

KEYNOTES



May 2023
£1.00

PARISH EVENTS DIARY

The following events taking place in May and June as notified are:

The weekend of the 6th/7th May - King's Coronation shown on the big screen plus other events yet to be confirmed

Sunday 14th May - Rogation Sunday - 2pm - Parish Boundary walk followed by ice cream in Hove Park

Saturday 20th May - Free lunchtime concert - 1.10pm
Michele Scopes, violin and Abigail Wilsher, piano

Friday 16th June - Free lunchtime concert - 1.10pm
Imogen Ryall - Jazz singer

Saturday 17th June - 11.30am until 2.30pm
Summer Fair

Please continue to keep me informed of events that you have planned or know about by sending a message to our email address which is stpetersadmin@zoho.com

The deadline for the June 2023 issue is
11th May



EDITORIAL

Welcome to the May edition of Keynotes.

Lent and Easter have come and gone and Spring is in full bloom. Tim and Jan led the services and the church was overflowing on Easter Sunday. The Easter cross by the altar was beautiful with flowers given by members of the congregation. Our grateful thanks go to the brass cleaners and Bloomers flower team who made everything sparkle. An innovation this year was the Bring and Share Supper which was held on Maundy Thursday in the Community Centre. It was well attended and reminded us of the Last Supper.

This issue will be printed before the Annual Parochial Church Meeting takes place. We will have a new Electoral Roll, some new PCC members and a lot of work to be done in maintaining and building on the liveliness of the Church and its outreach as well as caring for the buildings and the churchyard. The reports on the activities and business of the past year will have been distributed and we hope that you have found time to read them. Comments and suggestions as to what we can be doing better are welcome. If not made at the meeting, they can be passed to the Churchwardens or to PCC members.

We now look forward to the Coronation of King Charles and Queen Camilla on the 6th May. It is hoped that this can be shown on the big screen in church. Perhaps some of you will be holding a street party and, if so, please let us have your photos to show in the June Keynotes. We wish our new Royal family well and give them our blessings.

Sunday 14th May is Rogation Sunday and at 2 pm there is a Parish Boundary walk followed by ice cream in Hove Park. We hope many of you will join in.

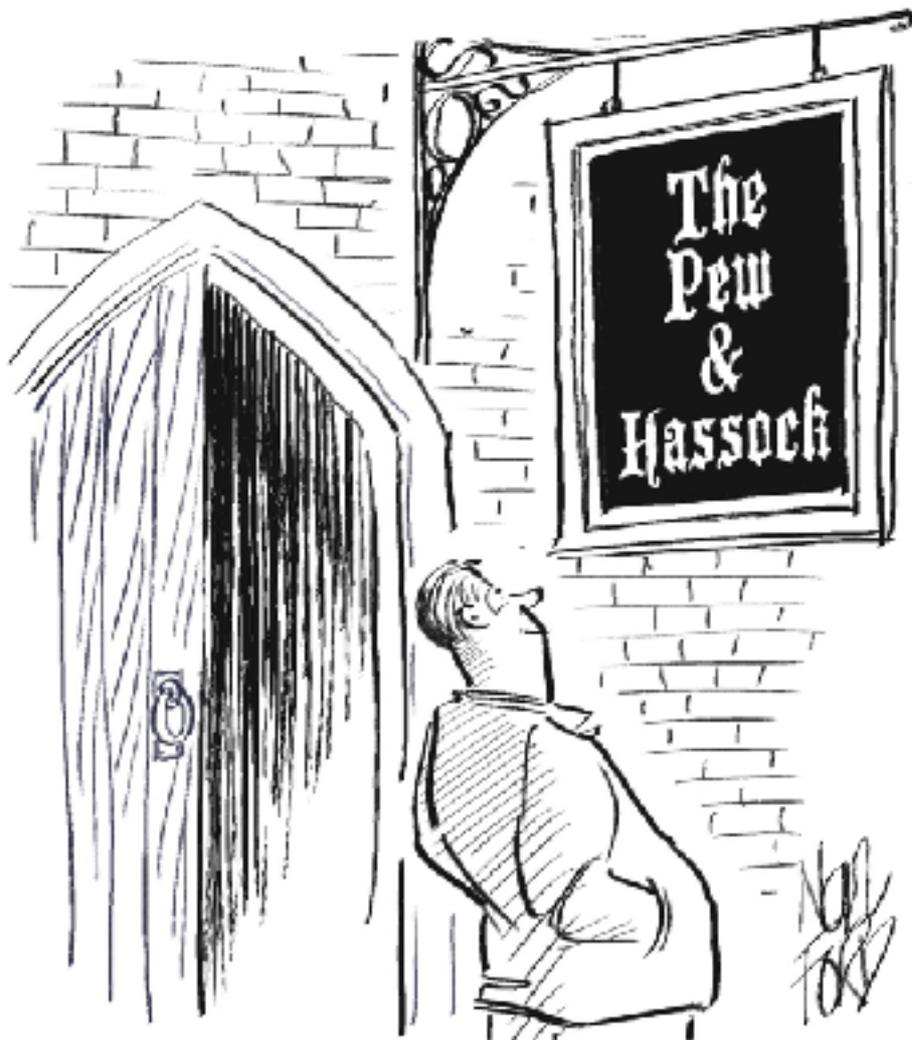
The next free monthly concert will be held on Saturday, 20th May at 1.10 pm with Michele Scopes playing the violin and accompanied by Abigail Wilsher on the piano. The concert they gave last year was most enjoyable so it would be lovely to see you there this year.

We are now rapidly approaching our Summer Fair which takes place on 17th June. We're sure Zanita, who always does a wonderful job,

will appreciate as much help as possible. If you are unable to help, just come along to the Fair and spend lots of money!

Enjoy the church summer activities.

Editorial Committee



Changing the name from 'St Mark's Parish Church', resulted in a big increase in the number of men attending services

Rector's Ramblings

The King of Kings

“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshipped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed. (Daniel 7:13-14 Niv2011UK)

Many people will be familiar with some of the stories found in the book of Daniel in the Bible. Such as Daniel's three friends and the fiery furnace; the writing on the wall and of course Daniel in the lion's den. But fewer are perhaps familiar with the second part of the book containing Daniel's prophecies of what was still to come. The above passage contains the victorious procession of a majestic coronation.

Here the setting is not Westminster but Heaven and not an earthly king but a heavenly one. Yet the splendour is not less than that on Saturday 6th May 2023, but far and away greater. This awe-inspiring depiction coincided with Jesus Christ's ascension, something that we will mark on the 18th of May when 40 days after Jesus' resurrection he ascended to be with his heavenly Father. From there King Jesus reigns with all authority, glory and power. From there he calls people from every tribe, tongue and nation to bow down and worship him in joyful reverence. He will rule forever and his kingdom shall never end.

