

## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Sun	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Family Service
	Readings:	Lent 3 'Rest' - Deuteronomy 5: 12-15 & Mark 2: 23-27
	6.30pm	No service
Mon	9:30am-noon	Coffee Morning at SJ's
	8pm	No Prayer Meeting at SJ's
Tue – Thurs		No regular activities in the school holidays
Fri	10am	Craft Club at SJ's

### NEXT SUNDAY – 14<sup>th</sup> April Palm Sunday

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Parish Communion
6.30pm	No service

NB. Jon will be on annual leave 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> April.  
Peter will be on annual leave 6<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> April.  
Amber will be on annual leave 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> April and working at Spring Harvest 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> April.

### THIS WEEK'S QUESTION



Balaam, a soothsayer, was on his way to see Balak, king of the Moabites because Balak wanted him to curse the Israelites because he was afraid they might attack. But God told Balaam not to go. However, he later said he could go but that he must only say what he would tell him to say. So Balaam set off on his donkey but three times the donkey refused to go forward and Balaam hit the donkey each time. Why was the donkey reluctant to go?

Read Numbers 22: 20 - 33

### MONDAY EVENING PRAYER MEETINGS 8pm @ SJ's

The next meetings will take place on 1st & 29<sup>th</sup> April, and 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> May.  
All welcome.



## THE BISHOP'S LENT APPEAL 2019

The theme for this year's appeal is 'I came that they may have life and have it abundantly'. The Bishop of Southwark has asked if we can support projects not only in our own Diocese, but others in Sri Lanka, Kenya and Zimbabwe, including:

- Work of the Leprosy Mission in Sri Lanka;
- Church Army Africa's Carlile College in Nairobi, which trains people for mission and evangelism;
- The Diocese of Central Zimbabwe, who continues to work in very challenging circumstances, with many struggling without enough to live on, or pay for school or medical fees.
- Sutton Women's Centre who provide a space for women, who have often been the victims of domestic violence.

We will take a collection for this Appeal next Sunday (14<sup>th</sup>) - Palm Sunday.

## WELCOME

If you are joining us for the first time today and wish to find out more about what goes on then introduce yourself to one of our leadership team, or **fill in one of our Connect Cards**. Equally, help yourself to any of our packs, which explain a bit more of what's going on in our church family.



### APCM PREPARATIONS

**Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> April, at 11.30am**, after Morning Worship, will

be our **church AGM**.

We would like people to consider whether they might wish to become:

- **A PCC Member** - we refresh a 1/3 of the elected members of our leadership each year, so if you're interested in helping steer the church, speak to Jon.
- **A Welcomer** - we refresh our welcome rota annually, and if you want to become part of the welcome team, we will provide training. Please do speak to one of the wardens.



### GOOD FRIDAY

There is a different format to our Churches Together activities this Good

Friday. We'll meet at St Mark's Church at 10am as we have in years gone by,

but rather than the 'walk of witness' and gathering in the Swan, there will be reflections taking place at 6 stations at different points in the High Street.

Different Cafés and shops have agreed to put up posters in their window during Holy Week, depicting some of the themes of Good Friday – Fear, Betrayal, Forgiveness, Hope, etc. Groups will gather at these points to distribute Hot Cross Buns to the public, but also partake in a reflection around the theme that is at their venue. This will then be followed by a service at St Francis, with Children's Activities in the church hall.



### CHURCHER FAMILY FAREWELL

Hopefully, you have all registered the fact that Peter's last working day in the parish is on Easter Sunday.

To give him and the family the send-off they deserve, we'll be having a big tea and cake party immediately following the service on that day. We recognise that Easter will mean commitments for many of you, so we will bring the shedding of tears to an end in plenty of time for you to make it to any lunch engagements.

That's about all we can give away publicly (wink, wink), but it's also worth reminding you of the date of Peter's installation at his new job in

Ilfracombe – 13 May, 7pm. If you were thinking of making the trip, or hoping to but weren't sure how you might get there, please can you let Jon know so we can think about travel arrangements.



### CHRISTIAN AID AUCTION OF GIFTINGS 18th MAY

6.30 pm in St John's Church, in aid of Christian Aid's 2019 appeal to support mother and baby health care in Sierra Leone. Please donate pledges offering time, skills or items and come along on 18th May to bid and enjoy an evening with finger buffet and drinks. For full details please see display by chapel or separate flyer or contact Milly Johnson (camilla@highamsfarm.com) or Anne Ford (07789 754768)

### CYCLONE IDAI EMERGENCY APPEAL

If anyone would like to donate to the Cyclone Idai Emergency Appeal (gift aided if possible) Christian Aid envelopes and a plate are available at the back of the church.



### MAUNDY THURSDAY

7.30pm at West Wickham & Shirley Baptist to join them to see the Riding Lights Theatre Company present 'The Narrow Road'.

**Free tickets, but if you'd like to come please sign the sheet in the Information Point.**

As an alternative, there will still be a communion service taking place at St Francis at 7pm on Maundy Thursday evening, to which there is also an open invitation.



### GIFTS BOX

Don't forget to put the results of the Spiritual Gifts Assessment or Enneagram Test in the

box in the porch. This will help us consider how to enable you to grow and give expression to your gifts.



### EASTER CHOIR

On Easter Sunday we are planning to have a special, one-off Easter choir. Practices will be

held on Sundays 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> April at 3pm in church. All welcome.



### PRAYERS

Please pray for:

- Amber Crisis Pregnancy Care, our mission focus this month;
- Our nation, not just for Brexit, but the many domestic issues which currently need attention.