



# LAVENHAM CHURCH

A BEACON OF HOPE

## Weekly Pewsheets

**Sunday 17 March 2024**

The Fifth Sunday of Lent (The beginning of Passiontide)

### Services Today

Lavenham	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Lavenham	10.15am	Holy Communion (CW)
Preston St Mary	6.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP)

### During the Week

Monday 18 March	10.00am	Knit & Natter ( <i>Lavenham Village Hall</i> )
Tuesday 19 March	8.45am	Morning Prayer ( <i>Lavenham Lady Chapel</i> )
	2.00pm	Ministry Team Meeting ( <i>Rectory</i> )
	6.45pm	Choir Practice ( <i>Lavenham Vestry</i> )
	7.00pm	Lent Group ( <i>The Rectory Lavenham</i> )
Wednesday 20 March	8.45am	Morning Prayer ( <i>Lavenham Lady Chapel</i> )
	10.00am	Midweek Communion (CW Trad) ( <i>Lavenham Lady Chapel</i> )
	11.15am	Lent Group ( <i>Tenter Piece Community Room</i> )
	7.00pm	Lavenham PCC Meeting ( <i>Guildhall</i> )
Wednesday 20 March	2.30pm	Funeral of Angus Fraser ( <i>Lavenham</i> )
	4.00pm	Lent Group ( <i>Hill House Farm Preston</i> )
	8.45am	Morning Prayer ( <i>Lavenham Lady Chapel</i> )
Thursday 21 March	10.00am	Community Coffee Morning ( <i>Lavenham Village Hall</i> )
	2.00pm	Lent Group ( <i>1 The Glebe Lavenham</i> )
	3.45pm	Rehearsal for Passion Gospel reading on Palm Sunday ( <i>L'ham</i> )
Friday 22 March	11.00am	Mother's Union Lady Day Service ( <i>Lavenham</i> )
Saturday 23 March	12-2pm	Lent Lunch in aid of Kagera appeal ( <i>Lavenham Village Hall</i> )

### Services next Sunday 24 March – Palm Sunday

Lavenham	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Lavenham	10.15am	Holy Communion (CW)
Preston St Mary	6.00pm	Evensong

### Looking Ahead

Sunday 14 April	7.00pm	Preston St Mary APCM ( <i>Preston Church</i> )
Tuesday 16 April	2.00-4.30pm	Safeguarding Foundation Training ( <i>L'ham VH</i> )
Wednesday 24 April	7.00pm	Lavenham APCM ( <i>Lavenham Church</i> )

**The Benefice of Lavenham with Preston**

St Peter and St Paul Lavenham St Mary the Virgin Preston

## Prayers

*Celebrating resurrection & new life we pray for:* Hadleigh Deanery: Elmsett with Aldham, Hintlesham, Chattisham and Kersey: Revd Geoffrey Clement, Revd Adrian Walker, Jim Sephton (Reader); those working in the justice system; at the start of Passiontide, those Christians who are persecuted worldwide. Over 365 million Christians face persecution and discrimination – 1 in 7 believers across the globe; courage and determination in the face of persecution;  
**Lavenham:** Spring Lane, Spring Street, Sudbury Road; **Preston St Mary:** Field View.

## Contact Details

**Website:** [www.lavenham.church](http://www.lavenham.church)      **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/lavenhamchurch](http://www.facebook.com/lavenhamchurch)

**ACNY:** [www.achurchnearyou.com/2156](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/2156) (Lavenham) /2155 (Preston St Mary)

*Sunday readings & sermons are usually to be found on the website and on Facebook*

### **Rector** (*usual rest day Monday*):

Revd Canon Simon Pitcher	<a href="mailto:rector@lavenham.church">rector@lavenham.church</a>	01787 247244
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### **Curate** (*usual rest day Friday*):

Revd Graham Naylor	<a href="mailto:graham.naylor@lavenham.church">graham.naylor@lavenham.church</a>	07768 283636
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### **Reader:**

Pete Postle	<a href="mailto:pete.postle@btinternet.com">pete.postle@btinternet.com</a>	01787 248564
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### **Lay Elders:**

