

Windsor Church News

March 2024

the online newsletter from
the Church of England in Central
Windsor



The Revd John Quick

Dear Friends,

There is a traditional saying that 'March comes in like a lion, and goes out like a lamb'. It is perhaps especially appropriate for March 2024 because the Sunday Gospels for Common Worship Year B are taken from Mark's Gospel. These are supplemented by readings from John's Gospel, partly due to the brevity of Mark, only sixteen chapters.

Appropriate, because the lion is used as a symbol for Mark. Famously pictured in the Lindisfarne Gospels, Mark is shown seated at a writing desk with his symbol, the winged lion above him.

The Lamb too, is an important symbol in Christianity. 'Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world': words that form part of our service of Holy Communion. At the end of March this year Christians will be keeping Holy Week and Easter. On Good Friday Jesus goes to his death on the Cross, 'like a lamb to the slaughter'. (Isaiah 53. v 7).

Lent is a time when Christians take time for a closer relationship with God. Our focus is usually on the life of Jesus and what his life, death and rising from death mean for us.

One way to do this might be to read a portion of Mark's Gospel each day. Because it is a short account of the good news that Jesus Christ came to give to the world, it is easily possible to read it all during this Lent. For many the process may be helped, by using a good modern language translation. Don't be afraid to read a section twice, even three times. It may help you to understand the meaning or perhaps shed a new light on a particular passage or story.

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I know that by the time you see this letter we will be two weeks into Lent; but I am still going to recommend something I am reading. The reflections are short, each usually about a page and based on manageable chunks of Mark's gospel. It is never too late to begin, and the book is readily available via online sources!



St Mark - Lindisfarne Gospels

It is entitled 'Journeying through Lent with Mark' (1) which has daily meditations. One benefit of these, I feel, is that they are not too long! Each week's reflections have different headings; for example – Week 1 Are You Ready? Week 2 Do You Hear? Week 3 Believing can be? Etc. Of course other texts are available!

You may wish to deepen your faith by joining Morning Prayer (see Pew Leaflet for joining in person or on Zoom) attending midweek service (HT Wednesdays 11am Prayer Book Eucharist) or Stations of the Cross (Sts S & A Mondays at 7pm). Jeremy Hurst's group meet on a Thursday pm. at All Saints, and they may well be space there too.

It is always good to try and put aside some quiet time for reflection and thought, away from our busy lives. We are so fortunate in this area to have so many places nearby, where we can be 'alone with God'. You may have already given up something for Lent but I would encourage readers to take on a time of prayer and quietness; especially in our current troubled world. Remember that Windsor Parish Church and St. Stephen and St. Agnes are open every day, the others on some days.

Helping someone in need isn't always straightforward but it is often the small kindnesses that are most appreciated. Perhaps see Lent as an opportunity to reach out to someone who would like, for example, a kind word over a cup of coffee or help with some heavy shopping? There are many opportunities and possibilities.

Firstly, for many Christians who keep a Lenten discipline the joy and rejoicing of Christ's Resurrection on Easter Day is

a true celebration of their own journey with Jesus during which they have deepened their faith and understanding. Secondly, and probably most importantly, they can feel, more ready, and open, to share their faith in Christ with those around them; the mission to which all believers are called.

Father John.

- (1) Journeying through Lent with Mark by Greg Weyrauch; Augsburg Fortress 1999. Cost £4.99.

Annunciation Window in Windsor Parish Church of St John the Baptist

The window on the first page is in the south wall of St John the Baptist Parish Church by, the well-known stained glass maker, Joseph Edward Nuttgens. The text above reads "Behold the handmaid of the Lord" and the text below reads "This window is given by the Windsor Branch of the Girls' Friendly Society in grateful memory of the Society's Diamond Jubilee 1875 to 1935".

The Girls Friendly Society was founded in 1875, with the support of the Church of England, to protect working-class country girls who left home to take up urban employment. In 1880 Queen Victoria became their patron. By 1900 there were 1,361 branches, today there

are 36 groups based in disadvantaged areas. The organisation no longer has links to the church, although some groups include elements of faith. You can find out more on [their website](#).

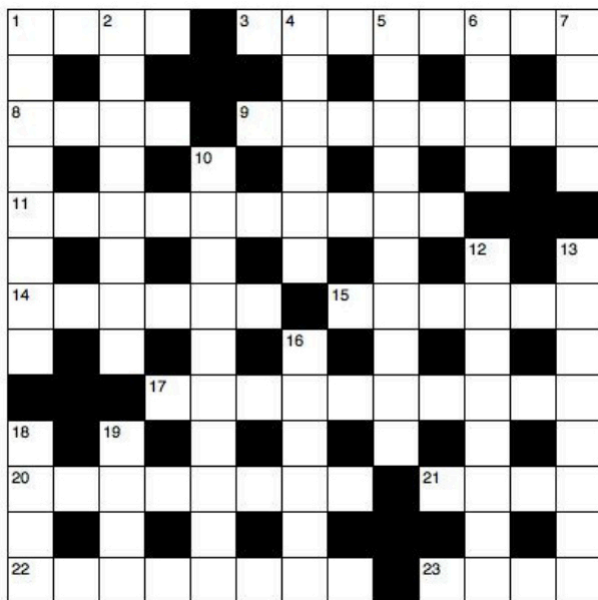
The Annunciation is related in Luke's Gospel (1:26-38). Mary is already betrothed to Joseph when the Archangel Gabriel visits, greets her as highly favoured, tells her not to be afraid, that she will bear a son Jesus, and that her elderly cousin Elizabeth is already pregnant (with John the Baptist).

