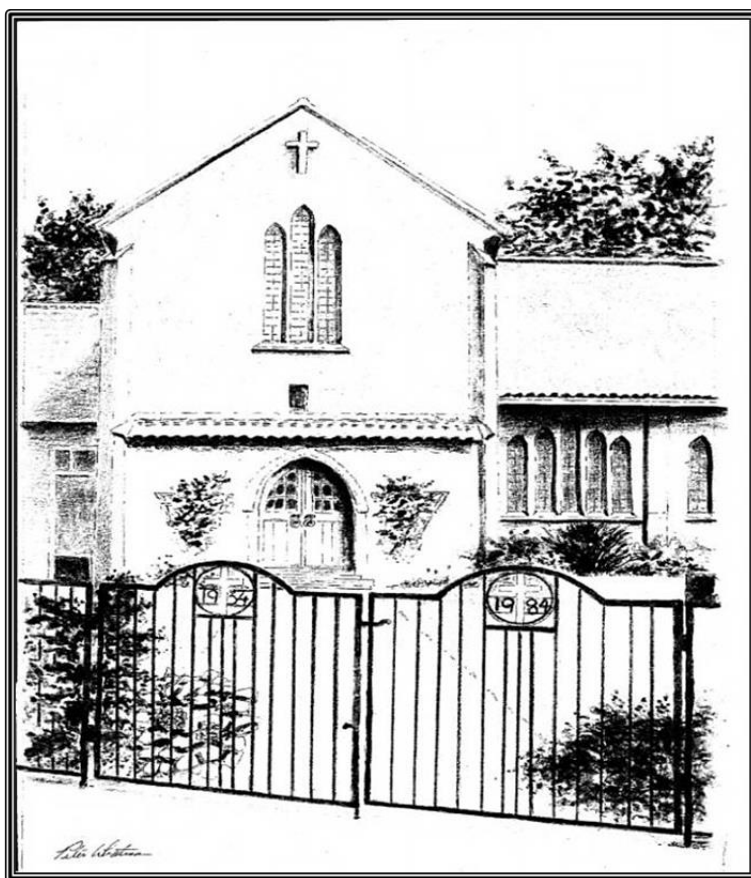


# CHURCH MAGAZINE

APRIL & MAY 2023

## *ST MARY OF NAZARETH*

WEST WICKHAM



*A WELCOMING FAMILY WITH THE  
CHRISTIAN FAITH AT THE HEART  
OF ALL WE DO.*

50P

# CLERGY AND OFFICERS

Vicar:	Rev Hazel O'Sullivan	Vicarage, The Avenue	8777 5034
	<a href="mailto:hazelos58@gmail.com">hazelos58@gmail.com</a>		<b>(day off on Monday)</b>
Assistant Priest:	Rev Richard Ford	7 Sylvan Way	8289 2432
	<a href="mailto:richard.ford73@ntlworld.com">richard.ford73@ntlworld.com</a>		
Reader:	Mr Ken Bryan	55 Goodhart Way	8777 1850
	<a href="mailto:KennethABryan@aol.com">KennethABryan@aol.com</a>		
Church Wardens:	Mr David Taylor	92 Wellbrook Road	01689 856512
	<a href="mailto:davey.taylor@taltalk.net">davey.taylor@taltalk.net</a>	Locksbottom	
	Mr Stephen Howe	5, Hazelwood Lodge	8249 0315
	<a href="mailto:aireyowe@virginmedia.com">aireyowe@virginmedia.com</a>	Red Lodge Road	
Assistant Wardens:	Mrs Natalie Outten	151 Goodhart Way	8777 0340
	Mrs Gifty Nortey		8776 1563
	Mr. J. Womack	2 Long Meadow Close	8777 8772
	Mrs. M. Womack	2 Long Meadow Close	8777 8772
Sacristans:	Mrs Deidre Fitzgerald		8777 0083
	Mrs Wendy Taylor	92 Wellbrook Road	01689 856512
		Locksbottom	
PCC Secretary:	Ms Julie Conway	<a href="mailto:julie.conway@ntlworld.com">julie.conway@ntlworld.com</a>	
Treasurer/Free-Will Offering Secretary:	Mr Bob West	163 Wickham Chase	8776 0210
	<a href="mailto:robandlinwest@tiscali.co.uk">robandlinwest@tiscali.co.uk</a>		
Organist/Choirmaster:	Mr Geoff Mussard	35 Oakfield Gardens	8650 8389
	<a href="mailto:geoff@mussard.org.uk">geoff@mussard.org.uk</a>	Beckenham	
Electoral Roll Officer:	Mr Chris Fitzgerald		8777 0083
Parish Safeguarding Officer:	Mrs Kay Mussard	35 Oakfield Gardens	8650 8389
	<a href="mailto:kay@mussard.org.uk">kay@mussard.org.uk</a>	Beckenham	

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## NORMAL SERVICES

Sunday:	8:00 a.m.	Holy Communion (1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Sundays only)
	9:15 a.m.	Sung Communion & Crèche (joint service at 10am on the 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month, sometimes at St Francis)
All age Service:	9:15 a.m.	Normally on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month
Messy Church:	3:45 p.m.	Normally on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month
Holy Baptism:		By appointment
Other Services:		Refer to the Calendar in this magazine
Weddings/Banns, etc.:		By appointment

# LETTER FROM RICHARD

Dear friends,

Outside church circles, "sin" is not a word that one encounters very often, other than in contexts which suggest that it is not being taken very seriously, the sort of contexts that give rise to comments like "naughty but nice" or "a second on the lips, a lifetime on the hips." And if you were to ask the average person on the street if they regarded themselves as sinful, they would probably look at you in amazement. Indeed I think that many of us who are Christians might admit to having weaknesses or faults, but wouldn't really consider ourselves to be sinners, even after the self-reflection which we are encouraged to undertake in Lent. (Is there anything that has emerged this Lent that you feel calls for repentance?)

Yet St Paul in his letter to the church in Rome states that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (3.23) So what is sin? In brief, it's everything that comes between us and God. As the Israelites tried to put into words where they stood in relation to God, they described sin as disobedience to God's will - as exhibited in the Garden of Eden – the abuse of God's gift of free will.

Alongside the trivialising of sin which I've referred to earlier, there's a tendency for us to see it in the world around us, but not in ourselves. So the war in Ukraine is evil - another way of talking about sin - as is human trafficking, domestic abuse, sexual exploitation, racism and so forth. And all these are actions

of human beings, sometimes undertaken by groups, sometimes by individuals. But all involve people like you and me.

