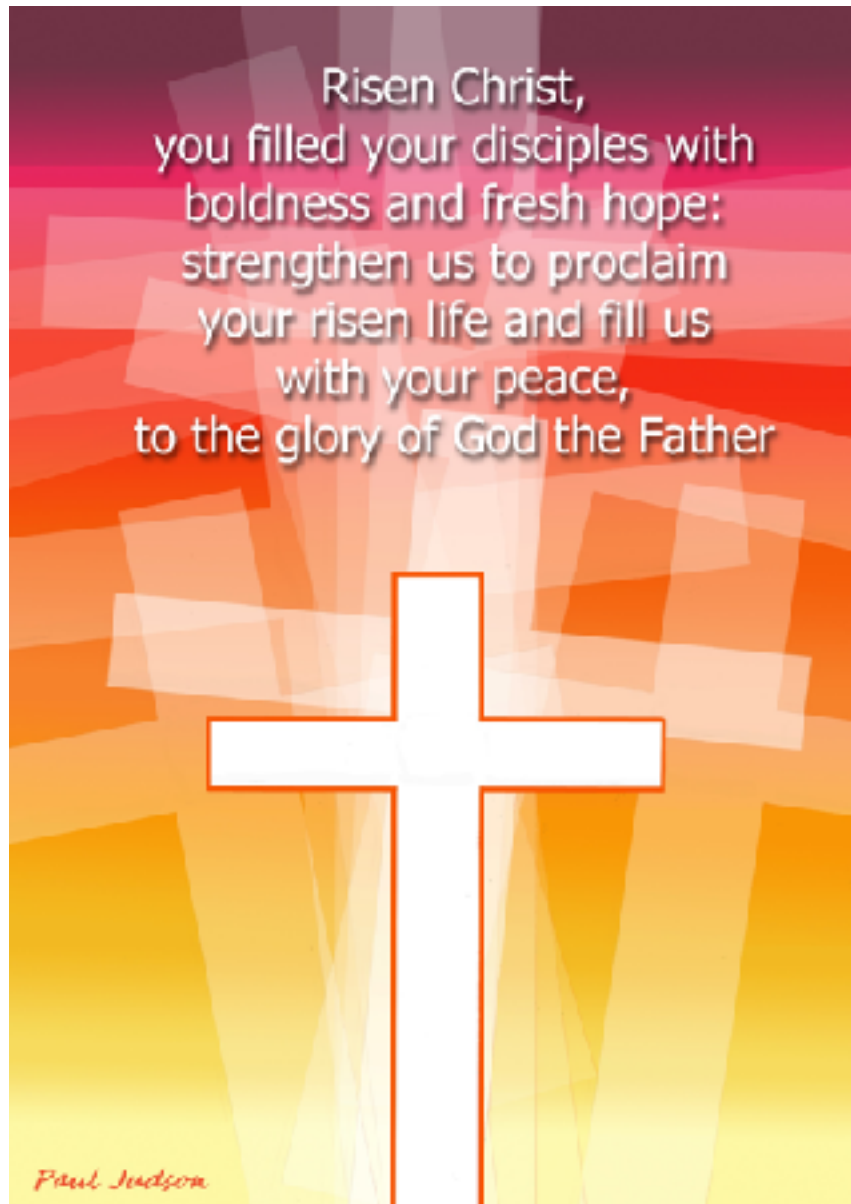


# KEYNOTES



**April 2025**  
**£1.50**

# **THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST PETER'S, WEST BLATCHINGTON**

**Rector** The Rev Tim Gage  
The Rectory  
23 Windmill Close  
Hove, BN3 7LJ

**Tel:** 01273 270427

**Email:** rector.westblatchington@gmail.com

**Thursday is ordinarily the Rector's rest day; however please do not hesitate to contact him in the event of a pastoral emergency. Please refer all other urgent matters to the Churchwardens.**

## **Associate**

**Vicar** Rev Jan Butter      **Tel:** 07889 400889

**Email:** westblatchingtoncurate@outlook.com

**CHURCHWARDENS** Jonathan Cooke      **Tel:** 07973 851174

David Keeling      **Tel:** 01273 501504

**HON. TREASURER** Mandy Gander      **Tel:** 01273 271982

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## **PASTORAL CARE**

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**Church website:** [www.stpeterswestblatchington.org.uk](http://www.stpeterswestblatchington.org.uk)

## PARISH EVENTS DIARY

The following events taking place in April and May as notified are:

Free lunchtime concert - Saturday 5th April - 1.10pm  
Rebelles

Arts and crafts afternoon - Saturday 19th April - 2pm

Free lunchtime concert - Friday 25th April - 1.10pm  
Imogen Ryall - jazz singer

Free lunchtime concert - Friday 16th May - 1.10pm  
Sussex Camerata

Tim's Hymns and Pimms evening - Saturday 17th May - 6.30pm  
Come and sing some favourite hymns with us in the  
back garden of the Rectory

Rogation Sunday - 25th May - 2pm  
Join us for the Parish boundary walk followed by ice cream  
in Hove Park

Please continue to keep us informed of events that you have  
planned or know about by sending a message to our email  
address which is [stpetersadmin@zoho.com](mailto:stpetersadmin@zoho.com)

The deadline for the May issue is the 10th April



## EDITORIAL

Welcome to our April edition of Keynotes.

We hope that you have been having a time of reflection this Lent and look forward to celebrating Easter. April is a very busy month in the lead up to Easter. Holy Week activities begin with our Palm Sunday service at 10am on 13<sup>th</sup> April. On Maundy Thursday there will be Holy Communion at 11am with optional foot washing and stripping of the altars. At 6pm we will have a simple bring and share Agape Meal in the Community Centre. Please join us for the Walk of Witness at 10am on Good Friday starting at our church and the Good Friday meditation at 3pm, an hour at the cross.

On Holy Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm – 4pm we will have an Arts and Crafts Family Fun in the church hall. Easter Sunday celebrations start at 5.45am when we will have a sunrise service outside the church and at 10am we will have the All Age Easter Eucharist.

Other events this month include two free lunchtime concerts, one by Rebelles on April 5<sup>th</sup> and another on April 25<sup>th</sup> by Imogen Ryall a jazz singer, both at 1.10pm with refreshments provided. Everyone is welcome at the drop in coffee morning at 10.30am on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April. Please come and join us!

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) is due to take place straight after the 10am service on 27<sup>th</sup> April so we need to ensure that we have as many of our regular congregation on the parish electoral roll as possible. Anyone who is a subscriber to Keynotes should also be on the roll. Make sure you are in a position to vote at the APCM. If you need a form, you can contact Pam Miles, the Electoral Roll Secretary, telephone number 552744. The number of people we have on the Electoral Roll determines the number of representatives we can have on the Deanery Synod so a strong Electoral Roll gives us a larger say.

Finally, if you have a story/ article or photo to share please send it to us at [stpetersadmin@zoho.com](mailto:stpetersadmin@zoho.com)

Editorial Committee

**For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”**

**John 6:40**

## RECTOR'S RAMBLINGS

I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world. (John 16:33)



A statue of the risen Christ stands amongst the blood-splattered damage of St. Sebastian's Church in Negombo, Sri Lanka

On Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019, terrorists attacked churches across Sri Lanka during worship, taking the lives of at least 253 innocent men, women, and children and injuring over 500 others. It is heartbreaking that such a tragedy occurred on the holiest day of the Christian calendar.

