PARISH NEWS

The Parish of Aldingbourne, Barnham & Eastergate

50p

IN THIS ISSUE

EASTER 2024

LIVING WELL AFTER 60

THE STORY OF ASPIRIN

March 2024

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PARISH OF ALDINGBOURNE, BARNHAM AND EASTERGATE SERVICES FOR MARCH 2024



Friday 1	S David 6.30pm	Stations of the Cross		St Mary's, Barnham
Saturday 2	Our Lad 9.30am	y of Walsingham Said Mass with healing m	ninistries	St Mary's, Barnham
Sunday 3	9.45am 10am	Holy Communion Mattins Said Mass Sunday Seekers Parish Communion Family Communion Sung Mass Evensong	BCP BCP BCP	St George's, Eastergate St Mary's, Barnham St Mary's, Barnham Eastergate School St Mary's, Aldingbourne St George's, Eastergate St Mary's, Barnham St Mary's, Barnham
Friday 8	Feria 6.30pm	Stations of the Cross		St Mary's, Barnham
Sunday 10	8.30am 9am 9.30am 10am 10am	Iothering Sunday Holy Communion Mattins Said Mass All-age Communion Parish Communion Sung Mass Evensong & Benediction	BCP BCP BCP	St George's, Eastergate St Mary's, Barnham St Mary's, Barnham Eastergate Primary School St Mary's, Aldingbourne St Mary's, Barnham St Mary's, Barnham
Friday 15	Feria 6.30pm	Stations of the Cross		St Mary's, Barnham
Sunday 17	9.45am 10am 10am	Holy Communion Mattins Said Mass Sunday Seekers Family Communion Parish Communion Sung Mass Evensong	BCP BCP BCP	St George's, Eastergate St Mary's, Barnham St Mary's, Barnham Eastergate School St George's, Eastergate St Mary's, Aldingbourne St Mary's, Barnham St Mary's, Barnham
Friday 22	Feria 6.30pm	Stations of the Cross		St Mary's, Barnham

Other regular weekly services:

10am – Holy Communion every Wednesday at St George's, Eastergate 6pm – Evensong (BCP) every evening at St Mary's, Barnham 6.30pm – Said Mass every Tuesday at St Mary's, Barnham



PARISH OF ALDINGBOURNE, BARNHAM AND EASTERGATE



SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Sunday 24	9am 9.30am 9.45am 10am	Holy Communion Mattins Said Mass Sunday Seekers Family Communion (we start at Eastergate So	BCP BCP BCP	St George's, Eastergate St Mary's, Barnham St Mary's, Barnham Eastergate School St George's, Eastergate the procession)
	10am 11.15am 6pm	Parish Communion Sung Mass Evensong	ВСР	St Mary's, Aldingbourne St Mary's, Barnham St Mary's, Barnham
Monday 25	Monday 6pm 6.30pm	in Holy Week Evensong Mass and Stations of the	Cross	St Mary's, Barnham St Mary's, Barnham
Tuesday 26	6pm [*]	r in Holy Week Evensong Mass and Stations of the	Cross	St Mary's, Barnham St Mary's, Barnham
Wednesday 27	10am	day in Holy Week Holy Communion Evensong Mass and Stations of the	Cross	St George's, Eastergate St Mary's, Barnham St Mary's, Barnham
Thursday 28	7.30pm	Thursday Eucharist of the Last Sup Mass of the Lord's Suppe followed by the Watch un	r	St George's, Eastergate St Mary's Barnham
Friday 29	Good Fr 10am 10am Noon 2pm 6pm	iday Mattins and Litany All Age Good Friday serv Ecumenical service Solemn Liturgy of Good F Evensong & Maria Desol	ice Friday ata	St Mary's, Barnham St George's, Eastergate Market Place, Barnham St Mary's, Barnham St Mary's, Barnham
Saturday 30	Easter E			
Sunday 31	8.30am 9am 9.30am 10am 10am	Vigil and First Mass of Ea Holy Communion Mattins Said Mass Family Communion Parish Communion Sung Mass Evensong & Benediction	aster BCP BCP BCP	St Mary's, Barnham St George's, Eastergate St Mary's, Barnham St George's, Eastergate St Mary's, Aldingbourne St Mary's, Barnham St Mary's, Barnham



GOODWOOF

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NOT ONLY ON A SUNDAY

Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow Me.' (Luke 9: 23)

How often have I heard the 'tongue in cheek' comment—are you sure that will be ok to see us then because I thought you only worked on Sundays!!

It is said in jest, I know, but the call in that opening quote above shows us that for each one us, being a Christian is not just a Sunday hobby but rather something that impacts our daily lives if we are wanting to be a disciple of Jesus.

These words of Jesus are spoken at a turning point in the gospel. Jesus challenges the disciples about his identity and their commitment to Him: 'who do the crowds say I am?' (18). It is at this point that he 'resolutely set out for Jerusalem' (9:51).

On our journey through Lent, as we look to events of Good Friday and Easter, what are our priorities as Jesus' disciples to be?

