

GODMANCHESTER PARISH NEWS

Ministry Team Letter

Dear Friends,

‘How can you prove Jesus came back from the dead?’ ‘Might the story of Jesus coming back from the dead be just a trick by his friends?’ These were two of the many challenging questions I was asked recently by pupils from Godmanchester Community School when they visited the church. What excellent questions! Straight to the heart of our Easter faith. What is that faith built on? How can we be sure we are not simply deluding ourselves?

In a few days’ time we will proclaim loudly, ‘Christ is risen! Alleluia!’ What gives us the audacity to make that claim? It is tempting to want some kind of proof for this most extraordinary of beliefs. After all, as St Paul says, if Christ is not risen, we are of all people the most to be pitied, because we have put our trust in a lie, and a particularly extravagant one at that. Because it seems so important to be certain, it would be easy to talk about the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead as if it must be the answer to some kind of straightforward question. Did Jesus rise from the dead or not – yes or no?

I believe that to put it that way is a mistake. If we are looking for the kind of proof that would satisfy a historian or a judge, we are looking in the wrong way. All we have as direct evidence of the resurrection of Jesus is a few rather sketchy and somewhat inconsistent stories in the Gospels. If that were all our faith were built on, I could agree with my young questioner that it might indeed be just a trick by the

friends of Jesus. But in fact, important as they are, the Gospel stories are not in themselves the basis for our Easter faith. Those stories are not first hand accounts, but arose some years after the events they describe among groups of people who were already convinced that they could speak of Jesus as being alive after his death. In other words, the Easter faith comes *before* the Easter story.

When my own faith came alive after many years of questioning and uncertainty, I felt two things happen inside me at once. One was an undeniable sense that I was being summoned by Jesus. The other was a deliberate choice that I made to try to live as if he were alive. I was not suddenly given an answer to all my doubts and hesitations (they are still with me), but they became unimportant in the light of this new resolve to see for myself what life would be like if it were lived for him and with him. The evidence for the resurrection is not in this text or that, but in the lives transformed because men and women have chosen to be Easter people. How can I say, ‘Christ is risen! Alleluia!’? Because of you, the Easter people in this place and because of all who have gone before.

Happy Easter! Christ is risen, he is risen indeed.

With love,

David

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This month' s cover

A picture tells a thousand words. Lawrence' s photograph reminds us that Ally and family are with us for only a few more days. On 1 May Ally takes up her post as Vicar of Buckden and the Offords. Pat Saunders writes an appreciation of Ally on page 4. Don' t forget our Farewell to Ally in the church hall after the 9.45 am service on 29 April.

Charity of the month

DISH

As a local charity the Disability Information Service for Huntingdonshire (DISH) offers information and advice to adults and children with disabilities, their carers, families and other health professionals. Their two part-time Advisors are able to offer appointments at the office in Papworth or at outreach centres in St Ives, Yaxley and the Oak Tree Centre on the Oxmoor Estate and are expected to cover the whole of the Huntingdonshire district; they regularly provide assistance to people living in Godmanchester.

Unfortunately, the Benefits system receives a very bad press in most local and national papers and hence this charity does not have a very ' glamorous' or ' emotional' appeal to many. What is rarely publicised is the

large numbers of elderly or disabled people that do not claim the various benefits to which they are entitled. A few extra pounds per week can make an enormous difference to someone who is struggling with a long-term illness and the vast majority of this charity' s users are profoundly grateful for the expertise that it provides. The Welfare Advisors offer advice over the telephone or assist in the actual completion of the benefit claim forms. They also work with older people to assess their income for Pension Credit and to assist in claims for Attendance Allowance or other benefits.. They are also able to represent clients at tribunal hearings and the service that the Advisors provide is free of charge.

The information line provides details on a wide range of subjects such as holidays for the disabled, equipment hire, home adaptations and other local services. DISH is funded by local grants and donations but if it is to maintain its current level of service to the Huntingdonshire district it will need to see an increase in its funding. Please support this local charity to enable it to continue its much-needed work. More information can be found at www.dish.org.uk or you can contact the manager on 01480 830833.

