

I am often struck by how difficult it can be to remember what certain experiences feel like. For example, what it feels like to be well when we are in the midst of being ill – or what the sun feels like on our faces, when it has been cold for long periods of time. By virtue of being embodied creatures, our memories are, by and large, bound by our present circumstances and experiences - (and, of course, remembering what it feels like to lie on a beach with an ice-cream in hand, is never *quite* the same as when we're actually doing it!)

There are few more embodied spiritual rites than that of baptism. In baptism, the physical symbols of oil, water and flame are used to take us through an inner experience of being claimed, washed and made to shine in the love of Christ for us. In baptism we are called into belonging forever not just to Him, but into a new relationship with the whole of His family on earth and in heaven. It is a mysterious and moving experience - a special event to celebrate together with others.

Traditionally for much of the first six centuries, Christian baptisms would take place on Easter Day itself, after a period of careful preparation through Lent. Easter, the morning when we remember that death is defeated and the mess we make of loving ourselves and others is utterly forgiven; when we are freed to start again with new life and hope in our hearts.

This Easter morning at The Good Shepherd, we will be celebrating with great gladness the baptism of several children, along with their families, friends, and the communities in which we live. As for the earliest Christian communities, this is a very significant

experience in all of our discipleship journeys, as we recognise again how much we all need one another's encouragement and support along the way.

When life becomes hard and tough, and God feels very far away, it can be difficult to remember what the joy of Easter morning feels like, but come again it will, as Spring follows Winter...

*Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;*

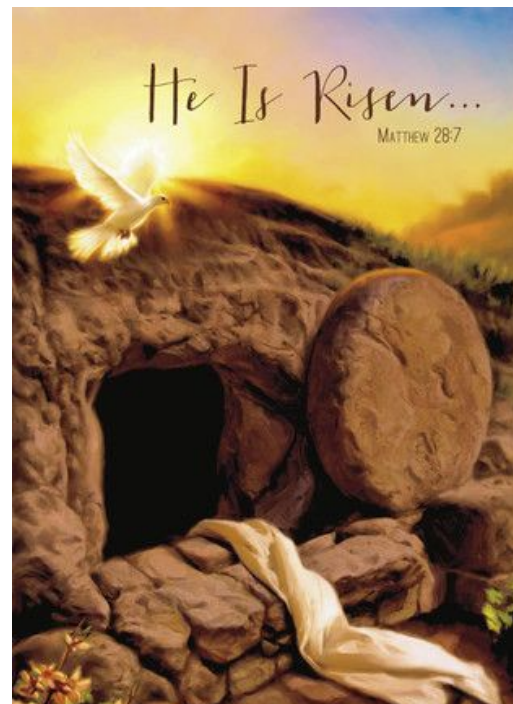
*Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom;*

*Let the Church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing;*

*For her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting!*

May the joy of Easter morning bless your hearts and minds with peace and hope. Please keep our baptism families in your prayers as we prepare to welcome them into Christ's family.

*Rachel*



## *PARISH DIRECTORY*

Vicar	Rev. David Maher until further notice please phone	07764 613862
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
Licensed Lay Minister	Terry Barringer	424584
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	Rhodri James	357607
Churchwarden	Philip Morris	352698
PCC Chairman	Rev. David Maher	see above
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	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
North Cambridge Council of Churches	David Maher	351844
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 APRIL

### Sundays and holy days

- 5 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT  
Ezekiel 37: 1-14  
Romans 8: 6-11  
John 11: 1-45
- 9 PALM SUNDAY  
Palm Gospel
- 13 MAUNDY THURSDAY  
Exodus 12: 1-4, 11-14  
John 13: 1-7, 31-35
- 16 EASTER VIGIL (5am)  
Romans 6: 3-11  
Mark 16: 1-8
- 16 EASTER DAY (8.30am & 10am)  
Acts 19: 34-43  
Matthew 28: 1-10
- 23 EASTER 2  
Acts 2: 14, 20-32  
John 20: 19 - end
- 30 EASTER 3  
Acts 2: 14, 36-41  
Luke 24: 13-35

### Weekdays at 9.30am

- 5 Daniel 3: 14-20, 24-25, 28  
Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21
- 26 Acts 5: 17-26  
John 3: 16-21

## REGULAR SERVICES IN APRIL

- 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.