Moreover, it is possible to sin unwittingly. If war is evil, then the manufacture of weapons must also be evil, since these make war possible. So what about being employed by an arms company? Or what about investing your savings in a bank or investment company that holds shares in arms companies, or tobacco companies, or fossil fuel extractors? Paul wasn't joking when he said that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

Stuart Townsend recognises this in one of his songs that we frequently sing around Easter time, when he writes of Christ hanging on the cross: "It was my sin that held Him there." Now I don't suppose that Stuart Townsend is any more sinful than you or me, who will be singing these words in a few weeks' time, but he did recognise what Paul was getting at.

Now if you're still reading this, I do agree with you that it all sounds a bit negative, but I think that if we're fully to appreciate what Easter means, then we need to think about what Good Friday tells us. And it tells us that sin needs to be taken seriously, very seriously, because it caused God, in the person of Jesus, to undergo the most horrendous suffering and death.

But on Easter Day, we see that Jesus has come through that suffering, that he has conquered sin and death, that, to quote Cecil Frances Alexander, he has paid "the price of sin," so that we are redeemed and the riches of God's kingdom are open to us, both now and throughout eternity. And that is something in which to rejoice. Happy Easter.

*Richard*

# CALENDAR FOR APRIL

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup>** 10am – 1pm High Street Foodbank Collection

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>** **PALM SUNDAY**

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Mary's

*Hazel O'Sullivan/Ken Bryan*

10.00 a.m. Joint Service at St. Francis' (livestream)

*Hazel O'Sullivan/Ken Bryan*

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup>** **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

7.30 p.m. Holy Communion at St. Mary's

*Hazel O'Sullivan/Richard Ford*

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup>** **GOOD FRIDAY**

11.00 a.m. CTWW Service at St. Francis' (livestream)

*Ian Hamlin*

2.00 p.m. An hour at the Cross at St. Mary's

*Ken Bryan/Brian Griffiths*

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>** 10am – 3pm Easter Egg Hunt at St Francis'

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>** **EASTER DAY**

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Francis'

*Hazel O'Sullivan*

9.15 a.m. Family Communion at St. Mary's (livestream)

*Hazel O'Sullivan/Richard Ford*

10.45 a.m. Family Communion at St. Francis'

*Hazel O'Sullivan/Brian Griffiths*

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>**

8.00 a.m.

**EASTER 2**

Holy Communion at St. Mary's

*Richard Ford*

9.15 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Mary's (livestream)

*Richard Ford/Ken Bryan*

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis'

*Richard Ford***Friday 21<sup>st</sup>**

3.45 p.m.

Messy Church at St. Mary's

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>**

7.00 p.m. St. Georges Supper at St. Mary's

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>****EASTER 3 St. George**

8.00 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis'

*Hazel O'Sullivan*

9.15 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Marys (livestream)

*Hazel O'Sullivan/Richard Ford*

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis'

*Hazel O'Sullivan/Richard Ford***Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>**

10.30 a.m. Baptism at St. Francis

*Hazel O'Sullivan***Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>****EASTER 4**

8.00 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Mary's

*Hazel O'Sullivan/Brian Griffiths (Video)*

9.15 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Mary's (livestream)

*Hazel O'Sullivan/Brian Griffiths (video)*

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis'

*Hazel O'Sullivan/Brian Griffiths*

# CALENDAR FOR MAY

<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	West Wickham Village Day at Blakes Park
<b>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Coronation Day</b>
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>EASTER 5</b>
8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion at St. Francis' <i>Richard Ford</i>
10.00 a.m.	Joint Service at St. Mary's (livestream) <i>Richard Ford/Ken Bryan</i>
12.00 noon	Coronation Lunch at St. Marys following the joint service.
<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	
3.45 p.m.	Messy Church at St. Marys
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>EASTER 6                      Christian Aid Week</b>
8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion at St. Francis' <i>Richard Ford/Ken Bryan</i>
9.15 a.m.	Morning Praise (livestream) at St Mary's <i>Hazel O'Sullivan/Ken Bryan</i>
10.45 a.m.	Morning Worship at St Francis' <i>Hazel O'Sullivan/Ken Bryan</i>
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	
7.30 p.m.	Deanery Wide Ascension Day Service at St. George's Shirley

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>**

8.00 a.m.

**EASTER 7**

Holy Communion at St. Mary's

*Hazel O'Sullivan/Brian Griffiths (video)***Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>**

9.15 a.m.

**EASTER 7**

Holy Communion at St. Mary's (livestream)

*Hazel O'Sullivan*

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis'

*Hazel O'Sullivan/Brian Griffiths***Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>****PENTECOST**

8.00 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis'

*Hazel O'Sullivan*

9.15 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Marys (livestream)

*Hazel O'Sullivan*

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis

*Hazel O'Sullivan/Brian Griffiths*

6.00 p.m.

CTWW Service and AGM at **TBC****Answers to Crossword Puzzle****Across:**

1, Cosmic. 4, Thomas. 8, In his. 9, Delaiah. 10, Falwell.

11, Water. 12, Recovered. 17, Sidon. 19, Radiant.

21, Centaur. 22, Broil. 23, Eleven. 24, Prison.

**Down:**

1, Cliffs. 2, Scholar. 3, Issue. 5, Holy war. 6, Moist.

7, Sphere. 9, Deliverer. 13, Candace. 14, Deacons.

15, Psyche. 16, Stolen. 18, Dance. 20, Debar.



# READINGS FOR APRIL & MAY

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Reader</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Phil.2: 5-11 Matt.21: 1-11	At St. Francis' Ken Bryan
6 <sup>th</sup> April	Ex.12: 1-4, 11-14 1 Cor.11: 23-26 John 13: 1-17, 31b-35	Beryl Bolton Richard Ford
9 <sup>th</sup> April	Acts 10: 34-43 Matt.28: 1-10	David Taylor Hazel O'Sullivan
16 <sup>th</sup> April	Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Luke 24: 13-35	Jean Pogose Richard Ford
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Rev.12: 7-12 2 Tim. 2: 3-13 John 15: 18-21	Giftly Nortey Hazel O'Sullivan
30 <sup>th</sup> April	Acts 2: 42-end John 10: 1-10	Stephen Howe Hazel O'Sullivan
7 <sup>th</sup> May	Isaiah 40: 12-17, 25-end Luke 22: 24-30	Dennis Pogose Richard Ford
14 <sup>th</sup> May	Special readings for Morning Praise	Margaret Bond
21 <sup>st</sup> May	Acts 1: 6-14 John 17: 1-11	Brian Hubble Hazel O'Sullivan
28 <sup>th</sup> May	Acts 2: 1-21 John 20: 19-23 or John 7: 37-39	Jean Mathers Hazel O'Sullivan

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## April

### Holy Week and Easter

Our familiar service pattern is being continued this year as follows:

- Palm Sunday (**2<sup>nd</sup> April**): Holy Communion at 8am in St Mary's, joint service at 10am in St Francis'.
- Maundy Thursday (**6<sup>th</sup> April**): Holy Communion at 7.30pm in St Mary's.
- Good Friday (**7<sup>th</sup> April**): Churches Together service at 11am in St Francis'; An Hour at the Cross at 2pm in St Mary's.
- Easter Sunday (**9<sup>th</sup> April**): Family Communion at 8am in St Francis', 9.15am in St Mary's, 10.45am in St Francis'.

