

By the time you read this we will be several weeks into Lent – so how is it going for you?

What does Lent mean for you?

Traditionally it is a time for giving up – chocolate, alcohol or maybe television. But Lent goes beyond giving up chocolate, it's about going deeper, not simply about us “giving up” something but about God wanting to give us something. He wants to give us his help to transform our lives and all we have to do is ask, ask him what he is inviting us to change this Lent and to show us what is getting in the way.

I have been thinking of the story from St. Mark's gospel about the friends who brought the paralysed man to Jesus. Since they were unable to get into the house where Jesus was they broke through the tiles on the roof to lower their friend to Jesus for healing; and their breakthrough led directly to their friend being healed.

Where do we need a breakthrough? What is the barrier that keeps us from asking for healing, for a change of heart? Lent is a great time for reflecting on this and when we have identified the barrier we have made the breakthrough and that is when Jesus can heal us, transform our lives.

God is saying to us “Come back to me with all your heart”, he is inviting us to turn to him. Lent offers us a perfect opportunity to do that, to grow in our relationship with God, to be more reflective, more observant and more aware of what we are experiencing.

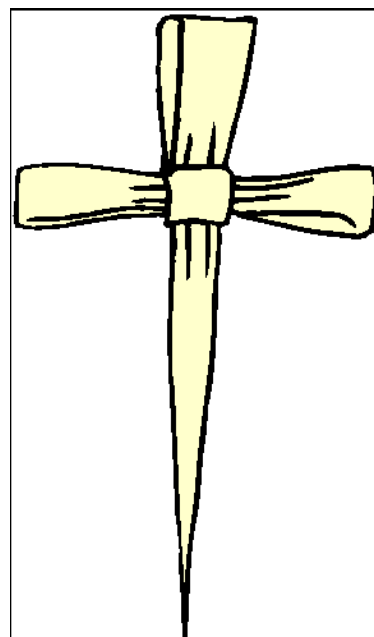
Psalm 51 says: “Create in me a clean heart O God and renew a right spirit within me. Give me again the joy of your salvation”

Let us make this our prayer for Lent, knowing that we will probably need to make it our prayer for every Lent because we will fail! But it is the coming back, the turning to God, the asking, the desire to be healed that God wants from us.

On Sunday 3rd March we offer prayers and laying on of hands for healing at the 10 o'clock service, an opportunity for us to come to God with our whole heart, ask for his help and pray:

Create in me a clean heart O God and renew a right spirit within me. Give me again the joy of your salvation.

Amen



PARISH DIRECTORY

Vicar	Rev. David Maher	351844
Honorary Assistant Curate	Rev. John Polkinghorne	360743
Licensed Lay Minister	Linda Dean	328658
Authorised Lay Minister (Admin & Music)	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Authorised Lay Minister (Pastoral Care)	Lilas Davison	354300
Authorised Lay Minister (Social Awareness)	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Churchwarden	Terry Barringer	424584
Churchwarden	Rhodri James	357607
PCC Chairman	Rev. David Maher	351844
PCC Vice Chairman	Rhodri James	357607
PCC Secretary	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
PCC Treasurer	Ginni Carroll	01954 212993
PCC Electoral Roll Officer	Lilas Davison	354300
Administrator	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Altar Linen	Finsetta Cummings	352757
Assistant Treasurer	Bill Elsey	357622
Assistant Treasurer	Jim Bass	363156
Chalice Bearers	Bill Elsey	357622
Child Protection Co-ordinator	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Children's Society	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Children's Work	John & Alison Phillips	502969
Christian Aid		
Church Cleaners	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Church Hall Bookings	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Coffee Makers	Gill Ambrose	858994
Coffee & Rolls	Fiona Blows	329822
Music Co-Ordinator	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Friends of Etterbeek	John & Elizabeth Lamont	565559
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Eva Hutson	574070
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Evelyn Walker	364067
Good Shepherd Players	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Good Shepherd Players	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Intercessors	John Lamont	565559
Jimmy's Night Shelter	Ann Callear	357694
Lesson Readers	Lilas Davison	354300
Monday Club	Eva Hutson	574070
Good Shepherd News Editor	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	John Phillips	502969
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	Ginni Carroll	01954 212993
North Cambridge Council of Churches	John Lamont	565559
North Cambridge Council of Churches	Michael Lovell	328521
Pastoral Care Co-ordinator	Linda Dean	328658
Planned Giving Secretary	Lilas Davison	354300
Registrar of Planned Giving Envelopes	Tom Shipp	353734
Rural Development Movement	Henry Disney	359396
Sacristan	Stuart Keir	572303
Servers	Bill Elsey	357622
Sidesmen & Sideswomen	Terry Barringer	424584
Sidesmen & Sideswomen	Rhodri James	357607
Social Events Co-ordinator	Bertha Wilson-Njenou	571948
Sound System	David Wilson	720097

