

Devoted to
Christ

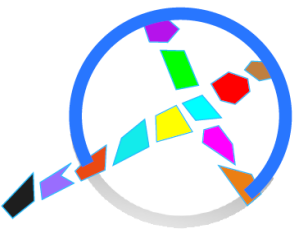
Dedicated to
Community

March &
April
2018

everlasting
dust
Lamb
confession
grave
cruelty
black
atonement
absolution
Friday
crucified
church
Spirit
thorns
resurrection
disciple
bruised
faith
death
bread
agony
crown
suffering
violet
loved
Thursday
grace
wine
shed
pain
Maundy
palm
nails
Lord
Sunday
living
peter
life
trust
impossible
surrender
buried
holy
ashes
fast
broken
Jesus
Saviour
punishment
sin
repent
redemption
saw
supper
prayer
sacrifice
prepare
repentance
truth
tomb
witnesses
wilderness
tempted
contemplate
Easter
blood
darkness
gospel
Jerusalem
hope
ground
Good
Christ
salvation
sacrament
Saturday
last
Christ
witnesses
wilderness
tempted
contemplate
Easter
blood
darkness
gospel
Jerusalem

new winepress

40p



Christ
Church
Orpington

Jay's Jottings

May I begin by thanking so many of you for your kind words and good wishes as I come to the end of my ministry here in Orpington. It has been a privilege to minister here with so many wonderful, committed Christians! Christ Church has given my family and I so much love and support, and, as my wife Jo said at the 'leaving do' on Saturday 27th January, you've enabled us to be ourselves. Thank you.

As I finish work at the beginning of February, the observant amongst you will notice from the last issue of Winepress that I'm not licensed until April. Well, what am I doing in between apart from moving home, office and getting to know a new community? I'm having an operation. I had hoped to have a mini sabbatical between jobs, for a time of refreshment, regeneration and refocus. (This had been booked later in May 2018 but the move made this impossible). So, instead I'm having an operation.

When I was 30 years old, completely out of the blue, I had very strong abdominal pains. After a doctor came out to see me in agony (and then went away again) we called the ambulance. I had developed a hole in my stomach. The contents of my stomach were seeping into my abdomen and slowly contaminating my major organs. This is called peritonitis and if left for any length of time, it will kill you. Thankfully, I was rushed into hospital and spent 6 weeks recovering.

Since that time, I have had to control a range of symptoms medically and (try to) adjust my diet. After 20 years, of this (and regular 5-yearly medical MOT's) the doctors have decided that I need an operation to alleviate some of my symptoms.

So, I hope that the operation helps. It should do, but it may not eliminate my condition.

Struggling with long term (chronic) ill health is an experience of many people. St. Paul was one of them:

I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. (2 Cor 12 v 7-10)

This passage raises difficult questions.

- Does God make people suffer? No, but God seems to allow suffering in people even when He is not the cause of it.
- Why did Paul suffer? We don't know, and neither did he. However, in trying to make sense of it, he finds that suffering (for him) has a refining effect. It refines his faith and trust in God. It leads Paul to depend upon God when he can't depend upon his body.

- How does the refining process help? It builds a spiritual resilience that Paul is able to translate into other areas of his life.
- So how does Paul feel about his suffering in the end? Ultimately, he is glad of it, because it has refined him and taught him more about himself and God.

I know, especially in the lives of members of my family that chronic pain and suffering can be incredibly debilitating. If I'm honest, there does not seem to be a lot of (visible or evident) point to it. Like Job (another character in the Bible) we can get angry, frustrated and bitter about suffering after a period of time. We don't understand it and we don't see an end to it - at not least in this life.

Christianity has never offered easy answers to the subject of suffering. Yet, one thing that is a strong theme running through the New Testament is that Jesus can and does meet us in our suffering, and somehow, redeems it. He suffered dreadfully on the cross. The suffering seemed pointless and looked like a defeat. Yet, Jesus was able to turn it around and use it for good – resurrection life, offered to all.