To deny ourselves: this means to saying *No* to ourselves and *Yes* to God, as we humbly

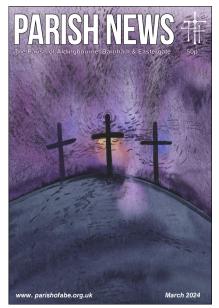
submit our will to his. Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane 'not my will but yours be done.' (Luke 22:42). It means putting Jesus first in everything: our work, family, ambitions, possessions, marriage, finance and future. We will not be guided by self-interest, but by allowing God to show us how to live in his way.

To take up our cross: this reminds us that the disciple is not immune from suffering, as we follow Jesus along the way of cross. Just as he carried his cross to Golgotha, we cannot avoid experiencing suffering in a fallen world. Every day we are to live in way that demonstrates to everyone that we have died to ourselves, our selfish ways and ambitions, and seek to live for God. It means breaking old selfish habits and ways of thinking, as we allow God to renew us by his Spirit.

Daily and follow me: During this season of Lent we have extra opportunities to take the way of the cross with out two Lent courses and weekly Stations of the Cross which I hope you have thought about joining. But the pattern of life in the parish throughout the year gives us many different ways, during the week as well as Sundays, to grow closer to God. A separate article in this magazine commends all of these to you and hopefully encourage participation at some of these as we take up our cross daily.

Fr Paul

See page 7 for the latest news from the Parish of ABE See page 10 for Fr Paul's 'Not only on a Sunday' list



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FROM THE REGISTERS JANUARY 2023

Baptisms: We welcome into the fellowship of the Church:
28 Jan Noah, Aubree and Penelope Goy (E)

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Events coming up in the Parish include:

- 1 March ABE Fun Quiz Evening at Barnham Community Hall
- 21 March A Bite to Eat (Parish Lunch) at Eastergate Village Hall from 12:30-2:30pm
- 8 June ABE Summer Fair at Manor Farm Eastergate
- 22 June Music at Murrell's Field
- 29 September Harvest Lunch at Barnham Community Hall
- 11 October ABE Fun Quiz Evening at Barnham Community Hall
- 7 December ABE Christmas Fair at Eastergate Village Hall

PARISH LUNCH

A Bite to Eat (Parish Lunch) is on 21 March in Eastergate Hall. Please do come if you can to share in a simple lunch of homemade soup, bread, cheese, tea, coffee and biscuits with one another. We also enjoy the challenge of a light hearted quiz. All are welcome! ! If you haven't given it a try yet, then maybe this is the month to come along.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024

There is a service to mark the World Day of Prayer on Friday 1 March at 2:30pm at St. Mary's Church, Slindon. Prepared by an ecumenical group of Christian women from Palestine, the land in which Jesus was born, ministered and died, where the Christian faith began and is rooted. Followed by refreshments.

BIBLES FOR BAPTISMS

It has been the tradition to ask for donations so we can give a Bible out at each christening. If you would like to make a contribution then please leave an envelope marked 'Baptism Bibles' in the offertory plate on a Sunday or hand it in at the Parish Office.

SUPPORT FUND

The Walberton, Binsted and West Barnham Support Fund has funds available to make grants to support those in financial hardship and live in these areas. If you or you know someone who might possibly be eligible then speak in confidence to Fr Paul or Rev Sheila, who are trustees of the Fund.

QUIZ NIGHT

ABE's Spring quiz night is being held at Barnham Community Hall on Friday 1 March starting at 7pm. The cost is £5 per person (towards church funds) and bring your own drinks and nibbles. Teams of up to six —

bring your own team or we will make them up on the night. Maybe a group of friends, a church group and so on? We look forward to a great evening, together, so come along!

To assist with planning please could you sign the sheet in church or e mail the Parish Office at <u>parishofabe@btinternet.com</u> so we know how many people are coming.

MONTHLY ABE LUNCH AT THE ALDINGBOURNE CENTRE

We are planning to have these on the 3rd Sunday of each month starting on 17 March. Please let me know if you would like to come by phone (01243 553901) or email smhandaway@hotmail.co.uk. Lifts can be provided for those who need them. The Aldingbourne Centre regret that they are unable to provide a roast for us as they are now very busy at weekends, however they have a varied menu which caters for all tastes at a very reasonable price and we will need to let them know how many are planning to come one week ahead. I look forward to hearing from you.

Rev Sheila



EASTERGATE FRIENDS

Eastergate Friends have had a busy few meetings since we last reported.

In September, we were visited by Donna from UK Food Harvest. This is where spare food from varying sources is donated to be shared by anyone in different communities. Our local centre is Tangmere which holds regular sessions and is well supported and run by volunteers. Donna explained that the sessions are very much a social gathering too and people can also learn how to cook and use the food.

Tony & Lizzie Gilkes gave a fun and factual presentation on 'Victorian Life Below Stairs' in October.

November's meeting was all about hats! Bella, based in Arundel, told us how hats are made and showed us the different techniques and materials which can be used. There is no doubt about how much work goes into the designing and creation of each hat in preparation for different events.

In December, we had our Christmas celebrations and had fun! Our raffle was well supported and we also held a collection for the Bognor Regis Food Bank. Our ladies were very generous in donating to this worthy cause.