Yet until he returns to rule from the Earth, nations will have kings, queens and leaders. Those who are wise recognise that they find their true leadership only under him. Seventy years ago, the late Queen Elizabeth II promised at her coronation that *“The things which I have here before promised, I will perform and keep. So help me God.”* We pray that His Majesty King Charles III will live by this oath. That his work and life would be modelled under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, the King of Kings. And while we celebrate the coronation of our new monarch we would raise our eyes and see the authority, glory and power of our eternal King and give Him praise.

Rev Tim Gage

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WOMEN'S SOCIAL

On the 16th March we visited Haskins Garden Centre, Littlehampton and then went to the Chalk Garden at Highdown, Worthing. The gardens were delightful and we spent a very pleasant hour or so enjoying the spring flowers and birdsong. We then had lunch in the tearoom.

On the 13th April Maggie K was delighted to welcome 18 members to her home for coffee and conversation. Thanks to Alma for her help.

Birthdays being celebrated in May are Suzanne (5th), Janet (18th) and Clare (28th). Many happy returns to you all.

Maggie Keeling



CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III AND QUEEN CAMILLA

SATURDAY, 6TH MAY 2023

This historic event will be shown on a big screen in St Peter's Church.

The church will be open from 10.00 a.m. and everyone is invited to join us. Refreshments will be available throughout the day.

Further details will be posted on our website nearer the date but if you intend to join us, please see the sign-up sheet at the back of church or telephone Maggie on 01273 501504.

The Coronation of King Charles III

On 6th May His Majesty King Charles III will be crowned alongside Camilla, The Queen Consort, in Westminster Abbey. How can we pray for him, as he approaches this important event? Paul says: 'I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.' (1 Timothy 2:1,2).

For God's presence – to guide every aspect of King Charles' life as he prepares for his Coronation and future roles. At his Accession, he was proclaimed Defender of the Faith, the Supreme Governor of the Church of England. Charles has talked about 'the Sovereign's particular relationship and responsibility towards the Church of England – the Church in which my own faith is so deeply rooted.'

For God's wisdom – as he provides leadership that will honour God and promote the wellbeing of our society. King Solomon prayed for wisdom for himself: 'So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong.' (1 Kings 3:9).

For God's love – to strengthen all relationships within the Royal Family; for reconciliation, understanding, forgiveness and good communication.

For God's purpose – to be fulfilled through the work of the King and Queen Consort and their family in the years to come. He has said: 'and whatever may be your background or beliefs, I shall endeavour to serve you with loyalty, respect and love, as I have throughout my life.'

A Prayer for the new King:

Everlasting God, we pray for our new King. Bless his reign and the life of our nation. Help us to work together so that truth and justice, harmony and fairness flourish among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Editor: By Canon Paul Hardingham

According to the Scriptures

We read these words, “according to the scriptures” or similar often in the New Testament and they appear approaching 300 times. What does it mean? What are the scriptures to which it refers?

We need to remember that the writers of the books making these statements were writing in the first century AD, between 40 at the earliest and just before 100 at the latest.

The earliest discussions regarding the New Testament canon took place in the 2nd century, but it was not until the 4th century that the canon was finally agreed upon by the majority of the Christian church.

In 367 AD, Athanasius, the bishop of Alexandria, wrote a letter in which he listed the 27 books of the New Testament that are now accepted as canon. This list was later confirmed by several church councils, including the Councils of Hippo (393 AD) and Carthage (397 AD).

It is important to note that there were still some disagreements and controversies even after the canon was officially agreed upon. For example, the Eastern Orthodox Church and the Oriental Orthodox Church have slightly different canons,

The “Scriptures” to which they referred for the first hundred years, were the Jewish Scriptures as the later NT ones had not yet been canonized as ‘scripture’. Indeed, in the 2nd century many Christians wanted to reject the Jewish Scriptures, but for the mainstream Church the Jewish Bible was a book already filled with Christ. The early Church’s Bible was wider than that of Orthodox Judaism by 100AD. It included the Apocrypha/Deutero-Canonical Books of the Septuagint (the Jewish-Greek translation quoted mostly in the NT writings).

The Jews of Palestine distinguished sharply between what were considered truly holy books and secondary writings, but outside Palestine there was more flexibility: e.g., Judith, Tobit, Wisdom, etc. – all were quoted in the first two centuries of the Church’s life. The later Eastern Church was more reserved about the Apocrypha though Antioch was more flexible than Alexandria. The West was always more ready to admit the Apocrypha (though Jerome and Hilary

inclined to the Hebrew Canon), but Augustine accepted the fuller Canon.

The Church took over, via Jesus, the Jewish idea of inspired scripture (also present in Greek pagan tradition). They all held that the whole of the book was in some sense inspired. But in general, the Fathers did not take up the popular Jewish idea of inspiration as a kind of possession (found in Philo) – all the main ones acknowledged that the human authors wrote under the guidance of the Spirit but without annulling their personal characteristics or reason. However, they never explored the matter further.

Inspiration being taken for granted, what then constituted exegesis, the art of interpretation? Especially, what was the relation of the OT to the NT – or originally to the revelation of Jesus Christ as attested by the Apostles? The Fathers took up Jesus and Paul's understanding that in Christ all was already prophesied in the OT: Messiahship, the Suffering Servant, the Kingdom, etc. All was, 'according to the scriptures. 1 Clement is a good example: the OT is the basic sourcebook for Christ, ministry, and liturgy; Justin claimed that the OT belongs more to Christians than to Jews! Testimonia were adduced (OT passages) to establish that fact – from the Psalms, Prophets (especially Jeremiah and Isaiah).

Marcion, the heretic thought there was no continuity between a (supposed!) OT God of wrath and the Jesus of the Gospels and Gnostics too contrasted the Law with the message of Jesus. A hidden Supreme God was supposed to be different from the Demiurge who made the world.

But Irenaeus argued for a process of revelation as education on God's part: God progressively revealed himself so that his message could culminate in Jesus. Prophecy which is obscure or enigmatic needs the light of Christ. The phrase eventually entered the Creed that the Holy Spirit has spoken through the prophets. God was one – and one only! Tertullian argued that the NT is concealed in the OT like a fruit in a seed – waiting to be drawn out. Eventually Augustine formulated it thus: 'In the OT the New is concealed, in the New the OT is revealed'.