This doesn't negate the suffering that He went through, nor does it negate yours. Rather, Christians don't believe that suffering is an end to itself. We cannot always see what it is leading to, but we believe that a Saviour who entered into suffering, does not abandon us.

After my operation, I have to convalesce for 4-6 weeks. I'm not very good at that. Yet I

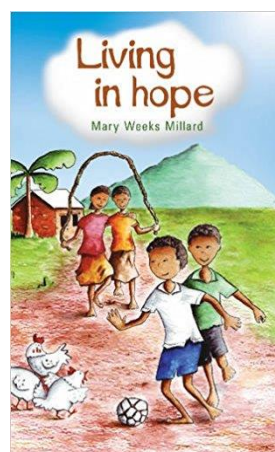
will try to use it as time to rest, and rely upon the Saviour who is with me.

As I sign off from Jay's Jottings after nearly fifteen years, I pray that you will know God's presence in times of suffering, and that you can rely upon the Saviour who is with you as well.

In His service,
Jay



Book Review



Living in Hope by
Mary Weeks Millard

I really enjoyed this book because it was simple but written cleverly. I think it is a great idea and it is really gripping. Shema is my favourite character because he finds planes really fascinating. The creativeness of the children is really good and it seems really realistic. The characters are very detailed and are described in depth. The title suggests this is about hope but it is actually about a village called Hope.

I really like this book
and I'd recommend you to read it.

Alfie Beston

How many of the 10 Commandments do you keep?

Moses may have brought 10 Commandments down from Mt Sinai, but nowadays it seems that many British Christians take only the final six of them seriously.

And so it is that most British Christians still believe that it is not a good idea to dishonour your father and mother, commit adultery, covet others' possessions, bear false witness, steal, or commit murder.

But they say they are not so bothered about the first four – the requirement to have no other gods before God, not to worship idols, not to use the Lord's name in vain, and to keep the Sabbath day holy. They say these are no longer 'important principles to live by', according to a YouGov poll.

And yet, it is hard to understand how someone who worships another god first, could still be considered a Christian, for whom 'Jesus is Lord'. It is a logical impossibility.

The real message of Easter

'When you die, that's it. Nothing. Out like a light.' That's what the man in the pub said, and his mates all nodded, though the one whose mother had died the week before wasn't really quite so certain.

Still, it seemed to make sense. After all, we know what 'dead' means: dead leaves, dead batteries, dead fish, dead pets . . . and dead people, to be honest. While we recognise that it's all too easy to go from alive to dead, we've got serious doubts

about the possibility of any return journeys.

Which is why Christians have an uphill task at Easter. Jesus was a great man, and people want to remember how He died. Fair enough. But it starts getting complicated when Christians insist that Jesus died but *didn't stay dead* - in fact, that He's alive now. That 'return journey' has happened, they say.

That's the problem about Easter. Christians persisting in what sounds like a ridiculous belief. If they just dropped the resurrection bit, and concentrated on the wonderful teaching of Jesus and His example of generosity, compassion and love then everybody would find Christianity much more believable. Wouldn't that make sense? And wouldn't that fill the churches again?

Well it might (or, more likely, it might not). But in any case, the trouble is that it wouldn't be Christianity at all. The faith of Christians actually depends on the resurrection of Jesus, and always has done, right from the earliest days. After the crucifixion the body of Jesus was taken down from the cross by some of His friends and put in a rock tomb with a heavy stone. But after His death, His followers claimed that they had met Him, seen Him, talked with Him.

So certain was their belief that nothing could make them recant it. Not ridicule, not torture, not even death itself. They couldn't do it because they were absolutely convinced that it had happened. Plenty of clever and powerful people at the time had a vested interest in proving them wrong. It shouldn't have been difficult to prove that a dead man had stayed dead, especially when you have at your disposal the resources of the greatest empire in history. Yet they didn't do it, because it couldn't be done.

