

March: In like a lion out like a lamb

March seems to me like a much better time for making resolutions than January. The days are getting longer, the weather is (sometimes) improving, and signs of Spring can start to be seen. It feels like a time to take up new endeavours, just as creation around us is doing new things, new leaves on trees, the grass finally growing again, flowers getting ready to bud. It seems natural to join in with all that. In March I start getting impatient to be planting things in my garden, and have to try hard to be patient and not put things out too early. This year, I get to experiment with my greenhouse and see what I can grow earlier, and find out what will work, which is lovely. Whatever I plant, it will take time to grow and come to fruition, and that requires patience too, and tending whilst being patient. If I ignore them, in an attempt to make waiting easier, then in all likelihood the plants will die. I need to keep on tending them, and being happy for the new growth as it happens, but not to expect them to grow faster than they do. Spring is a time of promise, of new life and new growth, though it can be a long time in delivering on that promise, requiring lots of patience.

Each year, with Easter, we get a powerful reminder of the absolute promise of God's new life and new growth. We celebrate, in our remembrance of Easter Sunday, God redeeming Christ from death, and in doing so, we can be certain that God redeems us from death too. We have the sure and certain evidence of God's utter transformation and redemption of the whole world. It isn't just something to keep us quiescent in this

earth whilst we wait for eternity. Jesus came that we might have life and have it to the full (John 10:10) in THIS life. We can see the remarkable shoots of new growth, of transformation, here and now, even as we have to wait patiently for the fullness of that new life in eternity. It can be hard to believe that in the midst of being weighed down by our present circumstances. We can so often feel overwhelmed and lose focus on God and On the blessings we do have. We have to choose to focus our eyes on the good in the midst of that which is hard. When the new year resolutions were all being talked about, one article I read talked about the physiological changes in our brains when we focus on being thankful. As a discipline, try, whenever you find yourself grumbling or feeling hard done by, stopping and taking time to list three things you are thankful for, and thank God. These can be reminders of the shoots of new life that we can all experience. God promises that the good work that He began in you, He will bring it to completion. And He who promises is faithful. Amen.

Judith



PARISH DIRECTORY

Vicar	Rev. David Maher	351844
Assistant Curate	Rev. Judith Gretton-Dann	750013
Assistant Curate	Rev. Rachel Blanchflower	523066
Assistant Curate	Rev. John Polkinghorne	360743
Assistant Curate	Rev. Harry Rose	01954 211553
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	Fiona Blows	329822
Churchwarden	Philip Morris	352698
PCC Chairman	Rev. David Maher	351844
PCC Vice Chairman	Fiona Blows	329822
PCC Secretary	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
PCC Treasurer	Jinty Keir	572303
PCC Electoral Roll Officer	Lilas Davison	354300
Administrator	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Convenor PCC Buildings and Grounds Team	David Wilson	720097
Convenor PCC Children and Families Team	Hazel Maher	351844
Convenor PCC Discipleship and Teaching Team	David Maher	351844
Convenor PCC Pastoral Team	Linda Dean	328658
Convenor PCC Social Awareness Team	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Convenor PCC Worship and Music Team	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Altar Linen	Margaret Handley	357970
Assistant Treasurer	Bill Elsey	357622
Chalice Bearers	Bill Elsey	357622
Children's Society	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Church Hall Bookings	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Coffee Makers	Guido Barzini	300497
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Evelyn Walker	364067
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Paula Carter	07952 919701
Intercessors	John Lamont	565559
Jimmy's Night Shelter	Paula Carter	07952919701
Food Bank	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Lesson Readers	Rhodri James	357607
Good Shepherd News Editor	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	Ginni Carroll	01954 212993
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
North Cambridge Council of Churches	Michael Lovell	328521
Planned Giving Secretary	Ginni Carroll	01954 212993
Registrar of Planned Giving Envelopes	Lilas Davison	354300
Rural Development Movement	Henry Disney	359396
Sacristan	Stuart Keir	572303
Safeguarding Officer	Paula Carter	07952 919701
Servers	Bill Elsey	357622
Sidesmen & Sideswomen	Fiona Blows	329822
Sound System	David Wilson	07899 917831
Sunday Lunch Club	Jinty Keir	572303

