

# THE KING

APRIL 2022



**They found the stone rolled away from the tomb,  
but when they went in, they did not find the body.**

*Luke 24:2-3*

**WEBSITE:** [www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk](http://www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk)

<b>VICAR</b>	The Reverend Michael Miller The Vicarage, 2 Pinner Road, Northwood HA6 1QS	(020) 8866 9230
ASSISTANT CURATE	The Reverend Helen Hutchins <i>e-mail:</i> helenhutchins@hotmail.co.uk	01923 824 741
LAY MINISTER	Miss Sarah Parnaby	(020) 8866 8309

## **SERVICES**

Principal Service - Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am every Sunday  
Also streamed from our website  
Other Services - Said Eucharist  
7.15 pm Tuesdays, 6.00 pm Wednesdays,  
10.00 am Thursdays, 11.00 am Fridays, Saturdays 10.30 am

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL at St. Edmund's Church**

Sundays at 10.00 am in the Hall.  
Please contact Carol Diggins on 07827 159 586 for more information.

Arrangements for the SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession),  
BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, WEDDINGS, and BANNS OF MARRIAGE -  
please telephone the Vicar.

## **OFFICERS**

Churchwardens:	Mr Steve Castle Mr Chris Ambrose <i>e-mail:</i> churchwardens@stedmundtheking.org.uk	3a Willows Close, Pinner HA5 3SY	(020) 8868 0482 01923 825 524
Hon. Secretary:	Mrs Clare Moses <i>e-mail:</i> claremoses@hotmail.com		07950 863 250
Hon. Treasurer:	Mr James Mair		(020) 8428 1349
Director of Music:	Mr Mark Hammond	39 <sup>B</sup> Carlton Avenue, Kenton HA3 8AX	(020) 8909 2687
Hall Bookings:	Mr Steve Castle	3a Willows Close, Pinner HA5 3SY	(020) 8868 0482

## **ORGANISATIONS**

Flower Guild:	Mrs Glenda Greenfield <i>e-mail:</i> gggreenfield60@gmail.com		07850 581 551
Women's Guild:	Mrs Hilda Greenfield Mrs Connie Ambrose		01923 823 134 01923 825 524
Arrow Players:	Mr Michael Godden		01296 631 975
Classic Concerts:	Mrs Marjorie Pimm	2 Northwood Way, Northwood HA6 1AT	01923 821 869
Youth Group:	Mr Steve Castle	3a Willows Close, Pinner HA5 3SY	(020) 8868 0482
Scout Group:	Mrs Karen Retter		07984 662 588
Guides:	Abigail Harrison/Clare Walker <i>e-mail:</i> secondnorthwoodhillsguides@gmail.com		
Brownies:	(7 <sup>th</sup> Northwood Brownies) Ellie Morgan <i>e-mail:</i> 7thnorthwoodbrownies@gmail.com		07910 208 094

## **MAGAZINE**

Hon. Editor:	Mrs Jenny Jones	19 Latimer Close, Pinner HA5 3RB	(020) 8866 7173
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# WELCOME

to the online edition of this magazine.

In the current circumstances, we are publishing on our website so that you don't miss out on the regular monthly issue.

If you know someone who does not have internet access and would like a printed copy of this magazine, please contact Steve Castle at [steven.castle@saintedmundschurch.org.uk](mailto:steven.castle@saintedmundschurch.org.uk) giving their name and postal address (having first obtained their permission to supply this personal information).

If you would like to receive the Newsletter by e-mail you can subscribe by completing the form at <https://tinyurl.com/subscribe-orbit> or by visiting [www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk](http://www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk) and clicking the "Subscribe" link underneath "Weekly Newsletter".

All Services continue to be celebrated with a congregation inside Church. In addition, the 10 am Sunday Sung Eucharist is available online - see [www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk](http://www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk) for details.

Congregational singing has been reintroduced on Sundays, and refreshments are now available in the Hall afterwards (table service).

The wearing of masks is strongly recommended unless you are exempt, to protect others and show caring.

In order to reduce the risk of virus transmission some doors and windows remain open during the service.

You are advised to wrap up warm if the weather is cold.

Communion continues to be given in one kind only.

The Peace is shared non-physically.

The Offertory Procession remains suspended, but collection plates are available near the Font.

## FR. MICHAEL'S LETTER

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'What is truth?' - Pontius Pilate's question to Jesus just before he condemns him to death. Most of us a couple of years ago would possibly have wondered at such a question. These days however it is something I am constantly asking myself. President Putin of Russia up until February 24<sup>th</sup> said that Russia would not invade Ukraine, then when he did, he maintained that it was not an invasion it was a military operation. We also endured President Trump of the U.S.A. who accused anyone who disagreed with him of peddling 'fake news' much of which was clearly not. Even some of our own M.P.s are not averse to say the least being economical with the truth and of course there are those 'phone calls we get from people alleging that they are calling from Microsoft or our bank in order to scam us out of our savings. 'What is truth?' I am sure that most of us will at some point in our lives not told the truth. Sometimes we do this to spare someone's feelings which I am sure can be the right thing to do. At other times we may do it to protect ourselves or to get out of trouble. Perhaps not so acceptable. It is sad that people in power can be so insecure that they have to rely on being untruthful to further their own ends. The events in Ukraine are quite simply appalling and the scenes on our television have moved many of us to tears. We are left feeling utterly helpless. One of the few things we can do however is to pray for an end to the atrocities and for there to be peace. I urge you to do that and to pray hard.

Pilate's question 'What is truth?' came in response to Jesus telling him 'I came into the world, to testify to the truth.' Earlier in his ministry Jesus told his disciples 'If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.' The truth will make us free. And on another occasion, he tells them 'I am the way the truth and the life.'