Still today millions of people all over the world believe that Jesus did in fact rise from the dead. They include brilliant scientists and philosophers as well as plenty of ‘ordinary’ men and women of all ages. They believe it because they respect the witness of those first Christians, and because in many cases their own lives have been transformed by a relationship with Jesus - a relationship that wouldn’t make sense if He were dead!

Christians don’t put their faith in a dead hero from the past, but in Someone who is alive and active in their own lives and in the world. That, in a nutshell, is the real message of Easter.

Jonathon Green

A Feast of Fools

As kids we always looked forward to April 1st, when carefully concocted tricks would be played on our school-friends, parents, and even teachers. ‘April Fool!’ we would shout triumphantly, as they obligingly fell for our little ruses.

‘I’ve just seen a mouse run under the cooker’ was one of my best, reducing my mother at breakfast time to frantic appeals for help. My older brother rejected her pleas. ‘Mum, it’s April the first. He’s having you on’. All the same he was asked to pull out the cooker to prove the point, much to his annoyance.

It seems to me that it’s not quite as widely observed as it once was – perhaps Trick or Treat at Hallowe’en has overtaken it. But All Fools Day, to give it its proper name, still sees a few really good stunts pulled by broadcasters and journalists. In fact, the Spring Equinox (March 25 to April 1) has

been seen as a time for tricks and pranks right back to Roman times, when the season was known as ‘Hilaria’.

Perhaps its origin lies in the idea that at this time of year sudden changes occur, as though Nature is playing tricks on us - mad March hares, and so on. Or just that after months of leaden skies and cold winds people simply want something to laugh at, even at their own expense.

There was a Feast of Asses, which was given a religious flavour by preachers pretending to be prophets whose wise warnings were ignored. France gave it its present form, in the 16th century, when the new Gregorian Calendar changed the date of New Year to January 1st, to general confusion. It came to Britain in the 18th century, and has caused much merriment ever since. Hilarious, in fact.

David Winter

The egg that shares the Easter Story

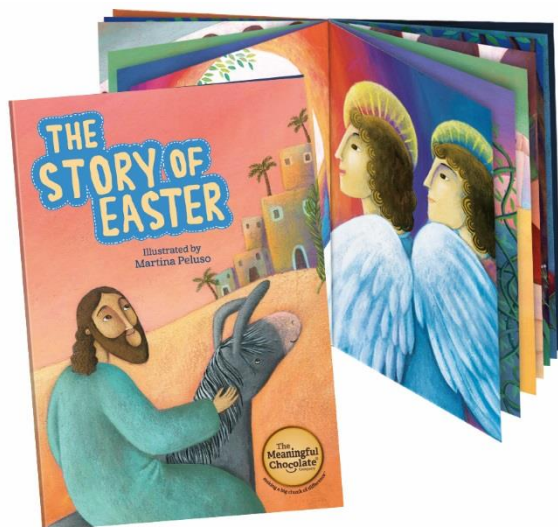


The new look 2018 Real Easter Egg range from The Meaningful Chocolate Company is available to order now. People are being asked to buy one as a special gift for a family member or friend as a unique way of sharing the story of Easter.

Out of the 80 million Easter eggs sold in this part of the world every year, The

Real Easter Egg is the only one which has a copy of the Easter story in the box, is made of Fairtrade chocolate and which supports charitable projects.

This year the Original and Dark eggs come with an A5 Easter story activity book which has 24-pages. Illustrated by Martina Peluso, the book will delight children and adults. The Special Edition comes with an olive wood holding cross keyring from Bethlehem and a simple guide to Easter.



The Real Easter Egg was launched in 2010 but the supermarkets turned down the idea at first. It was left to churches and church schools to place orders to fund The Meaningful Chocolate Company to make The Real Easter Egg.

To date, more than one million eggs have been sold with 750,000 of these sent through the post directly to churches and schools. The rest have been sold through independent retailers and supermarkets.

The success of The Real Easter Egg has meant that the production of Fairtrade chocolate has moved to the UK. Over £250,000 has been raised from sales for charitable causes.

The whole range can be ordered online at www.realeasteregg.co.uk or from

Traidcraft. Christian bookshops and some cathedrals also have stock.