William Holden

Based upon the online presentation on The Bible in the Early Church by Revd Dr Earl Collins, Diocesan CMD Officer & Vicar of St John the Baptist, Palmeria Square, Hove.

Keynotes Around the World

With Summer holidays fast approaching, we thought, just for a bit of fun, we could publish some photos each month of you on holiday reading Keynotes. Please send them to Mandy by WhatsApp 07900 545888 or email on mandycgander@icloud.com. Please send them together with some information about where the photo was taken and who you are with.

Thank you.



Ecumenics of a Crisis

During a recent ecumenical gathering, a secretary rushed in shouting, "The building is on fire".

The METHODISTS gathered in the corner and prayed. The BAPTISTS cried 'where is the water?' The ANGLICANS formed a procession and marched out. The QUAKERS quietly praised God for the blessings that fire brings. The LUTHERANS posted a notice on the door declaring the fire was evil. The ROMAN CATHOLICS passed the plate to cover the damage. The JEWS posted symbols on the door hoping the fire would pass over. The CONGREGATIONLISTS shouted 'every man for himself'. The FUNDAMENTALISTS proclaimed 'It's the vengeance of God!'. The CHARISMATICS praised God for another falling of the Holy Spirit. The CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS concluded that, actually, there was no fire. The PRESBYTERIANS appointed a chairperson who was to appoint a committee to look into the matter to submit a written report. The SECRETARY grabbed the fire extinguisher.

Anon



Our Charity for May

Chestnut Tree House

Their goal is to provide the best quality of life for children, young people and their families, and to offer practical, social and spiritual support throughout each child's life.

They are there to make sure that children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions and their families get all the care and support they need.

They will take some of the stresses away from your everyday life, so you can focus on making precious memories together as a family. From offering **help in your own home** to **activity days** and short breaks at the hospice, they provide specialist care while allowing kids to be kids and mums and dads to be just that.

Whatever your journey looks like, their team are there to support your family through the good days, the bad days and the last days in whatever way feels right for you.

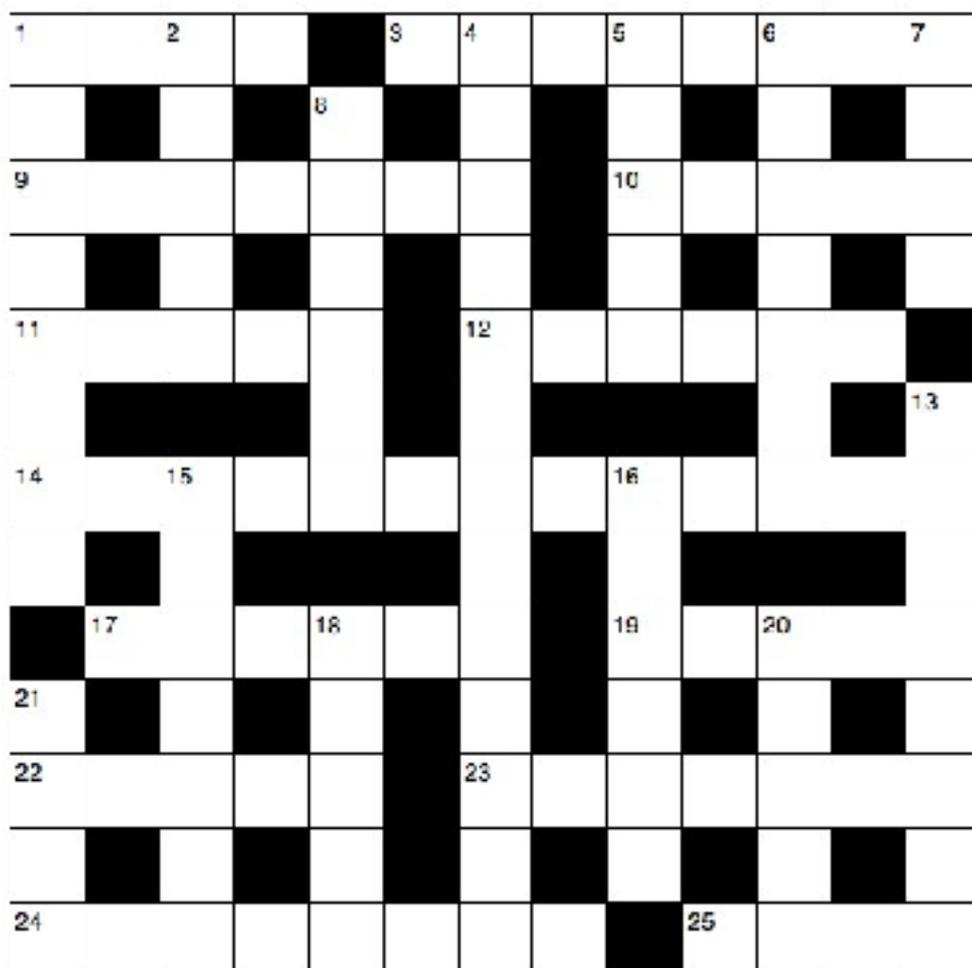
There is a donation box at the back of Church or you can donate online using 'Charity' as the reference.

Please support them if you can.

Crossword Clues

Across

- 1 'Therefore let us — passing judgment on one another' (Romans 14:13) (4)
 3 'I — — these persons here present' (Marriage service) (4,4)
 9 According to a prearranged timetable (Numbers 28:3) (7)
 10 Group of eight (5)
 11 The cell into which the Philippian jailer put Paul and Silas (Acts 16:24) (5)
 12 — Taylor, pioneer missionary to China (6)
 14 Otherwise known as the Eucharist, Breaking of Bread, the Lord's Table (4,9)
 17 'So that after I have preached to others, I — will not be disqualified for the prize' (1 Corinthians 9:27) (6)
 19 Attend to (3,2)
 22 Approximately (Acts 4:4) (5)
 23 Tea rite (anag.) (7)
 24 Rule of sovereign (8)
 25 Test (anag.) (4)



Down

- 1 The name of the street where Judas lived in Damascus and where Saul of Tarsus stayed (Acts 9:11) (8)
- 2 'The playing of the merry — , sweet singing in the choir' (5)
- 4 'We have been saying that — — was credited to him as righteous' (Romans 4:9) (8,5)
- 5 Dr Martyn — Jones, famous for his ministry at Westminster Chapel (5)
- 6 Port at which Paul landed on his way to Rome (Acts 28:13) (7)
- 7 Observe (Ruth 3:4) (4)
- 8 Minister of religion (6)
- 13 'I am — of this man's blood. It is your responsibility' (Matthew 27:24) (8)
- 15 'Greater love has no one than this, that he — — his life for his friends' (John 15:13) (3,4)
- 16 Archbishop who calculated that the world began in 4004BC (6)
- 18 'No one can — the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit' (John 3:5) (5)
- 20 Establish by law (5)
- 21 Product of Gilead noted for its healing properties (Jeremiah 46:11) (4)

**Come near to God and he will come near to you.
James 4:8**

Life abundant

Two students from a theological training college decided to spend part of their holiday in the countryside doing outreach. They stopped at an old farm house and proceeded up the path through a group of screaming children and a washing line heavy with wet clothes. When they got near the door, the woman of the house stopped scrubbing the steps, brushed her hair and perspiration from her brow, and asked them what they wanted. "We'd like to tell you how you can live forever," they answered.

