

March Newsletter

Easter falls relatively early this year at the very end of March – incidentally on the same day which the clocks move forward one hour. I love the change to lighter evenings when we enter British Summer Time, but before we get there we still have some more weeks of winter to get through. And it's the same with Easter – I'm actually writing this on Ash Wednesday which means that there are forty days (plus Sundays) of Lent to get through before we get to celebrate the joy of the Easter Resurrection.

Lent is a season which the Church recognises as a time of penitence – no flowers, the colour purple, no 'Alleluias'. It's a time when we reflect on where we are with God and hopefully make an effort to draw closer to him. It's a season that grows in intensity as we follow the events which lead to the suffering, betrayal and crucifixion of Jesus.

It all sounds a bit gloomy, but luckily the Christian faith is built on hope in Jesus. As Christians we recognise that Jesus died for us; through him death and sin has been conquered and we are forgiven, and through his resurrection he has shown us that death is no more and one day he will finally consummate a new creation which we are all invited to be part of.

Meanwhile whilst we wait creation still suffers; war, famine, illness, death, climate change ... I could go on. But look around you - the trees are coming into blossom and plants are bursting into life and as sure as spring follows winter we know that after Lent there will be Easter; "See, I am making all things new", says the Lord (Revelation 21:5)

God bless

Revd Sue

If you would like to talk please contact me on 01327 341307 stanley.thehole@btinternet.com

The Lent Course will be held in Maidford Village Hall at 7pm on Tuesday evenings starting on Tuesday 27th February – this year we are following 'The Prayer Course'. For details of our Lent, Holy Week and Easter services please see the list at the back of this magazine.