The new year has started off well. In January Mike Chapman gave us a very informative talk about the Air Ambulance service. This charity relies largely on public funding in order to provide the excellent service it provides, where 'every second counts'.

Eastergate Friends meet on the second Monday of each month in Eastergate Village Hall at 10am. You will receive a warm welcome if you wish to come and join us.

Debbie Mead



EASTERGATE & BARNHAM

At our February meeting we had a highly informative talk from My Sisters House, a charity that supports local women in difficulty or in crisis. Our members filled the long dark days of February with plenty of social events. Two trips to the theatre saw us singing along with the Fisherman's Friends choir and being kept on the edge of our seats with 2.22 A Ghost Story. The walking group enjoyed a blustery stroll over the Downs and there was plenty of chatter at the tea and cake social.

We meet at Eastergate Village Hall on the second Friday of each month 7.30-9.30pm. Pop along to a meeting or contact us at eastergateandbarnhamwi@gmail.com.

Sam Leath



WESTERGATE

This month was our annual meeting. The officers read out their reports for the year. As the committee had all agreed to stay as they are there was no election needed. Our president, Jill, agreed to continue as president, which pleased everyone.

Jill gave out two quizzes, one from her and one from Sally. Both were on a Valentine's theme. Both were hard but that didn't matter as we got together and completed them during our tea time. They caused much chatter and pondering.

Our secretary, Sue, has a birthday later this month and she had kindly made a selection of cakes for us to eat during our tea. They were delicious.

After tea Jill announced the date for various outings and further meetings. Some of these are outdoor visits so we hope the weather improves. For all that the weather outside was awful the atmosphere inside was happy (and noisy) as we talked to old friends and maybe some new ones.

One of our members, Sandy, is rowing to raise money for Chestnut House. We wish her lots of luck.

Our meeting in March is a talk from the police about how to avoid the many scams that are part of our lives these days. All are welcome to come and join us.

We meet the second Tuesday of the month at Westergate Methodist Church Hall 2pm.

Catherine White-Aldworth

LYCHGATES

On the moors near to where I used to live in West Yorkshire, there were a couple of large stones with crosses marked on them. Many people thought that they were boundary or marker stones, and in so far as they marked the way towards the oldest church in that area they were. To be more exact, they were on the route towards the oldest churchyard.

In ages past bodies were carried by hand, sometimes over long distances, and there were restrictions placed on where they could be laid to allow the bearers to rest. These two stones were 'resting' stones.

When a body arrived at the church for burial, it would again be put down while the administrative formalities were carried out. and again the bearers could rest. So, a resting stone was placed at the edge or start of the actually spend a few moments under its consecrated land around the church.

The priest conducting the funeral would meet the cortege here, not originally out of respect, but rather to receive the required legal certificate for burial before he allowed them to enter the church grounds.

Because of typical English weather - rain and wind - it was usually sheltered, and benches were built for the bearers. There would also be a cross within the construction to signify the start of holy land. This is what we call the 'lych-gate'; lych coming from the anglo-saxon word lich or lic, related to the modern German word leiche, all meaning corpse.

Few old lychgates remain today, as many destroyed or damaged after were Reformation, and most of those that survived were constructed of timber and have since decayed. In the eighteenth century, when the use for the resting stones and thus lychgates declined, many were removed and replaced with gates, often retaining the shelter as it continues to be a meeting place for the priest to receive funeral parties.

Try and visit a lychgate this month and shelter. Have a think about what burdens you want to lay down. What do you need to be sheltered from?

The Revd Dr. In White

FROM THE TREASURER...

Lent is a time of year when we should review our giving to the parish, to support its mission, to contribute to the upkeep of our three mediaeval churches, and to fund the charitable work conducted in our parish supporting those in need.

In recent history, the numbers on our electoral roll have been declining, so the burden of maintaining the income needed to balance the books is being shared by an ever decreasing number of people, while parish expenditure continues to rise.

Some 31% of our income comes through regular giving, either through the envelope scheme, standing orders or our preferred Parish Giving Scheme (PGS). PGS allows donors to opt into automatic annual increments to take account of inflation, as well as removing the administrative burden of managing the donations in house.

For those who have opted out of the automatic increments. Lent is the time to review your giving, and likewise for those still using standing orders or envelopes. Lent may be the time to consider moving from standing orders or weekly envelopes to our Parish Giving Scheme too.

Chris Wells

NOT ONLY ON SUNDAY...

Holy Communion is celebrated every Tuesday (Said Mass at 6.30pm at St Mary's, Barnham) and Wednesday (Holy Communion at 10am at St George's, Eastergate) and on the first Saturday of each month (Said Mass at 9.30am at St Mary's, Barnham)

Evening Prayer is said every day at 6pm using the form in the Book of Common Prayer The experience will leave you rested, relaxed at St Mary's, Barnham.