Yet, amidst the sorrow and persecution, we are reminded of the profound significance of Christ's victory at Easter. The events recorded in the four Gospels show us how necessary Christ's suffering was to secure the forgiveness of sins and how His resurrection offers us unparalleled hope.

Hasaru Jayakody, who lost his mother in the attack and spent his 17th birthday in critical care, reflects on that day's horrors. Remarkably, he and his congregation chose to forgive the terrorists. The statue that was splattered with the blood of innocent worshipers now stands in the rebuilt church, symbolising the price paid and the triumph of hope and faith.

This tragedy highlights an incredible truth: the shedding of innocent blood is precious in God's sight, yet Christ Himself shed His blood for sinners, even those who perpetrate such evil.

As we reflect on Christ's entry into a world of pain and violence, let us remember His ultimate sacrifice. Through His death and resurrection, He overcame the devil, sin, and death. This is the greatest news of all—a victory that offers us peace and hope, no matter the trials we face.

**Hallelujah! Christ is Risen!**

Rev. Tim

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## **WOMEN'S SOCIAL GROUP**

Events to look forward to in April:

10th Visit to Hassocks' Garden Centre with lunch

(18th is Good Friday)

24th Coffee morning at Sandy's with Alma helping

And as I am writing this report - on the last day of February, - we still have to come the events in March:

The AGM on the 13th March, in Church, at 10.30am, and

Coffee in Church, organised by Gill with Moz's help on the 27th!

On the 13th of February we enjoyed meeting with all our good friends and sharing a perfectly cooked fish and chips at Bakers' on Western road.

Also, we thank Carol very much for hosting, with Pam's help, a very pleasant coffee morning in her home. As usual it was well attended...

I expect that you already know that the next Charity our Social Group is to Support is - Time To Talk Befriending/ TTTBF -. I feel very privileged personally to have many very supportive church friends, a large caring family and kind neighbours to help and support me at a difficult time. But, if you don't have any of those, are lonely TTTBF, I am sure would become precious, as well as the Counselling offered by different organisations...

Thank you to Moz and our Committee, who have already drafted our programme for 2025/26, with in mind our transport and our physical limits. What would we do without our dear Moz firm hand at the tiller to keep all this going and efficiently organised, your work over so many years is much appreciated by all.

There are four birthdays in April, they are:

Rosemary on the 5th

Daphne Porteous on the 22nd and

Beryl on the 22nd too

Sandy on the 25th

We send you our Very Best Wishes!

We think much of our dear friends who are unwell, in nursing homes or simply cared for at home and hope you are all as comfortable as possible and send you all our love.

Georgette Bassant

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**"I'm really not sure about this trend  
for clergy dressing down, dear."**



## **Our charity for April World Vision**



World Vision UK enables British families to help transform millions of children's lives. An international Christian charity for children, they work in almost 100 countries where the need is greatest, supporting children, their families and communities to experience fullness of life.

As a Christian charity, we help children – of all faiths and none – in some of the world's most dangerous places. We believe it takes a whole community to create happy and fulfilling childhoods. And we work together with communities so they're empowered to do just that.

Our integrated approach includes water, healthcare, education, child protection, and income generation. With the aim of allowing every child to fulfil their God-given potential.

Across almost 100 countries, our impassioned community of supporters, volunteers and community leaders work together to transform children's lives. Together, we will never give up.

Through World Vision's work, every 60 seconds a family gets water, a hungry child is fed, a family receives the tools to overcome poverty.

Thanks to the support of people like you, our focus is on helping the most vulnerable children overcome poverty and experience fullness of life. We help children of all backgrounds, even in the most dangerous places, inspired by our Christian faith.

Please support them if you can.

## **Easter Services 2025**

### **Maundy Thursday**

11am – Holy Communion, with optional foot washing and striping of the altars

6pm Agape Meal (Simple bring and share) in the Community Centre

### **Good Friday**

10am – Walk of witness starting at St. Peter's church.

3pm – Good Friday Meditation – Hour at the cross.

### **Holy Saturday**

2-4pm Easter Craft Family Fun - Community Centre

### **Easter Sunday**

5.45am – Sunrise service outside St. Peter's church

10am – All-age Easter Eucharist



## **Blue Jeans Day – Saturday, 8th March**

On Saturday, 8th March, over 20 members of the congregation rolled up their sleeves and donned their old jeans for our twice-yearly Blue Jeans Day, a valuable opportunity to care for our churchyard and buildings.

The churchyard is not just a place of rest and reflection but also a haven for wildlife and a well-used pathway in our parish. As its stewards, we have a responsibility to ensure it remains a welcoming and well-kept space for everyone.

With a good mix of ages and skills, the team tackled a range of tasks, including trimming hedges, climbing trees, weeding, pruning roses, and cleaning the church porch. The morning's hard work was rewarded with well-deserved bacon rolls and a chance to catch up over a cuppa.

A big thank you to everyone who gave up their time to help. Your efforts are greatly appreciated and make a real difference to the life of the church and its surroundings. We look forward to seeing you at the next Blue Jeans Day later this year on the 8<sup>th</sup> November!

Rev Tim



## **February's lunchtime concert**

Sometimes we get requests from people who would like to give a recital for us in our lunchtime concert series (now in its 14<sup>th</sup> year) and this was one such concert. Zhanna Kemp, who is a pianist/accompanist, wrote to us as she had recently started to work with Caroline Goodwin who is a lyric soprano.

They decided on a programme of songs and a piano piece written entirely by female composers. I never realised there were so many particularly as most of them in their programme were born in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (one was born in the 17<sup>th</sup>). The music was varied and most enjoyable with two lovely songs by Cécile Chaminade whose music I first heard during Simon Carrey's piano recital in April last year. Their concert concluded with the well known Shakespearean song 'It was a lover and his lass' but to a tune not known to us. It was a small audience perhaps due to half term and some illness but we much appreciated their well-presented and educative programme.

Michael Evans

## **10 Easter one-liners**

What do you need if your chocolate eggs mysteriously disappear?  
An eggsplanation

What kind of jewellery does the Easter Bunny wear? 14-carrot gold

What is the Easter Bunny's favourite kind of music? Hip hop

What do you call an Easter Bunny wearing a kilt? Hopscotch

What do you call a bunny with fleas? Bugs Bunny

What do you call a line of rabbits jumping backwards? A receding hare-line

How can you tell which rabbits are oldest in a group? Just look for the gray hares.

Why do people paint eggs for Easter? It's easier than trying to wallpaper them!

What do rabbits say before they eat? "Lettuce pray."

Where does Christmas come before Easter? The dictionary.

## **Our Trip to Sri Lanka in Jan 2025 meeting up with Sriyamal Fernando (Missionary Priest)**

We had previously been introduced to Sriyamal when he visited our own Church of St. Peters, West Blatchington at the invite of Fr. Jan Butters and his wife Jenny. Sriyamal was a missionary priest from Sri Lanka and he ministered in a male prison in Negombo. We knew that we would be travelling to Sri Lanka in only four months time so we went over to meet him and chat with him. Pete and Sriyamal exchanged phone numbers and we expected that would be last of it ..... how wrong we were!!

Pete got a phone message from Sriyamal on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2025 asking if we knew what our plans were! We were not travelling until 16<sup>th</sup> January and as many of our friends will know, we don't follow "the rules". We had booked the flights there and back, two nights in a hotel in Colombo and nothing in between! We didn't even know if we would make it to Negombo, but we promised to stay in touch.