Gill Taylor

GODMANCHESTER PARISH NEWS**'Farewell and thankyou'
from Ally**

The end of this month (29 April) sees my last service as curate here in Godmanchester, almost four years after I arrived. It's hard to put everything I'd like to say into only a few words, but here goes:

I'd like to thank you all for your encouragement, your prayers, your help and your patience with me, especially during the recent interregnum, when I couldn't have wished for better support. It has been a joy to see some of the seeds sown by previous vicars ripen and be harvested during my time here, and to see some of the seeds that I have sown starting to grow. God is at work in this place, so please do all keep being part of it and working with him in what he has in store for you here.

These last few years have been wonderful ones. I feel that I've learned so much through being here, and that I've come closer to becoming the person that God would like me to be. If I have given anything to this town and to this church, I have received tenfold in return. And so I thank you all from the bottom of my heart, and may God richly bless you now and always.

Ally

Easter 2007

During Holy Week and Easter there are many additional services and events in the Churches Together group. Here is a reminder of some of them.

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday (3, 4 and 5 April), we have celebrations of Holy Communion at 9.45 am, and Stations of the Cross at 8.00 pm.

Godmanchester Baptist Church (tel 458564) is screening the film *The Passion of Christ* (cert.18) at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 5 April. Tickets £1.

The Churches Together Good Friday Walk of Witness starts at 11.00 am from Huntingdon Methodist Church. The route is via St Mary's churchyard, St Benedict's Court and Chequers Court, finishing in the market square. Motorists – please park anywhere but in the Methodist Church car park!

Also on Good Friday, Pat Saunders is leading a Children's Church Workshop in the Church Hall at 1.30 pm.

Easter early risers. Don't forget the parish breakfast following the dawn Eucharist (5.30 am)! £4 adults, £2 children. *But you must book in advance.* Contacts: Jean and Dai Morgan (417502).

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An appreciation of Ally

One day Brian Atling told Peter Moger that he knew the ideal person to succeed him as assistant curate in Godmanchester Parish. The person was, of course, Ally Barrett, with whom Brian had shared a study at Westcott House in Cambridge where they both trained for ordained ministry. Peter is not someone to miss an opportunity, and soon arrangements were under way for Ally and Sam to join us. They moved into their London Road house shortly before Ally's ordination as Deacon in June 2003. The parish and Ally suited one another in all sorts of ways, and if Ally was an ideal curate, Peter was also an ideal training incumbent. Peter and Ally had in common musical giftedness, good administration skills, an appreciation of liturgy and, of course, a love of chocolate – the higher the percentage of cocoa the better and if it was fairly traded better still.

Beyond the practical gifts that Ally offered the parish on her arrival, other qualities and gifts have gradually revealed themselves, flourished and borne fruit during the four years of Ally's curacy. Among the first that I was aware of are Ally's integrity and energy of faith – to God and to the people she is called to serve. At the address at

Ally's deaconing service in Ely Cathedral, Vanessa Herrick (director of ordinands) referred to a saying attributed to St Irenaeus: 'The glory of God is a Christian fully alive.' This resonated with Ally's own theology and she quoted it in her first sermon at Godmanchester two weeks later. What has become clear is that Ally desires this 'aliveness' not only in her own life and ministry, but in the life and ministry (in its widest sense) of everyone she meets. That desire has inspired many of the innovations that Ally has encouraged and developed. The youth group and the fair trade stall, healing services and the use of holding crosses, study and nurture groups and the writing of relevant course material are just a few of the things that have grown and flourished under Ally's care and commitment. That desire has also led her to be involved in the discernment of calling and vocation at a diocesan level.

If anyone had said to Ally when she first arrived that two years later the parish would find itself in an interregnum and she would be an assistant curate with no incumbent to assist, she would have run a mile – probably more! But actually those 18 months of interregnum enabled Ally to make her initial parish training with Peter her own. During that time she visibly grew in confidence, in preaching skills

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and in handling the day-to-day nitty gritty of parish life. In particular she focussed on the central role of a ministry of welcome in church life and on the active ministry of the congregation. The visible fruit of this was an amazing number of confirmation candidates of all ages and the encouragement of people to take part in the new training for Authorised Lay Ministry (ALM). Ally has also thought creatively about the place of children in the life of our church, providing solid ground to build on as we look ahead to such issues as children and communion.

Ally and Sam arrived in Godmanchester as a couple and leave as a family with two children. As they prepare for pastures new our thanks go not only to Ally for all she has given and shared with us, but also to Sam for his contribution to the All-Age Eucharist and Grassroots services, to Joanna and Daniel for their delightful presence among us, and to Ally's parents, Mary and Michael, for their supportive child care which has enabled Ally to be both a mother and a priest – and to do both with integrity.