The church calendar is never quite as neat as some would like it. To celebrate the Annunciation on 25 March the conception of Jesus is placed exactly nine months from His birth on 25 December, but the latter part of March almost inevitably falls during Lent (and this year during Holy Week). But the birth and death of Jesus are intrinsically linked – He was born to die, and thus fulfil God's purposes.

The Annunciation is a significant date in the Christian calendar – it is one of the most frequently depicted in Christian art. Gabriel's gracious strength and Mary's humble dignity have inspired many artists. Certainly, Mary's response to the angel has for centuries been an example of good faith in practice – humility, enquiry of God, and trusting acceptance in His will for her life.

adapted from Parish Pump

Puzzle Page



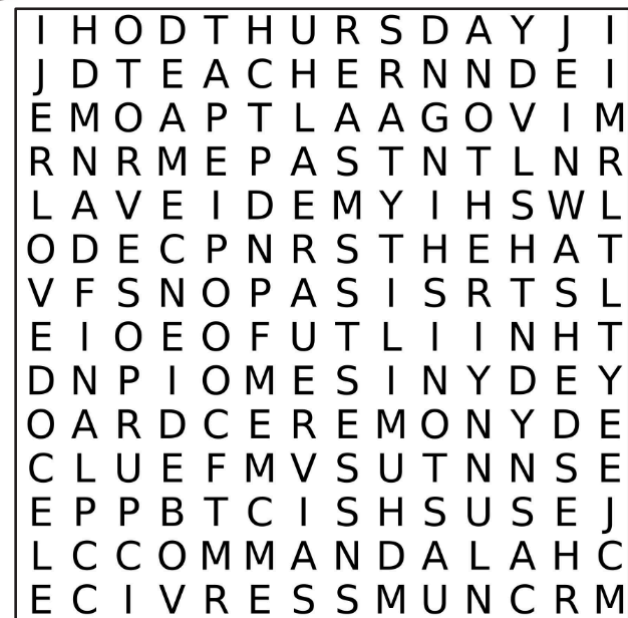
Across

- 1 Made from the fruit of the vine, symbol of the blood of Christ (4)
- 3 'You are to set an ambush behind the city. Don't go very far from it. All of you be on — —' (Joshua 8:4) (3,5)
- 8 Seep (4)
- 9 Celebrated by Jesus on the night of his betrayal (Luke 22:15) (8)
- 11 One of the supposed sites of Christ's burial place in Jerusalem (6,4)
- 14 'A city on a hill — be hidden' (Matthew 5:14) (6)
- 15 He inherited Elijah's mantle (2 Kings 2:12-13) (6)
- 17 Where Jesus prayed 'Not as I will, but as you will' (Matthew 26:36, 39) (10)
- 20 'Only in his home town and in his — — is a prophet without honour' (Matthew 13:57) (3,5)
- 21 Sail (anag.) (4) 22 How Jesus was punished before his crucifixion (Matthew 27:26) (8)
- 23 Eye sore (4)

Down

- 1 Can't grow (anag.) (5,3)
- 2 A servant girl to Peter, 'You also were with that — , Jesus' (Mark 14:67) (8)
- 4 Well-being (Proverbs 3:8) (6)
- 5 Pentecostal denomination, — of God (10)
- 6 One of the 'obvious' acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19, 21) (4)
- 7 'I preached that they should repent and — to God' (Acts 26:20) (4)
- 10 '— — , the world will not see me any more, but you will see me' (John 14:19) (6,4)
- 12 He betrayed Jesus: Judas — (Luke 6:16) (8)
- 13 Jesus to Peter: ' — — of my sheep' (John 21:16) (4,4)
- 16 The centurion said, 'Surely this man was — — of God' (Mark 15:39) (3,3)
- 18 Baked bread (Mark 8:14) (4)
- 19 'Blessing and honour, glory and power, be — Him' (Handel's Messiah) (4)

The Bible used is the New International Version.



On Maundy Thursday we recall the final command that Jesus gave to His disciples before His death. After the Last Supper, He rose and washed His disciples' feet. This was astonishing for a 'teacher' to do, but He had a firm purpose in mind: "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 'washing of the feet' ceremony was an important part of the medieval church's liturgy, symbolising the humility of the clergy, in obedience to the example of Christ.

Maundy	Disciples	Feet	Loved	Service
Thursday	Death	Astonishing	you	Domination
Final	Last	Purpose	Must	Latin
Command	Supper	Teacher	One	Ceremony
Jesus	Washed	As	Another	Medieval
				Humility
				Obedience

Puzzle solutions are on page 15

Royal Free
Singers

with
The Orchestra of London
Conductor: Benedict Gunner

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Mass in C Minor, K. 427
"Great Mass"

**Madeline
Boreham**
Soprano



**Daffyd
Jones**
Tenor

**Jessica
Lawley**
Soprano

**Michael
Temporal-Darell**
Bass

Windsor Parish Church, SL4 1LT
Saturday, 23rd March, 2024
7.30 p.m.

Tickets: royalfreesingers.org.uk £20 + concessions

 *Pause for a Poem*

Elsewhere in the magazine you will read about the visit to the Parish Church of St John the Baptist of Professor Katherine Scheil in January. As the works of William Shakespeare are Professor Scheil's speciality, I invited her to suggest a poem this month. She has suggested one of Shakespeare's sonnets, saying that numbers 29 and 30 are always popular with her students. I have chosen number 30 which, with its focus on "remembrance of things past", seems appropriate given that Professor Scheil was visiting Windsor to view some of 'our' memorials.

Michael Bailey

Sonnet 30 – When to the sessions of sweet silent thought

When to the sessions of sweet silent thought
I summon up remembrance of things past,
I sigh the lack of many a thing I sought,
And with old woes new wail my dear time's waste:
Then can I drown an eye, unus'd to flow,
For precious friends hid in death's dateless night,
And weep afresh love's long since cancell'd woe,
And moan th' expense of many a vanish'd sight;
Then can I grieve at grievances foregone,
And heavily from woe to woe tell o'er
The sad account of fore-bemoaned moan,
Which I new pay as if not paid before.
But if the while I think on thee, dear friend,
All losses are restor'd, and sorrows end.