After a city tour on foot of Colombo, which brought back memories of our holiday there in 2008 with Tom and Ed, (we even visited the Galle Face Hotel where we all stayed for a couple of nights back then) we were ready to move on.

Sri Lanka has an App called PickMe, which is equivalent to our Uber, and I used it all the time. We wanted to travel all down the west coast, along the south coast to Tissamaharama, about 26km from Yala National Park. Our guide from 2008 didn't want to take us down to the South Coast because of the existing devastation from the 2004 tsunami so we were determined to focus on the S coast this time. We picked up a driver from PickMe, Manjula (nickname Susa) and he drove us 350km in his car for 7.5 hours; he was amazing! We stopped at roadside stalls (nothing Westernized going on here!), we ate buffalo curds and honey eaten from banana leaf, nelli (a Sri Lankan gooseberry, which is the most bitter thing that I've ever eaten) and rambutans that we were familiar with. We felt safe in his car and after 350km we paid £70.00!

We spent two days in Yala National Park doing safaris, though the naughty leopards were elusive as climate change is affecting Sri Lanka also and we had torrential rain in the dry season.

We then headed north to Ella, again with our trusted driver Susa and we stayed in a fantastic little hotel and our balcony overlooked the Little Rawana Ella Falls, spectacular! It was cold up in the mountains, 16C! I will never forget her yellow dhal lentil curry and fresh coconut and palm sugar pancakes for breakfast. We climbed Little Adam's Peak in torrential rain (again).

Then we headed south to the heat and the sea. We stayed in Marissa for a couple of days going on whale-watching and dolphin watching boat trips, swimming with turtles and generally having fun. We visited the

Tsumani Community Experience Museum in Hikkaduwa which has graphic pictures of the events of Boxing Day, 2024 which are very harrowing. 55,000 people had to be buried in a mass grave within 24 hours because of the risk of cholera spreading throughout the country.

From Marissa we went to Galle for 2 days and then headed back to a hotel in Negombo, then we finally knew that we might be able to meet up with Sriyamal and his family. I had picked a random hotel in the city of Negombo and it happened to be 6km from Sriyamal's home!



Sriyamal came to pick us up from our hotel, he wanted to give us a guided tour of his city; so proud of his city! As a dedicated foodie, he asked if we would like to visit the fish market! Bring it on!! We loved it!

Sriyamal drove us to his family home (torrential rain again); we were welcomed by his lovely wife Doreen, who had prepared a feast fit for kings - giant prawns, chicken, rice, string hoppers (rice noodles), fresh greens and it was the most amazing and delicious food.

We talked about his ministry within the prison service and he said that they had approx. 20 young male offenders in a 12 x 12m room, no beds, no television, no phone access and no toilet facilities; can we imagine



that? And if you get up from your floor space to visit the “toilet space” someone will be in your place when you get back.

Likewise Doreen spoke to us about her work within the female prison service and what shocked us the most was that “all the female prisoners are drug addicts” but the male prisoners aren’t!

Such a lovely, generous family doing such good work in the prisons to get folk back on the right track.



We loved our trip to Sri Lanka again; I want to see a country at its own level, not from a touristic perspective; we loved the people of Sri Lanka, their drive, their determination, their beliefs, their kindness and their ambition.

Peter and Lorraine Blakeney

**"Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life.  
No one comes to the Father except through me."  
~ John 14:6**

## **An after-Easter prayer**

Don't leave our Lord amidst the lilies  
Within a hallowed sphere  
Don't praise Him only in your churches  
In Easter hymn and prayer...

Keep Him beside you through  
The business of ordinary days,  
In the common place encounters  
Along the humdrum ways.

Our Master told us very simply  
What He would have us do....  
He taught: "Love one another  
Even as I love you."

By Elsie Campbell



**“Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was  
raised— who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is  
interceding for us.”**

**Romans 8:34**

## **St Peter's Ladies Group – Our Charity of the Year - Plot 22**

During the past year the Ladies Group of St Peter's have been raising funds for the charity Plot 22 and on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March we were able to give to Alison, the garden lead at Plot 22, a cheque for £1350. This is a local charity which runs a community garden at the allotments in Weald Avenue in Hove. The ethos of the charity is that Plot 22 is a space to share in planting, growing, and eating of healthy food in an environment of friendship and relaxation and making good use of natural resources. It reaches out to families, local residents, and community groups especially those facing additional challenges and helps to build friendships and develop a connection to the natural world. There are sessions for children, people living with dementia and older isolated people. It is truly an amazing space.

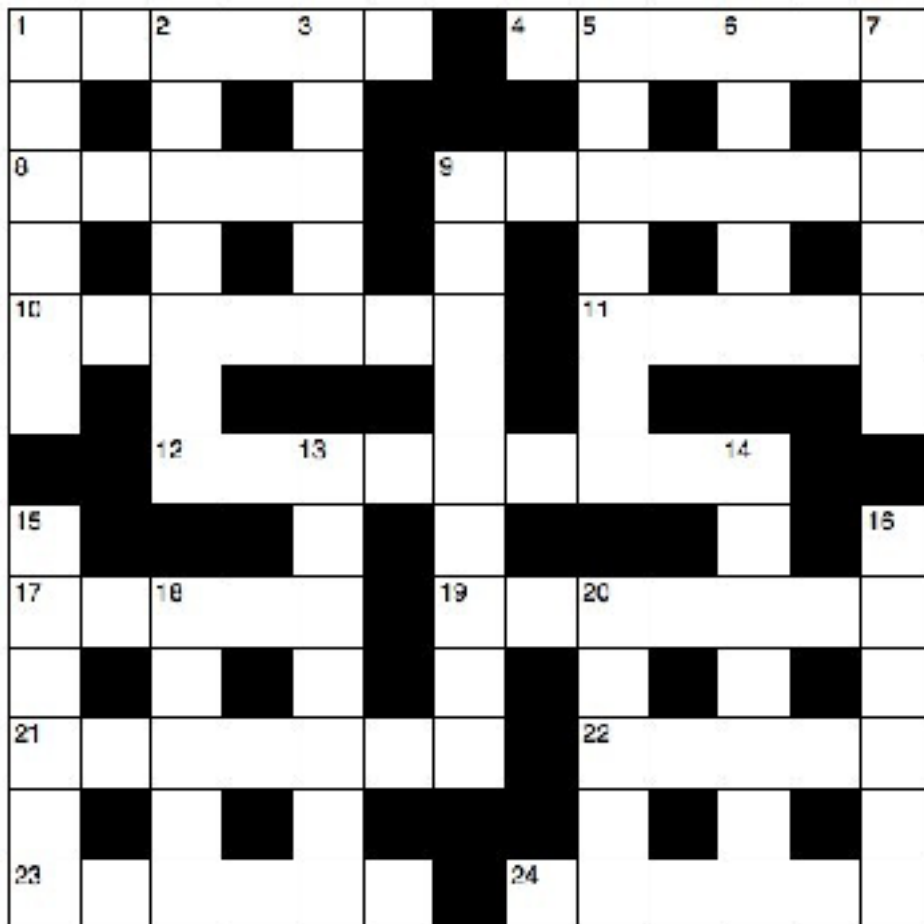
If you would like further information please visit their web-site [www.-plot22.org](http://www.plot22.org) or check with Christine James.