You can also buy the blue Original egg from Tesco, Waitrose, Morrisons & Asda

See the full shop list or order at

www.realeasteregg.co.uk

Interestingly next time you are out shopping, have a look at the Easter Eggs on sale. How many of them actually mention Easter? It seems that many of the best known brands have quietly dropped any reference to the Christian festival, and now sell Easter products labelled simply as 'chocolate egg' or even 'egg'.

David Marshall of The Meaningful Chocolate Company says 'A lot of businesses, quite often, are not comfortable with the religious aspect of the festival.'

Exploring the strange journeys that words take

Ever wondered why we pass news on 'through the grapevine', or why it is a shock to 'let the cat out of the bag'? The origin of hundreds of everyday words and phrases can be found in a vast and fascinating guide called 'The Etymologicon'. (*IconBooks, 2011*)

Here you can discover many of 'the strange back alleys and extraordinary and ridiculous journeys that words take,' to quote the compiler, Mark Forsyth.

Hence, 'through the grapevine' began as the 'grapevine telegraph', a phrase used in the US Civil War, which described the unofficial, word-of-mouth network used by Confederate soldiers while drinking wine, or by slaves while picking grapes from vines.

'Let the cat out of the bag' dates back to medieval markets in Britain, where piglets were sold in bags (a pig in a poke). But a common con was to switch the valuable piglet for a worthless cat or dog: hence buyers were either 'sold a pup' or, when they discovered the ruse, 'let the cat out of the bag'.

To give someone the 'cold shoulder' came from the sort of mutton leftovers given to unwelcome house-guests. A 'hoax' grew from hocus-pocus, a Protestant taunt of the rite of consecration used in the Roman Mass: *Hoc est corpus meum* (This is my body).

'Winging it' comes from actors learning their lines in the wings; 'in a nutshell' comes from Pliny, the Roman writer who claimed there was a copy of The Iliad so small it could fit in a nutshell. 'Average' comes from an old French term *avarie*, meaning 'damage done to a ship'. Vessels were often co-owned, and when repairs were done, the owners were expected to pay an equal share, or the average.

Mothers and Mothering

The American invention, "Mother's Day", will be celebrated on Sunday 11th March, though the cards, boxes of chocolates and reservations for deliveries of flowers will be in the shops long before. It's a very nice idea, as most of us love our mothers dearly and welcome a chance to celebrate their importance in our lives.

I say "American invention", because long before Mother's Day there was a Christian event, marked nowadays in the Church Calendar, with the title

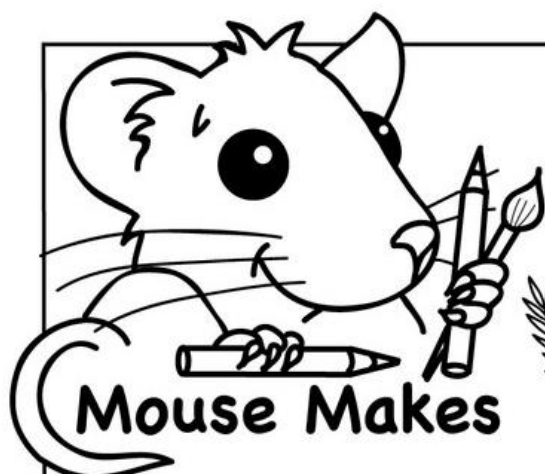
'Mothering Sunday'. It's still widely observed in churches on the fourth Sunday of Lent, and yes, that's 11th March, too.

The difference between them is subtle but profound. 'Mother's Day' is about who she *is*, particularly in our lives. 'Mothering Sunday', as its rather awkward name implies, is about a quality which we recognise in mothers but can be present elsewhere – to 'mother' someone.

We have all needed mothering, from time to time, and not simply when we were tiny and helpless, literally dependent on our mothers for our sustenance and survival. During the years of the last War I was 'mothered' by my grandmother. Sometimes a friend acts in this role for us, when we feel lonely or helpless. 'Mothering' means caring deeply, sustaining, supporting, whatever the cost.