Parish Prayer Fellowship We meet in various We will be restarting a meditation group, homes fortnightly (1st and 3rd Mondays) with meeting once a month at our house and a themed agenda and encourage each other planning to start in April and we start with a by bringing a bible quote, poem or a point of short talk or reading to lead us into view which can be discussed and which will meditation. Afterwards, if anyone would like hopefully enable those involved to have a to, we usually have a short discussion with better understanding and acceptance of how tea and coffee. The overall time being we live and conduct ourselves in this current approximately one hour. If you are interested. year. If you know where you stand with God, please call us with your preference of a day his promises and blessings for your life you can become a greater witness for Jesus. All welcome. Please telephone Sharon (555905) or Ann (545892) for more information.

Bible Study meets monthly on a Wednesday for a lunchtime bread and cheese lunch followed by Bible Study and discussion over coffee. During Lent and Advent they are weekly shared with Methodists and sharing a Lent/Advent theme.

And also on Wednesday evenings and held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month there is an informal discussion group which meets for Bible Study and discussion over coffee/tea and biscuits. All are welcome. Contact Rev Sheila for details.

Christian Meditation It's not for me? I don't think it's my thing - I mean I am too busy anyway! But perhaps it is something that I

should explore, give it a try, I might benefit! Christian Meditation is simple, it is praying as you can, not as you can't. Meditation is a universal spiritual practice which guides us into this state of prayer, into the prayer of Christ. It brings us to silence, stillness and simplicity by a being itself silent, still and simple.

The Bible tells us 'Be still and know that I am God' Ps 46.10

and refreshed and with a new experience of the nearness of God.

and time, either Wednesday pm or Friday pm.

We look forward to hearing from you. Caterina and Richard Brown - 01243 554001.

Play and Pray meets every Friday in St George's, Eastergate from 10am-11.30am when pre-school children can bring their parent(s)/carers for some play, prayer and fun together with refreshments provided.

And so the list goes on...

What could I be doing during the week in addition to a Sunday? What would deepen my love for Jesus and enable me to find out more about what God is doing for me? Please ask if you want any further details and please give at least one of these a try!

Jesus asks us to 'take up our cross daily' and follow him.

Fr Paul

BARNHAM AND EASTERGATE COMMUNITY TRUST

As we move into March with more daylight hours and stunning daffodils, we look forward to welcoming you to our community halls. Both our buildings have many events to offer you including:

- Pop Up Shop Opportunities at Eastergate Village Hall on Tuesdays during the busy coffee morning. Please contact Nina for more information.
- Weekly Coffee Mornings: Nina's Friendly Coffee Morning on Tuesdays at Eastergate Village Hall, 10.30am midday (quiet space also available). Wednesdays at Barnham Community Hall, 10am midday. Just pop along, you will be made very welcome.
- Fun Quiz at Eastergate Village Hall: Saturday 9 March from 6:30pm. £4 per person, max 6 in a team. Please book in advance. Fully licenced bar, pizzas and raffle. Please contact Nina for more info.
- Quiz Night at Barnham Community Hall: Friday 29 March at 7pm. £4 per person. Teams of up to 6. Booking essential. Fully licenced bar and snacks. Please contact Ali, details below, for more information.
- Roast lunch at Eastergate Village Hall: Sunday 7 April at 1pm. £12 per person. Two delicious courses. Raffle and bar. Very friendly and welcoming. Please contact Nina to book (details below).
- Motown and Northern Soul Evening: on Saturday 13 April at Eastergate Village Hall. Dance the night away with DJs Toni Cassini, Roger Moffatt and Colin Slater. 7.30—11.30pm. £5 on the door. Limited seating so please arrive early!
- Music at Murrell's Field: Saturday 22 June 2024 more details available soon!

Please keep an eye out on the local noticeboards, our Facebook pages and our website for more information barnhamandeastergatecommunitytrust.com.

Our motto is 'Together We Are Stronger' and we look forward to seeing you very soon.

Take care.

All the staff and volunteers at Barnham and Eastergate Community Trust

For enquiries and more information please contact Nina-Maria McMaster on 07849 356097 or email nina@eastergatehall.org.uk (based at Eastergate Village Hall) or Ali Tarbard at ali@barnhamcommunityhall.org.uk or 07714 456482, Kathy Lanigan 07521 404630 or at kathy@bnegct.org.uk (both based at Barnham Community Hall).



HIGH DAYS & HOLY DAYS

20 March - Cuthbert, beloved monk and bishop of Lindisfarne

Cuthbert of Lindisfarne (c 634-87) has long been northern England's favourite saint. It is easy to see why: Cuthbert was holy, humble, peaceable, prayerful, faithful in friendship, winsome, and really kind.

Cuthbert was born into a fairly well-off Anglo-Saxon family, and he became a monk at Melrose in 651. He and another monk, Eata, were sent to start a monastery at Ripon, but Alcfrith, who owned the land, insisted that they adopt the Roman customs, which Cuthbert's Celtic church did not allow. So. Cuthbert and Eata quietly returned to Melrose. where Cuthbert became prior in about 661. Then came the Synod of Whitby in 663/4, and the Celtic Church formally decided to adopt the Roman customs. After this, Cuthbert was sent on to Lindisfarne as prior, where he sensitively introduced the new ways, and won over the monks there.