Keith Davis	<a href="mailto:keithhdavis@btinternet.com">keithhdavis@btinternet.com</a>	01787 247112
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June Linscott	<a href="mailto:junelinscott@hotmail.com">junelinscott@hotmail.com</a>	01787 247821
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Kevin Slingsby	<a href="mailto:kevin.slingsby@lavenham.church">kevin.slingsby@lavenham.church</a>	01787 389409
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### **Churchwardens (Lavenham):**

David Deacon	<a href="mailto:davidgdeacon38@gmail.com">davidgdeacon38@gmail.com</a>	01787 248147
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Mary Morrey	<a href="mailto:marymorrey.pfc@gmail.com">marymorrey.pfc@gmail.com</a>	01787 247311
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### **Churchwardens (Preston St Mary):**

Keith Davis	<a href="mailto:keithhdavis@btinternet.com">keithhdavis@btinternet.com</a>	01787 247112
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Janet Martin	<a href="mailto:janet.martin01@btconnect.com">janet.martin01@btconnect.com</a>	01787 249020
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### **Director of Music:**

Kevin Slingsby	<a href="mailto:kevin.slingsby@lavenham.church">kevin.slingsby@lavenham.church</a>	01787 389409
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### **Safeguarding Officer:**

Mary Jackson	<a href="mailto:safeguarding@lavenham.church">safeguarding@lavenham.church</a>	01787 247631
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**Hearing Aid Loop:** This is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. To use please switch your hearing aid to 'T'.

**Photos and Videos:** If these include individuals in the church, they are deemed personal data. Please ensure you have consent. More information can be obtained from our PCC Secretary, Parish Safeguarding Officer, porch noticeboard, church website and Facebook page.

**Offerings:** There is a collection plate on the table at the back of church. If you pay UK tax please use a yellow gift envelope; or use Just Giving online via [www.justgiving.com/lavenhamchurch](http://www.justgiving.com/lavenhamchurch); or for the Parish Giving Scheme, go ONLINE to <https://parishgiving.org.uk>, or scan the QR code here with your phone.



*Information for next week's pew sheet by the preceding Wednesday please to [pewsheet@lavenham.church](mailto:pewsheet@lavenham.church) or 01787 852787.*

## Notices

**Easter Lilies:** For all who would like to have their loved ones remembered this way at Easter, please put their names in the book at back of church. Names will be read out during an Easter service. Donations for cost of lilies may be given to Gillian Smith or David Deacon.

**Annual Vestry & Parochial Church Meetings:** Lavenham – Wednesday 24 April 7pm; Preston St Mary – Sunday 14 April 7pm. At the Annual Vestry Meeting two Churchwardens are elected for a term of one year. As the office of churchwarden is a public office held on behalf of the whole community, the vestry meeting is open to all residents of the village. Those entitled to vote for churchwardens include anyone on the electoral roll of the parish church and anyone who lives in the village whose name is on the register of local government electors. The second part of the meeting is the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), when we consider the annual accounts and activities of the church, and give thanks for all that we have shared together. It is also a meeting at which elections take place for membership of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). If you are interested in standing as Churchwarden or in joining the PCC will find nomination forms at the back of church in Lavenham, or speak to the churchwardens. *To vote at the APCM you need to be on the Church Electoral Roll – please speak to the Churchwardens if you are not, but would like to be.*

**Passion Gospel:** Next week (Palm Sunday) at the 10.15am service, a dramatized reading of the Passion Gospel will replace the sermon – if you would like to take part please speak to the Rector, and note that there will be a rehearsal on Thursday, 21 March, at 3.45pm (*note change of time*).

**MU Lady Day Service:** Friday 22 March 11.00am. Although this service is organised by the Mothers' Union in Suffolk, it is open to all, and everyone is very welcome to join them in celebration of the feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

**Volunteers needed:** The team who prepare and serve coffee/refreshments following the 10.15am service in Lavenham is short of people, and would welcome some willing volunteers to join them. Please talk to Mary Jackson if you can help.

**Used Greetings Cards:** Ginny Mackman has kindly started to create greetings cards to sell in our shop, so if you have any old/used greetings cards that she could use to make these beautiful cards, please leave them in the wicker tray marked 'Used Greetings Cards' at the back of the shop. Ginny's cards are available in the card display stand in the front of the shop. Thank you, Ginny, for your time and efforts.

