



EWELL PARISH NEWS

The monthly newspaper of St Mary the Virgin Ewell

No. 615

April 2024

60p



Sharing the Love of Christ, the Light of the World, with the people of Ewell

 **St Mary's Ewell**
www.stmarysewell.com



St Mary's
Spring Dinner
Saturday 20 April

6.30 for 7pm

Ewell Hall
(opposite St Mary's Church)
London Road, Ewell

Tickets (£15) available after services

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COPY FOR THE NEXT EDITION: Please email EPN copy to: epn@stmarysewell.com. Handwritten or typed copy will only be accepted by prior agreement (call 020 8393 4804). Please do not embed photos in WORD files, but send the images separately. Copy date for the May 2024 edition is noon on Monday 15 April.

Fr Mark Stafford writes

Would you like to join us as we Beat the Bounds on 5 May 2024?

Rogation Sunday is the fifth Sunday after Easter - 5 May this year. It is a day when we ask God to bless the crops, the farmers who work the land, and we can pray for our environment.

In centuries past, Rogation Sunday also saw the 'Beating of the Bounds'. 'Beating the Bounds' is a great historical event, the tradition is centuries-old, the aim of which was to remind everyone of boundaries that were important in their lives. In some places the boundary stones were beaten with sticks and in extreme cases children had their heads knocked against the stones (please refrain from doing this !!).

In the Church calendar, each Sunday has a name, and it is usually related to its closeness to a major festival. Some Sundays are lucky and have two names, the Sixth Sunday of Easter (the fifth Sunday after Easter Sunday) is also known as "Rogation Sunday."

Rogation lasts for longer than just one day, and Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of that week are known as the "Rogation Days," days which are put aside by the Church to ask for God's blessing on agriculture and industry.

In many village Churches around the country, Rogation tide is the time when the Church asks for God's blessings on the fruits of the earth and the labours of those who produce our food. In fact, the word "Rogation" comes from the Latin noun rogatio, meaning "asking".

At St Mary's we are intending to keep Rogation Sunday and also 'Beat the Bounds' on Sunday 5 May. It would be great if after the 9:30am service, you could join us as we walk and "beat" our parish boundaries. The full boundary walk is about 8.5 miles, but there is also a possible shorter route of 4.5 miles. Alternatively, you could create your own route possibly including public transport links, so you could plan a hybrid route, if you don't want to walk so far. Or, for those preferring not to walk, why not come with friends and support the walkers and enjoy a coffee, a meal or a picnic at one of the two suggested café stops. You can see the route on the next page and you can download it and the route instructions from our website at www.stmarysewell.com/beat-the-bounds-parish-boundary-walk/

Even if you can't join us on Rogation Sunday for the 9:30am service or are unable to join us as we beat the bounds, it would be great if on the 3 days following Rogation Sunday, we could be more mindful of those who work in essential industry and agriculture. When we switch our lights on, we could pray for those working in power stations, when we eat, we could say grace and remember those who work in agriculture and food production and when we get on the bus, we could think about the people working to keep the buses roadworthy.

We have a lot to thank God for in our lives, at times we might not always think so, but compared to many people around the world we are very richly blessed, and Rogation Tide is traditionally a time of saying thank you to God, but also for asking Him to Bless the coming harvest. Maybe this year we could ask Him to Bless the harvest for the whole world?

WHAT'S ON IN APRIL?

Thursdays 4 and 18 April – Our **Bereavement café** will be open in Ewell Hall from 2:45pm to 3:45pm. This is free and all who feel it might help them are welcome to come and join us.

St Mary the Virgin EWELL PARISH CHURCH 020 8393 2643

Website: www.stmarysewell.com
Registered Charity Number 1128409

CLERGY

Vicar: Fr Mark Stafford 020 8393 1297

Email: vicar@stmarysewell.com

Day off: Friday

**Assistant Priest: The Reverend Sue Ayling OBE;
020 8337 6347; Email:**

assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com

Day off: Wednesday

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Email churchwarden1@stmarysewell.com

Mr Nicholas Allsopp 07899 818400;

Email churchwarden@stmarysewell.com

Pastoral Assistant

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Email: pastoral@stmarysewell.com

Safeguarding Officer

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Email: safeguardingofficer@stmarysewell.com

Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor

Jackie Broadfoot 07918 559387;

Email: jackie.broadfoot@cofeguildford.org.uk

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Day-to day financial queries

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Email: financeteam@stmarysewell.com

Stewardship Recorder

Mrs Sarah Holmes;

Email: plannedgiving@stmarysewell.com

THE PARISH OFFICE

Administrator:

Mrs Lynne Yuille 020 8393 2643 (Office)

Office email: parishoffice@stmarysewell.com

The postal address is: St Mary's Ewell Parish Church, London Rd, Ewell, Surrey, KT17 2AY.