During the early months of her time in Godmanchester, Ally told me more than once how perfectly happy she was to be working here. My hope and prayer is that

as Ally, Sam, Joanna and Daniel begin a new stage in their lives, that same sense of contentment and well-being may be with them and with the parishes in Ally's care.

Ally, may God bless you and keep you and make his face to shine on you and all those you love, as you take up the work of parish priest in Buckden and the Offords. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Pat Saunders

Huntingdon Rotaract Club

Whether you have just moved into the area, or are a local person and want to meet new people, raise money for charity or help out in the local community, then Rotaract may be for you. Rotaract is a club for 18–30-year-olds, with members in St Neots, St Ives and the surrounding areas as well as Huntingdon itself. During 2006 Rotaract organised a musical evening with a grand draw to raise money for the East Anglia Children's Hospice in Milton; and held a fun day at Hinchbrooke Country Park, raising funds for children who are disabled or disadvantaged. If you are interested, please contact www.huntingdonrotaract.org.uk.

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Children' s Church

Thank you, to everyone who participated in the Pancake Race on 18 February whether by running, by cheering us on or by sponsoring someone. A good time was had by all, with a lot of enthusiastic runners. The sponsor money will be going to the East Anglia Children's Hospice, and Christian Aid. What have we been doing in Children's Church recently? Well, we enjoyed a Godly Play session on Baptism with Pat Saunders, and the children made little clay jugs, paper candles and doves to help them remember the session. We are looking forward to Pat's Good Friday workshop in the church hall from 1.30 pm to 2.45 pm. During March we have been hearing about Abraham, Mary, Martha and Lazarus and looking at Jesus' parable of the fruitless fig tree. We have also been preparing for Mothering Sunday and our Easter garden. And watch out for the children on Palm Sunday waving their paper palms! This will be followed by a party in the afternoon.

Jules Shelley

Mothers' Union

At the March meeting Doris Bilton led us in a meditation for Lent. Doris had prepared some readings accompanied by well-known songs. These led us

quietly and reflectively through the main points of Jesus' teaching life. Some of the readings enabled us to see people or situations from a different viewpoint, which was very thought-provoking. We all appreciated the preparation that had been necessary to provide such an uplifting afternoon for us all.

Our next meeting will take place at the Queen Elizabeth School Hall at 2 pm on Tuesday 3 April when we will take our part in the Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer.

Jean Morgan

Wives' Group

At our March meeting we heard Joan Harris' s poignant account of her life-changing experience of being an evacuee. Before the war Joan lived in a small south London flat with her parents and five siblings. Her father was frequently out of work and money was scarce but Joan never felt deprived or poor and was always well fed. Her life took a dramatic turn in 1940 when she was unceremoniously handed over to a couple in Raunds with the words 'This one is yours.' So began five years of strict regimentation and treatment devoid of kindness. Joan lived in a vicarage with 20 rooms and a double bed to herself. When the housemaid left to do war work

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8-year-old Joan had to take on the role and carry out a list of chores during her lunch hour and after school. She sought consolation in her schoolwork, which she loved, delighted in reading books and in visiting a friendly neighbour and her baby. Joan received no comfort from her hosts and vividly remembers being 'sent to Coventry' for breaking two Willow pattern plates. The silence was broken a few days later on her ninth birthday with the brusque comment 'Well, I suppose I had better say "happy birthday"', and Joan was handed a hymn book as a present. When the war ended Joan returned home but said she never felt a complete member of the family again. She had seen her mother only once a year over the five years, and her father only once. There was resentment from her siblings that Joan had spent the war in a 'big posh house in the country' whilst they remained in London. Joan never told her parents how lonely and unhappy she had been. At the end of her talk Joan reflected about how the experience had affected her and wondered if it had made her a better person. In the main she thought it probably had.

Tuesday 10 April: 'Behind the scenes'. Elizabeth Butterfield talks about her experience as a stage manager in the 1950s.

Barbara Thirlwall

Evening Bible Study Group

The Evening Bible Study Group will restart at 8.00 pm on Tuesday 17 April. On that occasion, we'll meet at 8 Hall Close Hartford, the home of Jenny and Jerry Craddock.

We will then look at some background material and decide (a) what we want to study in depth and (b) the dates and times most convenient for future meetings. All are welcome.