Cuthbert was very much loved at Lindisfarne. His zeal was evident in his constant preaching, teaching, and visiting of the people. He was also said to have gifts of prophecy and healing. Occasionally, Cuthbert reached 'people overload'. Then he would retreat to a tiny islet called Inner Farne, where he could pray in total seclusion. When, to his horror, he was told he had been made Bishop of Hexham, he immediately 'swapped' sees with Eata, and stayed on at Lindisfarne as Bishop, Sadly, Cuthbert died on little Inner Farne, only two years later, on 20 March, 687. Cuthbert was buried at Lindisfarne, but that is not the end of his story. For it was only now that his travels began. After the Vikings dug him up and set out to find Cuthbert a 1556. final, and safe, resting place. For the next 120

years Cuthbert was deposited in various monasteries around the north of England and southwest Scotland. Finally, in 999, Cuthbert was allowed to rest in Durham, where a Saxon church was built over his shrine.

All that travel must have done him good; when his body was exhumed to be put into the 'new' Norman Cathedral in Durham in 1104, it was said to be still in perfect tact, and 'incorrupt'.

21 March - Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury & Reformation Martyr

If you have ever been caught up in a great event at work, which has gone on to change your own life, then Thomas Cranmer is the saint for you. He was the first ever Protestant Archbishop of Canterbury, following King Henry VIII's decision to pull away from Rome, and set up the Church of England.

Born in Nottingham in1489. Thomas Cranmer became Archbishop of Canterbury in 1533. He was adviser to both Henry VIII and Edward VI. He helped Henry with the annulment of his marriage to Catherine of Aragon, and along Cromwell. with Thomas supported principle of Royal Supremacy (where the king is sovereign over the Church in his realm).

Under Edward VI, Thomas Cranmer made major reforms to the Church of England. He put the English Bible into parish churches, compiled the first two versions of the Book of Common Prayer, and worked with continental reformers to change doctrine on everything from the Eucharist and veneration of saints.

But kings and queens, like American presidents, change, and the Catholic Queen Mary I was determined to wipe out Protestantism. Thomas Cranmer was imprisoned for two years, found quilty of destroyed Lindisfarne in 875, several monks heresy, and burned at the stake on 21 March

24 March – An overview of Palm Sunday & By midweek the Jewish religious leaders and **Holy Week** elders were so angry with Jesus that they

The events of Easter took place over a week, traditionally called Holy Week.

It began on Palm Sunday. After all His teaching and healing, Jesus had built a following.

On the Sunday before He was to die, Jesus and His followers arrived at Jerusalem. The city was crowded. Jewish people were arriving to celebrate Passover. This commemorates how they had escaped from slavery in Egypt nearly 1,500 year earlier.

Jesus rode into the city on a young donkey. He was greeted like a conquering hero. Cheering crowds waved palm branches in tribute. He was hailed as the Messiah who had come to re-establish a Jewish kingdom.

The next day they returned to Jerusalem. Jesus went to the temple, the epicentre of the Jewish faith, and confronted money-changers and merchants who were ripping off the people. He overturned their tables and accused them of being thieves. The religious

authorities were alarmed and feared how He was stirring up the crowds.

()n the Tuesday, they Jesus, challenged questioning His authority. He answered by challenging and condemning their hypocrisy. Later that day His Jesus spoke to disciples about future times. He warned them about fake religious leaders: the comina destruction of Jerusalem: wars. earthquakes and famines: and His how followers would face persecution.

By midweek the Jewish religious leaders and elders were so angry with Jesus that they began plotting to arrest and kill Him. One of Jesus' disciples, Judas, went to the chief priests and agreed to betray Him to them.

Jesus and the 12 disciples gathered on the Thursday evening to celebrate the Passover meal. This is known as the Last Supper. During the evening, Jesus initiated a ritual still marked by Christians — Holy Communion — which commemorates His death. Jesus broke bread and shared it and a cup of wine with His disciples.

Judas then left to meet the other plotters. Jesus continued to teach the others and then went outside into an olive grove to pray. He even prayed for all future believers. He agonised over what was to come but chose the way of obedience. The Bible book, Luke, records Him praying, 'Father if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will but yours be done'. Minutes later Judas arrived with soldiers and the chief priests and Jesus was arrested.



Entry of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem by Pietro Lorenzetti

24 March – Palm Sunday, Jesus at the gates the Lord's Supper, or what we nowadays call of Jerusalem

the Church remembers how Jesus arrived at secret upper room to share the Passover meal the gates of Jerusalem just a few days before together - for the last time. And there Jesus the Passover was due to be held. He was the transformed the Passover into the Lord's Messiah come to His own people in their capital city, and yet He came in humility, riding on a young donkey, not in triumph, riding on a war-horse.

As Jesus entered the city, the crowds gave Him a rapturous welcome, throwing palm fronds into His path. They knew His reputation as a healer, and they welcomed Him. But sadly, the welcome was short-lived and shallow, for Jerusalem would soon reject her Messiah, and put Him to death. On this day churches worldwide will distribute crosses made from palm fronds in memory of Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem.

feet

Maundy Thursday is famous for two things. The first is one of the final acts that Jesus did before His death: the washing of His own disciples' feet (see John 13). Jesus washed His disciples' feet for a purpose: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." His disciples were to love through service, not domination, of one another.