The Parish Office is on the south side of the church.

The Parish Office is closed to visitors at present. Please telephone or email instead.

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St Mary's Toddler Group
 Thursday mornings in term time 10-11.30 in Ewell Hall
 For information please phone 020 8393 4804 or see St Mary's website



Saturday 6 April 2.30pm Messy Church goes wild – Come and join for a fun filled afternoon

Saturday 6 April Calling all **ABBA** fans – following on from the great success of the singalongs ‘Sound of Music’ and ‘Mamma Mia’, we are hosting singalong ‘Mamma Mia 2’ here in Church at 6.30 for 7pm. Tickets on sale now either in Church or on Eventbrite and cost £10 adult (including a glass of fizz) and £5 child (including a soft drink).

Tuesday 9 April 1.05pm – Organ and Piano Recital. Jonathan Holmes and a sixth form pianist from Ewell Castle School will be playing. Join us for afternoon tea. Admission Free.

Monday 15 April 8.00pm Julian Group on Zoom – Spend some time being still and quite in God’s presence.

Saturday 20 April Spring Dinner – The next dinner organised by our Social Committee, “Spring is in the Air”, will be held on Saturday 20 April at 6.30 for 7pm. Please join us then for a three-course dinner and entertainment. Tickets cost £15 and are on sale after Sunday services. This is a very popular event so please buy your tickets sooner rather than later. We regret that we cannot reserve tickets.

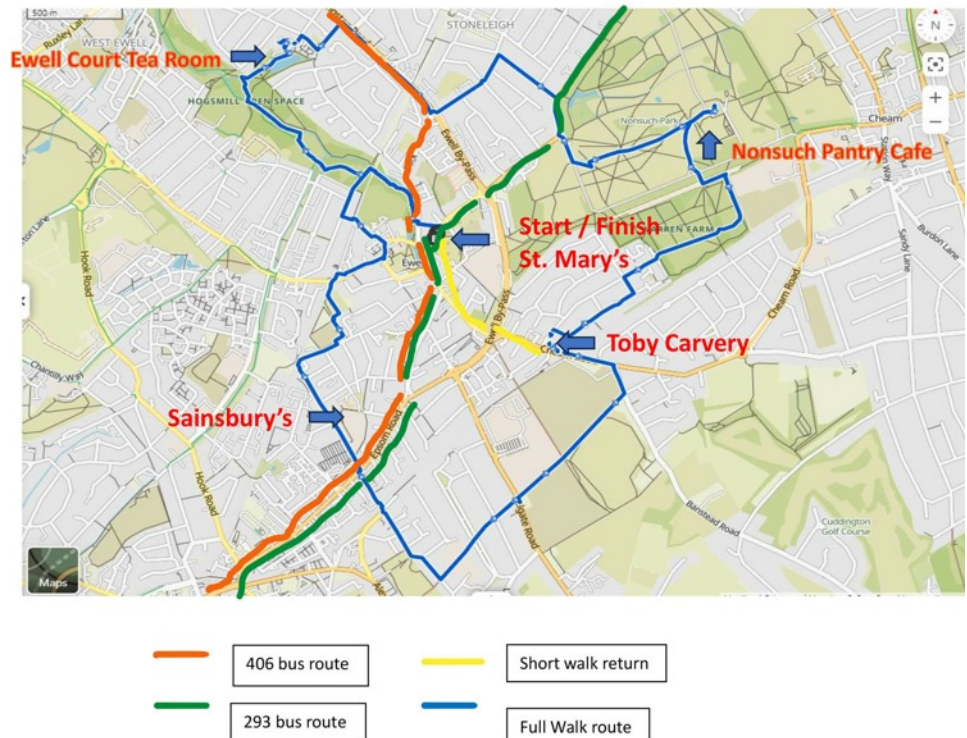
Saturday 27 April 7.30pm – ‘Love and Nature’ concert by Lizzy Humphries Soprano (former chorister at St Mary’s) and Jonny Allsopp Accompanist (former Organ Scholar at St Mary’s). Suggested donation of £10 (free to students and children).

Sunday 28 April 6.30pm – ‘Deanery Confirmation Service’ Please pray for our confirmation candidates. We are waiting to hear how many people we can invite to attend the service.