### Parish Lunch

The Parish Lunch is on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April** at 1.00 p.m. in the hall. Please contact Beryl Bolton on 0208 289 8097 if you are unable to attend or if you wish to join us.

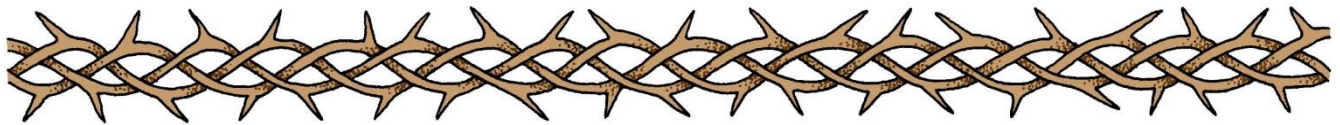
### Holy Saturday Easter Egg Hunt

Our Youth Club leaders are running an Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> of April** from 10am to 4pm. The activities and hunt will be available to take part in all day: drop in for however long you like, whenever you like! There will be plenty of games and activities running alongside the Easter Egg Hunt as well as the sale of cakes, tea, and coffee. The link to pre-book tickets (cost of £3) is: <https://www.Ticketsource.co.uk/st-Francis-of-Assisi>. You can turn up any time between 10 am and 3 pm to take part in the activities

(pay on the door if you prefer). If you would just like to come along to socialise, we would also love to see you there! Please do invite family, friends, and neighbours: all are welcome.

## **St George's Supper**

Our St. Georges Supper takes place at 7.00 p.m. on **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**. This is a 3-course meal of melon/prawn cocktail, roast beef with all the trimmings, trifle and coffee. The cost is £15 per head, and you have to bring your own alcoholic drinks. There are a few places left if you haven't already booked your place. There will also be a raffle and all profits will be for church funds. Contact Beryl Bolton 0208 289 8097 if you wish to come along. Thank you.



## **May**

### **West Wickham Village Day**

The West Wickham Village Day in Blake Park is a great opportunity to meet thousands of people in our local community. Churches Together in West Wickham are again looking to be a blessing to our community at this event with some hospitality and family spaces being provided. Please do put the date in your diary – **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May** – and be prepared to sign up for volunteering on the day. We will need people to help with setting up marquees and seating early in the day, as well as interacting with families during the day in our Messy Church space.

## **Parish Lunch**

The Parish Lunch is on **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May** at 1.00 p.m. in the hall. Please contact Beryl Bolton on 0208 289 8097 or [berylbolton@hotmail.com](mailto:berylbolton@hotmail.com) if you are unable to attend or if you wish to join us.

## **Coronation of King Charles III**

From Easter Sunday we are asked to pray for the Coronation of King Charles III and there will be booklets to use with daily prayers, as well as background information about the coronation included. We may show the coronation in one of the churches on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May – watch out for more information nearer the time. Then, on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May there will be a Joint Service of Communion at 10am in St Mary's church. This will be followed with some celebratory drinks after the service, as well as the normal tea and coffee, and then a Community Lunch from 12noon.

## **Coronation Lunch**

The Community Lunch at 12 noon follows the joint service on **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May** at St. Mary's. If you would like to stay for the lunch, please reserve your place with Beryl Bolton 0208 289 8097 or [berylbolton@hotmail.com](mailto:berylbolton@hotmail.com). Do invite family, friends, and neighbours to join you. The cost will be £10 a head (£5 for children under 14). All food, tea, coffee, and soft drinks will be provided but please bring along your own alcoholic drinks. Payment must be made at time of booking and by Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May to allow time for organising amounts of food etc.

## **Christian Aid Week**

This year Christian Aid Week is from 14<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The theme for the week is women farmers in Malawi coping with increases in the cost of living and exploitative middlemen. Food, fuel, fertiliser and school fees have doubled in price in the last 12 months. And these hard-working farmers are seeing their harvests fail as the climate crisis brings increasingly erratic weather. Stories from Christian Aid show how these women can now plant better seeds, secure a fairer price for the crops, and build happier futures for their children.

We won't stop until everyone has the chance to live a full life, free from poverty.

### *St. Mary's Summer Garden Party & BBQ*



**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June from 11am – 3pm**

**St. Mary's Church Gardens  
The Avenue, West Wickham BR4 0DX**

# **PARISH MATTERS**

## **Valentine's Lunch**

Our annual Valentine's Ploughmen's Lunch took place on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> of February and once again, our menfolk excelled themselves. We had a choice of a very hot bowl of either mushroom or chicken soup, followed by a ploughman's of either pate, cheese or ham with French bread or soft rolls and then a choice of delicious desserts with man-sized portions! Wine and coffee and mints accompanied the meal and red roses were given to all the ladies at the end. Our waiters were very smartly dressed, and the tables and hall looked lovely. A well-stocked raffle produced some good prizes and the overall profit after expenses for Church funds was £340. Thank you, gentlemen, from us all and we look forward to next year!

*Beryl Bolton*

## **Children's Society Boxes**

If you hold a Children's Society Money Box these are now due for the annual count so, could you please let Dave or Wendy Taylor have them as soon as possible. Thank you.

## **Lunchtime Concerts at St. Francis**

It is time to think about the new season of lunchtime concerts to be held in St. Francis Church and we have got some exciting new musicians who we are looking forward to playing for us, as well as some familiar players. They are all on Thursdays and begin at 12.45pm for about 45 minutes.