Jesus' death and resurrection sets us free from sin. Jesus took on our sins and through his death and resurrection we have been set free from sin and death. This is why as Christians Holy Week and Easter are such important celebrations for us. It seems a strange thing to do to 'celebrate' a death, but what we are actually celebrating is the fact that Jesus died for us all so that our sins would be forgiven. His resurrection shows us the new life we are born into and also gives us confidence that we too experience resurrection from the dead. Holy week and Easter are much more important than Christmas because without them Christmas would be meaningless. I do hope we will all take advantage of being able to celebrate Easter together in church this year for the first time since 2019.

I started this letter by talking about truth. The truth that Jesus testifies to is that God loves us. That love was shown when his only son came to earth not only to live among us, as one of us but also to die for us. To die a most horrific and painful death so that we might be free. But also to rise again from the dead. That is what our faith is all about. In the words of St. Augustine of Hippo 'We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song.'

Wishing you all a very happy Easter

*Fr. Michael*

# CALENDAR AND PRINCIPAL SERVICE READINGS APRIL 2022

*Principal Service - Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am every Sunday*

- 3 SUN 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (PASSION SUNDAY)**  
Isaiah 43.16-21, Philippians 3.4b-14, John 12.1-8
- 10 SUN PALM SUNDAY**  
Isaiah 50.4-9a, Philippians 2.5-11, Luke 23.1-49
- 12 Tues 2.30 pm Women's Guild
- 14 THUR MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
8.00 pm The Mass Of The Lord's Supper,  
followed by the Watch of the Passion  
Exodus 12.1-14, 1 Corinthians 11.23-26, John 13.1-17, 31b-35
- 15 FRI GOOD FRIDAY**  
2.00 pm (approx) The Good Friday Liturgy  
Isaiah 52.13-53.12, Hebrews 10.16-25, The Passion - John 19.1-37
- 16 SAT HOLY SATURDAY**  
8.30 pm The Easter Vigil and Sung Eucharist of the Resurrection  
Romans 6.3-11, Luke 24.1-12
- 17 SUN EASTER DAY**  
Acts 10.34-43, 1 Corinthians 15.19-26, John 20.1-18
- 24 SUN 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
Acts 5.27-32, Revelation 1.4-8, John 20.19-end

## WEEKDAY SERVICES AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Sunday	10.00 am	Sunday School
Monday	5.00 pm 6.30 pm 7.00 pm	Beaver Scouts Cub Scouts Guides
Tuesday	7.15 pm 6.15 pm 7.00 pm	SAID EUCHARIST Brownies Scouts
Wednesday	6.00 pm	SAID EUCHARIST
Thursday	10.00 am	SAID EUCHARIST
Friday	11.00 am 8.00 pm	SAID EUCHARIST Arrow Players
Saturday	10.30 am	SAID EUCHARIST

# THE WEEK THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

Fr. Michael

Holy week is the most important week of the year for Christians. It is the week that we participate in the Passion of Jesus. It is important to remember that we are not mere spectators in a drama. All the great events commemorated in the Christian calendar are not merely past events, entirely outside ourselves but present realities and we try each year to enter more deeply into them. Just as the Eucharist is not simply a memorial service in which we commemorate Christ's sacrifice, but a sharing and a participation in his Passion, death, and resurrection; in the same way, Holy Week is a way of being part of this 'drama'.

Do take advantage of the Liturgies, whatever stage of your Christian journey you may be at, to come closer to Christ and identify your life with his.

If you would like a lift to enable you to attend any of the Holy Week evening services (Monday to Thursday and Saturday), please speak to Helen Collier. If you can give lifts, please tell Helen so she can coordinate this.

## **WHAT HAPPENS AND WHY AT THE HOLY WEEK SERVICES.**

### **Palm Sunday - 10<sup>th</sup> April**

#### **10am Blessing of Palms, Procession and Sung Eucharist**

On Palm Sunday, we commemorate the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. Our worship begins in the Church Hall where the palms we carry representing the palms strewn in Jesus' path are blessed. The Gospel is read and then we process to the Church (which represents Jerusalem) where the account of Jesus' Passion is read dramatically and we all take different parts. This reminds us that Jesus entered Jerusalem to go to his death and those who were shouting 'Hosanna to the Son of David' and acclaiming Jesus as king on the first Palm Sunday were shouting 'Crucify Him' just a few days later. The Eucharist then continues as normal.

### **Maundy Thursday – 14<sup>th</sup> April**

#### **8pm Mass of the Lord's Supper**

"Maundy" comes from the Latin *Mandate* (which means commandment), because it was at the Last Supper that Jesus gave a New Commandment – *'I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.'* (John 13.34)

Maundy Thursday is a special day for all Priests since it is a day to renew their ordination vows. In London, this is done at St. Paul's Cathedral at what is known as the Chrism Mass. The Holy Oils used for Baptism, Confirmation and the anointing of the sick are blessed by the Bishop and distributed to all the churches. Everyone is welcome to this wonderful and uplifting service.

On Maundy Thursday evening, we remember the Last Supper and that Jesus gave himself in the Eucharist. The Eucharist begins with the reception of the Holy Oils blessed that morning.



We recall that Jesus chose his apostles to serve and lead the Church. Remembering that Jesus washed their feet at the Last Supper, to show what sort of leadership we should emulate, the Priest washes the feet of twelve members of the congregation.