READINGS FOR MARCH

Sundays and holy days

- 6 MOTHERING SUNDAY
Joshua 5: 9-12
2 Corinthians 5: 9 – end
Luke 15 1-3, 11b - end
- 13 PASSION SUNDAY
Isaiah 43: 16-21
Philippians 3: 4-14
John 12: 1-8
- 20 PALM SUNDAY (morning)
Luke 19: 28-40
- 20 PALM SUNDAY (4-6PM)
Passover
- 24 MAUNDY THURSDAY (7PM)
Exodus 12: 1-4, 11-14
John 13: 1-17, 31-35
- 27 EASTER VIGIL (6AM)
Romans 6: 3-11
Luke 24: 1-12
- 27 EASTER DAY
Isaiah 65: 17 - end
Acts 2: 14, 22-32
Luke 24: 1-12

Weekdays at 9.30am

- 2 Deuteronomy 4: 1, 5-9
Matthew 5: 17-19
- 9 Isaiah 49: 8-15
John 5: 17-30
- 16 NO SERVICE
- 21 Isaiah 42: 1-9
Hebrews 9: 11-15
John 12: 1-11
- 22 Isaiah 49: 1-7
1 Corinthians 1: 18-31
John 12: 20-36
- 23 Isaiah 50: 4-9
Hebrews 12: 1-3
John 13: 21-32

FIRST CALL

Sunday March 6 at 7pm in the Chapel

REGULAR SERVICES IN MARCH

- Sundays 8.30am Holy Communion
10am Parish Communion
- Wednesdays 9.30am Holy Communion

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays Morning Prayer, when said in church, will be at 9.15.

Second Monday of each month will be set aside for Staff Prayer.

SPECIAL SERVICES IN MARCH

Sunday March 6 at 10am All Age Mothering Sunday service

Sunday March 13 at 10am Service of Healing and the Laying on of Hands with Prayer

