Old Malden News



The Parish Magazine of St John the Baptist, Malden

April 2019

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Old Malden News

The Parish Magazine of St John the Baptist Parish Church Malden

Church Road, Worcester Park KT4 7RY

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Parish Website: www.stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk

Parish Blog: http://stjohnschurchmalden.blogspot.com Parish Office: administrator@stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk

Parish Calendar for April

Morning Prayer is said on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8.45am

2	10.00 Holy Communion	18	Maundy Thursday				
	10.30 MU Coffee Morning		14.00 Tea and Chat				
	13.00 Wordbox		20.00 Sung Eucharist with				
	14.15 Praytime		Washing of feet				
3	09.30 Toddler Group	19	Good Friday				
			12.00 Reflection				
4	14.00 Tea and Chat Church Hall		14.00 Liturgy of Good Friday				
	20.00 Reading Group						
		20	09.00 Flower Team				
7	Passion Sunday		09.30 Church Cleaning				
	08.00 Said Eucharist						
	09.45 Sung Eucharist	21	Easter Day				
	With Little Fishes		08.00 Said Eucharist				
	11.30 11Up Group		09.45 Festival Sung Eucharist				
	12.30 Sunday Lunch Club		With Little Fishes				
	18.30 Music, Art and Poetry in						
	Lent course	23	11.00 Retired Clergy Annual				
8	20.00 Julian Group		Meeting				
			20.00 Fundraising Meeting				
9	14.00 Mother's Union						
	20.00 PCC Meeting	24	09.30 Toddler Group				
14	Palm Sunday	25	14.00 Knitting and Crochet				
	08.00 Said Eucharist		14.00 Tea and Chat Church Hall				
	09.45 Sung Eucharist						
	11.15 APCM	28	Easter 2				
			08.00 Said Eucharist				
17	09.30 Toddler Group		09.45 Sung Eucharist				

Regular Services at St John's

Said Eucharist

8.00am Sunday a simple celebration of Holy Communion; about 40 minutes

Sung Eucharist

9.45am Sunday
a celebration of Holy Communion with music
and ceremony; about 75 minutes
first and third Sunday with *LITTLE FISHES*third Sunday with Ministry for Wholeness

Thirty Minutes

I I.30am second Sundaya lively service for pre-school children;about 30 minutes

Praytime

2.15pm first Tuesday songs, prayers, Bible stories and cake for pre-school children, finishes in time for the school-run

Midweek Eucharist

10.00am first Tuesday a simple celebration of Holy Communion; about 30 minutes

Morning Prayer

8.45am Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (term time only) a quiet time of prayer and readings; about 15 minutes

From the Ministry Team

Dear Friends,

Exultate! Easter Joy! Resurrection - New life, and hope.

Yet with the incessant noise of chaos and darkness in the news, the silent voice of joy and hope can be smothered. Both are a challenge in uncertain times, especially to relationships. Whatever our stance, Brexit has undoubtedly fractured relationships in parliament, and knife crime communities. We may feel wither joy and hope?

Yet the message of Easter **is** joy and hope. Joy in a new certainty that all humanity is loved and valued by God. A new hope that whatever journey we take personally and as a nation God walks alongside us: supportive, compassionate.

The Easter-tide cycle of spring flowers, the lambing season, and lengthening daylight symbolises renewed hope, but also the interdependence between natural events. Human compassion " is based on ….. the interdependence of…. living things which are all part of one another " (Thomas Merton, 1915-68)

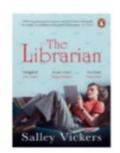
Resurrection brings hope. The challenge for us is to see and live that hope, by respecting differences, and showing compassion that crosses divides to heal fractured relationships.

Anthony.



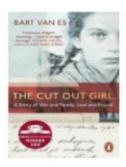
St John's Reading Group April 2019

At our March meeting, we discussed 'The Librarian' by Salley Vickers. It provoked quite a wide range of comments and we came to the conclusion that it was not one of the author's best novels. Set in the 1950s, a young Sylvia Blackwell goes to the middle England town of East Mole to take up a post as a children's librarian. She encourages the love of books and reorganises the children's library – much to the

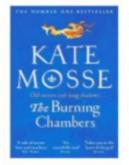


disdain of the chief librarian who finds a way to discredit her when a 'restricted' book goes missing. Sylvia achieves a great deal and earns favour with her neighbours and their children, helping them with the 11+. However, she becomes involved with the married doctor and this just does not ring true. Average score 7/10.