The evening Mass of the Lord's Supper is a beautiful and joyful celebration. During the singing of the Gloria, the church bells are rung and then remain silent until the Easter Vigil of Holy Saturday night. To remember Jesus going to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray after the Last Supper the Eucharist is followed by a procession of the Blessed Sacrament, to an altar of repose set up for the occasion and decorated with flowers and candles to represent the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus asked his disciples to watch and pray with him but they fell asleep so we then watch and pray with Jesus. Then the altar and church is stripped bare in readiness for Good Friday.

### **Good Friday -15<sup>th</sup> April**

**1pm A Meditation to prepare us for ..**

**2pm The Good Friday Liturgy**

On Good Friday, we remember the death of Jesus. According to an ancient custom, the Eucharist is not celebrated on this day or before the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. The celebration of the Lord's passion and death takes place in the afternoon.

There are three parts to the Good Friday Liturgy:

**The Liturgy of the Word** - during which we hear scripture readings and the children will perform a dramatic version of Jesus' Passion

**The Veneration of the Cross** - during which we are invited to come and kiss the cross or simply pray silently at the foot of the cross

**Holy Communion** - we receive Jesus in Holy Communion using Hosts consecrated on Maundy Thursday.

### **Holy Saturday – 16<sup>th</sup> April**

**10am Morning Prayer**

The church is empty and bare and the Eucharist is not celebrated as we await the Resurrection.

### **8.30pm Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter**

Then the Church gathers to celebrate the Easter Vigil. The celebration of the Easter Vigil should take place at night, beginning after nightfall.

The Easter Vigil has four parts: The Service of Light; the Liturgy of the Word; the Liturgy of Baptism; and the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

During the Service of Light, all the lights in the church are turned off and a fire is prepared outside the church. The fire is blessed and the Paschal (Easter) Candle is lit from the new fire. The candle is carried into the dark church. It is a sign of Christ, the Light of the World, who has overcome the darkness of sin and death. The lighted Paschal Candle provides the only illumination. Then, from the flame of the Paschal Candle, members of the congregation light the small candles that they are holding.

The flame is passed from person to person until everyone is holding a lighted candle. The light from the Paschal Candle and all the small candles provides the only illumination in the church during this portion of the liturgy. This section concludes with the singing of the Easter Proclamation, the Exsultet.

During the Liturgy of the Word, the story of God's great love for us is proclaimed in readings from the Old and New Testaments. The readings recall the great events of salvation, beginning with creation itself.

During the Liturgy of Baptism, all present stand with lighted candles and renew their baptismal promises as a sign that they share the new life of Jesus through his resurrection.

The priest then makes the acclamation **Alleluia. Christ is risen**, and everyone responds loudly **He is risen indeed. Alleluia**. After a great fan-fare we then sing the Gloria and bells are rung for the first time since Maundy Thursday.

The Easter Vigil concludes with the celebration of the Eucharist. This is a joyous sharing in the sacrificial meal of Jesus Christ, Lord and Risen Saviour.

### **Easter Day – 17<sup>th</sup> April**

#### **10am Sung Eucharist with Blessing of the Easter Garden**

Our celebrations of Christ's Resurrection continue. Easter represents the fulfilment of God's promises to humankind; it is the most important day of the Christian calendar.

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels

Exult, all creation around God's throne!

Jesus is risen! Sound the trumpet of salvation!

*From the Easter Proclamation – The Exsultet*





# THE KING

MAY 2022



The Parish Magazine of St. Edmund the King, Northwood Hills

## MAY MAGAZINE

*All contributions for  
the May Magazine  
to be with Jenny Jones by  
**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April**  
**020 8866 7173***



**BRING - AND - BUY  
SALE**

**1st SUNDAY OF  
EACH MONTH**

**11.15am IN THE HALL**

Part of our Eco Church Project

## St. EDMUND'S WOMEN'S GUILD

**Will meet on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April  
at 2.30 pm in the Lounge,  
in a change to the published programme,  
for a Talk by Colin Richards  
“Women in Art”  
Followed by refreshments  
All are welcome.**

## St. EDMUND'S YOUTH GROUP

meets every 2 weeks on Wednesdays, 7-9pm in the Hall.  
Open to all aged 10-16.  
Contact Steve Castle on 020 8868 0482 for information.  
April dates - 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>  
See [www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk/youthgroup](http://www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk/youthgroup) for details

# ST. EDMUND THE KING ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

will be held at approx. 11.30 am,  
following the 10 am Sung Eucharist  
on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, in the Hall

Elections of Churchwardens and PCC members  
Financial Report  
Reports from Church Organisations



## THE REAL EASTER EGG

The Meaningful Chocolate Company  
has launched its 2022 Fairtrade  
Real Easter Egg range.

All Real Easter Eggs come  
with an Easter story in the box.

However, supermarkets still refuse to stock them  
so they have to be ordered online.

To see the full range, and to order, go to  
[www.realeasteregg.co.uk](http://www.realeasteregg.co.uk)

# SUNDAY SCHOOL



at St Edmund's Church

The group meets during term time from 10-11.15am. We spend time together in church and then children, and parents if they wish, can join with experienced leaders in the hall where we help children understand the Christian message through craft, games and drama. If you would like to join in or know more please contact Carol on 07827 159 586

Adults are requested  
to wear masks



# RAISE THE ROOF END-OF-FEBRUARY 2022 UPDATE



Fundraising continued in February and we continued to receive generous donations.

Our second Bring-and-Buy Sale was very successful and we also received donations in memory of Alan Yates and a bequest from Lisa Block.

This means an amazing £3,000 was raised in February.

Just £4,000 remaining to reach our phase 1 target.

In the meantime, fundraising continues and our Faculty Application (permission to go ahead with the work) is being processed. As mentioned last month the Building and Fundraising Committee has put together an exciting programme of events for this year and details can be found later in this article.