That is why God, whom we usually call 'Father', is sometimes spoken of in the Bible as 'mothering' us, gathering us in His arms of love, even feeding us like a mother. On 'Mothering Sunday' we celebrate so much more than our own beloved mums. We celebrate the whole glorious notion of care, compassion and nurture. And of that care, very often our own mothers are the very best examples.

David Winter



Journey to the Cross

Read the Bible - find the answers



READ Matthew 21:1-11

Where did Jesus stop on his journey? vs 1

What did Jesus send his disciples to get? vs 2

What did the crowd spread on the road in front of Jesus? vs 8

What did the people shout? vs 9

What city was Jesus going to? vs 10

READ Matthew 26:17-75

What festival did the disciples celebrate? vs 17

Which disciple denied Jesus? vs 34

Which disciple betrayed Jesus? vs 47

READ Matthew 27

When Jesus was taken to be crucified, what did the soldiers put on him? vs 28-29

What time did Jesus die? vs 45

Whose tomb was Jesus buried in? vs 57

READ Matthew 28

On the third day who rolled away the stone covering the tomb? vs 2

What had happened to Jesus? vs 6,7



Mystery Sudoku

Sudoku with a twist – solve the puzzle and you’ll discover that one of the rows/columns/blocks spells out a word, phrase, place or a song

				GJER		IDI		EMR
	NGON	KEY		USAL		ADON		
								GJER
USAL		ADON			KEY		EMR	
	EMR		ERIN			ENT		USAL
IDI								
		USAL		ENT		ERIN	KEY	
ADON		ERIN		IDI				

(NB tricky one this time – contact the editor if you need a hint!)

	ARK	DIOC	THW	ONM	FSOU	CAN	ONER	ISSI	ESEO	
➔	CAN	ONM	ISSI	ONER	DIOC	ESEO	FSOU	THW	ARK	←
	ESEO	FSOU	ONER	ISSI	ARK	THW	ONM	CAN	DIOC	
	THW	ARK	ONM	ESEO	ISSI	FSOU	DIOC	ONER	CAN	
	ISSI	ONER	DIOC	ARK	CAN	ONM	THW	ESEO	FSOU	
	FSOU	CAN	ESEO	DIOC	THW	ONER	ARK	ONM	ISSI	
	ONM	THW	CAN	FSOU	ESEO	ARK	ISSI	DIOC	ONER	
	DIOC	ESEO	FSOU	THW	ONER	ISSI	CAN	ARK	ONM	
	ONER	ISSI	ARK	CAN	ONM	DIOC	ESEO	FSOU	THW	

Last edition’s solution
CANON MISSIONER DIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

Word Search

Jesus at the gates of Jerusalem

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, when the Church remembers how Jesus arrived at the gates of Jerusalem just a few days before the Passover was due to be held. He was the Messiah come to His own people in their capital city, and yet He came in humility, riding on a young donkey, not in triumph, riding on a war-horse. As Jesus entered the city, the crowds gave Him a rapturous welcome, throwing palm fronds into His path. They knew His reputation as a healer, and welcomed Him. But sadly, the welcome was short-lived and shallow, for Jerusalem would soon reject her Messiah, and put Him to death.

HOLY	HUMILITY
PALM	RIDING
ARRIVED	YOUNG
GATES	DONKEY
JERUSALEM	TRIUMPH
PASSOVER	CROWDS
HELD	RAPTUROUS
MESSIAH	FRONDS
OWN	HEALER
PEOPLE	WELCOMED
CITY	REJECT
CAME	DEATH

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T C E J E R D E A T H H
R O R U M L A P U S E H
I M E S S I A H U L G I
U R A E H S I O D W A M
M E L A S U R E J R T P
P L D O Y U M F R A E C
H A V L T O R I D E S G
I E O P C O V O L E N N
R H A L N E N P M I D U
O R E D D K O A D C T O
K W S I E E C I T Y H Y
S T N Y P C R O W D S D
  
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H D D R M B A B Y G O O
L W E F E E D T K L E V
B L I B T T N A R I P A
L E I S N H N B O I I P
I N N K E L D U O R P O
N O I S R E V N O C H S
D H S T E H K E S C A T
E S U F F E R I N G N L
D E S I F M R L N G Y E
Y E E G I L U A P G D Y
A E J O D L O G T E F R
G I U I H S N O A S E O
  
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Last edition's solution



"Given the state of our heating system, your name seemed appropriate."