Do check the Calendar on the back page for the full list of services and events happening in April.

Every blessing
 Fr Mark

Beating the Bounds Route Map



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AV/SOUND DESK AT ST MARY'S

We continue to seek volunteers to learn how to operate our AV/sound desk and to join the team helping with livestreaming/videos at our services.

This is a vital part of our outreach so if you think you may be able to help, please contact the churchwardens, our clergy or John Larkin.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS FUNERALS

I will come again and take you to myself
(St. John 14:3)

23 February Colin Albert Harris, aged 86
11 March Margaret Ann Amess, aged 85

ST. MARY'S ON-LINE QUIZZES

We hold monthly on-line quizzes using Zoom

These are very popular and fun for all the family. Why not join us?



Our next quiz will be on Wednesday 8 May. This will be our 50th on-line quiz. As always, you will need to register beforehand. You can use links provided in the Weekly Notes or you can also register by emailing zoom@stmarysewell.com

BRAIN TEASER

If the letters A, B and C each represent a different digit, what is the smallest possible value of the 3 digit number ABC divided by the sum of the three digits

$$ABC / (A+B+C) ?$$

Answer next month

APRIL CONCERTS

9 April 1.05 pm

Tuesday lunchtime organ recital

Jonathan Holmes continues his Bach lunchtime series

27 April 7.30 pm

Love and Nature

Lizzy Humphries Soprano (former chorister)
& Jonny Allsopp Accompanist (former Organ Scholar)

Concerts are followed by refreshments

The Saturday Concerts have a suggested donation of £10 (free to students and children). Tuesday concerts are free with donations for the organ fund being welcome

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Ewell Hall EVENTS + ACTIVITIES

A WELCOMING VENUE IN THE HEART OF EWELL*

- Family parties and celebrations
- Club, society and group meetings
- Craft, activity and art classes
- Exercise and meditation classes
- Children's parties and activities
- Business meetings and events
- Musical events and dances
- Lunches, teas and dinners, etc

* Ewell Hall, 7 London Road, Ewell KT17 2AY
(Previously known as St Mary's Church Hall)

- Fully Equipped Kitchen and Servery
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- Sound System and AV Equipment
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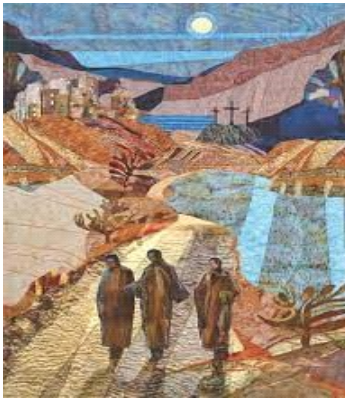
Please visit ewellhall.uk for full details
and to make your booking request

Email: info@ewellhall.uk

020 8614 0714

Ewell Hall is Managed for the Community under the Trusteeship of the Parochial Church Council of St Mary's Ewell, Registered Charity No 1128409

Prayers for April



The Gospel of Luke retells the familiar story of two of Jesus' disciples on their journey to the village of Emmaus. It tells of their sadness and confusion. They do not even recognise Jesus when he first joins them. Life itself is often described as a journey and today, like those two disciples, we may also find ourselves troubled, afraid, feeling life is confusing and dark.

The historic village of Emmaus no longer exists. However, we may find our own 'road to Emmaus' for it is every place where the Lord prepares us to receive Him, just as those early disciples finally recognised and received their friend, the risen Lord Jesus.

Lord, even when we do not recognise you, ignore and forget you when 'life' seems to get in the way, just as it did for those early disciples on the road to Emmaus, open our eyes; open our hearts to receive you, we pray.

Lord, all too often, events, relationships, the pressures of everyday life seek to entomb us, shutting out the light, shutting you out. Where we have buried and ignored our compassion, sense of justice, mercy, humility, humanity, willingness to forgive, break open the tomb that engulfs us, we pray and open our lives to your resurrection power!

AMEN

ENJOY SOME PEACE AND QUIET!



Life for many of us can be so hectic and being still such a rare gift! All over the world Julian groups meet regularly - usually once a month - to spend time together in stillness and silent prayer. They are named after Mother Julian of Norwich and follow her precept that the highest form of prayer consists in simply waiting on God. You can discover more about her at this

website <https://www.orderofjulian.org/About-Julian>

Why not try joining the St Mary's monthly Julian Group which meets on the 3rd Monday of each month from 8-9pm via Zoom? We spend time being still and quiet in God's presence hearing some words of Julian of Norwich or another spiritual writer or from the Bible and occasionally enjoying some music.