Just a reminder that we are updating the fundraising totals at the end of each calendar month and announcing the amount raised at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month during Parish Notices. Again, please accept my apologies that the total in the magazine will be a few weeks behind the actual situation but please continue to be assured that all donations are counted and greatly appreciated.



If you have not already made a donation but would like to do so, it would be very welcome. Donations can be made in several ways:

- by cheque, made payable to PCC of St Edmund The King (with “Raise the Roof” written on the reverse please). Cheques may be sent to The Treasurer, St Edmund’s Church, 2 Pinner Road, Northwood. HA6 1QS.
- by bank transfer to our account with CAF Bank:
  - account name: PCC of St Edmund The King, Northwood Hills
  - sort code: 40-52-40
  - account number: 00017222
- by online donation via credit or debit card or PayPal by clicking the “Donate here” button on our website: [www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk](http://www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk)

Thank you.

## **Dates for your Diary: Fundraising Events in aid of Raise The Roof**

The profits from the fundraising events below will be given to the “Raise The Roof” appeal. The Building and Fundraising PCC Sub-committee is planning the following events to be held in 2022:

**6<sup>th</sup> March for 10 weeks: Bonus Ball Game**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month 11.15am: Bring-and-Buy Sale**

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May: Plant Sale**

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June: Fish and Chips and Royal Film Evening**

**Pentecost Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June: Platinum Jubilee Lunch**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June: Summer Fair**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July: Bingo Evening**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September: Book Sale and Eco Fair**

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October: Quiz Evening**

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November: Christmas Bazaar**

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Tree Festival**

Please put these events in your diary and thank you in advance for your support.

Please let me know if you have any new fundraising ideas, would like to organise an event, have any requests for revival of previously-held events, or would like to join the committee.

### **More information**

If you would like to know more about the appeal please contact me on 020 8868 0482 or e-mail [steven.castle@saintedmundschurch.org.uk](mailto:steven.castle@saintedmundschurch.org.uk). I am also the acting Stewardship Recorder and will be happy to answer any questions you may have about making donations.

### **And finally...**

Just a reminder that the latest Raise the Roof funding situation can be heard during Parish Notices on the first or second Sunday of the month. If you are not able to attend in church, do join us for the services which are online and available via our website [www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk](http://www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk)

Please continue to keep the Raise the Roof appeal in your prayers, praying that our Faculty application (Church planning permission) for the work will be granted very soon and phase 1 work can be completed very soon.

With my best wishes, Steve

# LENT GIVING 2022

As usual, this year's Lent Giving will be divided between a charity providing services to people in our country and an overseas charity.

**THE DIOCESE OF LONDON LENT APPEAL 2022** is called Cultivating Compassionate Communities. It will focus on raising awareness around issues of mental health and wellbeing for adults and young people, along with domestic abuse. It will raise money to support three partner charities who are all offering resources and bespoke training to churches as they work to achieve this. They are ...

## **Renew Wellbeing**

Renew spaces are simple cafe style spaces run by local churches where hobbies and activities are shared or co-produced. Each cafe space is attached to a quiet room or prayer space where inner habits of wellbeing are shared. Each church partners with a mental health professional.

## **Restored UK**

A network of churches standing against domestic abuse, shining a light in the darkness, providing a place of safety for survivors

## **Be Headstrong (Part of Youthscape)**

Supporting young people and those who come alongside them in their social, emotional and spiritual development

For the **OVERSEAS CHARITY** it was felt that it would be appropriate to select a charity with links to Uganda and children in memory of Bernadette Rogers, who died in December. With this in mind, the PCC have chosen Play Action International.

**Play Action International** was founded in 2009 as East African Playgrounds, which remains the name of its sister organisation in Uganda. The charity takes a child-centred approach to education and uses the power of play to transform the lives of vulnerable children in East Africa through specialised play programmes. These are implemented in refugee settlements, hospitals and community schools.

They run programmes that include training for play-based teaching to help a child's development. The scheme hopes to help the community to engage in play with children at home, whilst also providing outdoor play spaces. Each project utilises local materials to construct high-quality, safe and fun playgrounds. The East African Playgrounds programme is proven to make for happier children, reduce anti-social behaviour, improve developmental skills, including social, physical, cognitive and emotional difficulties, and better school attendance as well as class concentration and boost problem solving skills. Already the charity has built more than 200 playgrounds and reached more than 300,000 vulnerable children. They also run apprenticeships. Working in partnership with SALVE International, they provide former street-connected children with the life-changing opportunity to undertake an intensive apprenticeship scheme in their workshop in Jinja, Uganda. The young apprentices learn welding, prefabrication, and playground installation, as well as other practical, transferable skills including entrepreneurship – setting them up for a financially sustainable life.

Greetings to you all.

Firstly, an apology: I reported that Bernadette Rogers died in Uganda. In fact it was in England, in Hatch End.

The words that come to mind when I think of the past few weeks are 'maelstrom', 'hurly burly' and 'terror'. Firstly, there were the damaging storms that remind us of the danger our planet is in. Then, this horrible war in Ukraine, which is causing so much fear, suffering and instability. It's so hard to know what to do - but at the very least we must be ready to welcome refugees.

Also we must pray. We are encouraged at every service to 'pray with confidence' - what if we all really did? Can we move mountains? If we care enough, I believe we can. Some of you witnessed the last war; you know how faith, courage and the kindness of others got us through. We must pray for the Russians too, many of whom are truly horrified by this war.

I've attended a few ecumenical events recently, in which the present troubles were very much on our hearts. On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> February there was a Taizé service at Pinner Methodist Church: the theme was compassion, and the peaceful and contemplative service, at which we lit candles, included a number of short but deeply challenging poems on that subject.