The exhausted woman hesitated for a moment, and then replied, "Thank you, but I don't think I could stand it!"

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Pentecost Preaching by Steven Rolling
Based on Acts 2: 14-21
Tune: Wolvercote - 'O Jesus I have promised'

Peter at Pentecost did preach
To all nations did reach
When the Spirit came there then
They all in Him did share
It was prophecy fulfilled
Of Joel, as God willed
That He would pour out freely
His Spirit on us, see

And your sons and daughters shall
Prophecy, this know well
And young men, women, visions
Shall see, smoothly each runs
And old men, women, dream dreams
Enlightened by light's beams
Even to servants, handmaids
The Spirit poured, displayed

And they too shall prophesy
High and low, no deny
And the Lord will show wonders
Heaven, earth, active stirs
Wonders in heaven, and signs
In the earth, all aligns
With His purposes, vapour
Of smoke, blood, fire concur

The sun shall turn to darkness
And moon shine blood-red, yes
Before that great, notable
Day of the Lord to all
Shall appear, yet they who call
On Him be saved, not fall
The coming of the Spirit sure
Abides now evermore

Prayer List Requests

Each Sunday we pray for people in any kind of need.

These may be the names of people on the prayer list which is printed in the Pew Sheet each week. The names are not read out individually during Sunday Intercessions, but are prayed for individually at the monthly Wednesday Prayer Service.

This is a lovely, peaceful, prayerful time in The Old Church. Please join us.

The Prayer Together Services are always on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.45pm.



St Peter's Pastoral Care Group

Our Pastoral Care Group exists to offer entirely confidential help and support on any pastoral matter.

Perhaps you would like a friendly visitor for a good chat now and then, help with transport, a name included in our prayer list at Church, some professional advice which we can help find, or an offer of Communion at home?

Please contact, in the first instance, Carol Gander on 01273 555414.

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Did you know 10 Facts about King Charles III?

- 1 He was born at 9.14pm on 14th November 1948, to Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip, at Buckingham Palace in London.
- 2 He has been heir-apparent to the throne since he was three years old.
- 3 He is the first monarch in British history to have earned a university degree. From 1967 to 1970 he studied history at Cambridge University.
- 4 He can speak Welsh. He spent two months learning the language in 1969, as he prepared to become the Prince of Wales. He still speaks it today.
- 5 He is a qualified pilot and diver. While serving in the military in the 1970s, he trained as a jet and helicopter pilot and became a confident diver.
- 6 He is a keen watercolour painter, a published author, and a music lover, who played the cello at Cambridge. He has done some TV: making a guest appearance on Coronation Street, and presenting the BBC weather forecast.
- 7 As Prince of Wales, he founded nearly 20 charities. Together, they raise £140million each year for good causes. He is passionate about the environment, speaking out against plastic pollution as early as 1970. He has planted many trees during royal engagements.
- 8 Aged 73, King Charles III is the oldest monarch ever to be crowned in British history. He became King on 8th September 2022, after the death of his mother, the Queen, in Balmoral.
- 9 As head of the Commonwealth, King Charles III is monarch of each of the 14 Commonwealth realms: Antigua & Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Belize, Canada, Grenada, Jamaica, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, the Solomon Islands, and Tuvalu. As King, he's also the only person in the UK who can travel abroad in the Commonwealth without a passport and drive without a licence.
- 10 King Charles III has two children, Princes William and Harry, and five grandchildren. Prince William is next in line to become King and was named the Prince of Wales in 2022.

Sussex Wildlife Trust is an independent charity caring for wildlife and habitats

Nightingale by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

My bottom desk drawer is a graveyard, the final resting place for the obsolete. A broken calculator, foreign coins, buttons and a Maxell C90 cassette given to me a few years ago. I had no means of playing it until I recently discovered my clunky cassette deck hiding in the garage.

An accompanying note says the tape contains “the song of a Nightingale in the churchyard of St John sub Castro, Lewes, spring 1985”. It was recorded by a lady called Barbara from an upstairs window in neighbouring Lancaster Street. After some dusting, re-wiring, buzzing and hissing the sweet sound that swirled from my speakers transported me back over three decades to a time when Reagan negotiated with Thatcher, Paul Hardcastle’s na-na-na-Nineteen topped the charts and a Nightingale sang in St John sub Castro.

To be frank, Nightingales aren’t much to look at. Small brown birds; a Robin without the redbreast. But when they open their beak there’s a Susan Boyle-like transformation. These drab birds become the world’s most celebrated vocalists. For centuries, poets have praised their performance. Homer, Shakespeare, Coleridge, Wordsworth, Clare, Keats, Dylan and Cohen. Shelley claimed, “A poet is a Nightingale who sits in darkness, and sings to cheer its own solitude with sweet sounds”. Trust young Percy Bysshe to believe the bird was wallowing in its own self-pity. The Nightingale’s song is actually both an aggressive war-cry and a sweet, structured sonnet. A hymn to the silence in the hope of enticing a passing female.

The Nightingale’s optimistic warbles have inspired everyone from the late Vera Lynn to Roxy Music. A BBC recording of a bird singing in Oxted in 1942 inadvertently captured the roar of Lancasters, Wellingtons, Stirlings and Halifaxes passing overhead laden with bombs destined for Germany. The contrast between innocence and beauty, terror and destruction make it the most powerful sound I have ever heard.

Nightingales will sing by day but are most famous for never letting up when the sun sets, their beautiful phrasing carrying loud and clear over the muffled grunts and hoots of other nocturnal animals. Once the Nightingale has hooked a partner his nocturnal performances will stop, so there's a narrow window to hear them. Our Nightingales spend the winter south of the Sahara in a wide belt between Senegal and Kenya, usually returning in late April.