**Lent Groups:** We are using the SPCK York Course ***You Can Be Serious! Meeting Jesus afresh in John's Gospel***, this is the final week – see diary section for times.

**Lent Lunch:** Saturday 23 March 12.00–14.00 *Lavenham Village Hall*. A lunch of soup, bread and cheese, and an opportunity to meet for fellowship as we enter Holy Week. Donations will be in aid of the Bishops' Lent appeal to support the work of the church in our twin Diocese of Kagera in Tanzania. For more details of the appeal see the back page of the Pewsheet – during Lent we will feature weekly themes to think and pray about.

**The Real Easter Egg:** ***Your orders will be ready for collection after the 10.15am service today.*** If you are unable to be at the service, please contact Rebecca Simpson on 01787 249845 to make an alternative arrangement.

**Holy Week 2024:** Holy week is the most important week of the Christian year. During this week we remember the events of the final week in Jerusalem that led Jesus to the cross. These events include his entry to the city on Palm Sunday (the 10.15 service will include a Palm procession and the reading of the Passion Gospel), the last supper with his disciples (Maundy Thursday – 7pm at Lavenham), his arrest, trial and crucifixion (Good Friday – 12noon at Preston and 2pm at Lavenham), and his resurrection to new life on the first Easter Day (6.30am at Preston and 8.00/10.15am at Lavenham). Compline (Monday to Wednesday 7pm at Lavenham) is a quiet meditative service of evening prayers. **Please feel welcome to join us this year as we follow Christ's steps to the cross and beyond.** *Pick up a handy guide to the Holy Week services at the back of church.*

**Come & Sing Stainer's Crucifixion:** Good Friday 29 March 7pm. If you would you like to join the choir for this event, please contact Kevin Slingsby, or check the website for details.

**Changes to the Service Pattern:** Lavenham PCC has agreed three changes to Sunday worship that will take effect from 1 April 2024 – (1) The main Sunday service will start at 10.00am instead of 10.15am; (2) The Morning Worship service previously held on the first Sunday each month will move to the third Sunday. This will create a better balance to the pattern of worship across the benefice, with Preston holding their Morning Worship on the first Sunday; (3) At 6pm on the first Sunday each month there will be a new evening service in Lavenham, starting with Evensong on 7 April. It is hoped that these simple changes will create a better balance to our worship within the benefice and an opportunity to try one or two new things. *Pick up a handy guide to the new pattern at the back of church.*

**Safeguarding Training:** Face-to-face training is available locally at all levels over the next few months – **Basic Awareness** at *St Mary the Virgin Haverhill* on **Saturday 23 March** (10.00am–12.30pm) and *Fornham All Saints Church* on **Friday 19 April** (10.00am–12.30pm); **Foundation** at *Lavenham Village Hall* on **Tuesday 16 April** (2.00pm–4.30pm) or 11 May (10.00am–12.30pm); **Leadership** at *Elmswell Church* on **Tuesdays 21 May & 4 June** (2.30pm–4.30pm) or *Boxford Church* on **Thursdays 25 April & 9 May** (10.00am–12.30pm). **Basic Awareness** is accessible to everyone, and is required for everyone who has a designated role in the Church (paid or voluntary), but all parishioners are welcome and

encouraged to complete it; **Foundation** must be completed by all decision makers, including Clergy, PTOs, Elders, Readers, PCC Members, Churchwardens, Vergers and Children & Youth Workers (Basic should be completed first). The face-to-face sessions at these two levels, with a group of up to 24 people, last for two and a half hours, and the course is an exact replica of the online training module, available from the National Portal. If you would rather complete this training in your own time, online, please go to the Diocesan website where you will find the link. **Leadership** is additionally required by all Clergy, Lay Ministers, Elders, Safeguarding Officers, Directors of Music (two 1.5/2 hour sessions plus coursework) and is alternatively available via Zoom sessions. If you are unsure which level is right for you, please check with Mary Jackson. *To book a place or for the online portal there is a link on the website home page.*

**Lavenham Life NEEDS YOU:** John Page, our editor, has decided to retire after 8 successful years. If you are interested in this voluntary role, to work with David Boast, please contact David on 01787 249511.