Please pencil the following dates in your diary, 25<sup>th</sup> May, 13<sup>th</sup> June, 17<sup>th</sup> August and 21<sup>st</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> September. *Jean Mather*

# RELIGIOUS AND SOCIAL EVENTS DATES

## 2023 DIARY

### April

- 1<sup>st</sup> High Street Foodbank collection – 10am to 3pm
- 6<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday
- 7<sup>th</sup> Good Friday
- 8<sup>th</sup> Easter Egg Hunt
- 9<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday
- 22<sup>nd</sup> St George's supper at St Mary's – 7:00pm

### May

- 1<sup>st</sup> Bank Holiday – West Wickham Village Day
- 6<sup>th</sup> Coronation Day
- 7<sup>th</sup> Coronation Lunch at St Mary's – 12:00pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> Fundraising Concert at St. Francis' – 7:45pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Christian Aid Week
- 18<sup>th</sup> Ascension Day
- 20<sup>th</sup> Piano recital and Afternoon Tea at St Francis' – 2pm
- 18<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> Thy Kingdom Come
- 28<sup>th</sup> CTWW Pentecost service and AGM – 6pm

### June

- 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Matchbox performances
- 17<sup>th</sup> St Mary's Garden Party

### July

- 8<sup>th</sup> TBC – Concert at St Francis'
- 15<sup>th</sup> West Wickham Choir performance (TBC)

### August

- No planned events

## **September**

- TBC Concert at St Francis'

## **October**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Pet Service at St Francis
- 7<sup>th</sup> Harvest Supper at St Mary's
- 8<sup>th</sup> All Age Harvest Services
- 8<sup>th</sup> Reader Licensing Service at Southwark Cathedral 6pm
- 29<sup>th</sup> CTWW Bible Sunday service and meeting 6pm

## **November**

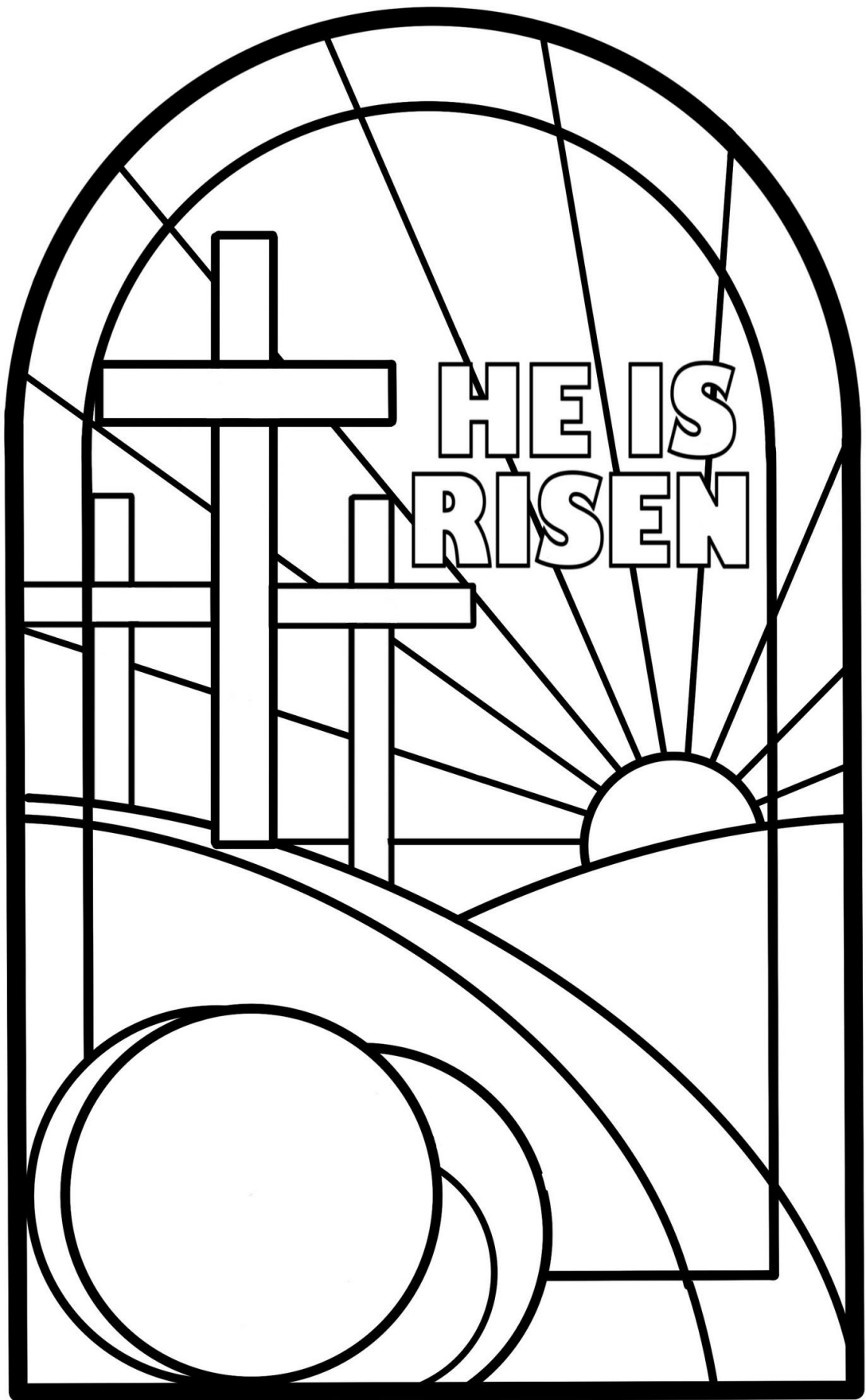
- 5<sup>th</sup> Memorial Service at St Mary's
- 11<sup>th</sup> (TBC) High Street Foodbank collection 10am to 3pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> All-age Remembrance Sunday services
- 24<sup>th</sup> West Wickham Christmas Lights switch-on
- 25<sup>th</sup> St Mary's Christmas Market
- 30<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec Matchbox performances

## **December**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> The Big Christmas Sing at St Francis' 4pm
- 16<sup>th</sup> Scouts' Carols service at St Mary's
- 17<sup>th</sup> Carol Services
- 24<sup>th</sup> Christingle service at St Mary's 4pm
- 24<sup>th</sup> Lighting the Lamps service at St Francis' 6pm
- 24<sup>th</sup> Midnight Communion at both churches 11:15pm

The information on the events with (TBC) will be updated over the next few months. Please update your diary with the above and your support at all events will be gratefully appreciated.







