the sacrificial lamb. The Son of God had come to earth, to die in our place, so that all who believe in him will have eternal life. As a well known hymn says "He only could unlock the gate of Heaven and let us in."

Jesus knew that his earthly ministry was drawing to an end, and that the painful death on the cross lay before him; yet he was prepared to endure all for our sake.

During his years of ministry Jesus had been faithful to the will of his Father, and through all that he had said and done Jesus had brought glory to his Father's name.

On entering Jerusalem Jesus knew time was short and he knew that there was still much he had to do and to say in his last few days on earth. There were warnings to be given to many, and encouragement for others.

During the Lent Series this year we will be reminded of some of the significant sayings of Jesus during the week from Palm Sunday to Good Friday, now known to many as Holy Week.

March 6th

"...many are invited but few are chosen"

Reading - Matthew 22 v 1-14

Dr Paul Williams

Paul is married to Samantha and has three children.

He is a GP in a very busy practice, he enjoys reading, going to the opera and walking when there is time!!! He has visited Romania many times since the ending of the communist era, and regards Oti as a very close family friend.

Paul has been at Wollaston Free Church since day one (as a baby). He now sings in the choir, also regularly preaches and leads services including communion services.

March 13th

"..... the stone the builders rejected"

Reading - Luke 20 v 9-19

Wendy Westwood

Wendy was a member of Wollaston Free Church for over 20 years. On her retirement as a Social Work Manager she moved with her husband Phillip to Burnham on Sea in 2018, where she became a member of the church there.

Wendy is a Trustee of Project Ruth and visited Romania and Moldova many times. Rev Rob from Burnham on Sea and Wendy visited Romania in 2023 and the church now support Project Ruth.

Wendy and Phillip's only son Adam lives in Edinburgh, with his wife Anastasia and their daughter Adaline, born in June 2024.

Wendy and Phil are now enjoying their new role as grandparents,

March 20th

"You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel."

Reading - Matthew 23 v 23-39

Carol Hine

Carol is a retired primary school head teacher. She qualified as Bachelor of Philosophy in Special Education at Birmingham University. She has three daughters and six grandchildren.

Carol was invited to attend Wollaston Free Church when it first opened in the 1960's prior to moving to Bromsgrove.

She returned to regularly worship there following an invitation to the church's 40th Anniversary. She currently leads services and is part of the preaching team.

March 27th

" You will always have the poor among you ..."

Reading - John 12 v 1-11

Rev Adrian Argile

Adrian on leaving school worked for NatWest for 9 years before training for the Baptist Ministry at Spurgeon's College, London.

On leaving college he pastored 2 churches in Lancashire before moving to Stourbridge in 2007 to take up the role of Baptist Regional Minister in the Heart of England Baptist Association; he was made Team Leader in 2014. The Association have oversight of 153 Baptist Churches across the West Midlands.

Adrian is married to Pam and they have 4 children and 3 grandchildren. For relaxation he enjoys table tennis and runs a table tennis club in Stourbridge.

April 3rd

“watch and pray”

Reading - Matthew 26 v 36-46

Rev Samantha Williams

Samantha is married to Paul and they have three children; she is the daughter-in-law of Peter and Jasmine.

She is an Ordained Baptist Minister and also a volunteer chaplain at Mary Stevens Hospice. She is also studying part time for a theology degree.

She enjoys reading, the theatre, listening to music and socialising with friends.

At Wollaston, she assists in the ministry and is a member of the church choir.

April 10th

“.....if you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace....”

Reading - Luke 19 v 28-44

Dr Oti Bunaciu

Oti lives in Bucharest Romania and is married to Camelia; they have a son David. Since 1991 Oti has served as minister of Ferentari Baptist Church.

He is Vice President of The Baptist World Alliance, a Professor of Theology at the University of Bucharest, where he is Dean. and teaches for the TCMI Institute in Austria and for the Baptist Theological Institute in Bucharest.

In 1991 he founded Project Ruth; its aim being to assist Roma children who live near where the church is located. The main focus is education for children, but now includes the training of leaders for ministry in Roma communities and a centre for counselling and job training Roma women.

April 17th

“.....My kingdom is not of this world”

Reading - John 18 v 28-40

Andrew Haynes

Andrew is the eldest son of the late Tony Haynes who was a founder member of Wollaston Free Church, and so Andrew has attended the church since its beginning. He was baptised in 1974.

He lives in Kinver and works as an overseer on a privately owned estate. Andrew has three children and now six grandchildren.

Andrew is an established Methodist lay preacher and preaches at various churches on the Methodist Circuit. He preaches regularly here at Wollaston.



Significant Sayings of Jesus on His way to the Cross

A series of special services for

Lent 2025

7.30pm every Thursday

from 6th March to 17th April

Wollaston Free Church

Somerset Drive, Wollaston, Stourbridge

www.wollastonfreechurch.org.uk

Services for Easter Day Sunday 20th April 2025

11.00 am Easter morning Family Worship
Children participating

6.30 pm Evening Worship
with items by the choir

58th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

Sunday 18th May 2025