In Latin, the opening phrase of this sentence is 'mandatum novum do vobis'. The word 'mundy' is thus a corruption of the Latin 'mandatum' (or command). The ceremony of the 'washing of the feet' of members of the congregation came to be an important part of the lituray (regular worship) of the medieval church, symbolising the humility of the clergy. in obedience to the example of Christ.

But Thursday was also important because it was on that night that Jesus first introduced

Holy Communion.

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, when Jesus and His close friends had met in a Supper, saying, 'this is my body' and 'this is my blood' as He, the Lamb of God, prepared to die for the sins of the whole world. John's gospel makes it clear that the Last Supper took place the evening BEFORE the regular Passover meal, and that later Jesus died at the same time that the Passover lambs were killed.

29 March - Good Friday, the day the Son of God died for you

Good Friday is the day on which Jesus died on the cross. He was crucified at 9am in the morning, and died six hours later, at 3pm. It is the most solemn day in the Christian year and 28 March - Maundy Thursday, time to wash is widely marked by the removal of all decorations from churches. In Lutheran churches, the day was marked by the reading of the passion narrative in a gospel, a practice which lies behind the 'passions' composed by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 - 1750). Both the St Matthew Passion and the St John Passion have their origins in this observance of Good Friday.

> The custom of observing a period of three hours' devotion from 12 midday to 3pm on Good Friday goes back to the 18th century. The 'Three Hours of the Cross' often take the form of an extended meditation on the 'Seven Last Words from the Cross', with periods of silence, prayer, or hymn-singing.

29 March - Good Friday, Jesus and the thieves on the Cross

Luke's account of the crucifixion (Luke 23:32-43) emphasises the mocking of the crowd, 'If VOIL are the kina of the Jews. save

yourself (35,37,39). In their view a Messiah wonderful picture of grace, 'remember me does not hang on a cross and suffer. In when You come into Your kingdom', the considering the two men who were crucified with Jesus, we are also confronted with the issue of how Jesus secures salvation for us.

The words of one of those crucified with Jesus reflected the crowd's taunts: 'Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us.' He highlights the question of Jesus' identity: how can He save others, when He cannot save Himself from death? He failed to see that the cross itself was the means of salvation.

So - what kind of Messiah was Jesus?

The other criminal's response in his last moments is a moving expression of faith. When challenging the other man, he spoke of the utter injustice of the crucifixion: 'this man has done nothing wrong.' He perceived the truth that Jesus was indeed the Messiah. In a

second thief confessed his guilt and secured Jesus' forgiveness and mercy.

In reply, Jesus promised the man life from the moment of death; 'Today you will be with Me in paradise.' Jesus used the picture of a walled garden to help the man understand His promise of protection and security in God's love and acceptance eternally.

Each one of us has to choose how we react to Jesus on the cross. Do we want Him to 'remember' us when He comes into His kingdom, or not? If you were to die tonight, how confident would you be of going to be with Jesus? 'For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God' (1 Peter 3:18).



Icon of the Crucifixion, 16th century, by Theophanes the Cretan

vear

Easter is the most joyful day of the year for Christians. Christ has died for our sins. We are forgiven. Christ has risen! We are redeemed! We can look forward to an eternity in His joy! Hallelujah!

The Good News of Jesus Christ is a message so simple that you can explain it to someone in a few minutes. It is so profound that for the rest of their lives they will still be 'growing' in their Christian walk with God.

Why does the date move around so much? Because the date of Passover moves around. and according to the biblical account. Easter is tied to the Passover. Passover celebrates the Israelites' exodus from Egypt, and it lasts for seven days, from the middle of the Hebrew month of Nisan, which equates to late March or early April.

Sir Isaac Newton was one of the first to use the Hebrew lunar calendar to come up with firm dates for the first Good Friday: Friday 7th April 30 AD or Friday 3rd April, 33 AD with Easter Day falling two days later. Modern scholars continue to think these two Fridays to be the most likely.

Most people will tell you that Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, which is broadly true. But the precise calculations complicated and involve are something called an 'ecclesiastical full moon', which is not the same as the moon in the sky. The earliest possible date for Easter in the West is 22nd March, which last fell in 1818

The latest is 25th April, which last happened in 1943.

31 March – Easter, the most joyful day of the Why the name, 'Easter'? In almost every European language, the festival's name comes from 'Pesach', the Hebrew word for Passover. The Germanic word 'Easter', however, seems to come from Eostre, a Saxon fertility goddess mentioned by the Venerable Bede. He thought that the Saxons worshipped her in 'Eostur month,' but may have confused her with the classical dawn goddesses like Eos and Aurora, whose names mean 'shining in the east'. So, Easter might have meant simply 'beginning month' - a good time for starting up again after a long winter.

> Finally, why Easter eggs? On one hand, they are an ancient symbol of birth in most European cultures. On the other hand, hens start laying regularly again each Spring. Since eggs were forbidden during Lent, it's easy to see how decorating and eating them became a practical way to celebrate Easter.



