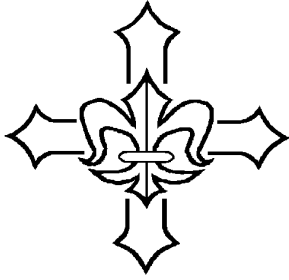


Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Godmanchester
Weekly Newsletter



Sunday 16th March 2008
Palm Sunday

Holy Communion

President & Preacher: David Busk

Parish Praise

David Busk

See separate order of service

Sung Evensong

Hymns
Psalm

Pat Saunders

509, 465, 511
80 vv 1-7, 17-19

Collect

True and humble king,
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:
grant us the faith to know you and love you,
that we may be found beside you
on the way of the cross,
which is the path of glory.

Street Prayer Mission: The Chestnuts, Oak Tree Court, Berry Lane, Offord Hill & Road

Charity of the month: The Smile Train

Holy Communion. All are welcome at the altar rail. If you are a communicant member of your own Church, you are welcome to receive the Sacrament here. Or if you would like to receive a Blessing, please come forward with a hymn book, kneel at the rail and bow your head.

Notices

Palm Sunday Parish Praise

Welcome to our second Parish Praise at St Anne's School. Our first meeting was tremendous and it was good to see so many families, friends and new faces gathered together. We hope that we have set out enough chairs this time, but will be even more delighted if we have to gather more from the classrooms again. Please enjoy this act of worship and do stay on afterwards to meet and eat with us all.

Youth Group

For our final get-together before the Easter hols, we'll be having a Passover Supper in the Church Hall at the usual time of 6.45-8.30pm. We'll put together some Haroseth (a mixture of fruit, nuts and spices) and Matzos (a dry bread we've made once before to use in communion) and then have the meal together and learn a bit more about Passover in the process. Thanks to those of you who at the end of last week's chillout helped choose some songs to play during the meal. After the meal we'll wash down our Haroseth with some pizza and just wind down with games and music. We would love to see any new friends who might like to join. Please note, there will be no Youth group next week. Jen Weedon (391093).

Easter Lilies

If you would like to buy an Easter lily in memory of a loved one, these will cost £3:50 each. They will be arranged in the nave pedestals for everyone to enjoy. Please give money to Linda Weedon and sign the book of Remembrance, which will be placed on a desk in the St. Anne's Chapel nearer to Easter Sunday. Jean Miller.

Easter Flowers

The Flower Guild would be very pleased to receive donations towards the cost of decorating the Church for Easter. Please give these to Vera Arnold or, if you would

prefer, put your small change in the Flower box on the book table. Jean Miller.

Parish Annual Report

A reminder that the closing date for receipt of contributions to the Parish Annual Report is Monday 17th March please. Dai Morgan (417502).

Good Friday Children's Workshop

This will take place in the church hall at 1.30pm on Friday 21st March, alongside the Good Friday worship in church, and finish at 2.45pm. There will be a variety of activities, including making hot cross buns, preparing the Easter Garden, and a Godly Play story. To know more, or to let us know that your children would like to take part, please contact one of the Children's Church leaders or Pat Saunders (354764).

Lent Concert

The Lent concert on 8th March raised the sum of £677.15 for church funds. The choir and I would like to thank all who supported this event, either by their presence or by their donations. Ken Diffey.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The formal "Notice of Annual Parochial Church Meeting" (APCM) is on the main notice board in the South Porch. The APCM will be held in the Church Hall on Sunday 27th April 2008, starting at 11.15am. The meeting includes the election of two Churchwardens, three members of the PCC for three years and three members to represent the parish on the Deanery Synod for three years. Nomination forms are available from the PCC Secretary. All persons whose names are entered upon the Church Electoral Roll are entitled to vote at the APCM. If you are member of the congregation and not on the electoral roll, please complete an electoral roll form and pass to John Bathurst-Hoile (Electoral Roll Officer) or Trevor Weedon (PCC Secretary). Members of the congregation wishing to

raise any item under "Any other business" are asked to give notice of the item to the PCC Secretary by 24th April. Trevor Weedon (413264).