Jeremy Craddock (458011)

Open all hours

Good news for Godmanchester residents living in the north end of the town, and for those commuting into Huntingdon. Threshers off-licence in Post Street has reverted to what it used to be under the Unwins banner – a convenience store, selling groceries *and newspapers!* Proprietors Lesley and Simon Pace have battled hard for this development, and their tenacity has been rewarded. Congratulations! Opening hours 6 am to 10 pm Mondays to Saturdays, and 7 am to 10 pm on Sundays.

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Men' s Social Group

Former student Peter Dawe took some of us to Emmanuel College, Cambridge, in February.

My old college was founded in 1584 by Sir Walter Mildmay, the Chancellor of the Exchequer to Queen Elizabeth the First, to train priests for the Anglican Church. The site had been occupied by the Dominicans but little remains of their buildings, thanks to the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1538. The Hall which occupies the exact site of the Dominican church is said to be one of the most handsome halls in Cambridge. Perhaps the best known and most illustrated building in Emmanuel is the present, and recently restored, Chapel designed by Wren and completed in 1673.

Close to the Chapel is the Queen' s Building which was opened by Queen Elizabeth the Second in 1995. The walls, constructed from the same stone used to clad Wren' s Chapel, include 28 stone columns which have been pre-loaded by stressed stainless steel rods to give them greater stability. Another unique feature of Emmanuel is the pedestrian subway under Emmanuel Street, connecting the main part of the college with North Court. This was built just before the Great War to protect undergraduates crossing the road against the traffic. One of the oldest buildings is Old Court which

contains the Harvard Room in memory of John Harvard, a graduate of the college who sailed to America with the Pilgrim Fathers and gave his name to the well known university there.

The gardens in Emmanuel provide a fine spectacle as well as being an oasis of peace and tranquillity in a very busy part of Cambridge. Even in February we were able to appreciate the wonderful collection of trees - over 120 species -some of which are quite rare. The Fellows' Garden is dominated by a huge Oriental Plane, and contains an open air swimming pool believed to be one of the oldest still in use. The main gardens contain two pools which are fed by water from Hobson' s Conduit in Trumpington Street.

I noted the many changes that have taken place at Emmanuel over the past 50 years. How many young people today, I wonder, would put up with having to walk 150m across an open courtyard in all weathers in order to carry out their morning ablutions?

Peter Dawe

For details of other college gardens open to the public, phone the Tourist Information Centre on 08712268006. If you want a conducted tour, phone Guided Tours on 01223 457574

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Monday 7 May 2007

Bellringers AGM and Eucharist

11.00 am – 4.00 pm

Church and Church Hall

Contact: Ruth Ball(351138)

Saturday 12 May 2007

A Meal with a Movie

(see page 11 for details)

Sunday 20 May 2007

Spring BBQ

Church Hall

Contact: Val Pithey (454851)

Sunday 27 May 2007

Plant Sale

Island Hall

*Contacts: Roy Norris (431961)**and Peter Irving (382144)*

Saturday 16 June 2007

Summer Fete

Vicarage Garden

Contacts: Christine and Mike Parker

Saturday 14 July 2007

Flower Guild Members'**Supper**

6.00 pm

Tudor Farm, 2a Earning Street

*Contact: Jean and Dai Morgan (417502)***Godmanchester Community Association AGM**

The GMCCA met at the Queen Elizabeth School on Thursday 22 February. After drinks and nibbles the chairman welcomed everyone. The Association exists to facilitate events throughout the year for the benefit of the whole community. Last year saw three major events: the Gala Day, with the carnival parade and events in the arena on the recreation ground while local groups ran stalls to raise funds; Picnic in the Park on the next day, with its wide variety of music by live bands and choirs, was preceded by an ecumenical open air service and followed by the popular duck race. In November the Community Bonfire and Fireworks Display took place on Judith's Field. All these events needed planning, organisation and willing people to go ahead, and an appeal for volunteers was made. In addition, the annual *Bridge Magazine* was produced with articles of local interest and an opportunity for local groups to air their aims and objectives. GMCCA would like to expand the events and see more groups involved during Gala week. The chairman reminded everyone that groups can share their activities via the Godmanchester website at www.godmanchester.net.