## CHURCH EASTER CLOSURE

The Church will close after the 10am service on Easter Day and re-open on Wednesday April 26 for the Communion service at 9.30. During the closure period there will be no midweek services and only a 10am service on April 23.

## SPECIAL SERVICES IN APRIL

- Sunday April 2** Service of healing and the laying on of hands
- Sunday April 9** All Age Palm Sunday service at 10am
- Sunday April 9** Passover service and Bring and Share Lunch at 12 noon
- Thursday April 13** Maundy Thursday service at 7pm
- Friday April 14** Good Friday act of witness in Arbury Court at 10.30am
- Friday April 14** Good Friday meditation in words and music 2pm

## EVENTS IN APRIL

- Sunday April 2** at 12 noon Sunday Lunch  
Club meets in the Church Hall



## ROAD TO EMMAUS

(Luke 24: 13-35)

*'He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.  
Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him;  
And he vanished from their sight.'*

Maybe the village lies  
somewhere down every road –  
a seven mile trek perhaps  
or less, or so much more  
(a lifetime even)  
but the pattern, the encounter  
always much the same.  
You set out enveloped in despondency  
(or perhaps elation) but still enmeshed  
in the strangling web of self. You find maybe  
a fellow traveller whose mien and mood  
mirror your own. But as you walk,  
gradually, imperceptibly, you become aware  
that you are not alone; someone else has joined you  
and walks beside; someone who at first  
seems to know nothing of your circumstance  
but who turns out to understand  
more than everything. You cannot help  
but bare your soul to him and then,  
the hour being late, sun dropping  
in a copper sky, the road  
azure with shadow,  
you chance your arm and on an impulse  
invite him in. And as he shares  
a meal with you and takes and blesses bread  
your eyes are opened and you know his face.  
And then he's there no more, his place stands empty  
and the lips of affirmation must mouth also  
the bewilderment of loss.

Tantalizing Lord  
heart kindling, vanishing,  
how can I hope to plumb  
the strangeness of your grace,  
where look to find  
your wild love's token?  
I turn only  
to a journey shared,  
a table spread;  
wine poured and blessed  
and bread broken.

*Rex Collinson*

## AHEAD

(From my 2011 collection REITERATION)

My thoughts of past reveal some gems  
Amongst the mounds of slag regrets.  
I would not wish to dwell therein  
Again. The light ahead is dim,  
But still it's full of hope. The road  
I glimpse is not so rough as track  
I've come, or sketched without regard  
For fears induced by sudden bends  
Or strains derived from disregard  
Of hills and dales. Besides the glow  
Discerned beyond my line of sight  
Appears to be a kinder light  
Than glare of youthful sun I've felt  
In days when I aspired to make  
My mark on larger stage. For now  
It's love expressed in little things  
That matters most, as I progress  
Along a way of little choice.  
Its end will be a fresh surprise.

*Henry*

### **Annual Plant and Book Sale**

Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup> 10.30 – 12.00

As the days get longer and the temperature begins to rise, the garden begins to call to tell us it's Spring again. Whether you're splitting shrubs, planting flower or vegetable seeds, please put one or two aside for the Church. We always have customers for tomatoes of all varieties, beans, peas and herbs of all sorts. Annuals and perennial flowers always make good sellers on the day, so please pot something up for the Sale. We'll be able to give more details as we get nearer to the day.

*Ruby, Evelyn & Paula.*

This is a poem I wrote looking out into the garden on a beautiful sunny day in January this year.

### **Redemption: Friday Afternoon Winter Warmth**

Sun on my face,  
touched by Your grace.  
Chair by a door;  
feeling that more  
love before  
was there for me  
than I could see,  
or feel or know;  
until with slow,  
and faltering, gradual steps  
I heard your voice calling me stop ...

