

# SP KES

SPEAKING TO AND FOR ALL OUR CHURCHES

**MARCH 2024**

Hi folks,

I am by no means a film buff, but a friend who is introduced me to a phrase I hadn't heard before: jumping the shark. It happens when a movie is proceeding normally, but then something utterly naff happens to force the plot to a contrived conclusion.

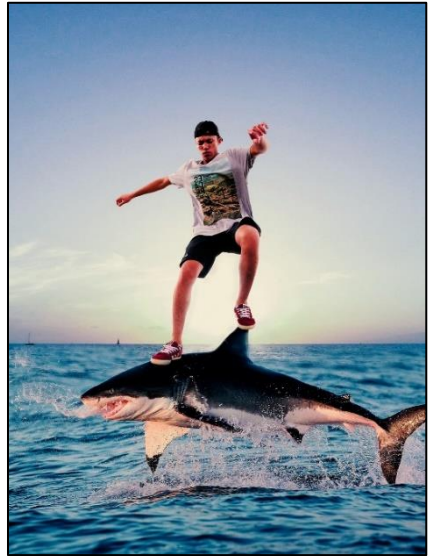
Is it possible that the whole Easter story is a spectacular shark jump? Perhaps the Christian story started with an inspiring teacher called Jesus, who got into trouble with the Romans and was executed; but his followers, in a desperate attempt to gain fame and fortune, contrived a story of an empty tomb and a resurrected Jesus.

Possibly. Instead, consider this: the gospels show that Jesus told the disciples three times that he would be executed and would rise again – but they were utterly unable to comprehend what he was telling them. The story of Jesus' crucifixion shows them being cowardly and running away, afraid for their own lives. Their courage returned only when Jesus was resurrected. Ten of them were executed for their faith, and another spent many years in a prison colony. None of this makes sense if the disciples had contrived the story. It makes much more sense to realise both that Jesus really did die and rise from the dead, and that the disciples were willing to die in order to proclaim this amazing truth.

Every blessing,

Rich Tweedy

[vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk](mailto:vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk)



*Image credit: Anik Islam / Pixabay*

## Easter Services in the Polden Wheel

**Good Friday** 2.00pm *Shapwick*

Stations of the Cross *followed by time for reflection*

**Easter Sunday** 6.30am *RSPB Ham Wall*

Sunrise Service

9.30am *Catcott*

Holy Communion (BCP)

11.00am *Chilton Polden*

Holy Communion

11.00am *Shapwick*

Informal Worship



Please join us for our

### Maundy Thursday Supper and Communion

Thursday March 28 at 7pm

at the

**Pig and Wheel, Bath Road,  
Chilton Polden**

*To book a place  
please call Anne  
on 01278 722408.*



### Men's breakfast

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March, 8.45am**

*at The Crown Inn, Catcott*

Full cooked breakfast

with tea, coffee and toast

Our speaker will be *Phil Cheale*.

Email Rich to book.

## 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](http://www.poldenwheel.co.uk)

## Church Services

### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

9.30 *Catcott*  
11.00 *Chilton Polden*

### Lent 3 (Green)

Holy Communion (BCP)  
Informal Worship

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March

9.30 *Burtle*  
11.00 *Ashcott*  
4.00 *Edington*

### Mothering Sunday (Green)

Holy Communion  
Informal Worship  
Holy Communion

### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March

10.00 *Shapwick*  
10.30 *Chilton Polden*

### Lent 5 (Green)

Café Church  
Holy Communion

### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March

9.30 *Shapwick*  
11.00 *Burtle*  
6.30 *Ashcott*

### Palm Sunday (Red)

Holy Communion  
Informal Worship  
Holy Communion

### Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

7.00 *Chilton Polden*

### Maundy Thursday

Meal at the *Pig and Wheel* (see box for details)

### Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March

2.00 *Shapwick*

### Good Friday

Stations of the Cross followed by time for reflection

### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March

6.30 *Ham Wall*  
9.30 *Catcott*  
11.00 *Chilton Polden*  
11.00 *Shapwick*

### Easter Sunday (White)

Sunrise Service  
Holy Communion (BCP)  
Holy Communion  
Informal Worship



### Service of Quiet

Tuesday March  
19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in  
Catcott church.

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

### Midweek Holy Communion

Wed March 27<sup>th</sup>  
at 10am

in Edington Church.

## Readings

3<sup>rd</sup> March: 1 Corinthians 1.18-25; John 2.13-22

10<sup>th</sup> March: Exodus 2.1-10; Luke 2.33-35

17<sup>th</sup> March: Hebrews 5.5-10; John 12.20-33

24<sup>th</sup> March: Mark 11.1-11; Mark 15.1-39

31<sup>st</sup> March: Mark 16.1-8; Mark 10.34-43

# Diary of Church Events

## March

- Wed 6<sup>th</sup> **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome  
Fri 8<sup>th</sup> **Chilton Polden:** Easter Family Bingo in the Church Hall. Eyes down 7.30pm. £1 per book. Raffle and refreshments. Children can play.  
Wed 13<sup>th</sup> **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome  
Fri 15<sup>th</sup> **Burtle:** Quiz night at the Duck @ Burtle. £16 with supper. Tickets available from Rosemary on 01278 722321. Meet up with old friends and make some new ones. All welcome.  
Sat 16<sup>th</sup> **Edington:** St George's coffee morning at The Walnuts, Holywell Road, Edington, TA7 9LD. 10.30 – noon. Entry £2. Bring and buy and raffle.  
Wed 20<sup>th</sup> **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome  
Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> **Catcott:** St Peter's Coffee Morning at Polden Rise, Steel Lane, TA7 9HP. 10.30 – 12. Coffee/tea and cake for £2 plus raffle.  
Wed 27<sup>th</sup> **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome

## April

- Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome  
Wed 10<sup>th</sup> **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome  
Fri 12<sup>th</sup> **Chilton Polden:** Family Bingo in the Church Hall. Eyes down 7.30pm. 1 per book. Raffle and refreshments. Children can play.  
Wed 17<sup>th</sup> **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome  
Sat 20<sup>th</sup> **Edington:** St George's Gift Day coffee morning in the church. 10-2.30. Plant sale, bring & buy, and raffle.  
Wed 24<sup>th</sup> **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome  
Mon 29<sup>th</sup> **Chilton Polden:** Annual Parochial Church Meeting of the Polden Wheel in St Edward's Church. 7.15 for 7.30pm. All welcome.

### 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



### WANTED

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