# **St Mary of Nazareth Church**

**West Wickham**

## **Coronation Lunch**

**7<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

**12 noon - 3pm**

## **Buffet Lunch**

**including soft drinks, tea and coffee**

**(bring your own alcoholic drinks)**

**Tickets £10 (children under 14, £5)**

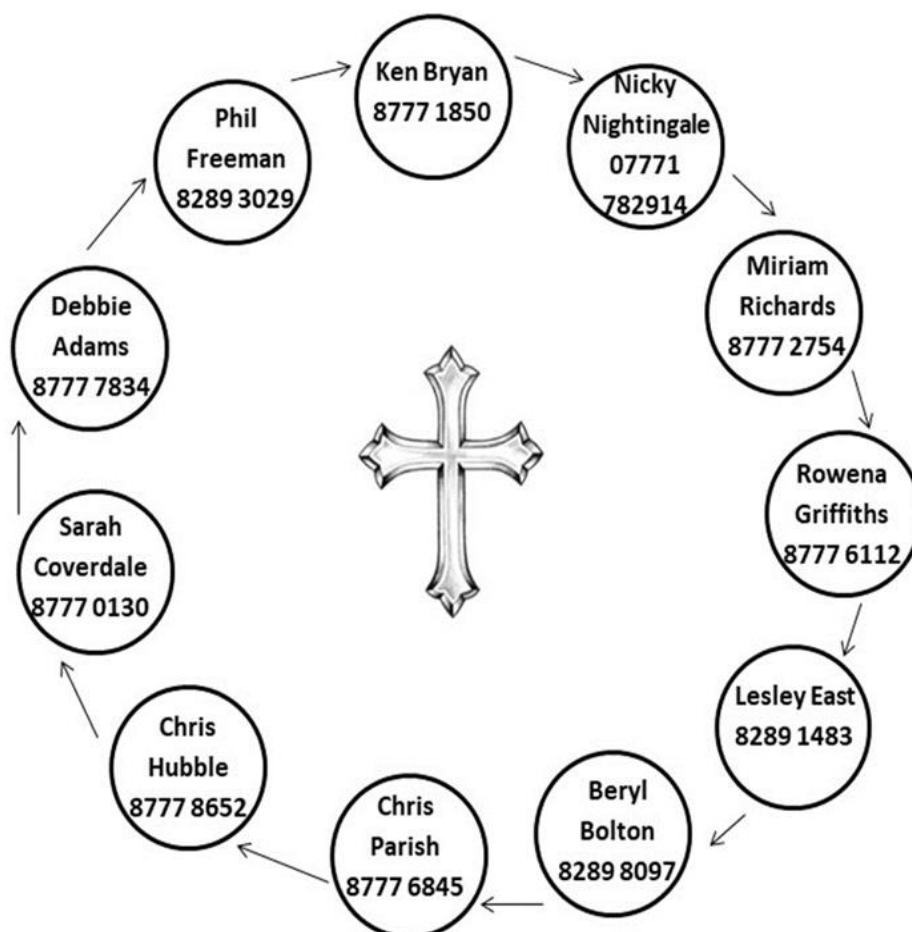
**available until 1<sup>st</sup> May from Beryl**

**0208 289 8097 or [berylbolton@hotmail.com](mailto:berylbolton@hotmail.com)**

# St Francis and St Mary's Prayer Chain

Many people find they are given strength and peace of mind when they know that they, or their loved ones, are being prayed for. And the more people who are praying for someone, the better!

If you would like prayer for yourself, please call anyone on the chain below and they will pass a message on around the circle. If you like a name added to the intercessions list in our services, (which will be on-line as well as in-person) please state this when you make contact.



## April

- 2<sup>nd</sup>** As Jesus entered Jerusalem, let him enter our life  
*Palm Sunday* that he may rule in our heart always.
- 6<sup>th</sup>** Father we thank you for inviting us to share in the  
*Maundy Thursday* Supper which your Son gave to his church, to be a memorial of his death and passion. May we be strengthened by his presence and united in his love.
- 7<sup>th</sup>** As our Saviour Christ suffered death upon the cross  
Good Friday for our sake, may we follow the example of his life on earth and share in his resurrection.
- 9<sup>th</sup>** Alleluia! Blessed be the Lord Jesus, who has risen  
Easter Day from the tomb and opened the gate for us to eternal life.
- 23<sup>rd</sup>** Pray that we may be wisely governed and that we  
*St. George* may serve our community and country to the best of our ability.
- 25<sup>th</sup>** As we are firmly grounded in the gospels may we be  
*St. Mark* faithful to their teaching, both in word and deed.

### The Wonder of Easter

Living God, we praise you for the wonder of Easter – this day – that changed the world for ever! We rejoice in the victory of Christ: his triumph over evil hatred, despair and even death itself.

Living God, we praise you for the victory you have won, and for the assurance it brings that nothing in life or death can separate us from your love; and nothing in heaven or earth can defeat your loving purpose for all the world. To you be praise and glory, this day and always. Alleluia! Amen (Nick Fawcett)

# FOCUS

## May

- 1<sup>st</sup>** Let our words and actions draw people to  
*St. Philip and St. James* you, Lord Jesus.
- 14<sup>th</sup>** Like the Apostles, may we stay faithful; united  
*St. Mathias* in prayer and the breaking of bread.
- 14<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>** May God bless those who give and those who  
*Christian Aid* collect and may the money be a great help and blessing to many people
- 18<sup>th</sup>** We give thanks that the risen and ascended  
*Ascension* Lord Jesus has promised to be with us for ever.
- 28<sup>th</sup>** Lord Jesus pour your Spirit upon us and set us  
*Pentecost* on fire with love for you that we may bear fruits – love, joy and peace.

### Peace in the World

We pray for world peace, that ways of aggression and violence against fellow humans and against God's creation may be renounced, and that world leaders may lessen the threat of destruction and killing which war brings. We pray for those in power and all others who strive to bring peace and the building up of community and fellowship among people. We pray for war-torn countries where communities have been destroyed, and families divided or separated. We remember children who have lost contact with their parents.

We pray for all who have been maimed or murdered and those traumatised through seeing the brutality of others. We pray for people buried under bombed out buildings and also those buried through earthquake damage.

We remember all refugees from war-torn areas and pray they may reach safety and be cared for. Give them comfort O Lord, and grant that we who dwell securely in this insecure world may be generous in caring for our displaced brothers and sisters. Amen



If you had come into St. Mary's after school on Friday March 10th, this is what you would have found at 4 o'clock:

Stephen has spread huge sheets of paper on the hall floor, and together with Phillip, is encouraging some very messy 'mood' painting. Margaret is using pictures cut out from calendars for the children to make Mother's Day gifts by adding interesting drawings and messages. Kate and Jean are talking to children about how they feel today – happy, sad, excited... and paper plates with a moving pointer will be taken home when appropriate mood faces and expressions have been added. Geoff and Ken are spilling water and glitter, and the resulting prayer/thinking bottles are going home to help concentration. (Well, that's the plan....) Richard and Anne are telling the story of Hannah whose prayers were answered in the birth of baby Samuel. Hannah probably didn't wear a robe made of a washing-up cloth, but our cardboard figures are really rather splendid. Hazel is on the 'meet and greet' table and keeps all our paperwork in order as well as making everyone feel very welcome. Kay is hanging some of the children's "Thank you, Sorry, Please" prayers on the tree branch which Stephen rescued from the ground,

and is also helping children to make TeaSPoon cards to take home as a reminder. The children's prayers are wonderfully individual, God is thanked for sunshine, bunnies, football, families and lots more besides. In the kitchen Annette and Cheryl (this is Beryl's week off) are busy cooking 70 fish fingers, slicing lettuce, putting crisps in bowls, making drinks, etc., etc., and, as usual, everything is running like clockwork.