Our choice for April is 'The Cut Out Girl: A Story of War and Family, Lost and Found' by Bart van Es and winner of the Costa 2018 award This an extraordinary true story of a young Jewish girl, Lien, taken in by the author's grandparents and brought up as their own. Lien never knew her parents and discovered much later that they had been murdered in Auschwitz. Her life is a difficult one and family relationships prove difficult — a fascinating read.

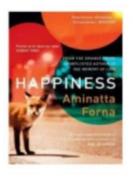


Our choices for the next few months are:



For May Kate Mosse's The Burning Chambers – set in 16th century France. A tale of 'secrets, love and treachery' and the first of a new quartet on Religious Wars in France.

For June Happiness by Aminatta Forna described as 'a book about humanity's glorious, irreducible mess; a book filled with grief, largesse and joy.'



We certainly have a wide choice of reading ahead of us.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday April 4th at 8.00pm in the Coffee Lounge at church. Happy Reading! Marilyn Burkett



As the St John's Crochet & Knitting Group celebrated its 11th Birthday in style (with a lovely cake, balloon and banners), we also gave thanks to all our brilliant knitters and crochet fans.

Our efforts continue and only this week, fourteen large black sacks of scarves, blankets, jumpers, cardigans, hats and gloves were collected from me to join the next

consignment to Romania through the Romanian Aid Foundation. The lorry will be setting off this Saturday for its long journey to Romania. Some of the items are in this photograph.



All of our donations are so gratefully received and we know that they will reach the families who need them. This photo shows that schoolchildren need warm clothes to keep them warm as they learn.

An extract from the RAF informs us how

rural and basic many lives are in Romania: In rural areas the ploughing season has begun and there



is an interesting contrast between the commercial enterprises with access to expensive machinery and the majority of smallholders with one or two horses. At least the horses know

the way home if the ploughman falls asleep!

This season brings a sense of starting afresh. The privations, and procrastination, of the winter are drawing to an end and it is time to get up and do something to improve one's lot.

Our donations are still needed with a request for knitted and crochet blankets and new knitted babywear. There are serious fears that with Brexit on the horizon, transport through Europe will be greatly affected with customs barriers and tariffs. We pray that a solution will be found. In the meantime, a big thank to all who have donated over these past weeks.





Simon's Garden - a reflection for Good Friday

On Good Friday this year, 19 April, between 12 noon and the start of the Liturgy at 2pm there will be an opportunity to reflect on the passion as the poem Simon's Garden by Michael Finch will be read at intervals during the two hours.

Good Friday is a day for reflection on the central mystery at the heart of our faith. The same mystery we proclaim every week in the Eucharist when we say Christ has Died, Christ is Risen, Christ will come again. This is the day when we hold the moment God takes on the fullness of humanity and in that death opens the way for all humanity to be drawn into relation with God.

This is an opportunity for us all to reflect as we sit in the stillness of the church building; to journey into the heart of this paschal mystery; and to prepare for the hour in which we hold the cross before us in the Liturgy.

The poem we will share takes as its starting point the gospel stories which make up the five sorrowful mysteries of the holy rosary and between each part there will time to enter into the silence.

12 noon The Garden

When he had finished praying, Jesus left with his disciples and crossed the Kidron Valley. On the other side there was a garden, and he and his disciples went into it.

John 18: 1

12.25 The Pillar

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged.

John 19: 1

12.50 The Crown

And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' and striking him on the face.

John 19: 2-3

1.15 The Road

So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha.

John 19:16-17

1.40 The Cross

There they crucified him ... When Jesus had received the wine, he said, 'It is finished.' Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. John 19: 18, 30