Ruth Ekblom

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Book review

Simon Barrow and Jonathan Bartley (eds) *Consuming passion: why the killing of Jesus really matters*. DLT 2005. £10.95. ISBN 0232526079

This book's twelve contributors include Anglicans, a Roman Catholic and two Mennonites (Mennonites originated in Holland and practise adult baptism). Some are familiar: Giles Fraser writes for *The Church Times* and *The Guardian*; Steve Chalke, a Baptist, contributes to the York Lent Courses.

They object to an understanding of the Atonement known as 'penal substitution' – i.e. that

- the justice and honour of God are offended by human sin
- his wrath can be satisfied only by condign punishment
- Jesus stepped into the breach and, as our substitute, bore our punishment
- because of that, God is able to forgive us.

Steve Chalke is interesting, not least because the inter-denominational Evangelical Alliance has attacked his rejection of substitution; In another publication, he had described the idea as 'cosmic

child abuse'. Their view is not universally held, though they think it should be. Alan Richardson, Professor of Christian Theology in the 1950s, and then Dean of York, wrote 'The New Testament (NT) writers ... do not ... teach a "substitutionary" or "satisfaction" theory of atonement. The curious notion that God's "justice", which demands the punishment of sinners, could be saved by inflicting the death penalty upon the one sinless being who ever lived on earth is not found in the NT and it should find no place in Christian theology.'

I go along with Alan Richardson and with the authors of *Consuming Passion*. The idea that God's offended honour needed to be satisfied is medieval. That doesn't mean it's wrong: only that we should think about it. Is God full of wrath? There are Old Testament (OT) passages that suggest that, but others that suggest the opposite. One of the greatest theologians ever to write in English – Mother Julian of Norwich – maintained that there is no wrath in God; we should at least consider her view.

If it were Jesus' death only that saves us, then his teaching and resurrection would be irrelevant. But it was his teaching that caused his death. He lived in a

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society ruled by a selective use of the OT. Some passages say that God is full of wrath; and others that he is full of mercy and forgiveness. Some say that God wants us to be constrained by Law; others say the opposite. Some say that God rewards the righteous with riches; others that farmers should not strip their fields and olive trees bare, but should leave some for the poor; and that we should treat immigrants as equals. We misunderstand the story of Dives and Lazarus if we think it is about an impious Dives and a religious Lazarus: Jesus' objection was that Lazarus was poor and the rich Dives could not have cared less. He chose the passages the authorities preferred to ignore. He did not die because of some cosmic, divine, legal transaction. He died because the Jewish rulers could not tolerate the success of his preaching. Pilate, who would kill a man as soon as he would squash a fly, obliged them.

Jeremy Craddock

A Meal with a Movie

A two course supper in the church hall, followed by Zeffirelli's film *Tea with Mussolini* (PG) in church takes place on Saturday 12 May. Look out for ticket information in the *Newsletter*. Further information from John Hoile (465442).

**A meal with a
Movie**

Saturday 12 May
2007

Godmanchester Parish
Church



at 6.00 pm



at 7.30 pm

Meal + film £10 Film
only £4

*Raising funds for our wheelchair
ramp*

Poem

God of bright colours: rainbows,
peacocks,
And the shot-silk gleam of
springing
Wind-shaken wheat
on rolling red-ribbed Earth:
Thou who dost bring to birth
From out of the womb
Of darkness golden flowers,
Filling the hollows
With daffodils in March,
Cowslips in April,
Dog-roses in May;
Who in the smouldering forest
Makes the huge
Red flare of Autumn:
God of all the colours
On Earth, and hues (too bright
for mortal eyes)
In Paradise
Unbind me to Thy Glory,
That I may see!

F W Harvey 1888–1957

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Lent Concert, 10 March 2007

Fifteen local choirs, joined by some members of the Hemingford Ladies Choir, united for our Lent Concert, directed by Ken Diffey. Eric Thiman's cantata *The Last Supper*, was the focus of the evening, but this was supplemented by choral music from four centuries, a Bach organ prelude played by Paul Bryan, and an account of Jesus' betrayal read by Gillian Bathurst Hoile.

The unaccompanied 'Lord, We Beseech Thee' (Adrian Batten) was a fitting start to the evening, followed by Bach's 'Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring.' Bruckner's 'Locus Iste' followed, with the men really digging deep during the 'inaestimabile'. Then Mozart's 'Ave verum' performed with excellent dynamics, and the soprano voices soaring up to the roof timbers in places. The Hemingford Ladies Choir performed 'Panis Angelicus' (Cesar Franck) and Howard Goodall's arrangement of *Psalm 23*, perhaps better known these days as the signature tune of *The Vicar of Dibley*.. The ladies perform with discipline, excellent intonation and obvious enjoyment. And they are not afraid to attack passages, 'Yea though I walk..' being an obvious example.