The Resurrection of Jesus Christ, fresco by Piero della Francesca

NEWS FROM OUR COUNCILS



The latest meeting of Aldingbourne Parish Council took place at 7pm on 6 February at the Aldingbourne Community Sports Centre (ACSC). Eight councillors were in attendance. Also in attendance were Arun District Council councillor Anita Lawrence and ACSC chair Jonathan Leahy.

Media & Communication Working Party: Cllr Jarman advised that the parish council Instagram account was now up and running and already had 10 followers.

Cllr Harbord said four draft versions of a new logo for the council had been received - it was felt amendments were needed and a final set of designs will be available for the meeting in March for the council to make a final decision.

ADC report: ADC councillor Anita Lawrence advised the APC on the following:

The Local Plan is still in draft form. Cllr. Lawrence will ask for an update on where Arun District Council is with this and check on a timeline of when the Local Plan will be completed.

It was reported that interviews for a new chief (2023/2024 £151,778). executive at ADC will take place in April.

Cllr Jarman advised that HELAA (Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment) regulation 18 "call for sites" consultation would be coming out in February 2024.

meeting held between West Sussex County the full council is due to be held on 5 March. Council's Steve Hill attended by Cllr's Foott, Jarman and Rickard.

He said the 30mph speed limit for Hook Lane that had been applied for by a resident had

been approved, CIIr Foott will investigate this further.

Cllr Foott said WSCC were aware of all the known flooding issues in the parish. He also said WSCC were advised that the parish council had not agreed with their response on the implications of the new development at Meadow Wav.

In addition, Cllr Foott said a list of road closures for the parish will be sent to the Clerk by WSCC. He noted that a bus shelter would be installed at Colliers Close and would be their responsibility.

He also said that WSCC would help with any traffic issues raised by parishes on any new developments.

Cllr Foott agreed to provide the Clerk with a list of actions that should be sent to WSCC to clarify some of the topics discussed including the list of which grass verges need to be cut following the decision to plant some areas.

Finance & Personnel: It was noted that confirmation of the Aldingbourne Parish Council Precept for 2024/2025 had been sent to ADC at the beginning of January. The council's tax base is 1,921 up from 1,866. The precept for 2024/2025 Total with percentage increase is therefore £156,254,14

It was approved by all councillors in attendance that the 50% deposit requested by Playdale towards the purchase of new plavaround equipment £21.365.82 (excluding VAT) could be paid by the clerk.

WSCC meeting: Cllr Foott reported on the Date of next meetings: The next meeting of

Marie Singleton clerk@aldingbourne-pc.gov.uk

RULES OF LIVING WELL AFTER 60

him as well as some other readers.

after his recent operation. Is he right?

"Absolutely not – you shouldn't slow down," age of 90, it has little effect on your ability to look after yourself, engage with others or get about independently. In fact, paradoxically, as we get older, we need to become more active - physically and mentally. Ageing doesn't make you feel old - disease and loss of fitness will."

A study from the Yale School of Public Health found that people who had positive ideas about their own ageing ("I have as much pep as last year") lived for an average of 22.6 years after they first participated in the study. while the people who felt less positively about

ageing, lived for just 15 years more on average.

Of course, getting older does involve some The Rector turned 60 last autumn and loss of energy. But slowing down a bit is therefore thought this article might apply to never something to be ashamed of. and getting enough rest is the very cornerstone of leading a good life.

The King is 75. Last year he did 516 Exercise is also crucial as we get older. Focus engagements, and he has no intention of on the four Ss: stamina, strength, skill slowing down. Instead, he was keen to be (balance) and suppleness. Maintain your 'back up and running' as soon as possible stamina by brisk walking every day for 30 minutes.

When you are ill, get up again as soon as you savs Sir Muir Gray, 80, former chief reasonably can. Otherwise, you are at risk of knowledge officer for the NHS. "Ageing exists 'deconditioning syndrome', a physiological as a normal biological process but until the decline where muscle strength can decrease dramatically if you are over 70.

> Thoughtfully review of your personal lifebalance. Try to find the 'sweet spot' between activity and rest. Gray advises: "If you're only doing activities, you are inevitably going to burn out. But if you only rest, you will become sedentary and you're more likely to fall ill, feel disconnected and lonely."

> Finally, don't run on a hamster wheel of someone else's making. This Lent, before God, rethink your real purpose and calling in life. And live it!



Exercise is crucial as we get older

ALL IN THE MONTH OF MARCH

It was... 250 years ago, on 16 March 1774 that Matthew Flinders, British navigator and cartographer, was born. He led the first inshore navigation of Australia, and was the first person to call the country by that name.

125 years ago, on 6 March 1899 that the German pharmaceutical company Bayer patented aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid).

80 years ago, from 24 to 25 March 1944, that the Great Escape took place. 76 Allied prisoners of war broke out of the Stalag Luft III prisoner-of-war camp near Sagan, Germany after digging three tunnels. Three of the prisoners escaped, 73 were recaptured, and 50 were executed. The event was dramatized in the film The Great Escape.