2.00 The Veneration of the Cross and the Liturgy of Good Friday

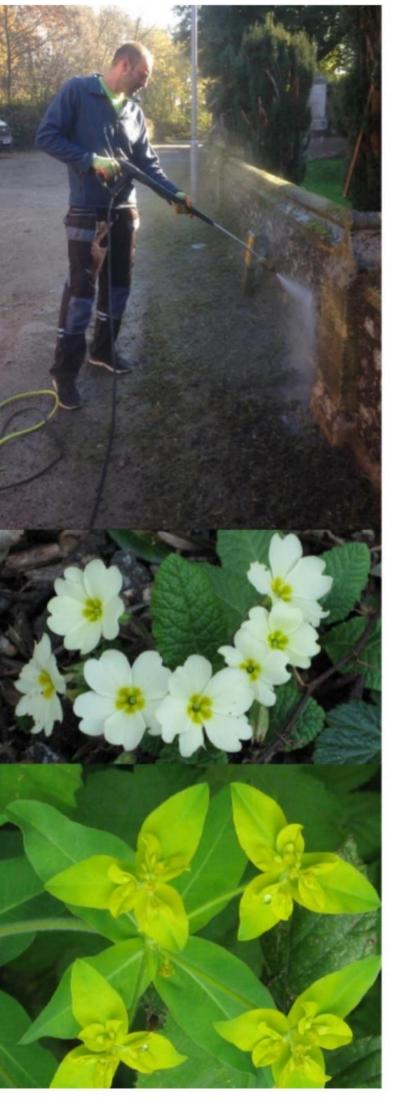
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St John the Baptist

APCM



Sunday 14th April
After the 9.45am service



CONSERVATION in Church Path

One Saturday morning in November, power-washing removed every trace of moss from the churchyard wall.

Brambles and sapling trees along Church Path dramatically vanished.

Thanks are due to **GARDEN O'CLOCK**. They brought us a big Camellia too, lots of Euonymus and other shrubs from a garden they had to clear. Their voluntary efforts wildly exceeded anything anticipated. A big thankyou to all the enthusiastic team.

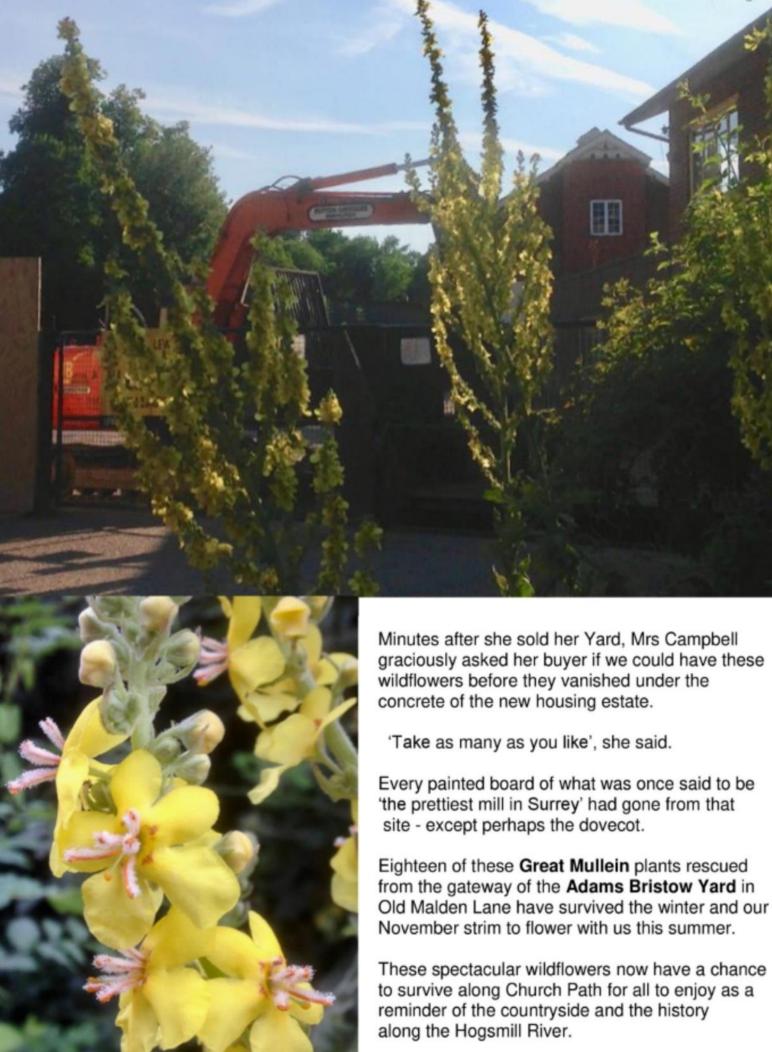
Round this new Camellia, sackfuls of Pendulous Sedge had to go. And lots of non-invasive cottage-garden plants are needed to fill the gaps. The tall **wild Hop** vines should soon re-appear there for the Dunnocks to nest again.

Ten of these self-sown wild Primroses behind the Buddleias opposite the extension, survived the winter. This first one flowered in January, the first self-sown for 25 years.