Then there was the World Day of Prayer service at St. Matthew's on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March, entitled '*I know the plans I have for you*' - a quote from the prophet Jeremiah, who lived at a time of great political crisis himself. '*Surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for your harm, to give you a future with hope*' --words that give both comfort and a challenge to strengthen our faith. In this passage God also told the Jewish exiles to care for the people and the place where they'd been sent - and we too were encouraged to care more for God's world and God's people living in fear, suffering and need. We lit candles of hope, remembering that Jesus, the Light of the World, is the one in whom God's promises of freedom, forgiveness, justice and peace have been fulfilled - and we must continue his work. We were also given seeds to plant as a sign of hope for the future.

The third such event I attended marked the 'live' return of LIFT (Ladies In Faith Together) to the London School of Theology in Northwood, on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March. We received a wonderful welcome, and a beautifully-prepared breakfast. The speaker, Tracey Cotterell, talked about 'Living and Loving in the light of Mark's Gospel'. Her premise was that the force of Mark's Gospel was about the relationship of humankind with Christ, and the regime-change that He brought. She gave biblical examples, such as the determination of the Syro-Phoenician woman whose daughter was sick, the generosity of the widow's meagre offering in the Temple, and the devotion of the woman who anointed Jesus with perfumed oil. It was an inspiring talk, followed by discussion of how we would pray in the light of Mark's Gospel.



What came to me was that I needed to have the confidence to pray for bigger things - like the stopping of war.

I enjoyed the fellowship too. It can be daunting at first to find yourself at a table of earnest young women, their talk liberally sprinkled with Scripture-references; and then you find that one of them knows someone you know (usually Marjorie!), or loves our pantomimes - and suddenly we're all enjoying our shared humanity! Do come next time!

The funeral of our beloved Nora Wood took place on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Her son Michael had brought a fine organist (as Mark was sadly not available), and some splendid singers to augment the choir, and it was both a poignant and a glorious occasion. Fr. Philip Barnes preached what I can only describe as a 'stonking' good sermon, painting a beautiful and realistic picture of Nora's character (not leaving out the stubbornness!) and giving an assurance of the Resurrection life we will share. Her son Jonathan's tribute was very upbeat and amusing, bringing memories of the woman we knew and loved back to us with much laughter, as well as respect for what she had given all of us over her 95 years.

Something that triggers memories very powerfully is music. During the service I 'held it together' through the well-known Ireland Mass setting, the anthem 'Ave Verum Corpus' by Mozart, and even Fauré's 'In Paradisum'; what finished me off was Mark's recording on the organ of part of Elgar's 'Dream of Gerontius' which both Nora and Bernard adored. But my tears were of joy as well as sadness: I have 'a sure and certain hope' that we shall see them again in the Heavenly Life.

It was lovely to have Fr. Peter Vannozzi in the congregation too. That sense of the past and the present existing together in the same place always gives me a dizzy but joyful feeling. I also felt as if the Company of Heaven were very close to us that day.

The All-Age Service on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March was reflecting on temptation: not necessarily the sort where you want desperately to take a sweet when you've given them up - as Fr. Michael demonstrated temptingly in his homily - but the compelling thoughts that lead us to selfish actions. The Intercessions took the form of our each taking a cube of sugar, which represented our own temptations, and dropping it in a bowl of warm water, watching it dissolve and praying that our selfish thoughts would dissolve with it. I love that sort of graphic prayer-form: it makes one's intentions stick more firmly in one's memory.

At the Women's Guild, on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March, Clare Moses gave a brilliant talk about her time in midwifery. Her stories were both entertaining and deeply moving. We also gained a sense of how practices and attitudes to the job have changed over the years. I think Claire must have been a lovely midwife, making her patients feel secure and safe, and inspiring them with trust and fortitude. We were then treated to a lovely tea and shared an effervescent multiple-sided conversation! Please join us this month (Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April) for more fun and fellowship.

I've been enjoying the Lent course. (It's ok, one of the Rules of Engagement is to have fun!) Titled 'The Long Road to Heaven', it's based on that very moving and thoughtful film 'The Way' about a man who makes the pilgrimage to Compostella on behalf of the son he has lost.

After watching clips of the film, we discuss what we've seen and what it might mean to us on our own spiritual journey - and then pray together. It's good to have these times when we can make that journey together, and share our experiences and insights: thank you, Fr. Michael and all those involved in its organisation.

Finally, I'd like to share with you a poem written by Anne Jacobs (Frank's mum), who lives in Christchurch, Dorset, and is a very creative lady. Envisaging a moment in the past, she reminds us how ordinary people have been keeping the faith over hundreds of years, in spite of the harshness of life; it encourages our own faithfulness in difficult times. Although it is mostly about Ash Wednesday, the recognition of our spiritual poverty is balanced by the last verse: our prayers are heard, Easter is in the air, and God's mercy is visible in the gift of bread to the slave-girl.

### **The Norman Heritage of Christchurch.**

Mist lies over pools by the wooden bridge into the sleeping town;  
Smoke is curling up from the brick chimney into the still air  
As the slave-girl blows upon the embers, laid with new dry sticks;  
She has cleared the ashes and will take them to the church  
When the fire will be ablaze and the household stirring.

In her cold rags, the slave-girl will pass like a shapeless shadow  
Under the wall of the keep and the creaking wicket-gate  
Where the gatekeeper and his dog lie dozing, the clay bowl  
Slipping from his gnarled fingers, the dog asleep with half-slit eyes,  
Not barking at the bare feet walking through the wet grass.

The slave-girl walks under the pearly sky to the looming walls  
Of the great church with its high stone porch facing the north;  
Here sits the sacristan, ancient and mumbling, hands in black sleeves,  
Awaiting Tierce, third service of the day, when in the lamp-lit gloom  
The silent monks will mark the cross of Christ on every brow.

