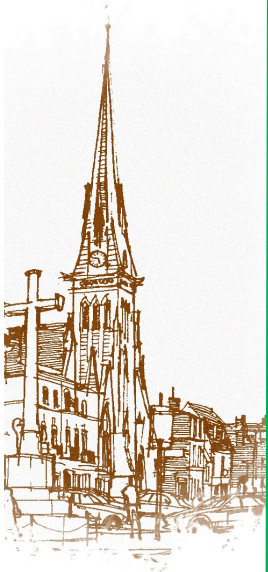


# March 2016

# Inspire



THE NEWSLETTER OF  
THE FREE CHURCH  
(UNITED REFORMED)  
SAINT IVES

## View from the Manse



As spring arrives we are naturally filled with hope and optimism. Who can walk past daffodils with their bobbing yellow heads and not smile? They give a promise of warmth and sunshine ahead.

In the church calendar it is the season of Lent leading up to Easter. Lent is the time of year set aside for reflection on our frailty as human beings – mortal creatures needing the sustaining grace and mercy of the eternal God. It is also the time of year in which we are called to remember the sacrifice Jesus made for us on the cross; the season in which we are specially called to prepare ourselves for both his death -- and his resurrection. As we remember the story of his passion, we journey with him from his entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday when he was welcomed as the Son of David, through his last meal with his followers on Maundy Thursday, to his arrest, rejection and execution and onward to his surprising and astonishing resurrection to new life.

Also in March we celebrate Mothering Sunday and Fairtrade Fortnight. Mothering Sunday is a day of thanksgiving for, and celebration of, our mothers or those who cared and nurtured us as we were growing up.

*continued overleaf* —>

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**Deadline for *April Inspire*  
20th March 2016**

### Inspire Editorial Team

March Editor  
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*Copy preferably by email please to  
office@stivesfreechurch.org*

from Page 1

Fairtrade Fortnight is a couple of weeks in which we may be reminded of others beyond our own families, and indeed our nation and continent, needing the dignity and justice of purposeful work and fair wages. Showing nurture and care and respect towards all people in our world is a means by which we, as the church, can be signs of God's coming reign of peace and love, and life in all its fullness.

Therefore as we move through Lent and take time to think about the challenges of life, may we never lose sight of the joy and power of Easter, bringing new life out of death and promising us a future of wholeness in God's presence.

Love in Christ

Catherine

## A Prayer for the People of Syria

God of all hope,  
At this time of seeming hopelessness,  
We pray for all Syria people everywhere:  
Refugees at home or abroad,  
Those who are physically or mentally scarred  
by the violence,  
Those who have lost loved ones,  
Those who have lost homes,  
Those who have lost livelihoods,  
Those who have lost hope.

Lord, We pray:  
That those with the power to end the  
conflict—will do so;  
Those with the power to rebuild the  
nation—will do so;  
That peace and stable government will come  
soon:  
In Jesus' Name—Amen



### *From the Church Secretary*

Easter is quite early this year so March is packed with special events and services. The Lent Course continues until the 21<sup>st</sup>, and the Maundy Thursday will be at the Methodist Church in the evening, followed by the Good Friday *Walk of Witness* and finally we celebrate at our Easter Day service on Sunday. Details of all these are may be seen on the opposite page—>

Eastern Synod is on the 19<sup>th</sup> March at St. Columba's URC in Cambridge, so easy to get to, for once, if you would like to attend.

Last month about thirty people enjoyed a light lunch and further conversation with David Chandler from *A Rocha* after the eco-service. *A Rocha* is a Christian NGO involved with conservation and Eco Church. Along with other eco issues, we learnt a lot about dragonflies and we were invited to visit their conservation project at Wolf Fields in Southall, .


Pat Clarke, our wonderful catering manager, will be leaving us at Easter and we will have an opportunity to thank Pat at the Tookey's *Volunteer Party* on 13<sup>th</sup> March. Pat has done a superb job over the last six years and has also been a friend to many of us. Thank you, Pat, and we wish you and Steve a very happy retirement.

Finally this is my last letter to you as your Church Secretary; after six and a half years it is time to step down and take a break. It has been a privilege to serve you all in this way, a steep learning curve and enjoyable most of the time! I would like to thank all those who have supported and encouraged me along the way, not least Catherine and my assistant secretaries Helen and currently Andy. I know you will show the same love and support to my successor when appointed.