Fauré's 'Cantique de Jean Racine' benefited from a strong male opening, a pronounced crescendo in the last section, and a brilliant final chord. Wonderful! This work gets better and better each time the choir sings it.

E.H.Thiman's *The Last Supper* had a bold opening, and chorales full of colour and contrast, particularly in the unaccompanied sections. 'Thou art the way' was sung with deep feeling, and during 'The Way, The Truth and The Life', some members of the audience were drawn to prayer. The words are well known: 'A new commandment I give you, that ye love one another' but in Thiman's setting they really pack a punch..The solo parts were sympathetically performed by Tony Burnley, happily recovered after a long illness, and Caroline Jones, Musical Director of the Hemingford choir.. The concert concluded first with a rather sombre Bach organ prelude bringing the audience back to the solemnity of Lent; and then Jan Payne's 'May The Road Rise Up To Meet You.' Soloist Caroline Jones sings with expression in her face as well as her voice – she also rolls her Rs beautifully! – and this Irish Blessing was the perfect end to a memorable evening, which raised £850 for church funds..

Peter Irving

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February PCC Meeting

Minutes in full of all PCC meetings are displayed at the back of the church. Here are some key points from the February meeting

Matters arising

- Repairs to the south gate are well in hand, the Town Council having obtained a grant from the District Council to cover the cost of 70% of the work..

Fabric Committee

- Work is to go ahead on the repairs to the faulty loudspeaker system.
- Repair work on the floor in the north porch is to go ahead, with existing flower guild cupboards being resited in the north west corner of the church until the work is complete

Communications Committee

- A rota of people prepared to keep the church open on summer Sunday afternoons after Easter will be drawn up by the wardens.
- The committee is exploring the sale of postcards, leaflets etc for sale at the back of the church during these opening times.

Any other business.

- Ashes Plot. The vicar undertook to write to all families with plots, reminding them that only cut flowers are to be placed in this area. This follows a period of particular untidiness when inappropriate vases and plant pots have been left on the memorial stones.
- The PCC approved David Busk's proposal that both wardens should be ex-officio administrators of the Chalice.

And finally...

Congratulations to Joan Jackson, who celebrated her 80th birthday on 20 March. Since those halcyon days of manual typewriters, congealed tipp-ex and editor Pat White, Joan has meticulously typeset this magazine every month. Well, almost every month. In March she was on leave organising her birthday party! As her son, Andrew, reminded us in his birthday toast in the church hall, Joan has more than kept pace with the numerous changes in information technology over the years, and for this we are all most grateful, as well as impressed. *Many happy returns, Joan!*

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11 March Jamie Rocco Skinner
 Amelie Heidi Skinner
 Holly May Carr
 25 March Noah Shepherd

Wedding

24 March Trevor Sparling and Paula Sparling

Funerals

27 February John Reginald Pope
 13 March Percy Clifton
 20 March Edward Allen
 21 March Kenneth Kitchener
 26 March Margaret Hunt
 27 March Margaret Newell

The Lectionary

| | | |
|----------|-------------|--|
| 1 April | Palm Sunday | Isaiah 50:4-9a; Philippians 2:5-11 Luke 23:1-49 |
| 8 April | Easter Day | Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 |
| 15 April | Easter 2 | Acts 5:27-32; John 20:19-31 |
| 22 April | Easter 3 | Acts 9:1-20; Revelation 5:11-20; John 10:22-30 |
| 29 April | Easter 4 | Acts 9:36-end; John 10:22-30 |