## Crossword Clues

### Across

- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
- 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
- 8 'Unless I see the nail marks — — hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3)
- 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)
- 10 Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry — (7)
- 11 'Look, here is — . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5)
- 12 Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)
- 17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3-4) (5)
- 19 'Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had spoken with the Lord' (Exodus 34:29) (7)
- 21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7)
- 22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)
- 23 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the — apostles' (Acts 1:26) (6)
- 24 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in — and you came to visit me' (Matthew 25:36) (6)



## Down

- 1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)
- 2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)
- 3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)
- 5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)
- 6 11 Across is certainly this (5)
- 7 He reps (anag.) (6)
- 9 Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)
- 13 Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)
- 14 They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)
- 15 The human mind or soul (6)
- 16 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is — ' (Graham Kendrick) (6)
- 18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not — ' (Matthew 11:17) (5)
- 20 Bared (anag.) (5)

**11 See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone.  
12 Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come,  
the cooing of doves is heard in our land.  
13 The fig tree forms its early fruit; the blossoming vines spread  
their fragrance. Arise, come, my darling; my beautiful one, come  
with me."**

## Song of Songs 2:11-13

### Mr Bones

The orthopedic surgeon I work for was moving to a new office, and we, his staff, were helping transport many of the items. I sat the display skeleton in the front of my car, his boney arm across the back of my seat. I hadn't considered the drive across town. At one traffic light, the stares of the people in the car beside me became obvious, and I looked across and called, "I'm delivering him to my doctor's office."

The other driver leaned out of his window. "I hate to tell you, lady," he said, "but I think it's too late!"

## THE PATRON SAINTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

The Second in the series of United Kingdom Saints

### SAINT DEWI (or DAVID) in English– Patron Saint of Wales

Information concerning the life of Saint David has become masked by the passage of time with legend and truth greatly inter-twined. Most of the information comes from the writings of Rhygyfarch some 500 years after Saint David's life.

David is traditionally believed to have been born around 462 – 515 AD into an aristocratic family, the son of a Cardigan chieftain, Sant and St Non, a Nun, during a violent thunderstorm in Pembrokeshire. The ruins of Non's chapel reportedly marks the location and the water from a Holy Well nearby is said to have healing properties. According to legend his birth was foretold by an angel, some 30 years earlier, to St Patrick of Ireland

He was educated at a monastery and became a missionary spreading the news of Christianity far and wide. He was reported to be a great speaker and preacher, and he founded monastic settlements in Wales, Southwest England and Brittany. His monastic settlements followed a very strict, austere life and ate only bread, vegetables, some say only leeks, and drank only water. They even ploughed without using animals and spent much of their time praying and teaching. Saint David's nickname at the time was Dewi Ddyfrwr – the water drinker. He was renowned as a teacher and his asceticism spread among Celtic Christians, but he was also considered a kindly and generous man. He founded the Celtic monastic community at Glyn Rhosyn in Pembrokeshire and this became an important shrine, perhaps the most important, in Wales. Today it is where St David's Cathedral stands.

Saint David travelled to Jerusalem on pilgrimage, and it was here he was ordained as Bishop of Mynyw in the 6<sup>th</sup> century. He is said to have brought a rock back from Jerusalem which now sits on the alter in Saint David's Cathedral. He also is reported to have visited Glastonbury to rededicate the Abbey there.

Several miracles have been attributed to Saint David including curing his tutor of blindness by marking him with the sign of the cross and bringing a dead boy back to life by splashing tears on the face of the boy. His most famous miraculous event however occurred when he was preaching before a large crowd in Llanddewibrefi. The ground rose under the feet of Saint David forming a small hill and thus enabling people at the back of the crowd to hear him. A white dove appeared, sent by God, it was alleged, and settled on his shoulder.



This image of him with a dove on his shoulder is how he is mostly widely depicted. It is thought he was canonized in about 1123 by Pope Calixtus the second and has been Patron Saint of Wales since this time and approximately sixty churches are dedicated to him in Wales.

Although not much is known about his later life Saint David reportedly died on 1<sup>st</sup> March 589 AD at Mynyw, Dyfed and was buried in his own monastery in Glyn Rhosyn. The chapel was repeatedly raided by the Vikings but was always rebuilt and the town of Saint David's gradually grew here. Saint David's bones are now housed in a casket in the Holy Trinity Chapel of Saint David's Cathedral, but it is unlikely that they are actually his bones as they have been carbon dated to the twelve century. His legacy is what is most important, however.

His final words were "Be joyful, keep the faith, do the little things you have seen me do" and even now "do the little things" is a well-known Welsh colloquial saying.

Compiled from various sources, any errors entirely my own – Christine James



*...between you and me, it's the  
only way I can remember my PIN number!*

## **Prayer List Requests**

Each Sunday we pray for people in any kind of need.

These may be the names of people on the prayer list which is printed in the Pew Sheet each week. The names are not read out individually during Sunday Intercessions, but are prayed for individually at the monthly Wednesday Prayer Together Service.

This is a lovely, peaceful, prayerful time in The Old Church and is always finished with Compline. Please join us.

The Prayer Together Services are always on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.45pm.



### **St Peter's Pastoral Care Group**

**Our Pastoral Care Group exists to offer entirely confidential help and support on any pastoral matter.**

**Perhaps you would like a friendly visitor for a good chat now and then, help with transport, a name included in our prayer list at Church, some professional advice which we can help find, or an offer of Communion at home?**

**Please contact, in the first instance, Carol Gander on 01273 555414.**

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# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Lk 22:1-13, Mt 26:14-19, Mk 14:10-16

It was just before Passover, when Jews celebrate God rescuing them from Egypt. Jesus and his disciples were in Jerusalem...

The Chief Priests were plotting



Jesus' disciple Judas came to them...



We'd be happy to pay you



30 silver coins



30 silver coins happened to be the same amount that had to be paid as compensation to the owner if a slave was killed Ex. 31:32



Meanwhile, Peter and John asked Jesus...



They did, and asked the house owner



The room is upstairs on the roof, ready to use



Peter and John got the meal ready



That evening, Jesus and his 12 disciples went to the room to eat the Passover meal.



## **GREETINGS FROM ST MARK'S CHURCH, JOHANNESBURG**

Last year we welcomed at St Peter's a lovely lady, Mulalo, who was visiting her sister in Hove. Mulalo only came for three or four weeks, but she and I struck up a friendship which has continued on Whatsapp.

Mulalo attends the Anglican Church of St Mark in North Riding, Johannesburg. They follow the Church of England calendar to a tee, using the same readings as in the Lectionary.

They have been undergoing a great deal of restoration work as the roof of their hall was severely damaged by nearby building works during the building of a mosque or temple nearby. They were asked to leave their site (which contains the Church, hall, Reverend's quarters and school) where they have been for 30 years. Their prayers were answered and they have retained the site.



They have more than 700 congregants with three weekly services – one on Thursday for the elderly and those coming from retirement villages and those who can't make it on Sunday.



They have two services on Sunday, one at 7.30 a.m. and one at 8.30 p.m. and all services celebrate Holy Communion. Sunday School has more than 60 children and youth has more than 25.

Mulalo has three sons and a daughter and four grandchildren – three grandsons and one granddaughter. Her daughter is expecting a baby in July and Mulalo will be flying to America to be with her for 3-6 months. Two of Mulalo's sons are studying in the UK, one in Coventry and one in Manchester. Her oldest son, his wife and grandsons live with Mulalo but they will shortly be moving to Cape Town as his job relocates. When she was growing up, it was the norm for children to live with their grandparents throughout the school holidays and now the children will come for a week or so and will have their nanny with them!