Opposite the extension gate the lime-green 'flowers' of this uncommon wild plant called **Broad-leaved Spurge** should increase.

The ugly cylinders there contain **compost** being made from shredded documents, Buddleia shoots, tree-saplings, coffee grounds and grass. This compost should make managing the brambles easier.

Creatively **recycled wood barriers** by Sam, Ollie and family are giving an effective message to vehicle and dog owners to keep off the the bare ground. Please help them to keep it clear for our **wild flowers**.



Chris Beales

Notes on Ascension Island

In my last note, I referred to the range of different communities and, not surprisingly, these communities developed degrees of rivalry. In part, this was based on the insular nature of the Americans and the fact that Cable and Wireless felt that they were the Lords of the Manor, so to speak, having been there since underwater cables had first gone there and they looked on everybody else as interlopers. However, a common thread which surmounted these rivalries was the general love of sport, which brought everyone together from time to time. There were football and cricket matches, soft ball matches and, if one knew where to look, a range of other sporting facilities. Of course, one of the features was that cricket and football were played on grassless pitches whilst the golf course had sand greens, ash fairways and rock hazards. Interestingly, sand greens were very good. Like old shale tennis courts, they were swept with a mat and you could see exactly where someone else's ball had rolled, which made putting easier.

However, back to the job. On arrival, at my first meeting with the boss, he asked me whether I was married or not. In response to my negative reply, he said "oh good, you can be the explosives expert from now on, the existing incumbent is leaving tomorrow". So, with a few ICI handouts on how to lay and detonate explosives and a half hour out with the existing man, I assumed responsibility. The aerial arrays were being built in extant lava flows, where the ground was rock hard (in fact it was rock) and paths between and around and to them had to be levelled and cleared – all work for dynamite. I would tell the labour where they needed to drill holes and once drilled, off I would go in my land rover, complete with siren and red flag, to place the sticks in the holes, wire them all up, light the fuse and set off with siren blaring – you get the picture, rather like wild west movies, where the baddies want to blow up a bridge or similar. More of explosives anon.

Domestic arrangements were fairly simple. I should presage these comments by outlining the sort of climate in which we were living. Ascension Island lies roughly on the equator and, as such, there is little difference in climate, through any of the seasons. Being in the middle of the Atlantic, there was always a breeze of some sort blowing and we were spared extremes of temperature, so the normal day time temperature was about 80 and it just dropped off pleasantly at night time. Hence, to be sleeping in a tent was not a major inconvenience. A majority of the UK staff slept in tents, but, there were about a dozen $\rightarrow \rightarrow$

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Continued

caravans for the more senior staff. The caravans themselves were big beasts. I spent the first few months in a tent and, eventually "inherited" a caravan when somebody left. It had its own toilet and shower, kitchen and was big enough for a small sitting room and bedroom. Not that I ever used the kitchen, because there was a big mess tent/marquee and everybody ate communally there. We had our own catering manager and trained staff and the food, though of limited variety was good and plenty of it.

I eventually settled for cold meat, hard boiled egg and salad for lunch, because the one thing I hated was chicken pie – a mass of chicken, held together by a gelatinous mass of something. Once married, I told Pat never to give me chicken pie and it took about 48 years before one was put in front of me and I discovered that I liked it!! At Christmas and on other high days and holidays, the staff could be relied on to put on a good and appropriate spread.





LENT LUNCHES

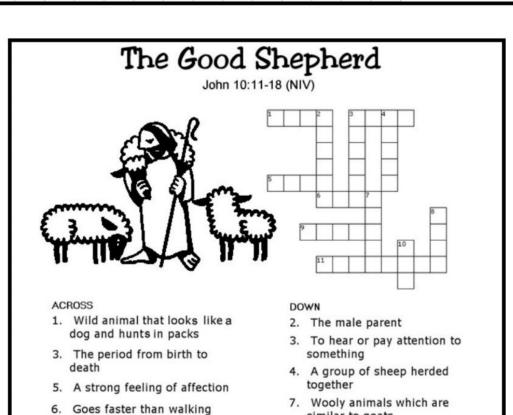
The Mothers' Union is pleased to be able to offer five Lent Lunches, on Fridays 15, 22 and 29 March and 5 and 12 April. From 12 noon to 1.30 p.m. on those days there will be a choice of homemade soups, with bread, cheese, tea or coffee and cakes. The price is modest yet the money raised is usually a significant contribution to St John's response to the Bishop of Southwark's Lent Appeal. If you are free around midday on any or all these Fridays, please come to the coffee lounge in the church extension and enjoy a simple but tasty lunch in good company.