FOR EASTER SERVICES see next pages

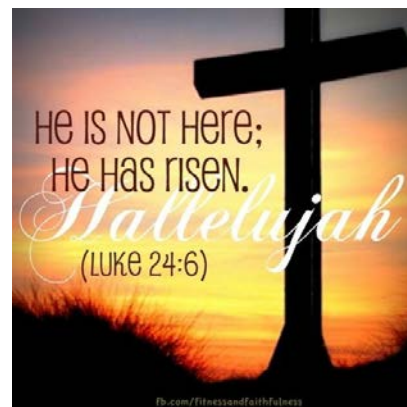
EVENTS IN MARCH

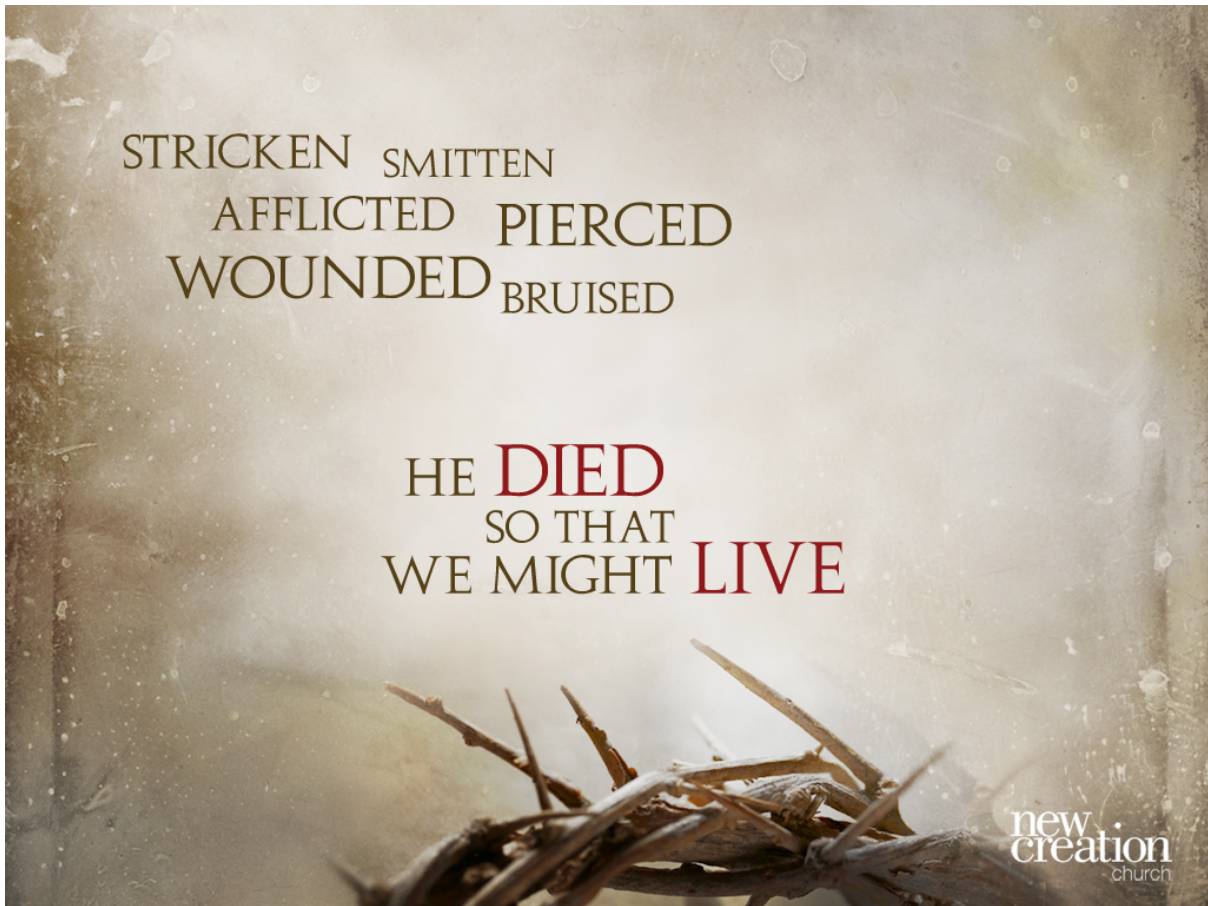
Sunday March 6 at 12 noon Sunday Lunch Club meets in the Church Hall

Monday March 14 – Saturday March 19 Church Schools Exhibition in church

CHURCH CLOSURE

The church will close for a short Easter break after the 10am service on Easter Day (March 27) and will re-open for the 8.30am service on April 10. Between March 28 and April 9 there will be no mid-week services and there will only be a 10am service on April 3





EASTER 2016 AT THE GOOD SHEPHERD

This will be a really exciting Easter at The Good Shepherd. There's too much going on to list it fully in the weekly bulletin, so here goes.

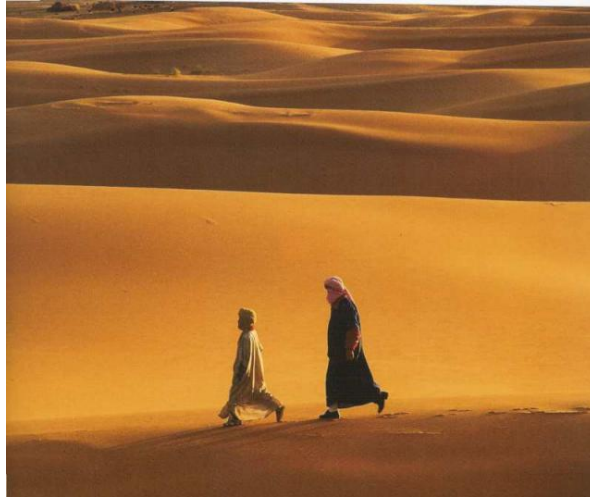
Lent 1(February 14), Lent 2(February 21) and Lent 3 (February 28) we shall have added each week to our Lenten Garden – sand, then rocks and then water.

Lent 4 or Mothering Sunday (March 6) we shall be adding grass and flowers. There will also be the usual presentation of flowers.



Lent 5 or Passion Sunday (March 13) we shall be adding a gravel path to the garden at our service of healing.