With love and thanks,

**Barbara**

ST IVES CHORAL SOCIETY PRESENT  
**Elgar's**  
*The*  
**Apostles**  
 SATURDAY 7 MAY, 2016, 7.30PM  
**ELY CATHEDRAL**  
 BY KIND PERMISSION OF THE DEAN AND CHAPTER  
 ACCOMPANIED BY **ELY SINFONIA**  
**Conductor Julian Merson**



TICKETS: £20/£15 (RESERVED) - £10 (UNRESERVED)  
 AVAILABLE FROM: ELY CATHEDRAL BOX OFFICE (TEL: 01353 660349,  
 MON-SAT 9.30AM-4PM)  
 OR ONLINE AT [HTTPS://TICKETS.ELYCATHEDRAL.ORG/](https://tickets.elycathedral.org/)  
 WWW.STIVES-CHORAL.ORG.UK  
 REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 231540

SUPPORTED BY  
 The Ely Society

on 7 May 2016  
**St Ives Choral Society**  
 will perform Edward Elgar's choral work  
***The Apostles***  
 in Ely Cathedral

2016 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St Ives Choral Society. Based in St Ives, it draws singers and audiences from across the county and beyond. The choir has grown in stature and reputation to the point where it can take on this demanding choral work by Elgar in Ely Cathedral.

Scored for large orchestra, choir and six soloists, ***The Apostles*** is magnificent in scale, with an abundance of powerful and innovative musical ideas and one of the most moving finales in the whole of the choral repertoire. Many regard this work as one of Elgar's greatest musical achievements.

Tickets: £20 and £15 for reserved seats; £10 for unreserved  
 available from Ely Cathedral Box Office (Tel: 01353 660349, Mon-Sat 9.30am-4pm)  
 or online at <https://tickets.elycathedral.org/>

### *Easter Worship with The Free Church*



*20th March 2016—Palm Sunday  
 Morning Worship at 11:00am*

*24th March 2016—Maundy Thursday Service  
 at the Methodist Church at 7:00pm*

*25th March 2016—Good Friday—Walk of Witness  
 11:00am at Crossways for an 11:15am start  
 Followed by a Act of Worship on Market Hill at 12:00 noon  
 (a soup-based lunch will be available in the Free Church immediately afterwards)*

*27th March—Easter Sunday  
 Holy Communion at 11:00am*

## Fairtrade – and the Sustainable Development Goals

### Part 1 – Protecting the Environment



Fairtrade promotes environmentally friendly practices, such as improving soil and water quality, prohibiting harmful chemicals and encouraging biodiversity. Fairtrade co-operatives provide training for farmers, and can support them to adapt to climate change and convert to organic production. In fact, over 50% of all Fairtrade certified producers are also certified organic.

Many co-operatives invest the Fairtrade Premium in environmental sustainability, such as providing more resilient crops to farmers struggling to cope with outbreaks of pests and diseases, or planting new trees to protect soils and indigenous wildlife.



These actions contribute to Sustainable Development Goals 12 & 13.

*With thanks to the Fairtrade Foundation.*

### A WONDERFUL CHURCH SETTING



On a recent holiday in Germany, and needing to shelter from the rain in the city of Koblenz, we entered what proved to be a very modern Roman Catholic Church. As I hope you can see, the seating was arranged in an oval shape, with a 'break' at each end—one for the lectern and one for the pulpit (somewhat similar to our chapel). This circular arrangement was also mirrored by the wooden icon of the Trinity hanging in the apse. For me, the interior of this church reflected the love, mutuality and harmony of the early Christians (as described in Acts 2:42-47).

*Keith Cakebread*

**Better late than never!**

### *More favourite hymns from our 150<sup>th</sup> vote*

Many of you will recall that we had a vote of our favourite hymns in the run up to our 150<sup>th</sup> celebrations. The top ten were sung at the special anniversary service and articles about each appeared in *Inspire* over the next few months. I have been asked “what came next?”

Three hymns tied for 11<sup>th</sup> place: *I, the Lord of sea and sky* written in 1981 by Dan Schutte, a Roman Catholic, and not even in our hymn book; *Brother, sister, let me serve you*, another modern hymn by Richard Gillard; and *Be still for the presence of the Lord*, another hymn written in the 1980s and not in Rejoice and Sing! What I wonder has made them so popular?

Following these came: *Give me joy in my heart*; *Great is thy faithfulness*; *I lift my eyes to the quiet hills*; *Now thank we all our God*; and *My song is love unknown*. Together with the original ten these make quite an eclectic mix – some old, some new, some reflective, some upbeat, and coming from a wide variety of Christian backgrounds!



Perhaps it would be interesting to have another vote in a few years and see how our choices have evolved!

**Chris Curtis**

Tots and Carers  
Group  
The Free Church St. Ives  
Every Wednesday  
In Term Time  
10.00 – 11.30am



**Zero to Nursery School age**  
**Christian Themes**  
**Stories - Videos**  
**Music Time**  
**Play Time**  
**Refreshment Time**  
**Fee £1 per Child**



#### **1st Century Tombs in Jerusalem**

These tombs were cut from the rock as was the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea, which he donated for Jesus' burial.

*Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and placed it in his own tomb, that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the tomb and went away.*

Matthew 27:59-60 [NIV]

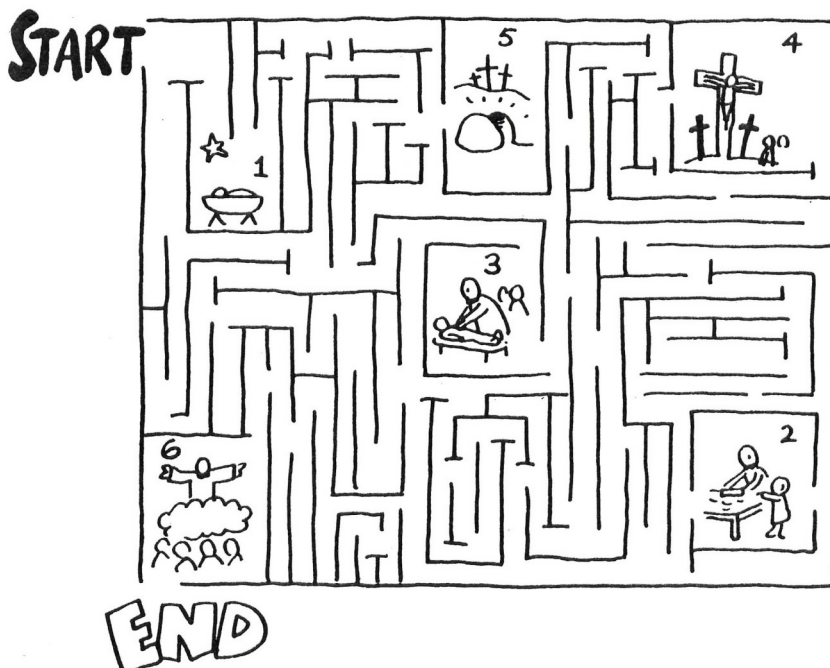
## For our Younger Readers.....

### Finding our Way through Jesus' Life

- 1 Jesus Christ was born in a stable at the small town of Bethlehem. As there are no beds or cots in a stable, his mother Mary laid him in the animals' feeding trough—called a manger. We celebrate Jesus' birth every year at Christmas.
- 2 Jesus went to school, probably in the Jewish place of worship—called a synagogue. And when he left school, Joseph taught him his own skill, that is: to be a carpenter.
- 3 However, Jesus was the Son of God, sent from heaven to do other things. So, when he was about 30 years old, he left home to become a preacher and a healer. He preached about how God loves everyone, and he practised that love through his healing. Among the many who were healed was a 12-year old girl whom he found laying on her sick bed.
- 4 You will not be surprised to find that Jesus became very popular with ordinary people. But those in power thought he was a threat to their way of life. So they pretended he had broken Jewish law, and had him crucified—that is: he was killed on a cross. We think about this terrible deed every year on Good Friday. This year Good Friday will be on 25th March.
- 5 Jesus' body was put into a grave called a tomb, which is like a cave with a large rock in front of it. But God did not like that, and—after a couple of days—he raised Jesus back to life. Can you see (in the drawing below) that the rock has been moved away. That was on a Sunday—we call it Easter Day or Easter Sunday. This year we will celebrate Easter Sunday on 27th March.
- 6 Over the following six weeks, Jesus visited many of his friends to show that he was alive and to encourage them to carry on his work after he had left them. Those friends were called Christians, and Jesus' friends are still called Christians today. So Jesus ascended through a cloud into heaven on a day we call Ascension Day, which this year we will remember on Thursday 5th May.

Now you have traced Jesus life in words, can you also trace his life through the maze below with a pen?

## CAN YOU FIND YOUR WAY?



You must travel right through each event in Jesus' life in the right order!

1. Jesus is born at Bethlehem.
2. Joseph teaches Jesus to work as a carpenter.
3. Jesus heals a little girl.
4. Jesus is crucified.
5. Jesus is alive again.
6. Jesus ascends to heaven.