The mark of ashes, brought by the slave-girl, showing penitence and poverty,  
A visible sign of obedience to their Lord, who hears their chanting Latin prayers  
Arising to the rafters, in the quiet, cold Easter air, like costly incense,  
While the slave-girl, with head bent, is richer by a piece of bread,  
And the shuffling sandals will be gone, and their prayers done.

I wish you all a joyful and peaceful Easter.

## R.I.P. NORA WOOD 1926-2022

from Fr. Philip Barnes' Address at Nora's Funeral

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Imagine if you saw an advert for a new recording of a famous piece of music, something like the Handel 'Messiah' or the Elgar *Dream of Gerontius* that Nora and Bernard loved so much, and it ran something like this: "We all love the great classics; but think how much of your life you waste listening to slow recordings! At last, thanks to the latest technology, we can offer you a recording that takes 20% less time than any other on the market."

I can't imagine that it would have many of us rushing out to the shops to get it. That's one of the things about music: it takes its own time, and it imposes its time upon us. In my mind's eye I can picture Nora here, that small frame in her red gown conducting the choir, perhaps for one of the 'big sings' she so enjoyed - Advent perhaps, or a Harrow Choir Festival - deep in concentration, utterly attentive to the music and the performers before her. She gave herself totally to the task of bringing the notes on the page, the intentions of the composer to life, and the gifts of the performer to life.

And in this, as in so many other ways, Nora has given us a glimpse of what it means to follow Christ. She became a channel of something else, an agent of another reality; not just in her music, but through all her life - in the love, the sheer goodness that we saw in her she communicated something of God's life and commitment and goodness to us.

We remember her determination and her frailty, her capacity for friendships and her stubbornness, her commitment to faith and her uncertainties, her serious commitments and her capacity for laughter, the twinkle in her eye, and her quiet humour; her vitality and the past few years of cruel, debilitating frailty. Undergirding this complexity there are two particular words that come to mind when we give ourselves to this process of remembering and praying for Nora. The first is dedication, in Biblical usage it means to be given over to the service of God and neighbour, to have a sense of finding your own fulfilment in the happiness of others. It's so much more, too, that a sort of sterile acquiescence to a task – but it's the opening of the door to shared riches.

There was something of this kind of dedication in Nora. Dedication in her relationships of family and home, in her marriage to Bernard and in all that they shared together with their sons and grandchildren; dedication to wider family and friendships; dedication to pupils and to the encouragement of their gifts; dedication in her performance and appreciation of music; dedication to the rhythms of discipleship which form us as believers - Eucharist, Penance, Prayer, Scripture - that commitment to catholic life in the Church of England that witnesses to the simple fact that we are part of the stream of humankind.

Alongside the dedication there's a related word which, I think, is equally as true – determination. Yes, the determination could be read as stubbornness, there was sometimes no scope for negotiation and if her mind was settled on something well that, very often was that.

But as I think about it, it was determination that drove her through. A certain determination in married life; certainly a determination to give her best musically; to draw out the best performance that she could; to offer the most worthy act of worship that she could; to keep going with the routines for as long as she could, even when she was frustrated by her body failing her a determined spirit drove her on.

That's part of why the last few years have seemed so especially cruel. Yet that's something Christian faith speaks too, for after the darkness of Good Friday comes the dawning resurrection, and the discovery that sin and death and suffering never have the last word, God does; and his love is indestructible.

One of the great early Christian thinkers, St. Augustine, wrote a treatise in which he compared our journey through this life as the performance of a piece of music. It's as if we're tuned, he said, on a deep level to the harmony of our creator God. When we are attentive we're joining in with that great symphony, but at times we drift off key or play a bum note. Redemption is God's unceasing ability to take those wrong notes and somehow weave them back into his harmony again. We believe that, if God is God, we shall not fall into nothingness, and that, if Jesus is God, it is his hands that will hold us in and through the greatest loss we can imagine.

There's a deep sadness in our hearts that one with whom we loved and laughed has died, even as we rejoice in the welcome that we know she will receive in our Father's kingdom. We commend Nora to those eternal arms and pray now for her: Rest eternal grant unto her, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.



## R.I.P. JOHN PETERS

Marjorie Peters

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It was with sadness that we learned of the death of John Peters on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at the age of 93.

John was born in Pinner and was one of the first pupils at Pinner Wood School before moving to Pinner County School. Both his grandparents lived in Pinner - his maternal grandfather being one of Pinner's first policeman, making his name for arresting chicken thieves and petty criminals, and his paternal grandfather ran the village bakery (now Pizza Express) where John helped on the bread rounds. He started work as a junior insurance broker, gradually making his way up to becoming a director of a large Aviation Insurance Company, which took him all over the world. During his career, he made many friends and was particularly regarded for his kindness towards new members of staff. After retirement, he continued to keep in touch with colleagues, meeting regularly for lunches in London, until the recent Covid pandemic closed everything down. He was made a Freeman of the City of London - a honour of which he was extremely proud.

Retirement enabled him to spend more time on his favourite pastime of holidays and particularly cruising which he did many times throughout the year. He had a keen interest in vintage cars and enjoyed working on the mechanics to get them roadworthy and was delighted when his grandson became involved, and he was able to pass on his knowledge to the next generation.

John and his family attended St. Edmund's Church for over 50 years, and he was a very generous supporter of many church projects. His late wife, Jean, was a talented flower arranger, and his two daughters, Alison and Susanne, grew up through the Sunday School and uniformed organisations - Susanne helping at Spectrum on Sunday when she returned to Pinner with her own young children.