The Lent Appeal supports three projects within the Diocese and three overseas. This year these will be Sutton Women's Centre, Christian Care Merton, and the Salmon Youth Centre in Bermondsey; Leprosy Mission work in Sri Lanka, urban mission training at the Church Army Africa's college in Nairobi, Kenya, and agribusiness, education and infrastructure in our three link dioceses in central Zimbabwe. The situation and needs in Zimbabwe at present are particularly acute.

Easter Word Search

S	I	R	S	N	R	R	J	G	N	Ε	0	F	S
G	E	F	D	U	S	T	E	E	0	P	C	Α	N
N	N	С	N	Α	0	D	S	L	Α	0	Ε	S	R
Ε	S	R	F	D	Α	0	U	R	В	Н	S	T	0
S	T	0	S	L	C	0	S	S	E	S	0	I	Н
I	R	S	Н	Α	Н	0	М	Н	М	0	В	N	T
R	N	S	Υ	S	R	T	N	W	0	S	0	G	F
0	N	Α	Α	Υ	S	Α	R	Ε	Υ	Α	R	Р	0
Α	Υ	Υ	В	0	T	N	Н	Н	Н	R	Н	Н	N
T	R	L	R	М	I	R	Α	С	L	Ε	Υ	Υ	W
S	Α	0	G	0	0	D	F	R	I	D	Α	Υ	0
Н	М	Н	S	Н	С	I	R	F	0	L	М	Ε	R
N	S	Н	Ε	T	В	Н	Т	Н	0	R	N	S	С
S	W	Н	T	0	M	В	E	Н	F	Α	I	T	Н

CROSS
HOLY
RISEN
MARY
TOMB
ASH
HOPE
FASTING
MIRACLE
CROWN OF THORNS
PRAYER
GOOD FRIDAY
JESUS
FAITH
THORNS



Words Used

runs

father

voice

sheep

wolf

flock

9. What we use to speak

sheep

good

life

shepherd

11. One who takes care of the

similar to goats

8. The opposite of bad

10. A small place where

animals are kept

listen

pen

love

Easter at St John's

Holy week and Easter are a dramatic time in the Church's year. Beginning on Palm Sunday we follow Jesus through the last week of his earthly ministry, finishing with his glorious Resurrection on Easter Day. This is known as 'the passion of Christ'. We warmly invite everyone to join us.



14 April Palm Sunday

08.00 Said Eucharist

09.45 Palm Sunday Procession & Sung Eucharist (No Thirty Minutes as the APCM will be taking place after the 9.45am service.)

18 April Maundy Thursday

20.00 Said Eucharist

19 April Good Friday

12.00 Reflection

14.00 The Liturgy of Good Friday

21 April Easter Day

08.00 Said Eucharist

09.45 Festival Sung Eucharist

Children at St John's

Children's Ministry - On most Sundays, Children's Ministry offers special activities during the service for children who come to church with their parents or carers.



Thirty Minutes - At 11.30 on the second Sunday of the month, a lively service for children and their parents. Noisy and fun and it lasts forthirty Minutes.

Praytime - A service for pre-school children at 2.15pm on the first Tuesday of each month. Not quite as noisy, but lots of fun.

St John's Toddler Group - Our parent and toddler group which meets in the church extension on Wednesday mornings at 9.30.

Little Fishes - On the first and third Sundays, special activities for the under 5's who come to church with their parents or carers.

Organ Recital

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Another Fun-filled Quiz Evening!

Fundraising Committee wish to thank:

- Rocky, our superb Quiz Master
 - all those who attended
- Manor Chippy for supplying the Fish & Chips!
 Everyone was a winner!

It was a most enjoyable evening.

And £400 was raised for St John's.

Don't forget our Lent Group

Sunday 7th April at 6.30pm: further exploration of

Music, Art, Poetry & Prose in Lent.

All to be held in the Coffee Lounge/Church.

We do hope that you will join us.

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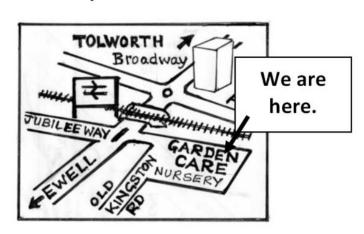
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