William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

Awards celebrate distinguished service to the church

Ten awards for distinguished service to the church were presented during a service at Christ Church Cathedral in Oxford on 27 January. Seven honorary canons were installed as well as three candidates admitted to The Order of St Frideswide, by the Bishop of Oxford.

The awards recognise the dedication of lay and ordained people to the Diocese of Oxford and the wider church across a variety of areas of ministry and mission. This includes roles supporting theological education in the worldwide Anglican Communion, the deaf and hard of hearing in the diocese, and community organising and church growth.

The Order of St Frideswide is named after the renowned patron saint of Oxford. Founded in 2001, by the then Bishop of Oxford, the Rt Revd Richard Harries, it admits just a small number of people each year. Honorary Canons become part of the Cathedral's College of Canons, playing an important role and bringing experience and wisdom to promote the life and mission of the Cathedral.

Three of those involved were from our Deanery.

The Revd Canon Ainsley Swift

A conversion experience in his late teens led the Revd Ainsley Swift to a lifetime of Christian service. He began his career as a teacher, taking a keen interest in community development work, in and around the docklands area in Liverpool. He answered his call to be

ordained and completed a four-year curacy in the city before moving south to Windsor.

He served 20 years in Maidenhead and Windsor (and was formerly Rector of Windsor) before moving to his current post as Vicar of Bray. He maintains his link to education as a governor at two nearby church schools and has also been part of the Diocesan Synod since 2009. He is also Area Dean for Maidenhead and Windsor.

Speaking on his installation as honorary canon, Ainsley said "I was not expecting to open that letter, the thought had not even crossed my mind. It is a great pleasure and a great honour. It made me reflect on what a long journey I have been on, from a community development worker in Liverpool to 25 years in ministry in Windsor and Maidenhead."



Fr Ainsley, left, with the other canons, the Bishop of Oxford and the Diocesan Registrar

John Sykes

John Sykes is a man with a busy schedule. Despite only just retiring from his 56-year career as a chartered electrical engineer, he has still found the time to make a considerable contribution to the running of his own church and the diocese.

John is in his second three-year term as Chair of the House of Laity of the Oxford Diocesan Synod, a member of Bishop's Council and the finance committee, and chairs the Human Resources Panel and Development Fund Panel. He was previously Lay Chair of Maidenhead and Windsor Deanery and was churchwarden for 14 years at Cookham Dean, where he is currently Parochial Church Council secretary.

John is married to Lorna, who is one of the current churchwardens at Cookham

Dean and a governor of the local CE primary school. They have been married for over 30 years and have an extended family of three grown up children and four (soon to be five) grandchildren.

On receiving the nomination to the Order of St Frideswide, John said "I felt very humble to be nominated and even more so when I looked at the list of current and past members of the Order. During my long career I acquired considerable experience of chairing meetings and getting decision-making bodies to work in a collaborative and constructive way. It is really rewarding to be using that experience in the service of the diocese and God's kingdom."

Jim Tucker

Dedication is a theme which runs through Jim Tucker's life. He has been involved in the running of his local church, St Michael's in Bray, for 30 years. He has spent time as a church warden and treasurer. His experience saw him elected to the deanery of Maidenhead and Windsor where he served as treasurer for 10 years and later as deanery lay chair.

Jim has been part of the Deanery Synod for more than 28 years, and has been its lay chair since 2019. For the past six years, his duties have also included lay membership of the Diocesan Synod.

Jim spent 31 years at the Halifax Building Society, finishing as branch manager at Maidenhead. He has been

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married to his wife Jackie for 53 years, and has three sons and four grandchildren.

On receiving the honour of joining the Order of St Frideswide, Jim said "I am surprised, delighted, and humbled to be singled out for this award. I was not looking for anything like this but the acknowledgement from the Bishop means a lot. My work has been very rewarding and I feel that I am receiving this on behalf of a great many people who do just as much as I do."

adapted from the Diocese of Oxford website

Bishop Olivia to retire



The Bishop of Reading, the Rt Revd Olivia Graham, has announced she will retire later this year.

The first female Suffragan bishop in the Diocese of Oxford, Bishop Olivia will lay down her crosier on 30 September after five years of dedicated service.

The Rt Revd Dr Steven Croft, Bishop of Oxford, paid tribute to her work: "Bishop Olivia has been an outstanding servant leader in the Diocese of Oxford throughout her ordained ministry serving in several parishes; as a Parish Development Advisor; as Archdeacon of Berkshire and in these last five years as the Bishop of Reading. Olivia has inspired love and confidence across the Area and the wider Diocese both inside and beyond the Church.

"As Bishop, she has put supporting parishes and clergy at the very heart of her ministry yet has also offered inspiring leadership on the environment, world mission and as lead bishop for safeguarding. I know Bishop Olivia and Keith will be greatly missed across the diocese and especially in Berkshire when Olivia retires, but I know Olivia will want to be fully engaged in supporting God's mission in her remaining months in post."

Reflecting on 27 years in ministry, Bishop Olivia said it had been a privilege to be a part of so many milestone moments in people's lives. She said:

"It has been an absolute honour and privilege to walk alongside you as together we strive to live out God's vision for a more Christ-like church in the Diocese of Oxford. I have shared in ministry over the years with outstanding colleagues, and their commitment, wisdom and friendship has been a constant inspiration to me.

"As I prepare to step back from this role, I do so with unshakable confidence in the goodness of God, who is always doing a 'new thing', worked out through God's wonderful people in the diocese."