He was devoted to his large family - two daughters, 7 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren and was very proud of their activities and achievements. One year he took them all on a cruise - apparently a very enjoyable and unforgettable experience.

We send out love and prayers to Alison and Susanne and their families, and will remember John with gratitude and affection.



## **PLANT SALE**

**SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

**10.30 AM - 12 NOON**



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## WHY SHOULD I BUY FAIRTRADE CHOCOLATE AND EASTER EGGS?

Chocolate is one of the UK's favourite foods. The farmers growing cocoa however, do not usually reap the rewards of its popularity, with many experiencing extreme poverty. Together with farmers and businesses, Fairtrade is working for a fairer future.

Millions of cocoa farmers work extremely hard, under gruelling conditions, yet do not earn a living income. On average, cocoa farmers earn just 6% of the final value of a bar of chocolate. When terms of trade don't work for cocoa farmers it exacerbates poverty and contributes to persistent problems like discrimination, exploitation and deforestation, which threaten the future of cocoa farming communities and the future of cocoa itself.

Fairtrade sets social, economic and environmental standards for both companies and farmers and workers. For companies that includes paying a fair price for the produce, for farmers it includes workers' rights and protection of the environment.

The price of cocoa beans has slumped in recent years despite high demand. Cocoa farmers are already experiencing the effects of the climate crisis, through unpredictable weather patterns and new crop-threatening diseases and pests. Young people are increasingly reluctant to choose cocoa farming as a career, because the pay and rewards are so limited for what is a very labour intensive job.

When you choose Fairtrade chocolate, you know that the farmers and workers who produced the cocoa in it received an additional Fairtrade Premium on top of the price of their crop, which they can invest in their communities and use to fight the effects of climate change. It means they are more likely to be able to cover household costs like education, food and healthcare and invest the extra Premium to benefit the wider community, such as buying hospital and school equipment.

When you buy Fairtrade chocolate, you are casting a vote with your wallet, signalling to businesses and the Government that fair and just trade matters. You are helping to protect the future of chocolate, so when you shop, look for the FAIRTRADE Mark.



Information from: <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/buying-fairtrade/>



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with Fish & Chips**

Thursday 2 June at 5.45pm

Film info [films@saintedmundschurch.org.uk](mailto:films@saintedmundschurch.org.uk)

Tickets £12 (£8 film only)

Available from 2 April

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**Platinum Jubilee Lunch**

Sunday 5 June

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# HOW TO PLANT OUT PLANTS FROM POTS

If you have received a potted plant on Mothering Sunday (or on any other occasion!) you will need to keep it alive indoors until the weather warms up - in case the plant cannot cope with low outdoor temperatures.

## **If you have potted bulbs**

It is a good idea to keep them in an indoor area if they have been grown indoors until the flowers die back, then carefully ease the plants out of the pots by turning the pot over and - having one hand on the plant - tap the underside, which will usually cause the contents of the pot to slide out! Leave the leaves attached to the bulbs and dig a hole in the flowerbed where they can continue to survive. Make sure that the hole is twice as deep as the bulb(s). Firm up the soil around the plant. Leave the leaves in place until they have died back and turned brown (the leaves need time to make new bulbs) which should grow again for another year.

## **If you have potted plants with roots**

The procedure is essentially the same as above but unless the plants normally flower outside at this time of the year (e.g. Primulas, Pansies) it is best to house them indoors until the risk of frost at night has gone. Remember that all plants, except spring bulbs, will need watering if the soil becomes dry, and feeding them with a fertiliser that has potash in it will help them to flower again.

Happy Gardening! Jenny Jones



## GRIN OR GROAN? EPISODE 2

*The following appeared in church bulletins,  
or were announced at church services!*

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on 24<sup>th</sup> October in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind.  
They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

At the evening service tonight the sermon topic will be "What is Hell?"  
Come early and listen to our choir practice,

This being Easter Day, we will invite Mrs. Lewis to come forward  
and lay an egg on the altar

# HYMN OF THE MONTH

Mike Godden

There are a number of Eastertide hymns of similar format - nice uncomplicated verses, with plentiful use of Alleluias, all designed to lift our spirits in celebration of the Resurrection - among them, “Christ the Lord is risen today”, “Jesus lives! thy terrors now”, “Good Christian men, rejoice and sing”, but this one is a contender for the Alleluia Champion of the Hymnody ...

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!  
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!  
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!  
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!  
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!  
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!  
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!  
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!  
Praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!  
Praise him, all ye heavenly host, Alleluia!  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

The hymn was first written in Latin titled “Surrexit Christus hodie”, as a Bohemian hymn in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, appearing in German manuscripts, but with authorship unknown. Originally it had eleven verses; it was first translated into English in three verses in 1708 by John Baptist Walsh to be included in his *Lyra Davidica* (*Collection of Divine Songs and Hymns*). A fourth verse was added by Charles Wesley in 1740.

The hymn is set to music entitled “Easter Hymn”, which was composed for the hymn in the *Lyra Davidica* for “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”. The adaptation of that tune used today was published by John Arnold in his *Compleat Psalmist* (1749). Another tune often used for the hymns “Llanfair”, usually attributed to Welsh singer Robert Williams, of Anglesey, published in a manuscript of 1817.



## **BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL - The Cathedral Church of St. Philip.**

The Diocese of Birmingham was founded in 1905 from parts of the Diocese of Worcester in Warwickshire, Staffordshire and Worcestershire. The Parish Church of St. Philip became the Cathedral for the new Diocese. The Church was built in an Italianate Baroque manner, featuring a dome, balustrades and fluted pillars, with many fine stained glass windows. It was consecrated in 1715. The building was severely bombed in 1940, but its most important artefacts had been moved to safety. The building was fully restored by 1948.