Due to habitat destruction the UK population of this amazing bird –so entwined in our cultural heritage – is in a steep decline. The sound of a Nightingale singing in the centre of Lewes may have been relegated to the bottom drawer of history but we are blessed to still have this bird performing in our Sussex woodlands. We must never let their song of hope be silenced forever.



People and Places of the Bible

Cleopas

All we know for certain about Cleopas is what is mentioned in St Luke's Gospel.

Some scholars have suggested that he may have been the husband of one of the women who were present at the crucifixion and the empty tomb, but this is purely speculative. There is also a tradition that he may have been one of the seventy disciples mentioned in the Gospel of Luke, but this is also uncertain.

We know from St Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, 15.6, that Jesus appeared to 500 people, and Cleopas could have been one of these.

The Mount of Olives

Mount of Olives, is a multi-summit limestone ridge just east of the Old City of Jerusalem and separated from it by the Kidron Valley. Frequently mentioned in the Bible and later religious literature, it is holy to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The peak usually regarded as the Mount of Olives proper is the southern summit, 2,652 feet (808 metres) above sea level. The middle peak 2,645 feet (806 metres) is crowned by the Augusta Victoria Hospital. At the north is the highest peak, commonly called Mount Scopus 2,694 feet (820 metres).

First mentioned in the Bible as the "ascent of the Mount of Olives" (2 Samuel 15), it is referred to in the book of Zechariah in the prophecy of the end of days (Zechariah 14).

The Mount of Olives is frequently mentioned in the New Testament. From it Jesus entered Jerusalem at the beginning of the last week of his life (Matthew 21:1; Mark 11:1). Two days before the Crucifixion, in his so-called Olivet Discourse, he foretells the destruction of Jerusalem and the end of the world (Matthew 24–25; Mark 13; Luke 21). The traditional site of the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus prayed just before he was betrayed by Judas Iscariot (Matthew 26; Mark 14), is on the western slopes. Finally, after the Resurrection, Jesus is reported to have ascended into heaven from the Mount of Olives (Acts 1:9–12); Luke mentions that the Ascension occurred on a location there near the village of Bethany (Luke 24:50–51).

William Holden. Compiled from various sources.

Small Donations Scheme

We have reintroduced the above scheme, or SDS, which ran very successfully up to several years ago. The idea is to give people the opportunity to make a donation towards the cost of items which are one-off purchases or materials which we use. These donations are not regular but are on an “as and when able” basis which may be something in which they are interested.

The next edition of Keynotes will then contain a “thank you” notice for the gift which can be anonymous or include the sponsor’s name.

Mandy has produced a list of items which may appeal to the congregation and any discussion can be held in confidence with her. This list includes the following;

Coffee	£	5.50
Easter Flowers	£	80.16
Annual organ tuning fee	£	185.00
Easter Paschal candle	£	47.94
Candle Oil	£	61.13
Monthly website fee	£	19.34
Altar Breads for communion	£	10.94
Monthly CAF Bank account fee	£	5.00

Thank you for your sponsorship

Our grateful thanks go to the person who wishing to remain anonymous, very kindly donated £10 to pay for Sunday morning refreshments.

If you would like to make a donation to help with the funding of some of the items of expenditure in and around our Church then please contact Mandy Gander, our Treasurer.

REGULAR WEEKLY SERVICES

SUNDAY

10.00 am Parish Eucharist with Sunday School (except for the first Sunday of the month)

1st Sunday of the month at 4.00 pm - St Peter's @ 4 family service

1st Wednesday of the month at 7.45 pm - Prayer Together

10.00 am Online service via Youtube
or via your telephone by dialling 01273 071150



The Rector is always available for spiritual counsel and healing prayer

**FRIDAYS AT ST PETER'S
St Peter's 'Open Church' drop-in**

**The First Friday of each month
10.30am – 12noon**

For coffee, conversation and companionship.

**We are open between 10.30am and 12 noon for you to
'drop-in' for a coffee, piece of cake and a chat.
A very warm welcome awaits you, so please do 'drop-in'
we'd love to see you.**

**So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you
need before you ask Him.
Matthew 6:8**

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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR GARDEN?

- 1) Start planting out summer bedding plants towards the end of the month.
- 2) Look after your finished spring bulbs for next year. Once they have gone over, let the foliage break down on its own.
- 3) Thin out drifts of hardy annuals.
- 4) Harden off half-hardy plants by leaving them outside during the day and bringing them back under cover at night for 7 to 10 days before planting outdoors.
- 5) Plant up summer hanging baskets, adding good quality compost, slow release fertiliser and water retaining crystals to keep them in top condition.
- 6) Harden off Dahlias and Canna Lilies for planting as soon as the risk of frost has passed.
- 7) Continue dividing herbaceous border perennials to improve and create new plants.
- 8) Divide established clumps of Hostas.
- 9) Trim back spreading plants such as Aubretia, Alyssum and Candytuft after they have flowered.
- 10) Prune Penstemons now.
- 11) Tie in Sweet Peas to encourage them to climb.

12) Cut back flowered shoots of Choisya to promote a second flush in autumn.

13) Look out for signs of blackspot on Roses. If discovered, treat with a systemic fungicide.

14) Apply lawn weedkiller to your lawn this month.

15) Lower mower blades to their regular summer-cut height.

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COME INTO MY KITCHEN.....

This recipe is a classic, simple dish, ideal for supper.

CHICKEN SUPREME

SERVES 2

2 chicken breasts
1 tbsp olive oil
50g smoked bacon lardons
2 long shallots, finely chopped
2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
150ml white wine
100ml double cream
1tsp Dijon mustard
flat-leaf parsley, chopped, to garnish

Heat the oven to 200c/180C fan/gas 6.

Heat a heavy-bottomed, non-stick pan over a medium-high heat. Season the chicken well, then put into the pan, skin-side down. Cook for 5-6 minutes or until the skin is really crisp and golden.

Put onto baking tray, skin-side down, and roast for 10 mins until cooked through.

Move onto a plate, cover loosely and rest for 5-10 minutes.

Put the oil in the pan used for the chicken and cook the lardons for 5 mins until they are beginning to brown, then tip in the shallots with a pinch of salt, turn the heat to medium and cook for a further 5 mins until softened. Add the garlic and cook for a minute before pouring in the wine and bubbling until reduced by half.

Pour in the cream, add the mustard and bubble until thick and saucy. Season, add any resting juices from the chicken and some chopped parsley over.

Serve with rice, chips, or mash and some green vegetables.