I enjoy our Whatsapp conversations hugely.



Maggie Keeling

**Whoever walks in integrity walks securely,  
but whoever takes crooked paths will be found out.  
Proverbs 10:9**



## Small Donations Scheme

We have reintroduced the above scheme, or SDS, which ran very successfully up to several years ago. The idea is to give people the opportunity to make a donation towards the cost of items which are one-off purchases or materials which we use. These donations are not regular but are on an “as and when able” basis which may be something in which they are interested.

The next edition of Keynotes will then contain a “thank you” notice for the gift which can be anonymous or include the sponsor’s name.

Mandy has produced a list of items which may appeal to the congregation and any discussion can be held in confidence with her. This list includes the following;

Wafers for communion	£	29.28
Carbon Monoxide Alarms	£	43.98
Cleaning materials	£	66.07
Printing paper	£	23.80
Piano tuning fee	£	80.00
New kettles	£	16.88
Concert advertising in the Arts Council magazine	£	40.00
Books for Sunday School	£	60.00

### Thank you for your sponsorship

Our grateful thanks go to the people who wishing to remain anonymous, very kindly donated the cost of refreshments for Blue Jeans Saturday, new lawn mower blades and for the annual fire extinguisher maintenance.

If you would like to make a donation to help with the funding of some of the items of expenditure in and around our Church then please contact Mandy Gander, our Treasurer.

## **April 2025: Bluebell Hues**

*By Kerry Williams: Communications Officer – Conservation*

Like many people, Bluebells are a blast of nostalgia for me. I remember woodland days out as a kid; clambering up trees and scrawling thrilling finds like 'Woodpigeon' in biro in soggy exercise books. Bluebell season always required a visit. There's not much like the all-encompassing violet thwack of Bluebells in ancient woodland. Sickly-sweet scent in your nostrils, the hues of the rich indigo carpet somehow also hanging in the air, and the understory buzzing with busy pollinators, who, just like you, are making the most of this abundant explosion.

We love a limited edition, a special experience that we must make the most of. Like one-off characters in your cereal box, like happy hour, like Nightingales. And Bluebell fever is no different. Every April and May, Sussex woodlands erupt with millions of these vivid beauties, announcing that spring truly, finally, fabulously, has sprung. This early flowering provides a welcome bounty for struggling wildlife and allows Bluebells to make the most of the sunlight before the woodland canopy becomes too dense.

Like many of our native wildflowers, the British Bluebell is up against it. At risk from habitat loss of precious ancient woodland, and threatened by a changing climate, the plant is also in competition with an interloper; the Spanish Bluebell. A non-native species, the Spanish Bluebell tends to outcompete its native counterpart for resources such as light and space. It can also hybridise with our native species, diluting the native Bluebell's characteristics. So how can you tell these two species apart?



The native Bluebell, *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, has narrow leaves and tubular-bell shaped flowers of deep-violet blue which curl back at the edges. The flowers are generally down one side of the stem, which has a distinctive droop to it. The Spanish species, *Hyacinthoides hispanica*, has broader leaves and a paler blue, conical shaped flower. The stem is upright and covered with flowers on all sides. A big difference between the two is the Spanish has no scent, whilst the native Bluebell smells sweet.

The idea of plants 'escaping' your garden invokes notions of under-the-cover-of-darkness creeping, but it's easier than you think for non-native species to go astray. Uncovered cuttings and garden waste can easily blow into communal areas or can be carried by animals, to proliferate in new, wild areas. If choosing to plant Bluebells in your garden, it's best to choose the UK species for this reason. In a small way you could be supporting our native species to recolonise our wild woodlands, and to keep them smelling sweet.



## The taxi

The passenger tapped the cab driver on the shoulder to ask him something. The driver screamed, lost control of the car, nearly hit a bus, went up on the pavement, and stopped inches from a shop window. For a second everything went quiet in the cab, then the driver said, "Look mate, don't ever do that again. You scared me half to death!"

The passenger apologised and said he hadn't realised that a little tap would scare him so much. The driver replied, "You're right. I'm sorry. Really, it's not your fault. Today is my first day as a cab driver. I've been driving a hearse for 25 years."

## **REGULAR WEEKLY SERVICES**

10.00 am Sunday Parish Eucharist with Sunday School in term time (except third Sunday of the month)

10.00 am All-Age Worship on the third Sunday of the month

1st Wednesday of the month at 7.45 pm -  
Prayer Together and Compline

3rd Wednesday of the month at 7.45pm -  
Shorter Eucharist Service

10.00 am Online service via Youtube



The Rector is always available for spiritual counsel and healing prayer

**The views expressed by individuals in Keynotes are not necessarily the views of the Church of St Peter, West Blatchington, or the Editorial Team. External advertising in this magazine does not imply any endorsement or promotion of the advertisement or its content, products or services. Errors and omissions, whilst regrettable, may occur. Please advise any member of the Editorial Team in writing and corrections will be published.**

**FRIDAYS AT ST PETER'S  
St Peter's 'Open Church' drop-in**

**The First Friday of each month  
10.30am – 12noon**

**For coffee, conversation and companionship.**

**We are open between 10.30am and 12 noon for you to 'drop-in' for a coffee, piece of cake and a chat.  
A very warm welcome awaits you, so please do 'drop-in' we'd love to see you.**

**KEYNOTES - HELP!**

We are looking for some new material for Keynotes. Could you write a piece about something that interests you, something in our local area that you have knowledge of, a special holiday you have been on or anything else that you think others may enjoy reading. If you do then please send it to [mandycgander@icloud.com](mailto:mandycgander@icloud.com) at any time that suits you. Your support would be much appreciated.



## **WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR GARDEN?**

- 1) Lift and divide established border perennial plants now to improve vigour and create new plants for your garden.
- 2) Pinch out tips of Fuschias and Sweet Peas to encourage bushy growth this summer.
- 3) Divide Primroses once they have finished flowering.
- 4) Plant Rhododendrons bushes once the threat of frost has passed and the ground is moist.
- 5) Tie in climbing Roses.
- 6) Prune Penstemons now - cut back all the old shoots to the base provided there is new growth at the bottom of the plant.
- 7) Finish cutting back any dead foliage on perennial and ornamental grass plants.
- 8) Prune Forsythia as soon as they have finished flowering.
- 9) Tie in new Honeysuckle and Clematis stems.
- 10) Deadhead Daffodils and Tulips as the flowers finish but allow the foliage to die back naturally.
- 11) Sow lawn seed now on well prepared soil and keep the soil moist while it germinates.
- 12) For an instant lawn lay new turf this month and keep it moist until it is established.
- 13) Mow your lawn more regularly as required.
- 14) Give your greenhouse a thorough scrub (if you haven't done so already) with hot soapy water.





## COME INTO MY KITCHEN.....

This month I am giving you a couple of pie recipes.

### **CHICKEN PATCHWORK PIE**

SERVES 4

25g butter  
2 leeks, halved lengthways, washed and finely sliced  
500g skinless chicken thigh fillets, cut into chunks  
1½ tbsp plain flour  
300ml chicken stock  
4 tbsp double cream  
75g pecorino romano (or parmesan) finely grated  
350g ready-rolled puff pastry  
1 egg, beaten, to glaze

Melt the butter in a pan and then gently fry the leeks for 5 mins. Add the chicken and cook for 10 mins until opaque, then sprinkle over the flour and cook for 3 mins, stirring. Gradually stir in the stock, then simmer for 5 mins. Stir in the cream, cheese and 1-2 tsp of freshly ground black pepper, depending on how peppery you like it. Taste and season with a little salt if needed.