70 years ago, on 1 March 1954 that the USA tested the most powerful nuclear device it has ever detonated — a thermonuclear hydrogen bomb codename Castle Bravo, at Bikini Atoll, in the Marshall Islands. Due to a design error, the 15-megaton blast was 2.5 times greater than expected, and caused extensive

contamination, deaths, burns and birth defects

60 years ago, on 6 March 1964 that American world heavyweight boxing champion Cassius Clay was given the name Muhammad Ali, after joining the Nation of Islam.

Also 60 years ago, on 19 March 1964 that proposals for three new cities in south-east England were announced, due to an expected population boom. They became the new town of Milton Keynes, and a significant expansion of the existing towns of Havant and Basingstoke.

30 years ago, on 12 March 1994 that the first women priests in the Church of England were ordained.

10 years ago, on 18 March 2014 that Russia annexed Crimea following a controversial referendum in which its citizens voted to secede from Ukraine. Many of those loyal to Ukraine boycotted the referendum, and it was declared illegitimate by the United Nations and western governments. Most countries continue to recognise Crimea as part of Ukraine.



Tourists in Crimea with Russian flag flying, June 2015

THE STORY OF ASPIRIN

You will probably have taken aspirin, in one fever 'ague' in 50 of his parishioners. He form or other, many times. But how much do carefully documented it all for the President of you know of its history?

It was 125 years ago this month, on 6 March In 1828. Johann 1899 that the German company Baver first patented (acetylsalicylic acid).

But this is based on salicylic acid, which was Marburg University worked out the chemical used in herbal medicines as far back as Sumerian times, in 2500 BC. It was then that synthetically. Assyrians used willow leaves rheumatic disease. The Egyptians also used willow leaves, as well as myrtle, to ease joint pain or inflammation.

ln Greece, Hippocrates (460-377 recommended an extract of willow bark for fever, pain and childbirth. And even the peoples of ancient China, Rome, and Native America all discovered and used plants containing salicylic acid.

Fast forward to Chaucer's 14th century, and the Knight's Tale recommends the use of meadow sweet for pain, another source of acetylsalicylic acid.

In 1763, some science was introduced, when ago.

an English clergyman, the Revd Edward Stone, used willow bark to successfully treat the Royal Society.

Andreas Buchner. pharmaceutical Professor of Pharmacology at the University aspirin of Munich, purified salicin from willow bark.

> In 1859, Professor Hermann Kolbe, at structure of salicylic acid and made it

In 1897. Dr Felix Hoffman, a German chemist at Friedrich Bayer and Co, managed to produce pure stable acetylsalicylic acid (ASA). His discovery was the first time that a drug BC) had been made synthetically, and so it was the birth of both aspirin and the pharmaceutical industry.

Finally, in early 1899 the new compound was named and registered Aspirin. The 'A' comes from acetyl and 'spir' from the first part of Spirea ulmaria (Meadowsweet) a botanical source of salicylic acid.

So next time you take an aspirin, think of the Assyrians chewing willow leaves, 4,000 years

SMILE LINES

Palm Sunday visit

It was Palm Sunday, but because of a sore throat, five-year-old Bobby was kept home from church with his grannie. When the family returned home, they were carrying several palm fronds and Bobby asked them what they were for. "People held them over Jesus' head as He walked by," his father explained.

Bobby was aghast, "I don't believe it! The one Sunday I don't go, and He shows up!"

Mother's reward

A man was decorating his new den and decided it was a good place to display all the awards he and his two sons had won at various athletic competitions. When he had filled two whole walls, he remarked to his wife that it was a shame she had no awards to contribute.

The following day, she produced, neatly framed, the birth certificates of their two sons, and added them to the display.

Mothers and teenagers

A woman was confiding in her neighbour just how hard it was for her to get her teenagers out of bed in the morning. The neighbour replied that she never had any trouble at all with her son. "I just open the door and throw the cat on the bed," she explained. The woman was puzzled, and asked how that might help, "Easy, My son sleeps with the dog."

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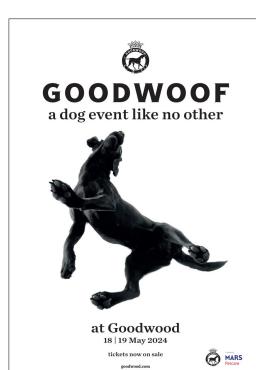
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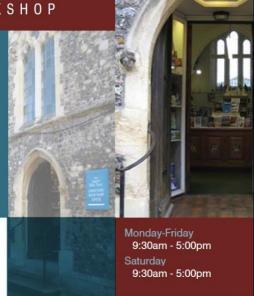
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The Revd. Sheila Higgins	Email: <u>smhandaway@hotmail.co.uk</u>	01243 553901
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Parish Administrator:

Vera Saunders Email: <u>parishofabe@btinternet.com</u> 01243 542410

PARISH OFFICE

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Aldingbourne and District Bowls Club	Lynn Kendall 01243 552033	Aldingbourne	Marie Singleton 07889 988612			
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