And something a little different –

CAJUN COD WITH BLACK BEAN SALSA

SERVES 2

2tsp Cajun spice mixture

juice ½ lime

1tsp runny honey

2 cod fillets (or any sustainable white fish), skin, on or off, depending on preference

SALSA

400g tin black beans, drained and rinsed

1 long shallot, diced

6 cherry tomatoes, diced

2tsp chopped coriander

1 avocado, chopped

juice of 1 lime

1tsp extra-virgin olive oil

1 red chilli, finely chopped

TO SERVE

Roasted sweet potato

Steamed broccoli

Heat the oven to 200C/180C fan oven/gas 6.

Mix together the Cajun spice, lime juice and the honey in a bowl and then coat the fish with the marinade. Season and roast for 8-10 mins or until cooked through.

Meanwhile mix together the salsa ingredients in a bowl.

Serve the cod and salsa with the roasted sweet potato and steamed broccoli.

Finally

CHICORY AND APPLE SALAD WITH CANDIED WALNUTS

SERVES 2 AS A STARTER OR SIDE DISH

30g walnut halves
2½ tsp caster sugar
½ shallot, minced
40ml white wine vinegar
1tbsp wholegrain mustard
40ml extra-virgin olive oil
180g red chicory leaves
½ Cox apple, cored and thinly sliced
1 small celery stick, thinly sliced diagonally
60g soft goat's cheese, crumbled.

Heat the oven to 190C/170Cfan/gas .

Line a small baking tray with baking paper. Moisten the walnuts with ½ tbsp. of water, then toss in 2tsp of the sugar. Spread over the baking sheet and bake for 10-12 minutes or until golden brown and caramelised. Cool, then roughly chop.

Meanwhile, mix together the shallot, vinegar, mustard and remaining sugar in a bowl. Slowly drizzle in the oil, whisking until emulsified. Season to taste.

Put the chicory, apple and celery in a large bowl and toss together with a little of the dressing.

Divide between plates and scatter over the walnuts and goat's cheese.

Serve with more of the dressing to drizzle over.

Maggie

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West Blatchington***

FREE LUNCHTIME CONCERT SERIES

Our afternoon concert series continues with

**Michele Scopes - violin
Abigail Wilsher - piano**

1.10 p.m. on Saturday 20th May

The Recital is for approximately 40 minutes

Refreshments provided.

**There is no admission charge, but donations to fund
future concerts will be gratefully accepted.**

All welcome!



May - Seasons, Festivals & Saints Days

16th May – Caroline Chisholm.

Caroline Chisholm was a British social reformer and philanthropist born in 1808. She is known for her advocacy work for the welfare of female immigrants in Australia during the 19th century. She married Captain Archibald Chisholm, who was later posted to India, where Caroline first saw the effects of poverty and poor living conditions on women and children.

After moving to Australia in 1838, Caroline observed the difficulties faced by female immigrants who arrived in the country without any support system, often ending up destitute and homeless. She established the Female Immigrants' Home in Sydney, where female immigrants could stay, receive training, and find employment opportunities. She also established a shelter for homeless women and children, and later helped establish the Family Colonisation Loan Society, which provided loans to families to purchase land and establish themselves in Australia.

Caroline's work was widely recognised, and she received support from prominent figures, including Charles Dickens and Queen Victoria. She returned to England in 1846 and continued her advocacy work, helping to improve the conditions of female immigrants and campaigning for their rights.

Caroline Chisholm died in 1877, and her legacy continues to inspire social reformers and philanthropists to this day. She is remembered as a pioneering advocate for women's rights and social welfare.

18th May - Ascension Day - Forty Days with the Risen Christ

The Gospels give us little of Christ's teachings and deeds during those forty days.

According to the New Testament, Jesus appeared to numerous people after his resurrection and before his ascension. The exact number of appearances varies depending on the biblical account. The following are some of the appearances of Jesus after his resurrection:

- The women who visited Jesus' tomb on the first day of the week (Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-18).
- Two disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-32).
- The apostles, except for Thomas, on the evening of the first day of the week (John 20:19-23).
- The apostles, including Thomas, eight days later (John 20:24-29).
- Seven of the disciples by the Sea of Galilee (John 21:1-23).
- To more than 500 people at once (1 Corinthians 15:6).
- To James, Jesus' brother (1 Corinthians 15:7).
- To the apostles at his ascension into heaven (Acts 1:1-11).

He strengthened and encouraged his disciples, and not just the twelve, at last opening their eyes to what the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah. He also told them that as the Father had sent him, he was now going to send them - to all corners of the earth, as his witnesses.

Surely the most tender, moving 'farewell' in history took place on Ascension Day. Luke records the story with great poignancy: "When Jesus had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands - and blessed them."

As Christmas began the story of Jesus' life on earth, so Ascension Day completes it, with his return to his Father in heaven. Jesus' last act on earth was to bless his disciples. He and they had a bond as close as could be: they had just lived through three tumultuous years of public ministry and miracles – persecution and death – and resurrection! Just as we part from our nearest and dearest by still looking at them with love and memories in our eyes, so exactly did Jesus: "While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven." (Luke 24:50-1) He was not forsaking them, but merely going on ahead to a kingdom which would also be theirs one day: "I am ascending to my Father and to your Father, to my God and your God..." (John 20:17)

Sunday 28th May – Pentecost

The Church Feast of Pentecost, is a significant event in the Christian calendar celebrated on the fiftieth day after Easter Sunday. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and

other followers of Jesus Christ, as described in the New Testament book of Acts.

According to the Bible, after Jesus' ascension into heaven, the disciples gathered in Jerusalem for the Jewish festival of Pentecost, also known as the Feast of Weeks, or the Feast of the Harvest. Suddenly, a rushing wind filled the house where they were staying, and tongues of fire appeared above their heads. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in different languages, which amazed the crowds outside who had gathered for the festival.

Pentecost is often called the "birthday of the Church" because it marks the moment when the Apostles and other followers of Jesus were empowered by the Holy Spirit to spread the message of Christianity, the Gospel, throughout the world. This event is considered to be the beginning of the Christian Church and the fulfilment of Jesus' promise to send the Holy Spirit to guide and strengthen his followers.

The Church feast of Pentecost is an important reminder of the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Christians. It is a time to reflect on the gifts of the Spirit, such as wisdom, understanding, and love, and to renew our commitment to spreading the message of Christ's love and salvation to all people.

Compiled and adapted by William Holden from various sources.

Blessing

It was the five-year-old boy's first trip down to the Communion rail at church. Fascinated, he watched the vicar place a wafer in the palm of each person kneeling before him. When the vicar reached the little boy, he ignored the child's out-stretched palm, and laid his hand on the child's head in a gentle blessing instead. The boy, utterly bewildered, whispered to his father in a piercing voice; "He's put it on my head!"