READINGS FOR MARCH

Sundays and holy days

- 3 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
Isaiah 55: 1-9
Luke 13: 1-9
- 10 MOTHERING SUNDAY
tbc
tbc
- 17 PASSION SUNDAY
Isaiah 43: 16-21
PASSION GOSPEL
- 24 PALM SUNDAY
Isaiah 50: 4-9
Luke 19: 28-40
- 24 CHORAL EVENSONG (4PM)
Isaiah 5: 1-7
Luke 20: 9-19
- 28 MAUNDY THURSDAY (7.30 PM)
Exodus 12: 1-4, 11-14
John 13: 1-17, 31-35
- 31 EASTER VIGIL (6 AM)
Romans 6: 3-11
Luke 24: 1-12
- 31 EASTER DAY
Acts 10: 34-43
John 20: 1-18

Wednesdays

- 6 Deuteronomy 4: 1, 5-9
Matthew 5: 17-19
- 13 Isaiah 49: 8-15
John 5: 17-30
- 20 Daniel 3: 14-20, 24-25, 28
John 8: 31-42
- 27 Isaiah 50: 4-9
John 13: 21-32

FIRST CALL

Sunday March 3 at 8pm at the Vicarage

REGULAR SERVICES IN MARCH

- Sundays 8.30am Holy Communion
10am Parish Communion
- Mondays 9.30am Morning Prayer
- Tuesdays 9.30am Morning Prayer
- Wednesdays 9.30am Holy Communion
- Thursdays 9.30am Morning Prayer
- Fridays 9.30am Morning Prayer

SPECIAL SERVICES IN MARCH

Sunday March 10 at 10am All Age Parade
Service for Mothering Sunday
Sunday March 24 at 4pm Choral
Evensong for Palm Sunday

EVENTS IN MARCH

Sunday March 3 at 12 noon Sunday Lunch
Club meets in the Church Hall.
Saturday March 9 Making of Mothering
Sunday posies in church from 9.30am
Wednesday March 13 – Friday March 15
Godly Play training in church
Saturday March 16 Jumble Sale in Hall
Friday March 29 at 1.30pm “**One Friday
in eternity**” Play reading and meditation
for Good Friday
Sunday March 31 9.00 – 9.30 Big
Breakfast
Sunday March 31 Last Orders at a local
pub.