Monday March 14 – Saturday March 19 the Church Schools of Cambridge will be staging an exhibition in our church (remember *Nailed!* last year?) This year's exhibition is called *Travelling with Jesus: The road to Jerusalem (and beyond ...)* There will be a special opportunity for church members to experience the exhibition on Monday March 14 at 7.30pm. This is open to all and, for PCC members, will form the worship at the start of their meeting. If it's anything like last year's it will be well worth while coming.
The Saturday morning slot is for families, so, if you know local families who would be interested, do invite them.



Sunday March 20 (Palm Sunday) There will be services at 8.30am and 10am and the 10am service will have the usual Palm Sunday procession, but there are a few changes to the rest of the service. For instance, we are all encouraged to gather near the altar rail for this week's addition to the Garden – Palm Crosses.

This year's big change is our Palm Sunday evening. We are planning a **PASSOVER** Bring and Share meal. I am really excited about this, it's something I have never experienced and something I very much want to share in. We plan to start at 4pm and be finished by 6pm – it is a *family* occasion so children are not just welcome but essential! There will be Jewish music and dancing, singing of familiar songs and lots of fun as well as the serious bits. Watch out for a sign up sheet in church soon.

With Palm Sunday we enter **Holy Week**. As usual, there will be a Communion Service at 9.30am on

Monday March 21

Tuesday March 22

Wednesday March 23

Maundy Thursday (March 24) there will be a service at 7pm which includes foot washing and ends with a quiet vigil in the Chapel. It will be finished by 9pm

Good Friday (March 25)..A joint service of witness is planned for 11am and it is hoped that the venue this year will be Arbury Court.
Then hot cross buns for all at The Good Shepherd!
There will be a quiet service at church between 2pm and 3pm



Easter Day (March 27) The clocks go forward. **BEWARE!**

Easter Vigil will therefore be at **6am** (that will still feel really early as we will have lost an hour's sleep). If you have never come to this service, I encourage you to do so this year. It is a marvellous experience and our numbers are growing at it year on year.

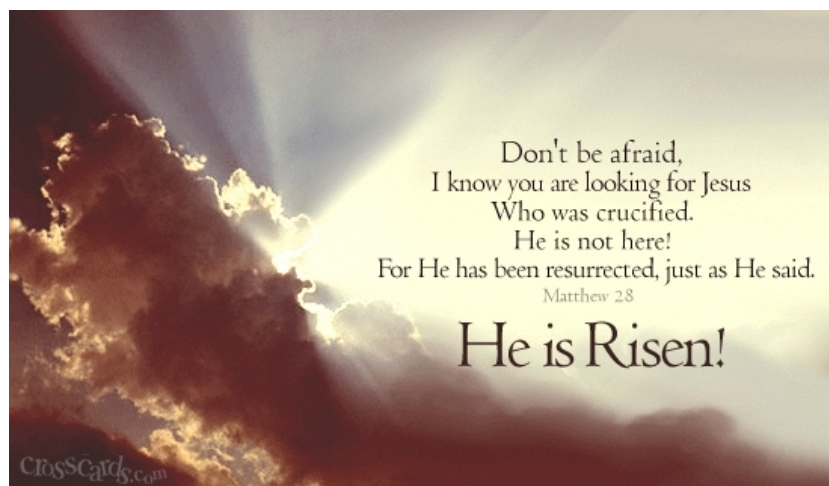
The reward for coming to church so early is a bacon roll and coffee!

Easter communion services will be at 8.30am and 10am and there will be a shared breakfast between the two services.

After the 10am service there will be the annual **Easter Egg hunt**.

There is so much there you could join in, so many opportunities to worship together with others from the church. Time for quiet thought and time for shared joy. Don't miss out!