Tip into a 23cm pie dish and leave to cool then chill for 30 mins or until you want to bake it.

Heat the oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6. Unroll the pastry and cut into 4cm x 6cm rectangles. Brush each piece with egg then use to cover the surface of the pie, patchworking and overlapping so there are no gaps. Chill for 20 mins then glaze again. Make a steam hole in the middle of the pie with a small sharp knife.

Bake for 40 mins until the pastry is crisp, puffed and golden.

This next recipe would be lovely on Good Friday.

## **FLORENTINE FISH PIE**

SERVES 4-6

300g baby spinach  
4 eggs  
30g butter  
1 medium leek, finely chopped  
30g plain flour  
350ml milk  
150ml double cream  
½ small bunch of parsley, chopped  
½ small bunch chives, chopped  
250g firm white skinless fish (such as cod, hake or haddock)  
200g large raw peeled prawns

### **MASH**

1kg Maris Piper potatoes, peeled, cut into chunks  
Large knob of butter  
Splash of milk

Wilt the spinach in the microwave or in a pan with a tiny splash of water. Leave to cool completely then squeeze out as much water as you can. Roughly chop, then scatter in the base of a buttered, large baking dish.

Boil the eggs for 9 mins then run under cold water until cool. Peel and quarter, then sit on top of the spinach.

Heat the oven to 190C/170C fan/ gas 5. Melt the butter in a pan and gently cook the leeks until really soft.

Sir in the flour and cook for 3-4 mins or until the flour smells nutty. Gradually stir in the milk until saucy and then simmer for 5 mins. Add the cream and bring gently back to a simmer for a couple of minutes. Season well, then stir in the parsley, chives, fish and prawns, then take off the heat. Spoon evenly over the eggs and spinach.

To make the mash, boil the potatoes in salted water until tender. Drain, then tip back into the pan over a low heat to dry out slightly. Add the butter, milk and some seasoning. Mash really well. Spoon over the fish, then spread out using a fork so you end up with a rough surface. Dot or brush with more butter for a golden top.

Bake for 30-35 minutes or until the top is crisp and golden and the filling is bubbling and piping hot.

Maggie



***The Parish Church of St. Peter  
West Blatchington***

## **FREE LUNCHTIME CONCERT SERIES**

**Our afternoon concert series continues with**

**Saturday 5th April - Rebelles and  
Friday 25th April - Imogen Ryall**

**Start at 1.10pm**

**The Recitals are for approximately 40 minutes**

**Refreshments provided.**

**There is no admission charge, but donations to fund  
future concerts will be gratefully accepted.**

**All welcome!**



## **Holy Days**

### **13th April – Palm Sunday & Holy Week, an overview**

The events of Easter took place over a week, traditionally called Passion Week.

It began on Palm Sunday. After all His teaching and healing, Jesus had built a following.

On the Sunday before He was to die, Jesus and His followers arrived at Jerusalem. The city was crowded. Jewish people were arriving to celebrate Passover. This commemorates how they had escaped from slavery in Egypt nearly 1,500 years earlier.

Jesus rode into the city on a young donkey. He was greeted like a conquering hero. Cheering crowds waved palm branches in tribute. He was hailed as the Messiah who had come to re-establish a Jewish kingdom.

The next day they returned to Jerusalem. Jesus went to the temple, the epicentre of the Jewish faith, and confronted money-changers and merchants who were ripping off the people. He overturned their tables and accused them of being thieves. The religious authorities were alarmed and feared how He was stirring up the crowds.

On the Tuesday, they challenged Jesus, questioning His authority. He answered by challenging and condemning their hypocrisy. Later that day Jesus spoke to His disciples about future times. He warned them about fake religious leaders; the coming destruction of Jerusalem; wars, earthquakes and famines; and how His followers would face persecution.

By midweek the Jewish religious leaders and elders were so angry with Jesus that they began plotting to arrest and kill Him. One of Jesus' disciples, Judas, went to the chief priests and agreed to betray Him to them.

Jesus and the 12 disciples gathered on the Thursday evening to celebrate the Passover meal. This is known as the Last Supper. During the evening, Jesus initiated a ritual still marked by Christians – Holy Communion – which commemorates His death. Jesus broke bread and shared it and a cup of wine with His disciples.

Judas then left to meet the other plotters. Jesus continued to teach the others and then went outside into an olive grove to pray. He even prayed for all future believers. He agonised over what was to come but chose the way of obedience. The Bible book, Luke, records Him praying, 'Father if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will but yours be done'. Minutes later Judas arrived with soldiers and the chief priests and Jesus was arrested.

### **13th April – Palm Sunday, Jesus at the gates of Jerusalem**

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, when the Church remembers how Jesus arrived at the gates of Jerusalem just a few days before the Passover was due to be held. He was the Messiah come to His own people in their capital city, and yet He came in humility, riding on a young donkey, not in triumph, riding on a war-horse.

As Jesus entered the city, the crowds gave Him a rapturous welcome, throwing palm fronds into His path. They knew His reputation as a healer, and they welcomed Him. But sadly, the welcome was short-lived and shallow, for Jerusalem would soon reject her Messiah, and put Him to death. On this day churches worldwide will distribute little crosses made from palm fronds in memory of Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem.

### **17th April – What is Maundy Thursday?**

Maundy Thursday is the 5th day of Holy Week. 'Maundy' comes from the Latin word for command, 'mandare'. On this day the Church looks back to Jesus' command to His disciples that they should: "Love one another as I have loved you."

On the evening of Maundy Thursday Jesus shared the Last Supper with His disciples, before going on to the Garden of Gethsemane and being arrested. It was the last evening He had with them before His crucifixion.

### **17th April – Maundy Thursday, time to wash feet**

Maundy Thursday is famous for two things. The first is one of the final acts that Jesus did before His death: the washing of His own disciples' feet (see John 13). Jesus washed His disciples' feet for a purpose: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." His disciples were to love through service, not domination, of one another.

In Latin, the opening phrase of this sentence is 'mandatum novum do vobis'. The word 'maundy' is thus a corruption of the Latin 'mandatum' (or command).



The ceremony of the 'washing of the feet' of members of the congregation came to be an important part of the liturgy (regular worship) of the medieval church, symbolising the humility of the clergy, in obedience to the example of Christ.

But Thursday was also important because it was on that night that Jesus first introduced the Lord's Supper, or what we nowadays call Holy Communion.

Jesus and His close friends had met in a secret upper room to share the Passover meal together – for the last time. And there Jesus transformed the Passover into the Lord's Supper, saying, 'this is my body' and 'this is my blood' as He, the Lamb of God, prepared to die for the sins of the whole world. John's gospel makes it clear that the Last Supper took place the evening BEFORE the regular Passover meal, and that later Jesus died at the same time that the Passover lambs were killed.

### **17th April – Why do Christians wash feet on Maundy Thursday?**

At the Last Supper Jesus shocked His disciples by washing their feet. He did this as an example, to demonstrate to them that they should serve others with humility. Over the centuries, some churches have recreated this act of humility at a special service on Maundy Thursday.