**Morning Prayer:** You are invited to join us for Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel at 8:45am on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings. We use the Church of England Daily Prayer app which can be downloaded to a smartphone.

**Community Coffee Morning:** Thursdays 10.00am–12 noon at Lavenham Village Hall.

**Food Bank:** Please donate to the basket back of church for Storehouse in Sudbury.

## 10.15am Holy Communion – Lavenham

### Opening Hymn



*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

1. Come, let us follow where our Captain trod,  
our King victorious, Christ the Son of God:
2. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
as thou hast promised, draw us unto thee:
3. Let every race and every language tell  
of him who saves our souls from death and hell:

4. From farthest regions let them homage bring,  
and on his cross adore their Saviour King:
5. Set up thy throne, that earth's despair may cease  
beneath the shadow of its healing peace:
6. For thy blest cross which doth for all atone  
creation's praises rise before thy throne:

*Words: George William Kitchin (1827-1912) & Michael Robert Newbolt (1874-1956)*  
*Music: Crucifer, Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947) © Hymns Ancient & Modern Ltd (Ancient & Modern – 707)*

## Collect

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## First Reading – Jeremiah 31.31-34

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the Lord', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 51.1-13



Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offense.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin. **R**

My offenses truly I know them;  
my sin is always before me  
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;  
what is evil in your sight I have done. **R**

That you may be justified when you give sentence  
and be without reproach when you judge,  
O see, in guilt I was born,  
a sinner was I conceived. **R**

Indeed you love truth in the heart;  
then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom.  
O purify me, then I shall be clean;  
O wash me, I shall be whiter than snow. **R**

Make me hear rejoicing and gladness,  
that the bones you have crushed may thrill.  
From my sins turn away your face  
and blot out all my guilt. **R**

A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **R**

Give me again the joy of your help;  
with a spirit of fervour sustain me. **R**

## Second Reading – Hebrews 5.5-10

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

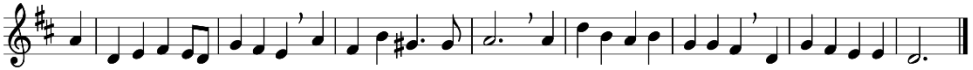
So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, 'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'; as he says also in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.' In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to

the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Gradual Hymn



1. All ye who seek for sure relief  
in trouble and distress,  
whatever sorrow vex the mind,  
or guilt the soul oppress;

2 Jesus, who gave himself for you  
upon the cross to die,  
opens to you his sacred heart:  
O to that heart draw nigh.

3 Ye hear how kindly he invites;  
ye hear his words so blest:  
'All ye that labour come to me,  
and I will give you rest.'

4. O Jesus, joy of saints on high,  
thou hope of sinners here,  
attracted by those loving words  
to thee we lift our prayer.

5 Wash thou our wounds in that dear blood  
which from thy heart doth flow;  
a new and contrite heart on all  
who cry to thee bestow.

*Words: based on Quicumque certum queritis (Latin, 18th century), Edward Caswall (1814–1878)  
Music: St Bernard, adapted from a melody in Tochter Sion, Cologne 1741, Leighton George Hayne (1836–1883)  
(Ancient & Modern – 140)*

### Gospel Reading – John 12.20-23

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. 'Now my soul



is troubled. And what should I say – “Father, save me from this hour”? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.’ Then a voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, ‘An angel has spoken to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.’ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### Offertory Hymn



1. There's a wideness in God's mercy  
like the wideness of the sea;  
there's a kindness in his justice  
which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows  
are more felt than up in heaven;  
there is no place where earth's failings  
have such kindly judgement given.

2 For the love of God is broader  
than the measure of our mind,  
and the heart of the Eternal  
is most wonderfully kind.  
But we make his love too narrow  
by false limits of our own;  
and we magnify his strictness  
with a zeal he would not own.

3 There is plentiful redemption  
through the blood that has been shed;  
there is joy for all the members  
in the sorrows of the Head.

There is grace enough for thousands  
of new worlds as great as this;  
there is room for fresh creations  
in that upper home of bliss.