Since her consecration in 2019, Bishop Olivia has been a champion for young people in particular the impact of knife crime, as well as leading the diocese's response to the climate crisis. In this role she attended the COP26 conference in Glasgow and worked closely with other faith leaders on environmental leadership. She has also led an annual pilgrimage to Taizé in France with groups of young adults.

Along with two other bishops, she also led the national Church of England's work on the environment. She is a member of General Synod, having been elected as a suffragan bishop to the House of Bishops.

Bishop Olivia's lifelong interest in international development and passion for social justice also inspired her work at the diocese. She chairs the diocesan Partnership in World Mission Council overseeing the relationships with our three link dioceses, Kimberley and Kuruman, Nandyal and Växjö. She has also led the work on Flourishing in Ministry, a set of resources and a leadership approach that supports clergy to develop a healthy rhythm of prayer, work and rest.

Ordained in 1997, Olivia has since served in the Diocese of Oxford, in Garsington, Princes Risborough, and Burnham before becoming a Parish Development Advisor, and then the Archdeacon of Berkshire in 2013. Olivia was announced as Bishop of Reading in July 2019 and welcomed in a special service at Reading Minster later that year.

Bishop Olivia began her career in teaching and international development in Africa, including seven years working for Oxfam. She is also trained as an Ignatian spiritual director and leads retreats and quiet days. Bishop Olivia is married to Keith, and the couple have three grown-up children.

Details of a farewell service and the appointment of the next Bishop of Reading will be announced in the coming weeks.

adapted from the Diocese of Oxford website

Morning Prayer

A small group of us meet to say Morning Prayer at 9am on weekdays on Zoom and some days also in a church. Please contact [Revd Sally](#) if you'd like a Zoom invitation. You can download the Daily Prayer app with the order of service [here](#) (there are also books available in churches).



Is there a connection with Shakespeare in 17th century monuments by Edward Marshall in the Parish Church of St John the Baptist?

At the beginning of November Revd. Sally received an enquiry from a Professor of English at Minnesota University, USA about memorials in the Parish Church. Professor Katherine Scheil said that she, "is working on a research project related to the 17th century engraver Edward Marshall. Four of his works are in your church: the Pagett memorial just inside your entryway, and other memorials to Richard Braham, Edith Bostock, and Rebecca Southcot."

She told us that, "Edward Marshall was the pre-eminent sculptor of his day, and also did the monument to the poet Michael Drayton in Westminster Abbey. He was later Master Mason to the Crown, but I think your monuments are early in his career". Professor Scheil told us that her, "research is on the Shakespeare connection to Marshall".

I was asked to respond to the enquiry, as I have been recording the monuments in the church. Professor Scheil was planning to visit England again in January and we exchanged several emails before we met on 6th January. I was able to send her photos of the three memorials that she had not seen in October and my transcripts of the inscriptions on those memorials. The text on the Pagett and Bostock memorials (which illustrate this article) is quite legible. This contrasts with that on the Braham and Southcot memorials, which are so illegible that I had only managed fragmentary

transcriptions of those texts. (That was despite Robin McConnell taking many photographs of the memorials with his excellent camera.) I apologised to Professor Scheil for the fragmentary transcriptions of the Braham and Southcot memorials.

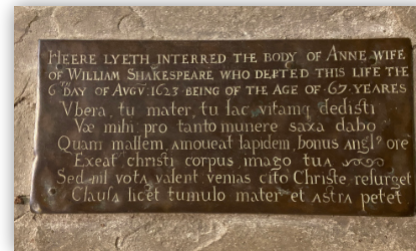
In response Professor Scheil sent me a link to link to Elias Ashmole's *Antiquities of Berkshire, Volume 3*, published in 1720, which includes Windsor Parish Church. I had not been aware of this publication before in which Ashmole describes the monuments and gravestones he was able to see 300 years ago. The descriptions of many churches run to just a few pages. We have pages 60 – 109, with 18



Pagett (Harris) memorial

monuments and 39 gravestones described in detail. We can still see 16 of the monuments today, but none of the gravestones. I believe that most of the gravestones are probably still underneath today's raised floor. By referring to Ashmole's *Antiquities of Berkshire* I was able to replace my fragmentary transcriptions with Ashmole's transcriptions from 300 years ago. In this way Professor Scheil and I had assisted each other's work before we had even met!

When we did meet, both Professor Katherine Scheil and I had questions for each other. My first was, "Why do you think that there may be a link between our memorials and Shakespeare?" Professor Katherine's answer was to show me a photo of the monument in Stratford-on-Avon to Shakespeare's wife Anne [pictured below] and explain



that the memorial had been attributed to Edward Marshall, the same monumental sculptor responsible for the Pagett (Harris) memorial in the main porch and the others in the north porch. Professor Katherine explained that she was interested in the fine detail of the formation of characters and decoration on the memorials to show

conclusively that they were the work of the same sculptor as Anne Shakespeare's memorial.

Professor Katherine produced a copy of a learned paper listing monuments around the UK and naming their sculptors. It was well thumbed and covered with many handwritten notes of her own against monuments attributed to Edward Marshall. She has since emailed a link to that paper - *A BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY OF LONDON TOMB SCULPTORS c. 1560-c. 1660* for my reference.



Bostock memorial

We went into the north porch to look in as much detail as we could at the monuments that Professor Katherine had listed and then I took her on a tour of all twelve of the 17th century

continued from previous page

monuments we have in the church, noting that that there are characteristics common to them many of them, not just the four that she has identified – the inscription is on the dark stone with a decorative surround in lighter coloured stone.

Professor Scheil and I have agreed that we will remain in contact. In the meantime, the answer to the question, "Is there a connection between Shakespeare and 17th century monuments in the Parish Church?" is that for now, that is a work in progress!