Ruth



PILGRIM'S STAR

When ghosts and ghouls and other fiends
Our minds invoked, to blame for fears,
Were marching arm in arm on rim
Of dark abyss beyond our grasp
Of knowledge gained by snail's advance;
It's then our forebears felt the need
To sacrifice their beasts of choice
In helpless bids appeasing fates
They thought were causing pain and grief.
But priests became oppressive class
Exploiting simple folk for gain. But they,
Along with high and low, were culled
By death that none escape. But some
Began to wonder if the grave
Was end of spark our bodies house.
We each from babe, to youth, to prime
And slow decay, are bound; but glow
Within persists throughout while flesh
Is fickle as a flowing stream.
Perhaps this constant fire remains
Beyond demise of outward shell
Constrained by space and time. If so,
This life is but unfolding growth
Within an egg before its hatch.
But cocksure media man still takes
As read assumption all is blank
When time on earth is spent. He fails
To take account of Easter's gift.
This rift in history's flow is not
A myth. It's rock of hope that Christ
Bequeathed to all who face the fact
We only know of Him at all
Because he rose to life again,
Despite excruciating death
On cross. But those who grasp this truth
Have found a hope and pilgrim's star
That lifts their tune till final bar
Before we enter world beyond,
Where conflict's dead and joy abounds.

Henry Disney

LENT READING

Many of us decide we will read a book throughout Lent, something to help us on our Lenten journey. Linda has chosen to read *The Journey* by John Pritchard and she sent me this beautiful poem by R.S. Thomas which was included in that book

The coming by R.S. Thomas

And God held in his hand
A small globe. Look he said.
The son looked. Far off,
As through water, he saw
A scorched land of fierce
Colour. The light burned
There; crusted buildings
Cast their shadows: a bright
Serpent, A river
Uncoiled itself, radiant
With slime.
On a bare
Hill a bare tree saddened
The sky. many People
Held out their thin arms
To it, as though waiting
For a vanished April
To return to its crossed
Boughs. The son watched
Them. Let me go there, he said.

I, on the other hand, am reading daily chapters from *Word in the wilderness* by Malcolm Guite. He is a really interesting poet – and a local one too! I am reading it faithfully each day and loved three of Malcolm's own sonnets based on the temptations of Christ. They are *Stones into bread*, *All the kingdoms of the world* and *On the pinnacle* and they are marvellous. But I have a confession to make, when I buy a new book I often just flick through and see what catches my eye before I read it properly. What I first noticed in this book was a poem by C.S. Lewis. I didn't know he wrote poetry, although I love his Narnia books. I've since learned that his poetry is not generally well received – but I love this one. Do share it with me.

Love's as warm as tears by C.S. Lewis

Love's as warm as tears,
Love is tears:
Pressure within the brain,
Tension at the throat,
Deluge, weeks of rain,
Haystacks afloat,
Featureless seas between
Hedges, where once was green.

Love's as fierce as fire,
Love is fire:
All sorts – infernal heat
Clinkered with greed and pride,
Lyric desire, sharp-sweet,

IN THE CHURCH HALL (to book call 352151 (evenings))

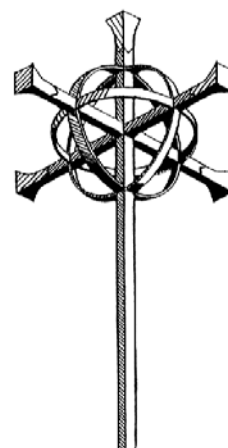
THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB 1 st Sunday of the month noon – 1.30pm	Jinty Keir	572303
RED HEN Monday 8.15 – 11am	Christine O'Reilly	0781 6444439
SANG Monday 10– 11.30 (meets in Haven in Church)	Rachel Blanchflower	523066
THE MONDAY CLUB Monday 2.00 – 3.30pm	Ruby Leyshon	352151
THE GOOD SHEPHERD CUBS Monday 6.30 - 8pm	Charles Brown	07720 441123
LINE DANCING Tuesday 10.15 - 11.45am	Deborah Walker	01954 231382
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
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION 3 rd Wednesday of the month 2.30 - 4.30pm January to November	Mr. Gawthrop	351855
UNITE RETIRED MEMBERS' ASSOCIATION 4 th Wednesday of the month 2 – 4pm	Evelyn Hunnyball	364293
ALZHEIMERS DROP IN CAFÉ 12.15 – 3pm on 1 st Thursday of the month	Sheila Burgess	01353 699422
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

**Submission date for
April Newsletter:
March 13
(Publication date March 27)**

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