*Second half of tune:*

4 If our love were but more simple,  
we should take him at his word;  
and our lives would be all gladness  
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

*Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863) Music: Corvedale, Maurice Bevan (1921-2006) (Ancient & Modern – 806)*

## Communion Anthem

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,  
that whoso believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.  
For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world;  
but that the world through him might be saved.

*Words: John 3.16*

*Music: John Stainer (1840-1901), from The Crucifixion 1887*

## Communion Hymn



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Glory be to Jesus,<br>who, in bitter pains,<br>poured for me the life-blood<br>from his sacred veins.         | 4. Abel's blood for vengeance<br>pleaded to the skies;<br>but the blood of Jesus<br>for our pardon cries. |
| 2. Grace and life eternal<br>in that blood I find;<br>blest be his compassion<br>infinitely kind.                | 5. Oft as it is sprinkled<br>on our guilty hearts,<br>Satan in confusion<br>terror-struck departs.        |
| 3. Blest through endless ages<br>be the precious stream,<br>which from endless torments<br>did the world redeem. | 6. Oft as earth exulting<br>wafts its praise on high,<br>angel-hosts rejoicing<br>make their glad reply.  |
| 7. Lift ye then your voices;<br>swell the mighty flood;<br>louder still and louder<br>praise the precious blood. |   |

*Words: Edward Caswall (1814-1878) Music: Caswall, Friedrich Filitz (1804-1876) (Ancient & Modern – 142)*

## Post Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have taught us  
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters  
we do also for you:  
give us the will to be the servant of others  
as you were the servant of all,  
and gave up your life and died for us,  
but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Final Hymn



1. Now let us from this table rise  
renewed in body, mind and soul;  
with Christ we die and rise again,  
his selfless love has made us whole.
2. With minds alert, upheld by grace,  
to spread the word in speech and deed,  
we follow in the steps of Christ,  
at one with all in hope and need.
3. To fill each human house with love,  
it is the sacrament of care;  
the work that Christ began to do  
we humbly pledge ourselves to share.
4. Then grant us grace, Companion-God,  
to choose again the pilgrim way  
and help us to accept with joy  
the challenge of tomorrow's day.

*Words: Fred Kaan (1929-2009)*

*Music: Solothurn, Swiss traditional melody in Reichart's Frohe Lieder for deutsche Manner 1781,  
arr Compilers of Common Praise 2000 © 1968 Stainer & Bell Ltd (Ancient & Modern – 456)*

## Organ

Chorale Prelude on *Herzlich Tut Mich Verlangen*

*J S Bach (1685–1750)*



The Diocesan hospital at Murgwanza provides vital healthcare to the area, serving around 365,000 people. The nearest referral hospital is an eight-hour drive away, so Murgwanza is working hard to train local specialists. Our Diocese sponsored Dr Christian Ruzige through his training as a general surgeon. We are now sponsoring Dr Elia Ethan, studying for a Master's degree in Ophthalmology at Kilimanjaro Christian University Medical College.

Elia sends us regular updates on his progress: "Praise the Lord. The hands have started to coordinate with brain. Nice moments. I did three cataract surgeries today. I thank God, my surgical skills are becoming better day by day. God bless you for sponsoring my studies." Last year with a generous donation from a couple in Ipswich we were able to buy him a specialist 90D lens which he was able to put straight to use. He wrote: "The lens is working nicely and beautifully. Many thanks to my donors."



With money from previous Lent appeals we were also able to buy some specialist equipment for the hospital, including a blood analyser. Charles explained to Bishop Martin how to read the results.



Evelyn was trained in Murgwanza and now works at a local Health Centre where she provides basic medical care, district midwifery, pharmacy and nursing.

Dr Sarah Gull from Bury St Edmunds visited Murgwanza Hospital with Bishop Martin in 2023. She was impressed by the staff there: "They work under difficult circumstances and deserve our greatest respect and our prayers. Their practice is strongly linked to their faith, showing kindness and resilience."



We pray for all doctors, nurses and healthcare workers.  
May they rejoice in the skills you have given them which enable them to bring hope, healing and wholeness to those in their care.  
May they know your guidance and support in times of pain and difficulty.  
Bless each one of them, that they may be a blessing to others.  
Amen