Next month the magazine will contain an article about the tragic story that I have deduced from the memorial texts on the Braham and Southcot memorials.

Michael Bailey

Women's World Day of Prayer

All are welcome at St Mark's Church, Dedworth Road, Windsor, SL4 4JS at 7pm on Friday 1 March for this year's World Day of Prayer service, followed by refreshments.



World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation led by women which enables us to hear the thoughts of those women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns, and prayers.

This year's service has been prepared by the Christian women of Palestine, who are calling us to connect with the land where Jesus was born, ministered, and died. The theme of the service 'bear with one another in love' seems very appropriate for these women who will not give up witnessing the love of Jesus Christ.

Church Textiles Group

Philippa Johnson has begun work on repairing the altar frontals and other textiles belonging to Windsor Parish Church. If you would like to join her in being part of a sewing group working across the team churches to keep the altar textiles and vestments in good condition, please have a word with Philippa after church on Sunday or contact her via email 42philippaj@gmail.com.



Mothering Sunday

10 March

10am Sung Eucharist
St Stephen & St Agnes Church
Vansittart Road



Please join us to give thanks for all who love and care for us.

Families and children of all ages are welcome and Mother's Day flowers will be distributed during the service.

G&S Services

All aspects of garden and property maintenance including

- Painting and decorating (internal & external)
- Plastering, kitchen and bathroom refurbishment
- Patios and decking
- Garden maintenance (regular or 1 off clearance)

☎ 01753 859691 or 07795 417717

✉ sean@gands-services.co.uk

Death announced of the Rt Rev Dr Alan Wilson, Bishop of Buckingham



The Bishop of Oxford, the Rt Revd Dr Steven Croft, has announced with great sadness the unexpected death of his colleague, the Rt Revd Dr Alan Wilson, Bishop of Buckingham.

Paying tribute to Bishop Alan, Bishop Steven said: "Alan was a dear friend and colleague to many across the Diocese. Alan has deep friendships and pastoral relationships across both church and community in Bucks. He has offered remarkable leadership to our work in education and church schools over more than a decade. Alan has been a friend and advocate for survivors of abuse and a strong ally and supporter of the LGBTQIA+ community for many years.

"Alan had recently begun a well-earned sabbatical and was planning to use the time to plan and prepare for retirement in the next year. Alan loved God and loved God's church with a rare passion. He was a bishop who prioritised the

parishes and clergy in his care above everything else and served the people of Buckinghamshire with devotion over a long and demanding ministry.

"I will miss him as a friend and colleague. The Church has lost a wise, pastoral and prophetic bishop."

Bishop Alan served as Bishop of Buckingham for over 20 years. His entire ordained ministry was within the Diocese of Oxford as a curate in Eynsham, Vicar in Caversham and Sandhurst, Area Dean in Sonning and then Bishop of Buckingham.

Prayers were said for Bishop Alan and his family during tonight's evensong service at Christ Church Cathedral in Oxford. Arrangements for further acts of remembrance will be announced in due course.

The Archdeacon of Buckingham, the Ven Guy Elsmore, who worked closely with Bishop Alan, said: "On behalf of the Bucks Area Team, my deepest sympathies to Lucy and the family at this time of shock and loss.

"Along with Alan's other colleagues and the clergy and lay people of Buckinghamshire, I am deeply saddened by this unexpected news.

"We have lost a courageous, wise and exceptional pastoral leader and teacher. Alan's ministry was centred in people, in valuing every person he met and in the quest to expand the circle of

the Church's love to embrace all. He will be deeply missed by us all."

The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd Justin Welby, said: "Bishop Alan was never afraid to stand up for those on the margins, those that felt they were being ignored by the church. He was a man of prophetic spirit, reaching out where he saw injustice and speaking up where he witnessed the abuse of power.

"I was deeply saddened to hear of his death today. He was approaching retirement and the sudden loss will be a shock to his family, the Diocese of Oxford and the wider church. He leaves behind a huge gap and an important legacy. We have much to learn from his life and his courage.

"In our pain, it is Jesus that draws near and mourns with us. I hold Bishop Alan's whole family, especially Lucy, in my prayers. May he rest in peace and rise in glory."

About Bishop Alan

Bishop Alan trained for ordination at Wycliffe Hall (Cert. Theol. 1979). He was ordained deacon (1979 at St Peter's, Didcot), priest (1980 at Christ Church, Oxford), and bishop (2003 at Westminster Abbey).

Alan has served in the Diocese of Oxford since 1979, at Balliol College from 1979-81 and non-stipendiary minister at Eynsham, then as curate of Caversham and Mapledurham (1982-89), and first incumbent of St John the

Baptist, Caversham, from 1989-92. Moving to Sandhurst as rector in 1992, he contributed to continuing ministerial education by developing residential training workshops in supervision skills for training incumbents, and as a diocesan work consultant.

He led the planning group for the Diocesan Convention at High Wycombe in 2002. He was area dean of Sonning from 1998-2003 and honorary Canon of Christ Church, Oxford, from 2002-3. In October 2003, he became Area Bishop of Buckingham.

Bishop Alan was also Chair of the Oxford Diocesan Board of Education.

Bishop Alan is survived by his wife Lucy, and five adult children Catherine, Stephanie, Stuart, Nick and Anna.

from the Diocese of Oxford website

Church Opening Times

**Windsor Parish Church
of St John the Baptist,**
High Street - daily, all day

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St Stephen & St Agnes Church,
Vansittart Road - daily, all day

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All Saints' Church, Frances Road
Mon-Wed & Sat, all day

~

Holy Trinity Church, Claremont Road
Wed, Thu & Fri, 9:30-11:30am

February Meeting

I never thought so many people would comment so favourably on the works of the poet John Donne. I had forgotten that our speaker was our friend Jeremy Hurst. His translations and explanations ensured an interesting and enjoyable afternoon. At last...for most of us.....we understood John Donne's message and the context of his famous sayings, "No Man is an Island" and "For Whom the Bell Tolls". We cannot thank you enough Jeremy for your knowledge providing us all with such an enjoyable, interesting and informative afternoon.