Pentecost Prayer

How much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him... (Luke 11:13b)

Heavenly Father,

In these troubled times we need your help, just like those first disciples did when Jesus came back to you after his resurrection. They must have wanted him to stay with them. They must have felt puzzled and bereft – and wondered how to go on.

But you, Lord, knew a better way. You sent them a helper, the Holy Spirit to fill them with your life. We thank you so much that the same Spirit will be our helper too, if we are willing to ask you for him. We will be able to face each day, each challenge, with your Spirit living in us to guide and empower us, to enable us to carry on even when we don't understand.

So, we pray, come Holy Spirit, fill us, encourage us to carry on sharing your love and life and truth, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

By Daphne Kitching



CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS 2024

Chichester Cathedral Festival of Flowers will take place from 5th – 8th June 2024 with over 60 floral arrangements planned by Festival Designer Hannah Howell.

For 2024, as part of the Cathedral's sustainability plans, the Festival is working towards being foam-free. Church flower arrangers from across the diocese are invited to a special event where Hannah will demonstrate the use of floral foam alternatives. This free event will take place in the Cathedral Nave on Monday, 24th July at 1.00pm. A video will be available after the event for those unable to attend the demonstration.

We would also like to extend an invitation to church flower arrangers across the Diocese to join as an arranger for the Festival. This can be as an individual or part of a team. Arrangers will work with the designer to produce an arrangement based on the Festival design.

For more information about joining the Festival of Flowers as an arranger or to attend the demonstration on 24th July, please contact Rhona Scott, Festival of Flowers Co-ordinator at flowerfestival@chichestercathedral.org.uk

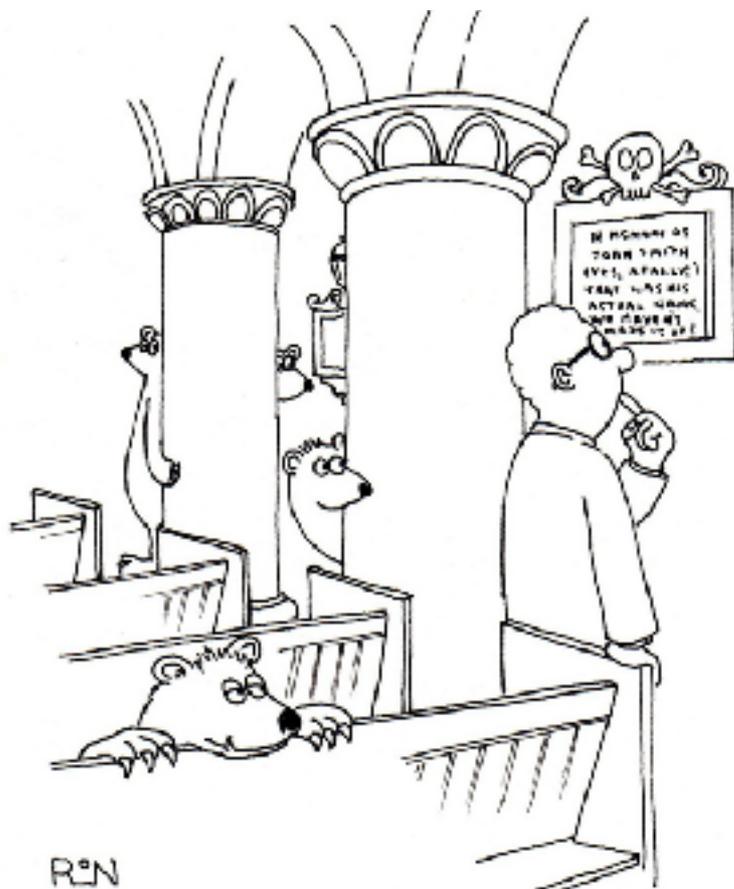
When Children and RE mix...

When children meet the Bible, the result can be unpredictable. As in these answers to a school chaplain's efforts to teach RE....

- ~ The main purpose of the prophets was to set up the lights for when Jesus came on the stage.
- ~ The Kingdom of God is no ordinary place like the bathroom at home.
- ~ Jesus said: If you want to divorce your wife leave a note for her on the table.
- ~ Jesus healed a man with a weathered hand.
- ~ Some of the seed from the sower was carried off by Satan.
- ~ The last verses of Mark's gospel were written later by a unanimous person.
- ~ Jesus first proclaimed the gospel to the Jews: He told them to make love to each other.

- ~ An altar is a stall for candles.
- ~ An example of Holy Orders are the Ten Commandments.
- ~ An epistle is the wife of an apostle.

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*Dennis spent a long time in church
looking for his forbears*

The Early Church Fathers

The Early Church Fathers were the influential leaders and theologians of the Christian Church in the first few centuries after the birth of Christ. They were the pioneers who laid the foundation of Christian doctrine, shaped the understanding of the Bible, and defended the faith against various heresies and challenges. Their writings and teachings continue to have a profound impact on Christian theology and practice even today.

The term "Early Church Fathers" is generally used to refer to the influential leaders and theologians of the Christian Church who lived in the first few centuries after Christ. The exact period covered can vary depending on the context and the author, but it usually includes the period from the apostolic era, 33AD, to the end of the 8th century.

The Early Church Fathers were diverse in terms of their background, nationality, and theological perspectives. They came from various regions of the Roman Empire, including North Africa, Egypt, Syria, Greece, and Rome. They included bishops, priests, monks, and laypeople. Some were Jewish converts, while others came from pagan or Gnostic backgrounds. Despite these differences, they all shared a common commitment to the Christian faith and a desire to understand and explain its doctrines.

The Early Church Fathers played a crucial role in shaping the development of Christian doctrine and practice. They did this in several ways:

1. Defending the faith against heresies:
2. Interpreting the Bible:
3. Developing liturgical practices:
4. Writing theological works:

The Early Church Fathers played a crucial role in the development of Christian doctrine. They helped to articulate and defend the orthodox understanding of key doctrines such as the Trinity, the incarnation of Christ, and the nature of salvation. Their writings continue to be studied and referenced by theologians and scholars.