HOLY WEEK 2013

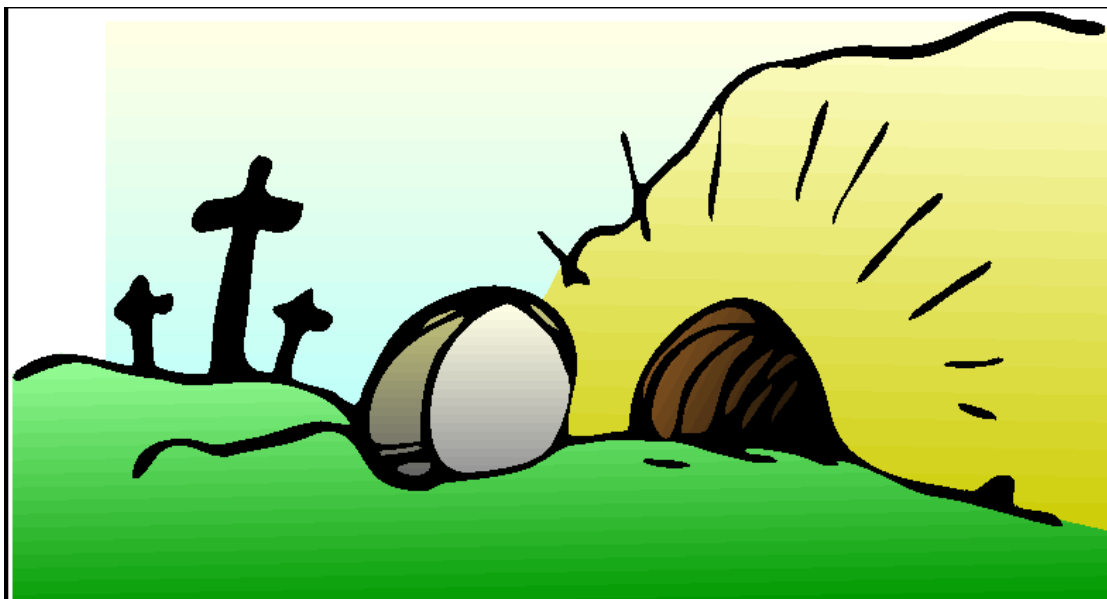
at The Good Shepherd

March 25-27 at 9.30am
Holy Communion

Thursday March 28 at 7.30pm
Maundy Thursday service of Holy Communion

Friday March 29 (Good Friday)
at 11am
Joint service of witness in Arbury
(meet outside the Community Centre)
and at 1.30pm
One Friday in Eternity Readings for Good Friday

Sunday March 31 (Easter Day)
at 6am Easter vigil
at 8.30am said Holy Communion
9.00-9.45am Shared breakfast
10am All Age Easter Day Communion followed by Easter Egg hunt



A man was blissfully driving along the highway, when he saw the Easter Bunny hopping across the middle of the road. He swerved to avoid hitting the Bunny, but unfortunately the rabbit jumped in front of his car and was hit.

The basket of eggs went flying all over the place. Candy, too.

The driver, being a sensitive man as well as an animal lover, pulled over to the side of the road, and got out to see what had become of the Bunny carrying the basket. Much to his dismay, the colourful Bunny was dead.

The driver felt guilty and began to cry.

A woman driving down the same highway saw the man crying on the side of the road and pulled over.

She stepped out of her car and asked the man what was wrong.

"I feel terrible," he explained, "I accidentally hit the Easter Bunny and killed it. There may not be an Easter for the children because me. What should I do? "

The woman told the man not to worry. She knew exactly what to do.

She went to her car trunk, and pulled out a spray can. She walked over to the limp, dead Bunny, and sprayed the entire contents of the can onto the little furry animal.

Miraculously the Easter Bunny came to back life, jumped up, picked up the spilled eggs and candy, waved its paw at the two humans and hopped on down the road.

Fifty yards away the Easter Bunny stopped, turned around, waved and hopped on down the road. Then in another 50 yards, he turned, waved hopped and did it again in another 50 yards!

The man was astonished. He couldn't figure out what could possibly be in that woman's spray can.

He said to the woman, "What in heaven's name is in your spray can? What was it that you sprayed on the Easter Bunny?"

The woman turned the can around so that the man could read the label.

It said: "Hair spray. Restores life to dead hair. Adds permanent wave."



It was Palm Sunday but because of a sore throat, 5-year-old Johnny stayed home from church with a sitter.