As part of my community work, I am church ambassador for

FareShare: <http://fareshare.org.uk>

FareShare are the UK's largest charity fighting hunger and food waste.

They say: "When we saw the problem of UK hunger we found a solution. It's simple really. We redistribute surplus food to charities that turn it into meals. We are a community. We get things done. We change lives.

"Here's how we do it:



We redistribute surplus food... Fresh in date and good to eat surplus from the food industry, which would otherwise go to waste. Last year we managed 13,552 tonnes of food.



Across the UK... We reach 1,300 towns and cities through our 20 Regional Centres, which can be found from Aberdeen to Brighton.



To frontline charities and community groups... 6,273 of them including homeless hostels, childrens breakfast clubs, lunch clubs for older people, domestic violence refuges and community cafés.



Which turn it into meals for vulnerable people...

Last year we redistributed enough food for 28.6 million meals. But it's about more than meals. The organisations we supply food to are places that provide life changing support, as well as lunch and dinner.

FareShare is making a huge contribution to the resources of the thousands of community organisations we supply food to and to the services they can provide to their beneficiaries. At Christ Church we use our FareShare collection to supplement our Community Club lunch where around 100 people receive a three course meal each week.

FareShare is the UK's longest running food redistribution charity. We were born out of the belief that no good food should go to waste, especially when people are going hungry. This belief is as central to our work now as it was 23 years ago.

I am proud to be an ambassador for FareShare, and think that food waste is a problem but I am glad that we can help to diminish this.

Andrena Palmer

Acknowledgements

How many of the 10 Commandments do you keep, The real message of Easter, A Feast of Fools, Exploring the strange journeys that words take, Mothers and Mothering, Mouse, Wordsearch, Cartoons, Celebrating Easter – how do various Christians do it; Page 16; reproduced courtesy of

www.parishpump.co.uk

**Celebrating Easter –
how do various Christians do it?**

Virtually all Christians mark Easter (the Society of Friends or Quakers is one of a few exceptions). The ways they celebrate it vary:

The week leading up to Easter Sunday is often called Holy Week and Christians focus more deeply than usual on their faith.

It begins with Palm Sunday. Services on this day, seven days before Easter, recall Jesus entering Jerusalem triumphantly, cheered by crowds as He rode a donkey. Palm leaves were waved on that occasion, and are still significant in church worship, often twisted into the shape of a cross.

Four days later is Maundy Thursday, when Jesus’ followers remember that on the night before He died He asked them to remember Him by eating bread and drinking wine. Maundy comes from the Latin word for commandment, recalling Jesus’ command that day that Christians should love each other in the same way that He loves them.

The next day is Good Friday (called Holy Friday in countries with large numbers of Roman Catholic Christians). This is the most solemn day of the Christian year because it is used to recall the appalling death of Jesus. Although it is a public holiday, it is increasingly difficult to distinguish it from other days of the year, so many churches hold processions or open-air services in public places to draw attention to its significance. Inside churches there are meditative services in a bare setting. It may be that the day was originally known as God Friday, and the name changed as language developed. Elsewhere in the world, it is called Great Friday or Holy Friday.

Easter Sunday recalls the day when Jesus’ followers discovered that His tomb was empty. It is the most important and joyful day of the Christian year. Jubilant music is performed, and flowers and banners fill the churches with colour. The centuries-old cry, ‘Alleluia! Christ is risen!’ is met with the response,

‘He is risen indeed. Alleluia!’