There were many important Church Fathers, but some of the most influential include:

1. Clement of Rome (c. 35-99): Clement was the Bishop of Rome and is one of the first Church Fathers. He wrote a letter to the Corinthians that is still read in some churches today and it is regarded as a significant early Christian document.
2. Ignatius of Antioch (c. 35-107): Ignatius was the Bishop of Antioch and was known for his writings on the importance of unity within the Church. He was martyred for his faith and is one of the earliest advocates of the episcopal form of church governance.
3. Polycarp (c. 69-155): Polycarp was the Bishop of Smyrna and was a disciple of the Apostle John. He was known for his defence of the faith against heresies and was martyred for his beliefs.
4. Irenaeus (c. 130-202): Irenaeus was the Bishop of Lyons and is best known for his writings against Gnosticism. He is one of the most important early Christian theologians and his work had a significant impact on the development of Christian doctrine.
5. Tertullian (c. 155-240): Tertullian was a prolific writer and is regarded as one of the founders of Western theology. He wrote extensively on a wide range of theological topics and is known for his defines of the doctrine of the Trinity.
6. Origen (c. 184-253): Origen was a theologian and Biblical scholar who is known for his allegorical interpretation of scripture. His work had a significant impact on the development of Christian theology and his writings continue to be studied and debated today.
7. Athanasius (c. 296-373): Athanasius was the Bishop of Alexandria and is best known for his defence of the orthodox understanding of the Trinity against the heresy of Arianism. His writings played a significant role in shaping the development of Christian doctrine.
8. Augustine (354-430): Augustine was one of the most important Church Fathers and is regarded as one of the most influential Christian thinkers in history. He wrote extensively on a wide range of theological topics and his work had a significant impact on the development of Christian doctrine, particularly in the areas of original sin, predestination, and grace.

These are just a few of the many important Church Fathers who played a significant role in shaping the development of Christian theology and practice in the early centuries of the Church. Their writings and teachings continue to be studied and revered by

Christians around the world, and their legacy continues to have a profound impact on the Church today. I will write more about some of them in future issues.

William Holden.

Drawn from various sources.

Crossword Answers

ACROSS: 1, Stop. 3, Call upon. 9, Regular. 10, Octet. 11, Inner. 12, Hudson. 14, Holy Communion. 17, Myself. 19, See to. 22, About. 23, Iterate. 24, Monarchy. 25, Stet.

DOWN: 1, Straight. 2, Organ. 4, Abraham's faith. 5, Lloyd. 6, Puteoli. 7, Note. 8, Cleric. 13, Innocent. 15, Lay down. 16, Ussher. 18, Enter. 20, Enact. 21, Balm.

MONEY MATTERS - Figures for March 2023

Receipts

Planned Giving	£	3086
Income tax recovered	£	600
Community Centre Income	£	1039
Collections/other giving	£	80
Keynotes subs & adverts	£	300
Pay Donation Station/Sundry Donations	£	322
PCC Fees	£	54
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£	5431

Payments

Parish Contribution	£	6304
Salaries	£	717
Utilities and Insurance	£	437
Church maintenance	£	419
Rectory	£	315
Community Centre running costs	£	515
Upkeep of services	£	64
Church running expenses	£	746
Photocopying costs	£	432
Sum Up/Bank Charges	£	37
PCC Reimbursement of expenses	£	577
Charity donation	£	95
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£	10658

Year to date deficit £8,896



Date	Reading, Commemorations & Intentions Calendar for May (year C)
MON 1ST	Our Sidespeople
TUES 2ND	The spread of the Gospel
WEDS 3RD	Local businesses
THURS 4TH	Hove Deanery Synod
FRI 5TH	Our Churchwardens
SAT 6TH	Archdeacon Martin
SUN 7TH	Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 7. 55-end 1 Peter 2. 2-10 John 14.1-14
MON 8TH	Diocesan Synod
TUES 9TH	Bishop Martin
WEDS 10TH	Our Serving Team
THURS 11TH	All Patrons and Boards of Patronage
FRI 12TH	All those responsible for transporting our food
SAT 13TH	Bishop Will
SUN 14TH	Sixth Sunday of Easter Acts 17. 22-31 1 Peter 3. 13-end John 14. 15-21
MON 15TH	A deeper understanding of our calling to follow Christ

TUES 16TH	Social Workers
WEDS 17TH	School Governors
THURS 18TH	Ascension Day Aldrington School
FRI 19TH	Our Sunday School and Leaders
SAT 20TH	All construction workers
SUN 21ST	Seventh Sunday of Easter Acts 1. 6-14 1 Peter 68. 1-10, 32-end John 17. 1-11
MON 22ND	Those taking care of the Holy Places
TUES 23RD	Kings School
WEDS 24TH	Gill Evans our organist and choir
THURS 25TH	Our local hospitals
FRI 26TH	Our Pastoral Care Committee
SAT 27TH	All chaplains to the forces
SUN 28TH	Pentecost Acts 2. 1-21 1 Corinthians 12. 3b-13 John 20. 19-23
MON 29TH	The Women's Social Group
TUES 30TH	Our Bloomers Flower Group
WEDS 31ST	The Gardening Team

And finally.....

Coronation Prayer 2023

Almighty God, On the occasion of the crowning of King Charles 111, we, the people, pray for him.

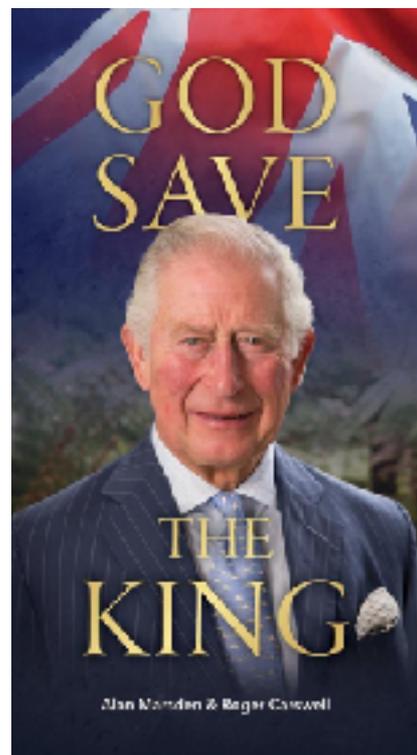
We thank you for him and for the calling on his life and we recognise the weight of responsibility that puts upon him. We know that he will need your help, Lord. We know that he will face many challenges, as did his mother, Queen Elizabeth.

We ask, that, as he is anointed with oil, you will anoint him with your Holy Spirit, so that he will know in his heart, as his mother knew, that Jesus is alive and able to help him fulfil his unique vocation.

We pray that in all the days he serves as King, he will be aware that first and foremost he serves you, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. May his reign be one of wisdom, vision and integrity, inspired by your Kingdom values.

May your name be honoured and glorified throughout this land, Lord, as we pray, **God save the King!**

By Daphne Kitching



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