When the family returned home, they were carrying several palm fronds. Johnny asked them what they were for.

"People held them over Jesus' head as he walked by," his father told him.

"Wouldn't you know it," Johnny fumed, "the one Sunday I don't go and He shows up."



God said: " Frank , you know all about gardens and nature. What in the world is going on down there on the planet? What happened to the dandelions, violets, milkweeds and stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect no-maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long-lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honey bees and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colors by now. But, all I see are these green rectangles."

St. FRANCIS :

It's the tribes that settled there, Lord. The Suburbanites. They started calling your flowers 'weeds' and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

GOD:

Grass? But, it's so boring.It's not colorful. It doesn't attract butterflies, birds and bees; only grubs and sod worms. It's sensitive to temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want all that grass growing there?

ST. FRANCIS :

Apparently so, Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn.

GOD:

The spring rains and warm weather probably make grass grow really fast. That must make the Suburbanites happy.

ST. FRANCIS :

Apparently not, Lord. As soon as it grows a little, they cut it - sometimes twice a week.

GOD:

They cut it? Do they then bale it like hay?

ST.. FRANCIS :

Not exactly, Lord. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags.

GOD:

They bag it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it?

ST. FRANCIS :

No, Sir, just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.

GOD:

Now, let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow. And, when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to throw it away?

ST. FRANCIS :

Yes, Sir.

GOD:

These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

ST.. FRANCIS :

You aren't going to believe this, Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it, so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.

GOD:

What nonsense. At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in the summer. In the autumn, they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. It's a natural cycle of life.

ST.. FRANCIS :

You better sit down, Lord. The Suburbanites have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and pay to have them hauled away.

GOD:

No!?! What do they do to protect the shrub and tree roots in the winter to keep the soil moist and loose?

ST. FRANCIS :

After throwing away the leaves, they go out and buy something which they call mulch. They haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.

GOD:

And where do they get this mulch?

ST. FRANCIS :

They cut down trees and grind them up to make the mulch.

GOD:

Enough! I don't want to think about this anymore. St. Catherine , you're in charge of the arts. What movie have you scheduled for us tonight?

ST.. CATHERINE :

'Dumb and Dumber', Lord. It's a story about....

GOD: Never mind, I think I just heard the whole story from St. Francis .

(Sent to me by Bill Elsey)



When my granddaughter, Ann, was 9-years-old, she was given an assignment by her teacher to write a story on "Where my family came from." The purpose was to understand your genealogy.

I was not aware of her assignment when she asked me at the dining room table one night, "Grandma, where did I come from?"

I responded quite nervously because my son and daughter-in-law were out of town and I was stalling until they returned home, "Well, honey, the stork brought you."

"Where did Mom come from then?"

"The stork brought her, too."

"OK, then where did you come from?"

"The stork brought me too, dear."

"Okay, thanks, Grandma."

I did not think anything more about it until two days later when I was cleaning Ann's room and read the first sentence of her paper, "For three generations there have been no natural births in our family."



OUR ONLY NEED?"

As youth I'd thought that mind would soon

Embrace and strive to fill the gaps
In knowledge still awaiting kiss
Of science on the march. Perhaps
I'd play a part in enterprise.

But now I know the holes in street
Of cobbled stones exceed the parts
Complete. The voids are not so neat
As once surmised. It's just the same
With abstract concepts meant to net,
Define and limit what we mean
By God. Concluding, with regret,
I binned attempts. The being Christ
Addressed as 'Father', urged us all
To claim as ours, is Lord supreme.
We only need to heed His call
To live the Gospel way of love.
Beyond the grave is when we'll start
To comprehend. For now our role's

To walk with Christ, to play a part
By means of grace, in making world
A place of trust, of peace and hope,
As justice ends compassion's drought.
We'll learn together awesome slope
Is not so steep as first we feared.
Forgiveness overcomes our self
concern

When working for the greater good.
From Holy Spirit's prompts we learn
To set agenda for our day.
Forget the lofty urge to know
Extent of God's enigma now
Before we die. It's time to sow.
Our Lord will gather in the grain
When harvest days are due and all
Will find His welcome table laid.
We only need to heed His call.