In the first Christian centuries Easter Sunday was the day on which new converts to Christianity were baptised. This tradition continues in some places. More recent, but popular, ways of celebrating include Easter vigils late on Saturday night, which begin in darkness and culminate in the lighting of a fire in the early hours of Easter morning. Since the 18th century there has been a tradition of gathering on the highest local hill for a service of praise to God as the sun rises.



How do we find a new Vicar?

So Jay's great ministry with us has ended. We've had his last sermon, the last cup of tea, the last piece of cake, and now we're on our own. Where do we go from here?

Fortunately we can take advantage of some radical changes in the Church of England in 1986. Before then the appointment was largely a matter for our three patrons, the Church Pastoral Aid Society, the Bishop of Rochester and the Vicar of All Saints Orpington. Now there is an active role for Christ Church's Parochial Church Council (PCC), which is elected by the congregation every year at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

When the appointment procedure officially starts, the PCC takes three key decisions. First, it appoints two representatives to act on its behalf throughout the process. They will be involved in selecting the shortlist, in attending interviews and in making the final choice. In fact, they can veto the patrons' selection.

Secondly the PCC prepares a Parish Profile, which includes information on the conditions, needs and traditions of the parish and the kind of person being looked for. This will be made available to anyone thinking of applying.

Thirdly the PCC decides whether to advertise the vacancy in the Church Times

The procedure also includes special provision for those churches which, on grounds of theological conviction, are unable to receive the ministry of women priests.

So when does the appointment procedure officially start? In our case the date is 31st March, because Jay remains on the books of the Diocese of Rochester till then. But informally the procedure has already started. The PCC has already had a meeting with the patrons. It also appointed a working party to draft a Parish Profile, and there was a joint meeting of the PCC and the Leadership Group on 24th February to discuss it.

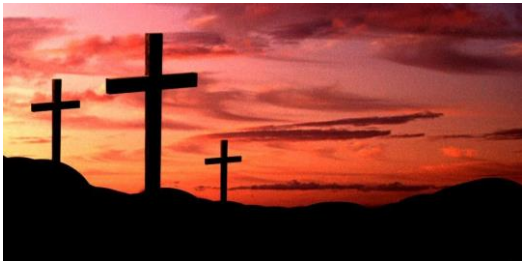
But it would be a mistake to rush into things, without taking time to pray and listen to God about what he might want to say about the future of the church and especially about its vision, direction and mission. These three things will influence considerably the gifts, skills and experience needed in the person we will be looking for. We firmly believe that God will call the right person to lead us in the next phase of Christ Church's history. So we urge you all, personally, in home groups and in church prayer meetings to join us as we pray together for this to happen.

The Church Wardens and the PCC Secretary will be happy to deal with any questions or points you want to raise.



"I think I've finally become fully accepted here. After nearly 15 years, the locals have stopped calling me, The new incumbent!"

2018 Diary...



Sunday 4th March

10.30am Holy Communion
4.00pm Families Together
6.30pm No evening service

Wednesday 7th March

10.00am Holy Communion

Mothering Sunday, 11th March

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am All Age Worship
6.30pm Evening Worship

Sunday 18th March

10.30am Morning Worship
6.30pm Evening Worship

Palm Sunday, 25th March

Clocks go forward one hour
9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
6.30pm Evening Worship

Maundy Thursday, 29th March

8.00pm Communion

Good Friday, 30th March

2.00pm Good Friday Reflection

Easter Sunday, 1st April

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am All Age Worship
6.30pm No evening service

Wednesday 4th April

10.00am No service

Sunday 8th April

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
Visitation by the Whitear's
6.30pm Evening Worship



Sunday 15th April

10.30am Morning Worship with Baptism
6.30pm Evening Worship



Sunday 22nd April

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship. APCM
6.30pm No evening service

Sunday 29th April

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
6.30pm Evening Worship

On the Grapevine

WITH SYMPATHY

We remember those who have recently passed away, mentioning in particular:

Margaret Horne

new winepress

May & June 2018 issue

Write an article about a forthcoming church event or report on one that has just happened and get in touch with the wider community, not just those who go to Christ Church! Then email your articles to our editor Vernon at vandjmapp@gmail.com or contact Vernon on 01689 832433

The closing date for articles for the next issue is **Friday 6th April**

If you need more time, please contact Vernon

NB due to copyright issues we have had in the past, can you please make sure any pictures photo's etc can be reproduced with permission

That daffodil time of year

O how I love, as poets do
That time when skies turn deeper blue,
And all can know the vernal thrills
Of landscapes filled with daffodils.