In our prayers we remembered all victims of Human Trafficking. February 10th is the Feast of St Bahkita and this year the International Day of Prayers and Awareness Against Human Trafficking fell on the 10th. To mark this, Bells were rung in Churches in the Diocese of Exeter, Oxford and London. The Clewer Initiative works against Human Trafficking and the fact the Clewer Sisters originally lived in the Convent in Hatch Lane, Clewer Church Bell Ringers were asked to ring a peal.

Our next meeting in All Saints Hall is at 3.30 pm on March 14th 2024 and our speaker is Anne Casson on her visit to Rome. Another interesting illustrated talk is assured.

On April 11th we are delighted that Rev Sally will present "Sally's Surprise".

So book the dates and we look forward to seeing you

We remember all those in need in our prayers and never forget the words of St David

Keep the faith and do the little things

Estlyn Davies



Palm Crosses

The palm crosses that are blessed and distributed on Palm Sunday come from African Palms, a project founded by the Revd Alan Talbot in 1965. Fr Alan was an Anglican Priest who served for 6 years as a missionary in Tanzania. Having been told by two visiting English Botanists that bushes of the local reeds were palm (and recently having read that the making of palm crosses in Devon had ceased), he had the idea that local people could make some extra money by plaiting palm leaves. He sent these back to friends to sell them in the UK. In 1969 he returned to the UK and oversaw the project as it grew. Today the Palm Crosses are sold around the world. In the United Kingdom at the end of each year, if there is any money over after all the costs are paid, it is covenanted to a charitable trust, the African Palms Association, which supports education and healthcare in the area. You can find out more about the project on their [website](#) or [buy an attractive, environmentally friendly, palm tote bag](#).

Ordination of Women

It was 30 years ago this month, on 12th March 1994, that the first 32 women were ordained as priests in the Church of England. The service was officiated by Bishop Barry Rogerson at Bristol Cathedral.

Bishop Rogerson ordained the women in alphabetical order, so Angela Berners-Wilson was the very first woman to be ordained. She was a university chaplain.

The youngest woman to be ordained that day was aged 30. The oldest was 69. By 2004, ten years on, one of the women priests had died, and 14 had retired.

Bishop Rogerson reckoned it would take 10 years before the first woman would be ordained as a bishop. In the end, it took 21 years.

Then Libby Lane was ordained the first female bishop in the Church of England. She became Bishop of Stockport, a suffragan bishop in the Diocese of Chester.

The first woman to be ordained a diocesan bishop was the Rt Revd Rachel Treweek, Bishop of Gloucester, appointed on 26 March 2015

There are currently 25 women bishops in the Church of England, one of whom is Bishop Olivia, Bishop of Reading.

adapted from Parish Pump



**Friday 22 March
4-6pm**

**at
All Saints' Church
Frances Road, Windsor**

**Fun for all ages!...crafts,
bible stories and a meal**



Please email **windsor.churchbookings@gmail.com**, to let us know you are coming, or click to book.

**Children must bring
an adult**

Paws for Thought



Dear Friends,

My leg had felt rather odd all day but when The Boss opened the back door for me to have a run out that afternoon, I wasn't expecting my knee to give way under me!

I thought I had recovered well from the stumble and that The Boss wouldn't notice anything but, of course, she did. When I came inside she had a "concerned look" on her face. I knew this didn't bode well. I tried to walk as normally as possible but she knew something was wrong and so the next morning, despite my best efforts at disguising my painful stiffness, I heard those dreaded words, "The Vets", and it wasn't a surprise when a short time later we were heading in that direction.

Now, I have always tried to be rational about Fear of The Vets. The human helpers at The Vets are really kind to me and I get lots of cuddles and some very

tasty treats. The other dogs waiting with their humans are usually friendly and all the cats are in special cages so there's no danger from them. And, I know, because The Boss has told me on many occasions, that being there is "a good thing" designed to help me.

But, knowing all this doesn't stop me from being scared. On this occasion, when we set off to see about my bad knee, The Boss said, "Be strong and courageous". I replied that that sounded like something from the Bible. "It is", said The Boss, "What a great Vicarage dog you are!" It turns out they are words from the Book of Joshua in the Old Testament. I think they were in her mind because she had been talking to some of the school children about the story of Joshua.

When Moses dies, it is Joshua who has to lead the people into the Promised Land. This is obviously quite a scary thing for him to do and the Lord speaks to him telling him "Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Actually, the Lord has to tell Joshua to be strong and courageous several times so even Bible heroes don't always have the courage we think they have!

Anyway, I had my visit to The Vets and then I had to go back for another visit and then an overnight stay. But I'm back home now "convalescing", which is a posh word The Boss taught me and I now like to use when I can. You will be pleased to know I am being very strong and very courageous.

*Barnabas
The Vicarage Dog*

Windsor Parish Church of St John the Baptist

Palm Sunday 24th March 2024

6.30pm



Stainer – The Crucifixion

A devotional performance

Choirs of the
Church of England in Central Windsor and
St Peter's, Burnham
with singers from
other RSCM-affiliated Choirs and friends

Brian Henry (conductor), **John Halsey** (organ)

Ben Alden (tenor), **Richard Bannan** (bass)
Additional solos sung by members of the Choir

Reflection by
Revd Canon Prebendary Christopher Gower

Free admission

A retiring collection will be taken to cover costs and for the New Windsor Choir Fund

I recently came across this upbeat item from Canon David Winter in a 2015 edition of Windsor Church News and thought we might enjoy it again. VS

Five Good Things about Lent

In case you're thinking at this time of the year that Lent is (as one writer recently described it) 'all purple and prohibitions', here are five good things about it.