Why do you rush?  
Why do you push  
yourself to prove  
that you can move  
heaven and earth,  
despite the dearth  
of time you give  
simply to be  
still before me?  
Will you love your neighbour as yourself?  
Love me your Lord with all your heart?

You must be still  
to know my will,  
my hand to guide.  
Give up your pride,  
your need to show  
all that you know  
to them you fear  
may want to hear  
more proof of worth.

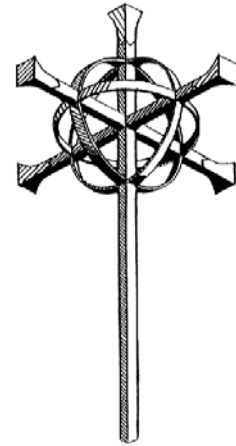
You are as you are, made by me.  
Accepted, forgiven and free.

*Alison Phillips, January 2017*

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

<b>THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month noon – 1.30pm	Jinty Keir	572303
<b>RED HEN</b> Monday 8.15 – 11am	Christine O'Reilly	<a href="tel:07816444439">0781 6444439</a>
<b>SANG</b> Monday 10– 11.30 (meets in Haven in Church)	Rachel Blanchflower	523066
<b>THE MONDAY CLUB</b> Monday 2.00 – 3.30pm	Ruby Leyshon	352151
<b>THE GOOD SHEPHERD CUBS</b> Monday 6.30 - 8pm	Charles Brown	07720 441123
<b>DOG TRAINING CLASSES</b> Monday 8.15 - 9.15pm	Susannah O'Hanlon	235281
<b>LINE DANCING</b> Tuesday 10.15 - 11.45am	Deborah Walker	01954 231382
<b>KEEP FIT 50+ GROUP</b> Tuesday 2.30 - 4pm	Margaret Briggs	01954 250870
<b>THE GOOD SHEPHERD RAINBOWS</b> Tuesday 6.15 – 7.15pm	Miss Rachel Marsh	574520
<b>DOG TRAINING CLASSES</b> Tuesday 7.30 - 9.30pm	Susannah O'Hanlon	235281
<b>THE 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; 25<sup>th</sup> GOOD SHEPHERD BROWNIES</b> Wednesday 6 - 7.15pm	Mrs Pat Marsh	574520
<b>DOG TRAINING CLASSES</b> Tuesday 7.30 - 9.30pm	Susannah O'Hanlon	235281
<b>YOGA STRETCHING AND MOBILITY</b> Wednesday 9.25-10.15am	Lexi	367639
<b>TAI CHI</b> Wednesday 12.50-1.40	Lexi	367639
<b>ROYAL BRITISH LEGION</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month 2.30 - 4.30pm January to November	Mr. Gawthrop	351855
<b>UNITE RETIRED MEMBERS' ASSOCIATION</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month 2 – 4pm	Evelyn Hunnyball	364293
<b>THE GOOD SHEPHERD BEAVERS</b> Thursday 6.15 - 7.30pm	Emma Roberts	426043
<b>THE GOOD SHEPHERD SCOUTS</b> Thursday 7.30 – 9.00pm	Chris White	0700 891511
<b>CHURCH TODDLERS' CLUB</b> Friday 9.15 – 11.30am	Claire Duell	0787 4850867
<b>PILATES</b> Friday 12.50 – 1.40pm	Lexi	367639
<b>TAI CHI</b> Friday 2 – 3pm	Mike Tabrett	503390
<b>SIN CRU</b> Friday 5-7.30pm (Term time only)	Lucy Crowe	<a href="tel:07989927706">07989 927706</a>
<b>DOG TRAINING CLASSES</b> Friday 3.13-4.15pm	Arbury Road Vet. Surgery	361911

**Submission date for  
May Newsletter:  
April 16  
(Publication date April 30)**



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 our administrator, Ruth Banger. She will be able to tell you what is involved and arrange for a meeting with you if you then wish to take things further.

She can be contacted on 07764 613862

Church website: [www.churchofthegoodshepherd.co.uk](http://www.churchofthegoodshepherd.co.uk)