Parish Photograph 2008

It is planned to have a 'parish photograph' on Sunday 18th May. This year will be a little different from recent photographs as the west door of the church will be the backdrop and platforms will be used to help get everyone into view. In addition to a large group shot of all church members who are available on the day, it is hoped to have a series of smaller group photographs representing the many teams of people such as bell ringers, choir, Mothers' Union, Youth Group etc. Plans will be made in advance so that we have a schedule of who needs shooting when during the day. These images will then form the centre of a display that will be available to view inside the church from Gala Weekend until Harvest Festival. Further details will follow as the big day approaches. Please put this date in your diary and say a prayer for good weather.

Leprosy Mission Stamps

Mr & Mrs Jarman, who are responsible for collecting and selling used stamps in aid of the Leprosy Mission write:- "A big thank you to the Parishioners of St Mary the Virgin Parish Church, Godmanchester, for their collection of used stamps. This is a very worthwhile venture and last year £35,000 was raised through the sale of stamps and collectables. Thank you very much."

Eco-congregation News

We would like to make an appeal to everyone to start collecting batteries that have run out of power and are about to be thrown away. We are going to collect them and recharge them (yes even the ordinary ones can be recharged up to ten times). Once the project is up and running, then

you'll be able to exchange your worn out batteries with charged ones for a fraction of the cost. Please keep ALL types of batteries from now on. Do ask even at places like schools, clubs and your work. This project is better for the environment and will help raise money for other eco-projects. Simon and Janie Prince.

Greetings Cards

Following the 9.45 service on Sunday 30th March, there will be an opportunity to view and purchase a range of handmade greetings cards. The cards, priced from as little as £1, will be displayed in the Church Hall by their designers. Every card sold will raise 10p for Church funds.

Church Fund Raising

Do you buy goods on-line? Do you use the computer to search for information? If you were to do this by using our church's website as your home page, and clicking on easysearch or easyfundraising, you would raise money for the church as you click. Paul Sibley has set it all up and I tried it last week, finding it very easy to use, and I can highly recommend it to you. Janie Prince.

Blue Peter Disc Drive Appeal

Katie Lunn has placed a Blue Peter box in the south door entrance of the Church. She is collecting any unwanted CDs, DVDs or computer games to help Blue Peter raise money for young carers who have to look after their parents. When we have all had a chance to help, Katie will take the box to a local collection point for Blue Peter. Visit www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/discdrive/home to get more information on how your old discs can be used to help young carers.

Newsletter Compiler

Jim Heeley is the Newsletter compiler during March. Contact jskc@btinternet.com (412264). Please have all contributions in by 6.30pm on Thursday.

DIARY

Sunday 16th March

Palm Sunday

- 08:00 *Holy Communion*
- 10:15 *Procession from Church to St Anne's*
- 11:00 *Parish Praise (St Anne's School)*
- 18:30 *Sung Evensong*
- 18:45 *Youth Group Passover Supper (Church Hall)*

Monday 17th March

- 09:45 *Holy Communion*
- 13:30 *Stepping Stones (Baptist Church Centre)*
- 20:00 *Compline with homily*

Tuesday 18th March

- 09:45 *Holy Communion*
- 20:00 *Compline with homily*

Wednesday 19^h March

- 09:45 *Holy Communion*
- 11:00 *Holy Communion (Woodley Court)*
- 20:00 *Compline with homily*

Thursday 20th March

Maundy Thursday

- 09:15 *St Anne's School Easter Service*
- 19:30 *Sung Eucharist with foot-washing followed by Vigil*

Friday 21st March

Good Friday

- 11:00 *Churches Together Walk of Witness (Huntingdon Methodist Church)*
- 13:30 *Good Friday Liturgy*
- 13:30 *Children's Workshop*

Saturday 22nd March

Easter Eve

- 11:00 *Churches Together Singing (Tesco, Huntingdon)*
- 19:30 *Vigil and Sung Eucharist*

Sunday 23rd March

Easter Day

- 06:00 *Churches Together Dawn Service (Castle Hill, Huntingdon)*
- 08:00 *Holy Communion*
- 09:45 *Sung Eucharist*
- 18:30 *Sung Evensong*

Coffee is served in the Church Hall after the morning Eucharist. Everyone is welcome

Visit the church website at www.stmarysgodmanchester.org