

SP KES

SPEAKING TO AND FOR ALL OUR CHURCHES

APRIL 2024

Hi folks,

In February, the war in Ukraine passed its second anniversary. In our churches, we've prayed for peace there most weeks – although our efforts hardly compare with the urgency of the prayers of Christians in Ukraine for those two years. And yet, the war grinds on. Does that mean that our prayers have not been heard? Or – worse – that prayer is not valid?

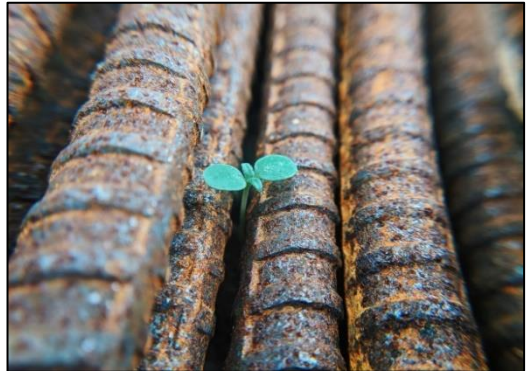


Image credit: Faris Mohammad / Unsplash

It's easy to let the mind wander down those avenues... but a little historical context helps. Jesus' death and resurrection at the first Easter occurred in a world dominated by the Roman empire: the grotesque excesses of some of their emperors shows us that there is nothing new about a leader like Putin. Despite this oppressive regime and its persecutions, Christianity grew – and eventually even became the official religion of the Roman Empire.

We may not understand why God doesn't answer our prayers in the way that we think is right; but we need to recognise that God's plans stretch across far longer timescales and are more far-reaching than the limits of a human lifetime. The important thing for those of us who follow Jesus is to keep trusting in the truth of the gospel, irrespective of whether God answers our prayers how and when we want him to.

Every blessing,

Rich Tweedy

vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk

**The Polden Wheel's 2024
Annual Parochial Church
Meeting**

will be held on **29 April** at
**St Edward's Church, Chilton
Polden**. 7.15 for 7.30pm.
All welcome.



Men's breakfast

Saturday 27th April, 8.45am
at The Crown Inn, Catcott

Full cooked breakfast
with tea, coffee and toast

Our speaker will be *Joey Daniels*.
Email Rich to book.

WANTED



Plants and cuttings for
St George's Edington's
Gift Day plant sale
on 20th April.

Church Contacts

Vicar:	Rev Rich Tweedy	01458 210260
	vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk	<i>Day off: Friday</i>
Parish Administrator:	Sue Ball	01458 210260
	admin@poldenwheel.co.uk	<i>Office hours: Tues – Thurs 10am – 2pm</i>
PCC Treasurer:	Caroline Snell	Treasurer@poldenwheel.co.uk
All Saints, Ashcott:	John Harvey	01458 210562
St. Philip & St James, Burtle:	Alison Everett	01278 723736
St Peter's, Catcott:	Martin Melia	01278 722808
St Edward's, Chilton Polden:	Anne Lush	01278 722408
St George's, Edington:	Rosie Tilbury	01278 722208
St Mary's, Shapwick:	Rosemary Hargreaves	01458 210533

Website: www.poldenwheel.co.uk

Church Services

Sunday 7th April 10.00 <i>Catcott</i>	Easter 2 (White) Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 14th April 9.30 <i>Burtle</i> 11.00 <i>Ashcott</i>	Easter 3 (White) Holy Communion Informal Worship
Sunday 21st April 10.00 <i>Shapwick</i> 10.30 <i>Chilton Polden</i>	Easter 4 (White) Café Church Holy Communion
Sunday 28th April 9.30 <i>Shapwick</i> 11.00 <i>Burtle</i> 11.00 <i>Edington</i> 6.30 <i>Ashcott</i>	Easter 5 (White) Holy Communion Informal Worship Holy communion Holy Communion
Sunday 5th May 9.30 <i>Catcott</i> 11.00 <i>Chilton Polden</i>	Easter 6 (White) Holy Communion (BCP) Holy Communion
Thursday 9th May 11.00 <i>Ashcott</i>	Ascension Day Holy Communion
Sunday 12th May 9.30 <i>Burtle</i> 11.00 <i>Ashcott</i> 6.30 <i>Edington</i>	Easter 7 (White) Holy Communion Informal Worship Holy Communion



**Service of
Quiet**

**Tuesday April
16th at 7pm in
Catcott church.**

This will be a quiet space
for contemplative
reflection for half an
hour.

**Midweek Holy
Communion**

**Wed April 24th
at 10am**

in Edington Church.

Readings

- 7th April:** 1 John 1.1 -2.2; John 20.19-31
- 14th April:** 1 John 3.1-7; Luke 24.36b-48
- 21st April:** 1 John 3.16-24; John 10.11-18
- 28th April:** 1 John 4.7-21; John 15.1-8

Diary of Church Events

April

- Wed 3rd **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Wed 10th **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Fri 12th **Chilton Polden:** Family Bingo in the Church Hall. Eyes down 7.30pm.
£1 per book. Raffle and refreshments. Children can play.
- Wed 17th **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Sat 20th **Edington:** St George's Gift Day coffee morning in the church.
10-12.30. Plant sale, bring & buy, and raffle.
- Wed 24th **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Sat 27th **Catcott:** Men's Breakfast at the Crown, Catcott at 8.45am. Speaker
will be Joey Daniels.
- Mon 29th **Chilton Polden:** Annual Parochial Church Meeting of the Polden
Wheel in St Edward's Church. 7.15 for 7.30pm. All welcome.
- Tues 30th **Catcott:** St Peter's Coffee Morning at Greenacres, 7, Brook Lane, TA7
9HG. 10.30 – 12. Coffee/tea and cake for £2 plus raffle.

May

- Wed 1st **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Wed 8th **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Fri 10th **Chilton Polden:** Family Bingo in the Church Hall. Eyes down 7.30pm.
£1 per book. Raffle and refreshments. Children can play.