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|----------------------|----------|----------|--|--|
| Sun | 1 | 8.00 am | Holy Communion | |
| <i>Palm</i> | | 9.45 am | Sung Eucharist | |
| <i>Sunday</i> | | | Children' s Church and Vestry Group | |
| | | 6.30 pm | Sung Evensong | |
| Mon | 2 | 9.45 am | Holy Communion | |
| | | 1.30 pm | Stepping Stones | Baptist Church Centre |
| | | 8.00 pm | Stations of the Cross | |
| Tue | 3 | 9.45 am | Holy Communion | |
| | | 2.00 pm | Mothers' Union | Queen Elizabeth School |
| | | 7.30 pm | Men' s Social Group | Church Hall |
| | | 8.00 pm | Stations of the Cross | |
| Wed | 4 | 9.45 am | Holy Communion | |
| | | 8.00 pm | Stations of the Cross | |
| Thu | 5 | 9.30 am | St Mary' s 0s-5s | Comrades Club |
| <i>Maundy</i> | | 9.45 am | Holy Communion | |
| <i>Thursday</i> | | 10.30 am | Sung Eucharist and Blessing of Oils | Ely Cathedral |
| | | 7.30 pm | Sung Eucharist and Washing of Feet, followed by Stripping of the Altar and Vigil | |
| Fri | 6 | 11.00 am | Churches Together Walk of Witness | Assemble at Huntingdon Methodist Church, 10.55 |
| <i>Good</i> | | | | |
| <i>Friday</i> | | 1.30 pm | Good Friday Liturgy | |
| | | | Children' s Church workshop | Church Hall |
| Sat | 7 | 7.30 pm | Confirmation Service | Ely Cathedral |
| | | 8.00 pm | Compline | |
| Sun | 8 | 5.30 am | Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter followed by Parish Breakfast | Church Hall |
| <i>Easter</i> | | 8.00 am | Holy Communion | |
| <i>Day</i> | | 9.45 am | Sung Eucharist | |
| | | | Children' s Church and Vestry Group | |
| | | 6.30 pm | Sung Evensong, with invitation to other local churches to join us | |
| Mon | 9 | | <i>Bank Holiday Monday</i> | |
| Tue | 10 | 8.00 pm | Wives' Group | Church Hall |
| Wed | 11 | 10.30 am | Holy Communion | Oak Tree Court |
| Thu | 12 | 9.30 am | St Mary' s 0s-5s | Comrades Club |
| | | 9.45 am | Holy Communion | |
| Fri | 13 | | | |
| Sat | 14 | | | |
| Sun | 15 | 8.00 am | Holy Communion | |
| <i>Easter 2</i> | | 9.45 am | Sung Eucharist | |
| | | | Children' s Church and Vestry Group | |
| | | 11.15 am | Annual Parochial Church Meeting | |
| | | | <i>No Grassroots Service</i> | |
| | | 2.00 pm | Baptism. Kaitlin Drinkwater | |
| | | 6.30 pm | Sung Evensong | |
| | | 8.00 pm | Children' s Church Leaders' Meeting | Vicarage |
| Mon | 16 | 1.30 pm | Stepping Stones | Baptist Church Centre |
| Tue | 17 | 7.30 pm | Evening Bible Study Group | 8, Hall Close, Hartford |
| Wed | 18 | 11.00 am | Holy Communion | Woodley Court |
| Thu | 19 | 9.30 am | St Mary' s 0s-5s | Comrades Club |
| | | 9.45 am | Holy Communion | |

GODMANCHESTER PARISH NEWS

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|-----------------|----|---------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Fri | 20 | 7.30 pm | Choir practice | |
| Sat | 21 | | | |
| Sun | 22 | 8.00 am | Holy Communion | |
| <i>Easter 3</i> | | 9.45 am | Sung Eucharist | |
| | | | Children' s Church and Vestry Group | |
| | | 3.00 pm | Annual Scouts and Guides St | |
| | | | George' s Day Parade | |
| | | 6.30 pm | Sung Evensong | |
| Mon | 23 | 1.30 pm | Stepping Stones | Baptist Church Ccentre |
| Wed | 25 | 9.45 am | Holy Communion | McCartney House |
| Thu | 26 | 9.30 am | St Mary' s 0s-5s | Comrades Club |
| | | 9.45 am | Holy Communion | |
| | | 8.00 pm | Communications Committee | Vicarage |
| Fri | 27 | 7.30 pm | Choir practice | |
| Sun | 29 | 9.45 am | All-age Eucharist | |
| <i>Easter 4</i> | | | followed by Farewell to Ally | Church Hall |
| | | 6.30 pm | Sung Evensong | |
| Mon | 30 | 1.30 pm | Stepping Stones | Baptist Church Centre |

The Editorial Committee meeting for the May magazine will be held on Sunday 15 April. Would you please ensure that material is with one of the following by that date and if possible not later than Friday 13 April.

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