When it is about twenty to five, off we go into the church where Hazel leads a carefully planned celebration service. We all sing "If you're happy and you know it" and "He's got the whole world in His hands" while Geoff attempts to keep us in tune, and as well as telling the story of Hannah, Hazel uses the children's own prayers. One has already been answered – a request for sunshine was granted during the afternoon even if we have to wait longer for the warm temperature which was also asked for.

Next – it's back in the hall where adults and children sit around a very long table and enjoy the tasty meal – fish finger wraps, followed by chocolate rolls. "Would you like orange squash, blackcurrant squash or just plain water with that?" There's lots of chat and lots of happy faces and, thank goodness, there was enough food to feed 36 people.

This is church, but not as you might know it. A small group of helpers meet and plan everything well in advance of each month's session and we then work from written plans, so we all know what's going to happen. We use lots of recycled resources – we need to save money as well as the environment. Donations from our visitors covered the costs of all the food this month and a kind cash donation, from a member of the congregation who would probably prefer to remain anonymous, enabled us to purchase some much-needed glue sticks too.



As the families go home with lots of smiles and thank-yous everything is cleared away before the tired helpers rush home. (Some of us will be back for choir practice in less than an hour!)

There were eighteen children together with parents and helpers here in March. It would be wonderful to welcome a few new helpers to our team so that experienced helpers could have an extra pair of hands on their activity table. Since we started Messy Church at St. Mary's we have lost several helpers due to illness or mobility issues. Three very special helpers, Jan, Cynthia and very recently Barbara Plummer have gone to a better place and are much missed. Would you like to join us? We have helpers from St. Mary's, St. Francis and St. John's, all are welcome! If you are interested in joining us, please let Kay know, or have a chat with any of the people mentioned above, - plus Alison who couldn't join us in March due to having Covid.

Our next Messy Church is on Friday April 21<sup>st</sup>, and then on the second Friday of each month. It would be great to see some new faces and you too could have Messy fun, food and fellowship.

*Kay Mussard*





# FROM THE REGISTERS

## Funeral

On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February at **11.00 a.m.**

### **Barbara Plummer aged 87**

Barbara's funeral held in St Francis' Church was put together following her wishes about what to include in her funeral – a very helpful thing to do. This meant that we got a very clear (if sometimes surprising) picture of the person who Barbara was.

Two items that were stored away with all these papers were a prayer (which we think she wrote) and a revised wording of psalm 23, both of which many people found quite moving.

### **Barbara's prayer**

Barbara began every day in a positive way and her prayer links the beginning of all that we do in life with the end:

*Lord, may everything we do each day,  
begin with your blessing and continue with your help.*

*May everything we say each day,  
begin with your love and continue with your grace.*

*May everything we plan each day,  
begin with your inspiration and continue with your peace.*

*So that, throughout our lives  
all that we begin in you, may by you be happily ended,  
all that we fail to do, may by you be mercifully mended,  
and all that we seek through you, may by you be lovingly attended.  
Amen.*

## **A psalm for busy people:**

*The Lord is my pace setter, I shall not rush.*

*He makes me stop and rest for quiet intervals.*

*He provides me with images of still ness which restore my serenity.*

*He leads me in the ways of efficiency through calmness of mind,*

*And his guidance is peace.*

*Even though I have a great many things to accomplish each day,*

*I will not fret, for his presence is here.*

*His timelessness, his all-importance will keep me in balance.*

*He prepared refreshment and renewal in the midst of my activity,*

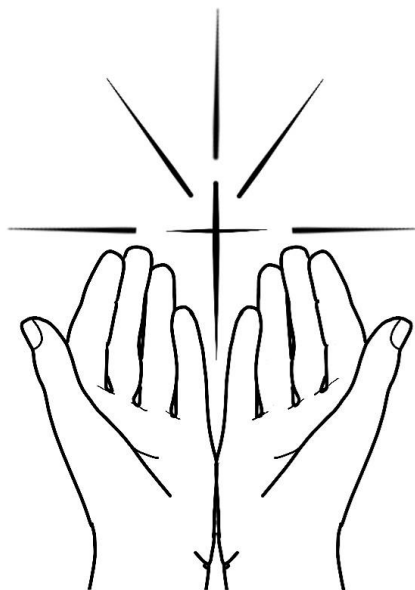
*By anointing my mind with the oils of tranquility.*

*My cup of joyous energy overflows.*

*Surely harmony and effectiveness shall be the fruits of my hours.*

*For I shall walk in the pace of my Lord and dwell in his house*

*forever.*



## **Funeral**

On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 1.30 p.m.

### **Stuart FROMENT aged 69**

Followed by cremation at Beckenham Crematorium

Stuart Froment's funeral took place at St. Mary's church on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March, after passing on early in the new year. Having been a member of the St. Francis and St. Mary's men's group, most of his friends attended to mourn a caring, thoughtful and a respected member of our community, who was seen as a champion of worthwhile causes around West Wickham.

With the family home in The Avenue, Stuart attended at all the major St. Mary's church festivals and many of the church social events, never missing the church's Christmas market.

With Stuart's late father giving decades of service to St. Mary's as church auditor and scout treasurer, Stuart drew on his family's example of believing in the importance of service to the community.

Stuart spent his 33-year career with the church commissioners as a manager. He enjoyed eating out often seen in every restaurant in West Wickham and was a prolific photographer, recording local life and times. We will miss his love of life, expert general knowledge and sense of purpose and direction. His wake was held in The Railway, all the staff there will miss him.

Farewell then Stuart, as a Christian soul you have been loved and guided every step of the way through life by your Almighty God, go to receive your rewards in the heavenly places, your service and your good works are completed on earth. Rest now in peace.