## **CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL - The Cathedral Church of St. Mary, St. Peter and St. Cedd.**

The Diocese of Chelmsford was created in 1914, covering the area of the historic County of Essex, which includes what are now 5 London Boroughs. The Cathedral was originally the Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin in Chelmsford, and became a Cathedral at the creation of the Diocese. It was probably first built along with the town around 1200 and was rebuilt in the 15<sup>th</sup> and early 16<sup>th</sup> centuries (starting around 1520). The nave partially collapsed in 1800, and the upper part of the chancel was rebuilt in 1878. In 1954, the cathedral was additionally dedicated to St. Peter and St. Cedd. St. Cedd was a 7<sup>th</sup> century Northumbrian priest who was sent by King Oswiu to convert the East Saxons (present-day Essex). In 1983, the interior of the cathedral was extensively refurbished, with a new floor, seating, altar, Bishop's throne, and font and artwork. In 1994 and 1995 two pipe organs were installed, the first in the nave and the second in the chancel. The stained-glass windows were all installed in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

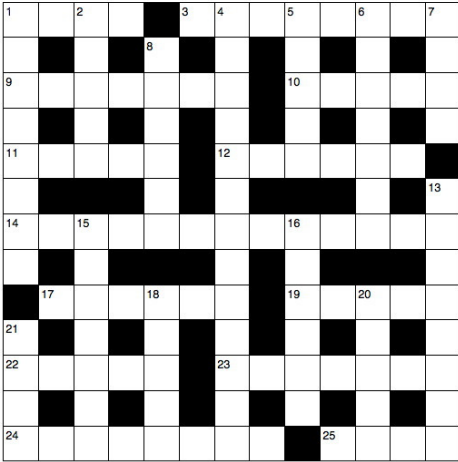
## **ST. EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL - The Cathedral Church of St. James and St. Edmund.**

The Diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich, which covers most of Suffolk, has its administrative base in Ipswich, but the Cathedral is in Bury St. Edmund's. The diocese was formed in 1914 from parts of the Dioceses of Norwich and Ely. Originating in the 11<sup>th</sup> century, the Cathedral was rebuilt in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries as a parish church and became a cathedral in 1914; it has been considerably enlarged in recent decades, not least by the addition of a splendid tower, completed in 2005. The site of the Cathedral also has the ruins of the 11<sup>th</sup> century Abbey, a stone from which is set in the wall of our Church, behind the High Altar.

## **SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL - The Cathedral Church of St. Peter and St. Paul.**

The Diocese of Sheffield was formed in 1914 from part of the Diocese of York and part of the Diocese of Southwell, at which point the Parish Church, originally dedicated to St. Peter, and later to the Holy Trinity, became Sheffield's Cathedral. The present building dates back largely to the mid-15<sup>th</sup> century, with major re-building work in the 1790s and 1880s. The main entrance of the church is at the expanded west end, added in 1966 when the building was rededicated, to St. Peter and St. Paul.

# APRIL CROSSWORD



## ACROSS

1. 'The baby in my — leaped for joy' (*Luke 1:44*) (4)
3. A 'don't know' in matters of faith (8)
9. In the distant past (*Jeremiah 2:20*) (4,3)
10. Armada (*1 Kings 10:22*) (5)
11. Where Moses was confronted with the burning bush (*Exodus 3:1*) (5)
12. Hair colour indicative of skin infection (*Leviticus 13:30*) (6)
14. 'The worries of this life and the — of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful' (*Matthew 13:22*) (13)
17. Expel (*2 Kings 13:23*) (6)
19. What Jesus wrapped round his waist when he washed his disciples' feet (*John 13:4*) (5)
22. The sixth plague to afflict the Egyptians (*Exodus 9:9*) (5)
23. For nine (anag.) (7)
24. Where there is no time (*Psalms 93:2*) (8)
25. Goliath's challenge to the Israelite army in the Valley of Elah: 'This day I — the ranks of Israel!' (*1 Samuel 17:10*) (4)

## DOWN

1. 'I will become angry with them and forsake them; I — my face from them' (*Deuteronomy 31:17*) (4,4)
2. Usual description of prophets such as Amos, Hosea, Micah, and so on (5)
4. 'They cannot see the light of the gospel of the — — —, who is the image of God' (*2 Corinthians 4:4*) (5,2,6)
5. An animal's internal edible parts (*Leviticus 4:11*) (5)
6. Popular 20th-century religious novel by Lloyd C. Douglas, which became a 1953 film starring Richard Burton (3,4)
7. 'A — on a hill cannot be hidden' (*Matthew 5:14*) (4)
8. One of the exiles, a descendant of Bebai, who married a foreign woman (*Ezra 10:28*) (6)
13. Old Testament hymn-singing (8)
15. 'And O what transport of delight from thy pure — floweth' (7)
16. Of felt (anag.) (3,3)
18. 'So — the — sets you free, you will be free indeed' (*John 8:36*) (2,3)
20. Comes between 'bad' and 'worst' (*John 5:14*) (5)
21. 'Neither height nor depth... will be — to separate us from the love of God' (*Romans 8:39*) (4)

## MARCH Crossword Solution

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

*The Church of St. Edmund the King has been serving  
the Parish of Northwood Hills since 1934.*

*The Parish is in the Harrow Deanery of  
the Willesden Episcopal Area of the Diocese of London*



*Edmund was the devout young King of the East Angles,  
martyred by the Danes for his allegiance to Christ  
in the year 869 when he was 29 years old.  
The crown and arrows of the church crest  
symbolise his Kingship and Martyrdom.*