## Church Activities

Mondays	19:00	Bowls Club
Wednesdays	10:00 - (term time) 11:30	Tots & Carers
Sun 6th Mar	18:00	Lent Course at Parish Church
Mon 7th Mar	11:00	Lent Course at Methodist Church
Tue 8th Mar	14:30	Meditation led by John Williams at Fenstanton
Sun 13th Mar	15:00	Tookey's Volunteers party
	18:00	Lent Course at Parish Church
Mon 14th Mar	11:00	Lent Course at Methodist Church
Sun 20th Mar	12:15	Church Meeting
	18:00	Lent Course at Parish Church
Mon 21st Mar	11:00	Lent Course at Methodist Church
Fri 25th Mar	11:00	CTSI Walk of Wtness, Service and Lunch
Mon 28th Mar	08:00	Easter Monday Snack Bar

## Community Activities

Mondays	10:00	CRUSE
Tuesdays	19:30	St Ives Photographic Club
Wednesdays	14:00	Senior Citizens Club
Thursdays	09:30	Sunny Steps
	10:00	U3A Italian Class
Wed 2nd Mar	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Thu 3rd Mar	19:30	WI
Sat 5th Mar	09:30 - 16:00	Saints Crafters Fair
Fri 11th Mar	11:00	COPE
	19:30	Rotary Club concert
Mon 14th Mar	13:00	U3A French Class
Tue 15th Mar	09:30	Alzheimer's Society Drop In café
Wed 16th Mar	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
	19:30	St Ives Gardening Club
Fri 18th Mar	10:00	U3A Local History
	19:30	St Ives Civic Society
Sat 19th Mar	17:00	Sea Scouts Fundraiser
Tue 29th Mar	19:30	St Ives Photographic Club
Sat 2nd Apr	09:30 - 16:00	Saints Crafters Fair
Wed 6th Apr	11:00	U3A Current Affairs

International Prayer Palace Church  
Invites you to our 2016 POWER PACKED

# Easter Convention



**Host:**  
**Pastor Simeon**  
Senior Pastor  
International Prayer  
Palace Church

From Good Friday night  
March 25th  
from 10pm to 12.30am at  
Huntingdon Youth Centre (HYC)

❖

Saturday March 26th Evening  
from 6pm to 9.30pm at  
Huntingdon Youth Centre (HYC)

❖

Resurrection Power Sunday  
March 27th Morning Service  
from 10am to 12.30pm at  
Huntingdon One Leisure Centre  
(same venue for our regular Sunday  
morning church services but from  
10am to 12noon)



**Host:**  
**Pastor Joyce**  
Senior Pastor  
International Prayer  
Palace Church

Seize the opportunity of this Easter season and allow the significance of the death and resurrection power of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to SAVE, HEAL, LIBERATE and EMPOWER you.  
Come join us  
encounter a life changing experience of EASTER as we hear from dynamic charismatic ministers



## Contacts

### Minister

Revd Dr. Catherine Ball 352058  
Mobile: 07714 081930

### Church Secretary

Barbara Duffett 395308

### Associate Church Secretary

Andy Fleming 468055

### Communications & Media Convenor

Peter Davies 495835

### Webmaster

alan@stivesfreechurch.org

### Finance Convenor

Peter German 352401

### Freewill Offering Treasurer

David Duffett 395308

### Property Convenor Vacant

### Tookey's

Convenor Val Bush 469189  
Manager Pat Clarke 468886

### Resident Musician

Brian Lodde 354647

### Flower Convenor

Margaret Cakebread 462726

### Eco Group Convenor

Mary Cox 300103

### Chapel Prayer Coordinator

Gerry Swain 468053

### Just Sharing Manager

Sue Billings 496570

### Asst Manager

Rosemarie Smith  
justsharing@stivesfreechurch.org

### Church Office 468535

office@stivesfreechurch.org  
Open 9am. - 1pm. Monday to Friday

**Room Bookings should be made  
through the Church Office**

## Free Church Worship

Daily: 10:00 Chapel Prayers  
Mon-Sat

Sun 6<sup>th</sup> 11:00 Revd Dr Catherine Ball -  
Mar Mothering Sunday - Holy  
Communion & Baptism

Sun 13<sup>th</sup> 11:00 Revd Roy Muttram  
Mar

18:00 Joint Service with  
Fenstanton -  
John Williams

Sun 20<sup>th</sup> 11:00 Revd Dr Catherine Ball -  
Mar Palm Sunday

Thu 24<sup>th</sup> 19:00 Maundy Thursday  
Mar Holy Communion at  
Methodist Church

Sun 27<sup>th</sup> 11:00 Revd Dr Catherine Ball -  
Mar Easter Sunday -  
Holy Communion

Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> 11:00 Keith Cakebread -  
Apr Holy Communion



## Fenstanton Worship

Sun 6<sup>th</sup> 9:30 Revd Derek Newton  
Mar

Sun 13<sup>th</sup> 9:30 Revd Dr Catherine Ball -  
Mar Holy Communion

18:00 Joint Service with St Ives  
- John Williams

Sun 20<sup>th</sup> 9:30 Pauline Zahner  
Mar

Fri 25<sup>th</sup> ?? Revd Derek Newton  
Mar

Sun 27<sup>th</sup> 9:30 Revd Dr Catherine Ball -  
Mar Easter Sunday - Holy  
Communion

Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> 9:30 Revd Derek Newton  
Apr