### **18th April – Good Friday, the day the Son of God died for you**

Good Friday is the day on which Jesus died on the cross. He was crucified at 9am in the morning, and died six hours later, at 3pm. It is the most solemn day in the Christian year and is widely marked by the removal of all decorations from churches. In Lutheran churches, the day was marked by the reading of the passion narrative in a gospel, a practice which lies behind the 'passions' composed by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750). Both the St Matthew Passion and the St John Passion have their origins in this observance of Good Friday.

The custom of observing a period of three hours' devotion from 12 midday to 3pm on Good Friday goes back to the 18th century. The 'Three Hours of the Cross' often take the form of an extended meditation on the 'Seven Last Words from the Cross', with periods of silence, prayer, or hymn-singing.

## **18th April – Good Friday, Jesus and the thieves on the Cross**

Luke's account of the crucifixion (Luke 23:32-43) emphasises the mocking of the crowd, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself' (35,37,39). In their view a Messiah does not hang on a cross and suffer. In considering the two men who were crucified with Jesus, we are also confronted with the issue of how Jesus secures salvation for us.

The words of one of those crucified with Jesus reflected the crowd's taunts: 'Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us.' He highlights the question of Jesus' identity: how can He save others, when He cannot save Himself from death? He failed to see that the cross itself was the means of salvation.

So – what kind of Messiah was Jesus?

The other criminal's response in his last moments is a moving expression of faith. When challenging the other man, he spoke of the utter injustice of the crucifixion: 'this man has done nothing wrong.' He perceived the truth that Jesus was indeed the Messiah. In a wonderful picture of grace, 'remember me when You come into Your kingdom', the second thief confessed his guilt and secured Jesus' forgiveness and mercy.

In reply, Jesus promised the man life from the moment of death; 'Today you will be with Me in paradise.' Jesus used the picture of a walled garden to help the man understand His promise of protection and security in God's love and acceptance eternally.

Each one of us has to choose how we react to Jesus on the cross. Do we want Him to 'remember' us when He comes into His kingdom, or not? If you were to die tonight, how confident would you be of going to be with Jesus? 'For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God' (1 Peter 3:18).

## **19th April – Easter Eve or Holy Saturday**

Easter Eve is the last day of Lent. It is the day between Good Friday and Easter Day, and represents the one full day that Jesus was dead. It is a day of quiet reflection and anticipation for Christians worldwide.

In various church traditions it is known as Easter Eve, Holy Saturday, the Great Sabbath, Hallelujah Saturday, Saturday of the Glory, and Black Saturday.

Easter Eve is sometimes incorrectly called Easter Saturday. But Easter Saturday is the Saturday following Easter Sunday.

Most churches do not have any services on Easter Eve. In the Catholic Church, the altar remains stripped completely bare. Many Lutheran, Anglican, Methodist, and other churches observe many of the same customs as the Catholic Church; however, their altars may be covered in black instead of being stripped.

In the Catholic, Lutheran, Anglican, and Methodist traditions, Easter Eve lasts until nightfall, after which the Easter Vigil is celebrated, marking the official start of the Easter season.

What did Jesus do on that one full day in the grave? Christian understanding varies on this.

The Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox and most mainline Protestant churches teach that Jesus descended to the realm of the dead on Holy Saturday, to save the righteous souls who died before His crucifixion.

The catechism of the Catholic church calls the descent “the last phase of Jesus’ messianic mission,” during which He “opened heaven’s gates for the just who had gone before Him.”

Often called “the Harrowing of Hell,” the dramatic image of Jesus breaking down the doors of Hades has proved almost irresistible to artists, from the painter Hieronymus Bosch to the poet Dante to countless Eastern Orthodox iconographers.

But some Protestants say there is little scriptural evidence for the detour to hell, and that even Jesus’ own words contradict it. For on Good Friday, Jesus told the Good Thief crucified alongside Him that “today you will be with Me in Paradise,” according to Luke’s Gospel.

“That’s the only clue we have as to what Jesus was doing between death and resurrection,” John Piper, a prominent evangelical author and pastor from Minnesota, has said. “I don’t think the thief went to hell and that hell is called paradise.”

The Bible says little about the interlude between Jesus’ death and resurrection. Churches that teach He descended to the realm of the dead usually quote 1 Peter 3:18-20. “Christ was put to death as a human, but made alive by the Spirit,” Peter writes. “And it was by the Spirit that He went to preach to the spirits in prison.”

The descent might not have become a doctrine if not for a fourth-century bishop named Rufinus, who added that Jesus went ad inferna – to hell – in his commentary on the Apostles' Creed. The phrase stuck, but it was officially added to the influential creed only centuries later.

## **20th April – EASTER, the most joyful day of the year**

Easter is the most joyful day of the year for Christians. Christ has died for our sins. We are forgiven. Christ has risen! We are redeemed! We can look forward to an eternity in His joy! Hallelujah!

The Good News of Jesus Christ is a message so simple that you can explain it to someone in a few minutes. It is so profound that for the rest of their lives they will still be 'growing' in their Christian walk with God.

Why does the date move around so much? Because the date of Passover moves around, and according to the biblical account, Easter is tied to the Passover. Passover celebrates the Israelites' exodus from Egypt, and it lasts for seven days, from the middle of the Hebrew month of Nisan, which equates to late March or early April.

Sir Isaac Newton was one of the first to use the Hebrew lunar calendar to come up with firm dates for the first Good Friday: Friday 7th April 30 AD or Friday 3rd April, 33 AD with Easter Day falling two days later. Modern scholars continue to think these two Fridays to be the most likely.

Most people will tell you that Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, which is broadly true. But the precise calculations are complicated and involve something called an 'ecclesiastical full moon', which is not the same as the moon in the sky. The earliest possible date for Easter in the West is 22nd March, which last fell in 1818. The latest is 25th April, which last happened in 1943.

Why the name, 'Easter'? In almost every European language, the festival's name comes from 'Pesach', the Hebrew word for Passover. The Germanic word 'Easter', however, seems to come from Eostre, a Saxon fertility goddess mentioned by the Venerable Bede. He thought that the Saxons worshipped her in 'Eostur month,' but may have confused her with the classical dawn goddesses like Eos and Aurora, whose names mean 'shining in the east'. So, Easter might have meant simply 'beginning month' – a good time for starting up again after a long winter.

Finally, why Easter eggs? On one hand, they are an ancient symbol of birth in most European cultures.

On the other hand, hens start laying regularly again each Spring. Since eggs were forbidden during Lent, it's easy to see how decorating and eating them became a practical way to celebrate Easter.

## **20th April – Easter morning, the 'Other' Mary**

As the traditional Easter story is rehearsed again this month, you may notice that there is one name that frequently occurs. It is that of the 'other' Mary – not the mother of Jesus, but Mary Magdalene, who stood by her at the cross and became the first person to actually meet the risen Christ.

That's quite a record for a woman who, the Gospels tell us, had been delivered by Jesus from 'seven devils' – New Testament language for some dark and horrible affliction of body, mind or spirit. As a result, her devotion to Him was total and her grief at His death overwhelming.

In church history Mary Magdalene became the 'fallen woman' a harlot who was rescued and forgiven by Jesus but there is no evidence to prove she was a 'fallen woman' but the contrast is sublime, Mary the virgin mother, the symbol of purity. Mary Magdalene, the scarlet woman who was saved and forgiven, the symbol of redemption. Surely, we all fall somewhere between those two extremes.

The dark cloud from which she was delivered may have been sexual, we are not told. What we do know is that the two Marys stood together at the cross, the Blessed Virgin and the woman rescued from who knows what darkness and despair.