1. It only lasts 40 days. Fasts, by their very nature, can't last forever, but Lent has a very manageable forty days. (If you're thinking at six weeks and a bit it's longer than that, see Item 2)). New Year Resolutions simply stretch off into some impossibly distant horizon, but our Lenten attempts at discipline (chocolate, cigarettes, daily prayers, being kind to the cat) have an end date to them.
2. Sundays in Lent are 'as oases'. Sunday is never a day of fasting, but a weekly celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. So - and this is official! - Sundays don't count in Lent.
3. A bit of self-denial is better than a lot of self-indulgence. We live in a very self-indulgent society. Just for forty days it's no bad thing to deny



ourselves something that is a minor luxury or a bit of self-pampering - especially if it saves some money which could go to people in the world who have no 'little luxuries'.

4. It's a journey towards Easter. Lent goes somewhere, and that somewhere is the empty tomb of Easter morning. It's daffodils in the churchyard and new life all around us.
5. The days get longer. The English word for this season is the only one that has no religious significance at all. 'Lent' is simply an abbreviation of the Old English word 'lencten', which means 'lengthen'. On these islands, where weather is always a major topic of conversation, it's not surprising that what people noted about the days of Lent was that they got longer - no more of those ghastly dark tea-times. But the 'lengthening' is all part of Item 4, really - moving towards new life. (Sadly, Items 4 and 5 don't apply in Australia and New Zealand. Doubtless they have compensations.)

Given those five splendidly positive things about Lent, which covers [nearly] the whole of March this year, I trust readers will approach its rigours with joyful hearts.

*Canon David Winter
Parish Pump*

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This month it was...

750 years ago, on 7th March 1274 that St Thomas Aquinas, Italian Dominican friar, Catholic priest, philosopher, and theologian, died.

500 years ago, on 19th March 1524 that Florentine explorer Giovanni de Verrazano became the first European to reach the Atlantic coast of North America. He reached North Carolina, continued northwards to New Brunswick in Canada, and then sailed southwards to Florida.

250 years ago, on 16th 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.

150 years ago, on 30th March 1874 that Charles Lightoller was born. He was Second Officer on the RMS Titanic, and the most senior member of the crew to survive the sinking in 1912. He was also a commanding officer in the Royal Navy during WW1, and took part (as a retired volunteer) in the Dunkirk evacuation in WW2.

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

100 years ago, on 25th March 1924 that Greece became a republic. The monarchy was abolished, and the Second Hellenic Republic was proclaimed.

90 years ago, on 9th March 1934 that Yuri Gagarin, Soviet cosmonaut, was born. He was the first man in space. (Died 1968)

80 years ago, from 24th to 25th 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*.

75 years ago, on 10th March 1949 that the 1948 Arab-Israeli War ended. Israeli victory.

70 years ago, on 1st 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.

65 years ago, on 9th March 1959 that the Barbie doll was launched at the International Toy Fair in New York City. 9th March is Barbie's official birthday.

60 years ago, on 6th 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 19th 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.

50 years ago, on 29th March 1974 that the Terracotta Army was discovered in Shaanxi, China by a group of farmers who were digging a well. The 8,000 life-sized warriors, plus chariots and horses were buried with the first Emperor of

China, Qin Shi Huang (247 BC o 221 BC) to protect him in the afterlife.

40 years ago, 5th March 1984 to March 1985 that the 1984 miners' strike took place. 6,000 coal miners in Yorkshire began a strike, to protest against pit closures and job losses. By 12th March the strike in Yorkshire became a national one, involving tens of thousands of miners.

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

25 years ago, 21st March 1999 that Ernie Wise, British comedian and actor (Morecambe and Wise) died.

20 years ago, on 30th March 2004 that Alistair Cooke, British-born American journalist and broadcaster died. Known for his insightful broadcasts on American culture, in *Letter from America*.

10 years ago, on 18th 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.

Also 10 years ago, on 29th March 2014 that the first same-sex marriages in England and Wales took place.

from Parish Pump

Regular midweek services

Mondays

9am Morning Prayer - All Saints' Church

Wednesdays

9am Morning Prayer - St Stephen & St Agnes Church
11am Holy Communion (BCP) - Holy Trinity Church

Fridays

9am Morning Prayer - Holy Trinity Church

ONLINE SERVICES

THINGS THAT CAN GO TERRIBLY WRONG



PROBLEMS WITH THE SOUND



ACCIDENTAL SCREEN-SHARING OF PASTORALLY-SENSITIVE INFORMATION



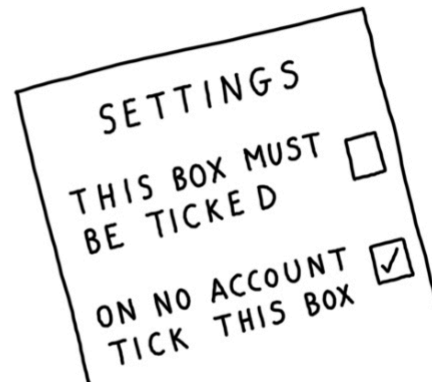
INTERNET BREAKS AT CRUCIAL MOMENT



FAILING TO MUTE THE CONGREGATION



ANIMALS RUNNING AMOK



THE APP HASN'T BEEN CONFIGURED

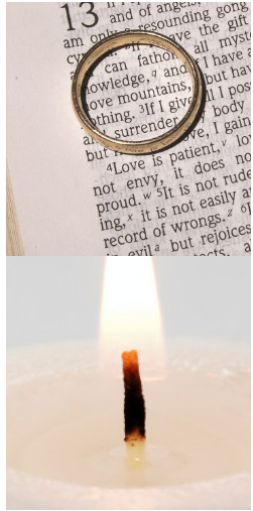


LIVE ARREST OWING TO IGNORING COPYRIGHT



INVASION BY ROWDY GROUP OF METHODISTS

From the February registers...