I love to spend a pleasing hour
Admiring nature's golden flower;
That trumpet shape, enhanced by dew
That vibrant, cheering yellow hue!

No better herald of the spring
No flower can more pleasure bring;
And spirits crushed by winter's ills
Are lifted by the daffodils!

Nigel Beeton

Children's Groups

On Sunday's

During Morning Services:

The **Rainbow Room** Crèche is a fun, supervised soft play facility available on Sunday mornings for babies and children aged 0-3 years (inclusive)

CLIMBERS is for children aged 3 to 7 years and meet in the Small Hall. Activities each week include singing, Bible stories, games and craft

EXPLORERS is for children aged 7 to 11 years and meet in the Large Hall for singing and crafts in a framework of Christian teaching

Pathfinders is for young people aged 11 to 14+ and meet in the basement of the church for games, videos, drama and discussions, looking at the Bible and discussing relevant issues

During Evening Services:

JUICE meets on a Sunday evening (6pm-8pm) in the café area and is for young people who are year 9 and above who want to know God and spend time with great friends.

JUICE is a place where you can be yourself and hear something about how great our God is!

JUICE begins with refreshments in the café and worship with the evening congregation. We then move downstairs to the Undercroft for our session

The Mother of Science Fiction

Science fiction is well-loved, not just in books (though check the stacked shelves of that category in your bookshop) but in films and on television. 'Star Wars', for instance, is almost a religion, with millions of followers. Sci-fi, as it is known, sets out to use a 'scientific possibility' as a fictional tool. It may destroy the world, or (as a scientific saviour usually demonstrates) bring in a new dawn of hope.

We assume science fiction is a modern phenomenon, but not so – on 11th March 1818 a young writer, Mary Shelley, published her first book, *Frankenstein*, generally judged to be the earliest science fiction novel. It was the story of a scientist who, in the course of some daring experiments, found that he had created a monster, a grotesque being with some human abilities. The clever scientist Frankenstein had opened Pandora's box.

The book had arisen out of a competition between three established writers and one novice, Mary Shelley, to write a 'fantasy' novel. Shelley's *Frankenstein* won the competition and was published, but the author was not named. Such was its success, however, that when it was reprinted three years later Mary Shelley's name was on it. It was some time before anyone else made a similar impact with a science-fantasy novel – probably not until H G Wells and *The Time Machine*, 80 years later.

But the word was out. A story to chill the blood and arouse unspeakable fears could win an admiring audience. Perhaps a philosopher or psychiatrist can explain why,

but the evidence is there in the bookshops and the viewing figures.

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Bright lads these yanks!

Sometimes it DOES take a
Rocket Scientist!! (true story)

Scientists at Rolls Royce built a gun specifically to launch dead chickens at the windshields of airliners and military jets all travelling at maximum velocity. The idea is to simulate the frequent incidents of collisions with airborne fowl to test the strength of the windshields.

American engineers heard about the gun and were eager to test it on the windshields of their new high-speed trains. Arrangements were made, and a gun was sent to the American engineers.

When the gun was fired, the engineers stood shocked as the chicken hurled out of the barrel, crashed into the shatterproof shield, smashed it to smithereens, blasted through the control console, snapped the engineer's back-rest in two and embedded itself in the back wall of the cabin like an arrow shot from a bow.

The horrified Yanks sent Rolls Royce the disastrous results of the experiment, along with the designs of the windshield and begged the British scientists for suggestions.

Rolls Royce responded with the following one-line memo:

'Defrost the chicken.'

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