The second great moment for her was as unexpected as it was momentous. She had gone with other women to the tomb of Jesus and found it empty. An angelic figure told them that Jesus was not there, He had risen – and the others drifted off. But Mary stayed, reluctant to leave it like that. She became aware of a man nearby, whom she took to be the gardener. She explained to him that the body of 'her Lord' had been taken away and she didn't know where to find Him.

The man simply said her name 'Mary' and she instantly realised it was Jesus. She made to hug Him, but He told her not to touch Him because His resurrection was not yet complete. She was, however, to go to the disciples and tell them she had met Him. She did – but they wouldn't believe her.

Her words – 'I have seen the Lord' – echo down the centuries, the very beating heart of the Christian gospel.

## Crossword Solution

C	O	S	M	I	C		T	H	O	M	A	S
L		C		S			O		O			P
I	N	H	I	S		D	E	L	A	I	A	H
F		O		U		E		Y		S		E
F	A	L	W	E	L	L		W	A	T	E	R
S		A				I		A				E
		R	E	C	O	V	E	R	E	D		
P				A		E				E		S
S	I	D	O	N		R	A	D	I	A	N	T
Y		A		D		E		E		C		O
C	E	N	T	A	U	R		B	R	O	I	L
H		C		C				A		N		E
E	L	E	V	E	N		P	R	I	S	O	N

## Good Friday

I was standing in line at the bank when there was a commotion at the counter. A woman was very distressed, exclaiming, "Where will I put my money?! I have all my money and my mortgage here!! What will happen to my mortgage?! You can't do this to us!"

It turned out that she had misunderstood a small sign on the counter. The sign read: WE WILL BE CLOSED FOR GOOD FRIDAY.



## **MONEY MA££ERS - Figures for February 2025**

### **Receipts**

Planned Giving	£ 3,743
Community Centre Income	£ 1,287
Payaz Donation Station/Sundry Donations	£ 626
Keynotes subs/adverts	£ 205
Collections/other giving	£ 91
Investment income	£ 1,227
Easyfundraising	£ 177
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>£ 7,356</b>

### **Payments**

Parish Contribution	£ 6,790
Salaries	£ 817
Utilities and Insurance	£ 547
Rectory	£ 341
Community Centre running costs	£ 303
SumUp/Bank Charges	£ 37
PCC reimbursement of expenses	£ 56
Church running expenses	£ 51
Upkeep of services	£ 34
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>£ 8,976</b>

**Year to date deficit : £3,238**



<b>Date</b>	<b>Readings &amp; Intentions</b> Calendar for April (Year C)
<b>TUES</b> <b>1<sup>ST</sup></b>	The work of the Foodbank
<b>WEDS</b> <b>2<sup>ND</sup></b>	Those living outside our Parish
<b>THURS</b> <b>3<sup>RD</sup></b>	Ours Sidespeople
<b>FRI</b> <b>4<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our PCC
<b>SAT</b> <b>5<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our Standing Committee
<b>SUN</b> <b>6<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>Fifth Sunday of Lent Isaiah 43. 16-21 Philippians 3. 4b-14 John 12. 1-8</b>
<b>MON</b> <b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	Our Pastoral Care Team
<b>TUES</b> <b>8<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our Intercessors
<b>WEDS</b> <b>9<sup>TH</sup></b>	All Civil Servants
<b>THURS</b> <b>10<sup>TH</sup></b>	The Clergy of our Diocese
<b>FRI</b> <b>11<sup>TH</sup></b>	Christian Unity
<b>SAT</b> <b>12<sup>TH</sup></b>	All Missionaries
<b>SUN</b> <b>13<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>Palm Sunday Isaiah 50. 4-9a Philippians 2. 5-11 Luke 23. 1-49</b>
<b>MON</b> <b>14<sup>TH</sup></b>	Victims of political and social violence
<b>TUES</b> <b>15<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our City Council

<b>Date</b>	<b>Readings &amp; Intentions</b> Calendar for April (Year C)
<b>WEDS</b> <b>16<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our Churchwardens
<b>THURS</b> <b>17<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> Those that have attended the Alpha Courses
<b>FRI</b> <b>18<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>Good Friday</b> Sunday School
<b>SAT</b> <b>19<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our Lay Ministers of Communion
<b>SUN</b> <b>20<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>Easter Day Acts 10. 34-43</b> <b>1 Corinthians 15. 19-26 John 20. 1-18</b>
<b>MON</b> <b>21<sup>ST</sup></b>	Our organist Gill and the choir
<b>TUES</b> <b>22<sup>ND</sup></b>	Our Bible Study Groups
<b>WEDS</b> <b>23<sup>RD</sup></b>	All retired clergy and their spouses
<b>THURS</b> <b>24<sup>TH</sup></b>	The Women's Social Group
<b>FRI</b> <b>25<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our understanding of the Gospels
<b>SAT</b> <b>26<sup>TH</sup></b>	All theologians
<b>SUN</b> <b>27<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>Second Sunday of Easter Acts 5. 27-32</b> <b>Revelation 1. 4-8 John 20. 19-end</b>
<b>MON</b> <b>28<sup>TH</sup></b>	All writers on religious subjects
<b>TUES</b> <b>29<sup>TH</sup></b>	For all women clergy and theologians
<b>WEDS</b> <b>30<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our readers

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And finally.....

### **Prayer for April 2025**

Living Lord Jesus, We, your Easter People of today, thank You for the Easter People of the Gospel accounts.

For the women, who loved You so much that they went to the tomb, early in the morning, while it was still dark. Thank you especially for Mary, who wept, then rejoiced, then ran to tell the others, "I have seen the Lord!"

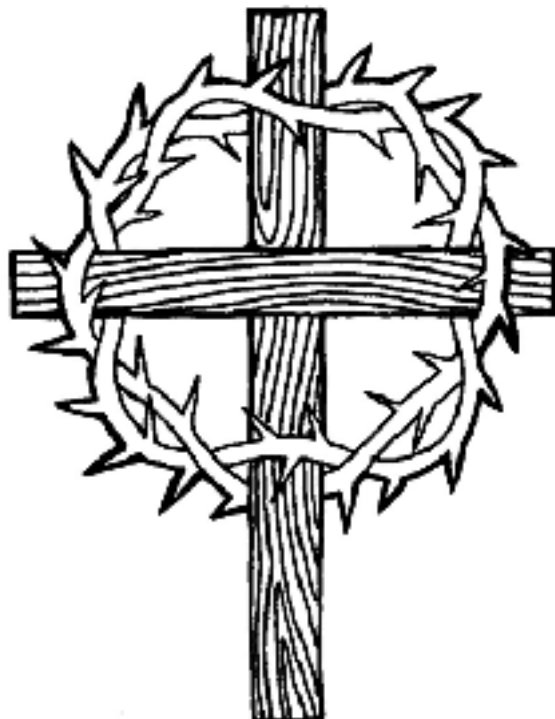
Thank you for Thomas, who doubted, then devoted his life to You, his Lord and his God; for the disciples who ate breakfast on the beach with You; for Peter, who was forgiven and re-commissioned by You.

Thank You for them and Your witnesses through all generations. Thank you for Your true and living written Word, proclaiming You, our true and living Lord, who lived and died and rose again to offer us forgiveness and life.

Thank you, Lord that because You live, we have hope and assurance, whatever challenges the world might bring.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. Hallelujah!

By Daphne Kitching















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