Weddings

Graham Holden & Piengjai Thongsook

Funerals

Jessie Ralphs
Margaret Folwell

Evening Prayer on Sundays



During Lent, there will be a short service of Evening Prayer held in All Saints' Church on Sundays at 5pm.

All are welcome.

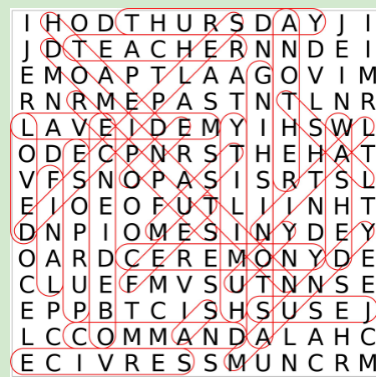
The service will also be accessible via Zoom. Please see our ["Keeping Us in Touch"](#) weekly pew sheet for the Zoom link.

New Pathways

An informal bereavement group for anyone who has lost a loved one

We meet for tea, cake and conversation on the last Thursday of each month 2.30pm—3.30pm in the Mountbatten Room at Holy Trinity Church Claremont Road, Windsor Everyone welcome

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Services for Holy Week & Easter

Palm Sunday - 24 March

- 10am Liturgy of the Palms - St Stephen & St Agnes Church (Vansittart Road)
followed by procession arriving at approximately
 10.25am Sung Eucharist - All Saints' Church (Frances Road)
 6.30pm Stainer's Crucifixion - Windsor Parish Church (High Street)

Monday of Holy Week - 25 March

- 7pm Stations of the Cross - St Stephen & St Agnes Church (Vansittart Road)

Tuesday of Holy Week - 26 March

- 7pm Said Eucharist - St Stephen & St Agnes Church (Vansittart Road)

Wednesday of Holy Week - 27 March

- 11am Holy Communion (BCP, traditional) - Holy Trinity Church (Claremont Road)

Maundy Thursday - 28 March

- 7.30pm Sung Eucharist of the Last Supper - All Saints' Church (Frances Road)

Good Friday - 29 March

- 12-3pm Three Hour Devotion (including Liturgy of the Cross at 2pm) -
 Windsor Parish Church of St John the Baptist (High Street)

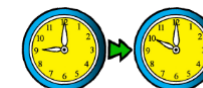
Easter Day - 31 March

- 7am First Eucharist of Easter - St Stephen & St Agnes Church (Vansittart Road)
 8.30am Holy Communion (BCP, traditional) - Holy Trinity Church (Claremont Road)
 10am Family Eucharist - All Saints' Church (Frances Road)
 11.15am Easter Praise with Holy Communion - Windsor Parish Church (High Street)



March

- 1 David, Bishop of Menevia, Patron of Wales, c.601
- 2 Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, Missionary, 672
- 3 **The Third Sunday of Lent**
 - 10am Sung Eucharist – Holy Trinity Church
 - 5pm Evening Prayer – All Saints' Church
- 4 7pm Stations of the Cross – St Stephen & Agnes Church
- 7 Perpetua, Felicity and their Companions, Martyrs at Carthage, 203
- 8 Edward King, Bishop of Lincoln, 1910
Felix, Bishop, Apostle to the East Angles, 647
Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy, Priest, Poet, 1929
- 10 **Mothering Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent)**
 - 10am Sung Eucharist – St Stephen & Agnes Church
 - 5pm Evening Prayer – All Saints' Church
- 11 7pm Stations of the Cross – St Stephen & Agnes Church
- 17 **Passion Sunday (Fifth Sunday of Lent)**
 - 10am Sung Eucharist – Windsor Parish Church
 - 5pm Evening Prayer – All Saints' Church
- 18 Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, Teacher of the Faith, 386
 7pm Stations of the Cross – St Stephen & Agnes Church
- 19 Joseph of Nazareth
- 20 Cuthbert, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary, 687
- 21 Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, Reformation Martyr, 1556
- 22 4pm Messy Church – All Saints' Church
- 24 **Palm Sunday**
 - 10am Liturgy of the Palms – St Stephen & St Agnes Church
followed by procession arriving at approx
 - 10.25 Sung Eucharist – All Saints' Church
 - 5pm Evening Prayer – All Saints' Church
 - 6.30pm Stainer's Crucifixion – Windsor Parish Church
- 25 **Monday of Holy Week**
 - 7pm Stations of the Cross – St Stephen & Agnes Church
- 26 **Tuesday of Holy Week**
 - 7pm Said Eucharist – St Stephen & Agnes Church
- 27 **Wednesday of Holy Week**
 - 11am Holy Communion (BCP) – Holy Trinity
- 28 **Maundy Thursday (Principal Holy Day)**
 - 7.30pm Eucharist of the Last Supper – All Saints' Church
- 29 **Good Friday (Principal Holy Day)**
 - 12pm 'At the Foot of the Cross' – Windsor Parish Church
- 31 **Easter Day**
 - 7am First Eucharist of Easter – St Stephen & St Agnes Church
 - 8.30am Holy Communion (BCP) – Holy Trinity Church
 - 10am Family Eucharist – All Saints' Church
 - 11.15am Easter Praise with Holy Communion – Windsor Parish Church



*clocks go forward
 1 hour at 1am
 on Easter Day*