In admiration. *Stephen Howe*



**ROOFING  
&  
Maintenance**

---

**All types of work undertaken  
Also Flat pack assembly  
No job too small**

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**Harry Allen  
138 Queen Anne Avenue, Bromley BR2 0SF  
07801 755199**

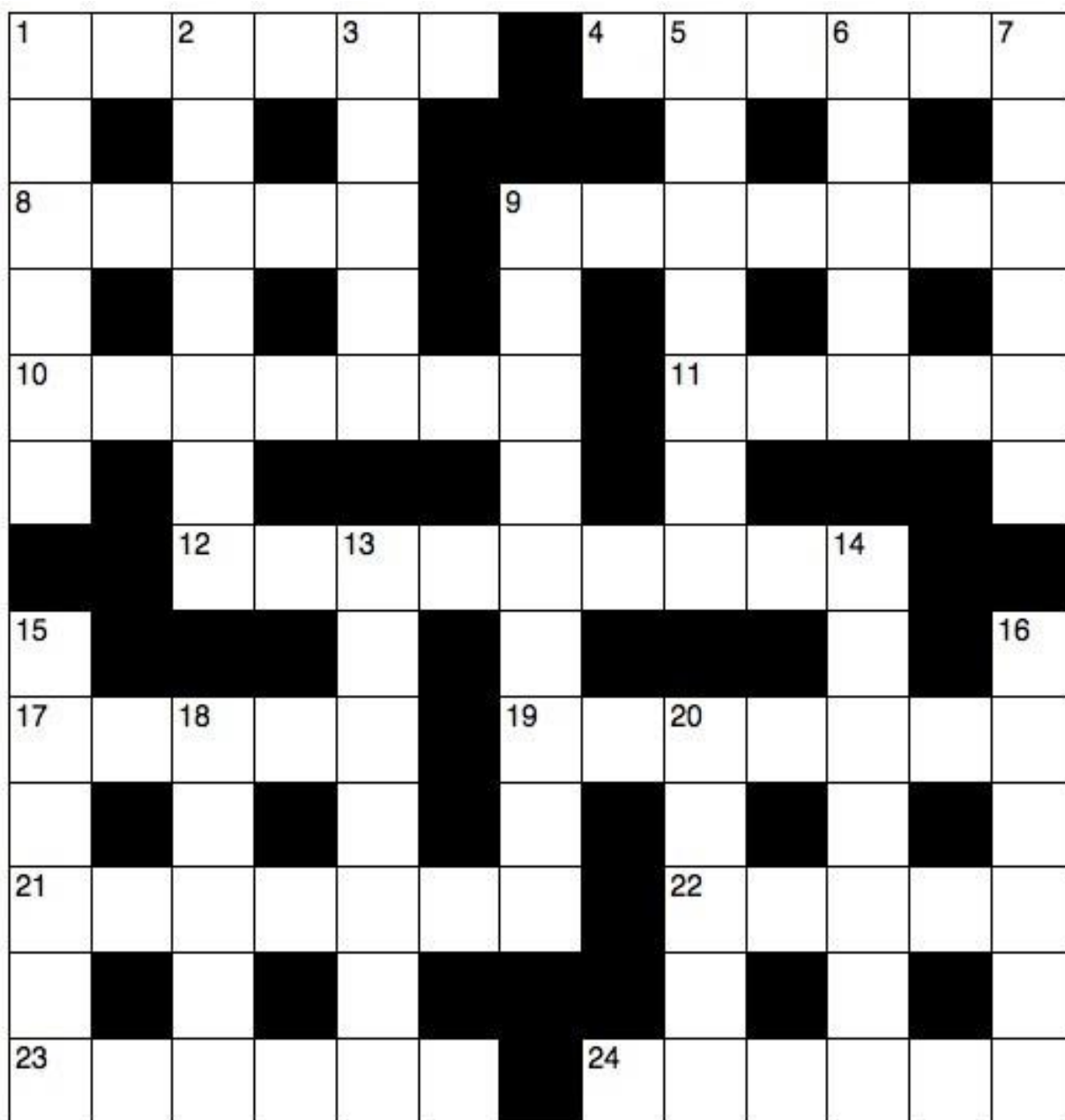
## **SMILE -LINES**

Five exercises you'd be better off avoiding this Spring....

*Jumping on the bandwagon  
Wading through paperwork  
Running around in circles  
Pushing your luck  
Adding fuel to the fire*

*At the Pearly Gates, St Peter greeted a minister and a Member of Parliament and gave them their room keys. "Vicar, here are the keys to one of our nicest single rooms. And for you, Mr MP, the keys to our finest penthouse suite." When the vicar protested that this was unfair, St Peter explained: "Look, ministers are a ten a penny up here, but this is the first politician we've ever seen."*

# CROSS WORD GRID



## Across

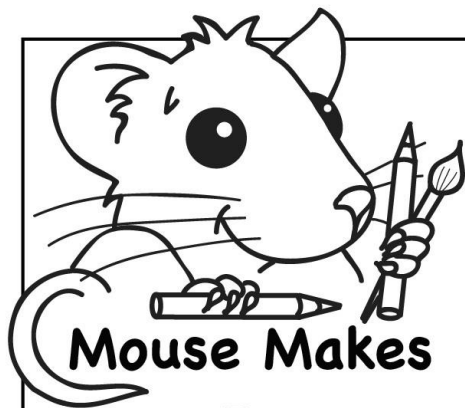
- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
- 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
- 8 'Unless I see the nail marks — — hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3)
- 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)
- 10 Baptist 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)

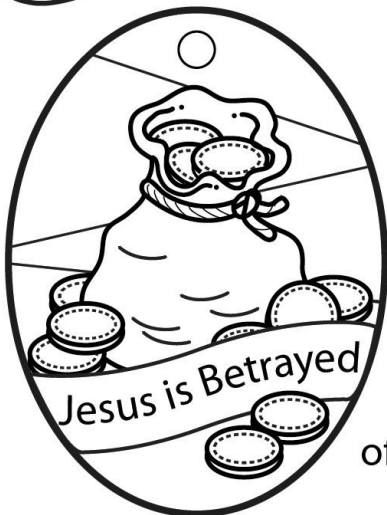
### **Down**

- 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)