(Henry Disney)



Christingle Update – Did you know?

100 million gift filled shoeboxes were sent worldwide.

17,000 went from Cambridgeshire to vulnerable children in Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Serbia and Ukraine and they were sent from processing centres in Cambridge, St Neots, Huntingdon, Isleham, and Peterborough.

For some of the children this will be the first gift they have ever received.

Ruby has already starting requesting shoeboxes for our next effort!

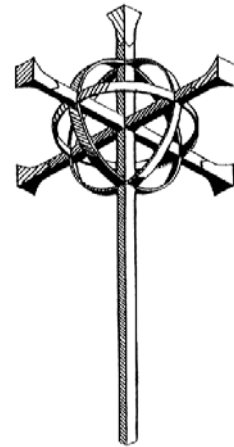
IN THE CHURCH HALL

THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB 1 st Sunday of the month noon – 1.30pm	John & Elizabeth Lamont	565559
THE MONDAY CLUB Monday 2.30 - 4pm	Eva Hutson	574070
THE GOOD SHEPHERD CUBS Monday 6.30 - 8pm	Charles Brown	07720 441123
LINE DANCING Tuesday 10.15 - 11.45am	Mrs B Wright	426517
KEEP FIT 50+ GROUP Tuesday 2.30 - 4pm	Margaret Briggs	01954 250870
THE GOOD SHEPHERD RAINBOWS Tuesday 6.15 – 7.15pm	Miss Rachel Marsh	574520
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Tuesday 7.30 - 9.30pm	Susannah O’Hanlon	235281
CARERS & SUFFERERS OF DEMENTIA Wednesday 10 – 12 noon	The Manager	884031
THE 18th & 25th GOOD SHEPHERD BROWNIES Wednesday 6 - 7.15pm	Mrs Pat Marsh	574520
THE CAMERA CLUB Wednesday 7.30 – 9.30pm	Steve Morrell	529670
GUILDHALL RETIRED MEMBERS CLUB 2 nd Wednesday of the month 2 - 4pm	Yvonne Wisbey	523549
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION 3 rd Wednesday of the month 2.30 - 4.30pm March to November	Mr. Gawthrop	351855
T G W U 4 th Wednesday of the month 2 – 4pm	Evelyn Hunnyball	364293
CAMBRIDGE INSTRUMENTS PENSION FELLOWSHIP 3 rd Thursday of the month 10am - noon	D. Fisher	262282
THE GOOD SHEPHERD BEAVERS Thursday 6.15 - 7.30pm	Emma Roberts	426043
THE GOOD SHEPHERD SCOUTS Thursday 7.30 – 9.00pm	Chris White	0700 891511
CHURCH TODDLERS’ CLUB Friday 9.15 – 11.30am	Claire Duell	0787 4850867
TAI CHI Friday 2 – 3pm	Mike Tabrett	503390
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Friday 7.30 - 9.30pm	Arbury Road Vet. Surgery	361911

TO BOOK THE CHURCH HALL

Please phone 352151 (evenings)

**Submission date for
April Newsletter:
March 10
(Publication date March 24)**



Vicarage 01223 351844

Church Hall bookings
(evenings) 01223 352151

Newsletter Ruth Banger 07764 613862
OR ruthbanger51@gmail.com

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Here at the Good Shepherd we like to help you to celebrate and commemorate many of the milestones on the journey through life; these include weddings, anniversaries, funerals, and baptism services.

If you wish to find out more about these, the first step is to contact the Vicar, the Reverend David Maher. He will be able to tell you what is involved and arrange for a meeting with you if you then wish to take things further.

He can be contacted on 01223 351844

Church website: www.churchofthegoodshepherd.co.uk