*The NIV bible was used to set the crossword. Answers on page 6*

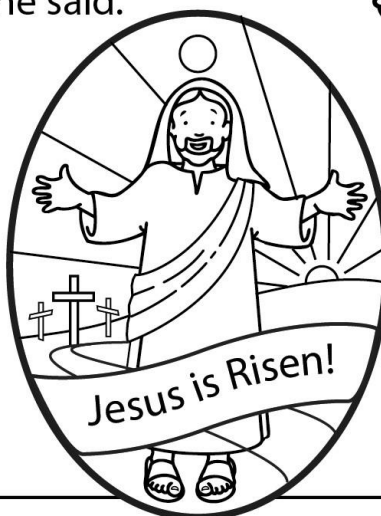
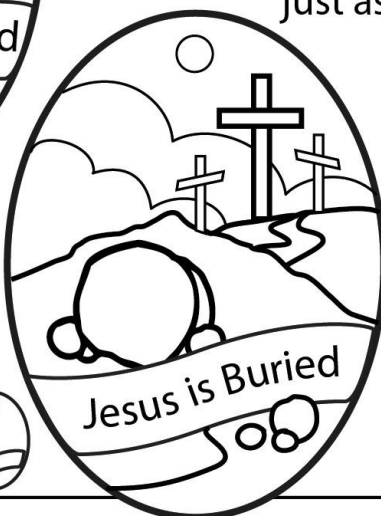
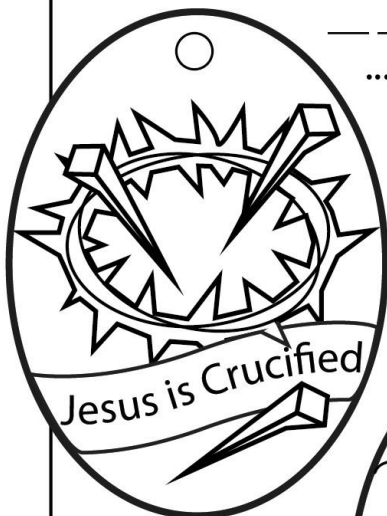
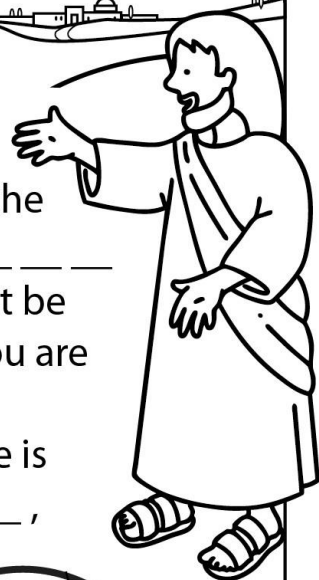


**HE IS RISEN!**  
Read the story of  
The Resurrection in  
*Matthew 28:1-20*



How many other  
words can you  
make from  
**RESURRECTION**

An \_\_\_\_\_  
of the Lord came down from  
\_\_\_\_\_ and going to the  
\_\_\_\_\_ rolled back the \_\_\_\_\_  
... the \_\_\_\_\_ said, "Do not be  
\_\_\_\_\_, for I know you are  
looking for Jesus who was  
\_\_\_\_\_, He is  
not here; he has \_\_\_\_\_,  
just as he said."



Glue this page onto  
card. Cut out the  
ovals then colour in.  
Punch a hole at the  
top and hang up  
for Easter

## **WE ARE ALL GUILTY**

Well, I am. At times! Of complacency of leaving it to others to sort out!

**BUT** we do have a duty when it comes to the safeguarding of children **OR** vulnerable adults in the church.

There is a manual in our church vestibule entitled, '*A Safe Church*', which is for reference by anyone and acts as a guide to safeguarding matters.

If you do have a genuine concern about such a matter, then you may wish to speak to Kay Mussard, our Safeguarding Officer or one of the following: our Vicar, Rev. Hazel O'Sullivan or to one of the churchwardens.

## **HAVE YOU OR WILL YOU BE MAKING A WILL?**

If so, please consider leaving a legacy to St. Mary's.

Legacies we have had in the past have been a great blessing and encouragement and enabled us to carry out important work. It is helpful if the bequest is given without conditions so the PCC can use the money as they feel appropriate.

Please give this prayerful consideration.

To make a Will is one of the kindest things you can do so your wishes are known.



# ROTAS

## April

### Welcoming in Church

#### ***8.00 a.m. services***

2 <sup>nd</sup>	St. Mary's	Stephen Howe
9 <sup>th</sup>	St. Francis	Debbie Adams
16 <sup>th</sup>	St. Mary's	Stephen Howe
23 <sup>rd</sup>	St. Francis	Debbie Adams
30 <sup>th</sup>	St. Mary's	Stephen Howe

#### ***9:15a.m./10.00 a.m. services***

2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00 a.m.	Joint at St. Francis
7 <sup>th</sup>	2.00 p.m.	Julie Conway/Jackie Greatorex
9 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Malcolm Hubbard/Mike Messinger
16 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Merri and John Womack
23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Claire Bull/Dot Smythe
30 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Pauline Christy/Linda West

#### ***Coffee***

2 <sup>nd</sup>		Joint Service at St. Francis
9 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Jean Mathers/Natalie Outten
16 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Beryl Bolton/Gifty Nortey
23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Margaret Bond/Mike Messinger
30 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Deidre and Chris Fitzgerald

#### ***Church Cleaning***

14 <sup>th</sup>	Kay and Geoff Mussard
28 <sup>th</sup>	Claire and Peter Cordery

#### ***Church Flower Pedestals***

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> 9.30 a.m. onwards everyone to decorate the Church.  
for Easter.

23<sup>rd</sup>

# ROTAS

## May

### Welcoming in Church

#### ***8.00 a.m. services***

7 <sup>th</sup>	St. Francis	Debbie Adams
14 <sup>th</sup>	St. Francis	Stephen Howe
21 <sup>st</sup>	St. Mary's	Debbie Adams
28 <sup>th</sup>	St. Francis	Stephen Howe

#### ***9:15a.m./10.00 a.m. services***

7 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 a.m. Joint	Natalie Outten/Phil Nortey
14 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Julie Conway/Jackie Greatorex
21 <sup>st</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Malcolm Hubbard/Mike Messinger
28 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Merri and John Womack

#### ***Coffee***

7 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 a.m.	Claire Bull/Jackie Greatorex
14 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Cheryl Davies/Linda West
21 <sup>st</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Merri and John Womack
28 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 a.m.	Jean Mathers/Natalie Outten

#### ***Church Cleaning***

12 <sup>th</sup>	Beryl Bolton and Margaret Bond
26 <sup>th</sup>	Kay and Geoff Mussard

#### ***Church Flower Pedestals***

7 <sup>th</sup>	Coronation Pedestal arranged by Wendy Carvalho
21 <sup>st</sup>	

# CONTACTS

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## ***Magazine Articles***

*The Parish Magazine welcomes articles from its readers. Please place in the box provided within the vestibule or send to [office@stmarywestwickham.co.uk](mailto:office@stmarywestwickham.co.uk) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding publication.*

**[www.stmarywestwickham.co.uk](http://www.stmarywestwickham.co.uk)**

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