Everyone is welcome. In future you'll find the date of the Julian Group in the Calendar (on the back page of EPN), but the dates for the next three months are 15 April, 20 May and 17 June. If you'd like to know more, please get in touch with Sue Ayling (020 8337 6347 or assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com).

YOUNG PERFORMERS CONCERTS

6 February

Jonathan Davidson

17 February

Vincent Wang – organ and piano

Katerina Khan – soprano

Lily Gartside – organ

Hattie Stephens – organ

Daniel Woodliffe – organ and cello

Ansh Kumar – piano

Vansh Kumar – piano

Elinor Thomas – organ and clarinet

Noah Maddox – piano

How encouraging it is to hear such youthful musicians! All are highly accomplished; not only was I impressed at their skill but also at times profoundly moved. Jonathan Davidson is a sixth-former at Epsom College preparing for his A-levels. On 6 February he shared one of Mr Holmes's regular Bach recitals, playing pieces by **Schubert** (*Impromptu in G flat major, opus 90 no.3*) and **Debussy** (*Claire de Lune*).

At the concert on 17 February, we heard people playing cello and clarinet as well as organ and piano. All the young musicians are, at differing levels, studying with Mr Holmes. At the age of ten, Vincent was by far the youngest participant. First of all, at the Willis organ, he played a *Praeludium* by **Krebs** who was a pupil of Bach. Then he switched to the piano for *Minstrels* by **Debussy**. Vincent was followed by Katerina who is a member of the Parish Church Choir. With Jonathan Holmes at the piano, she presented three songs. They were an interesting choice. Beginning with **Britten's** arrangement of the folk song *O waly, waly, she went on to Deh vieni, non tardar* (Please come, don't be late) which is an aria by the character Susana in **Mozart's** opera *The Marriage of Figaro*. For her final song, she chose a song that, rather like *O waly, waly*, is about the uncertainty of emotions, especially among the young: *Lachen und Weinen* - Laughing and Weeping - by **Schubert**. Two students at Epsom College followed in turn, Lily Gartside and Hattie Stephens. Lily played the *Prelude in F, BWV 556* by **Bach**. Hattie took over with a sparkling Choral Prelude by **Bach**, *Herzlich tut mich verlangen* (Deeply do I yearn for death). After that, she played an organ piece by **Florence Price**, *Adoration*. To bring us to the interval, it was the turn of Daniel Woodliffe who is the Junior Organ Scholar here at St. Mary's. Not only is he skilled at the organ but he is also a fine Cellist as we heard in the *Intermezzo* from the opera *Goyescas* by the Spanish composer **Enrique Granados**. At the organ, Daniel played an *Elegy* by **George Thalben-Ball**. He was organist at the Temple Church in London and the *Elegy* was dedicated to his predecessor there, Walford Davies.

After the interval, Noah came to the piano for the famous *Toccata in D minor BWV 565* by **Bach**. Elinor took over with the first of her two pieces, the *Prelude and Fugue in C major BWV 557* by **Bach**. She was followed by the two brothers, both highly accomplished pianists. Firstly, Ansh who played the first movement of **Beethoven's Piano Sonata no. 17** in D minor, called 'Tempest'. Then his brother Vansh in **Tchaikovsky's Theme and Variations in F Major** which received its premiere in Moscow in 1874. Finally, it was Elinor again this time playing a piece for clarinet and piano, *Lorito Caprice* by **Francesco Gomez (1866- 1938)**. The title simply means 'Little Chatterbox' and this delightful music rounded off a wonderful concert.



Messy Church goes Wild continues to go wild! This month, we will be thinking about the story of

'The road to Emmaus'

Whatever the weather, we explore God's creation with activities, songs, and Bible stories, both indoors and outside, rain or shine, for all ages on

Saturday, April 6
2.30pm - 4.00pm
ALL WELCOME



A free money advice and well-being support service is available to people living and working in Epsom & Ewell. The Financial and Wellbeing Support Service (FWSS) is delivered by Citizens Advice Epsom & Ewell (CAEE) for expert benefits and money advice and mental health charity, Mary Frances Trust (MFT), for specialist well-being support.

If managing your finances is causing stress and anxiety or mental health challenges are impacting your ability to manage your finances, the three-year project funded by The National Lottery Community Fund will provide a range of free services and resources to help residents to get help during this difficult time.

If you need support to tackle both financial and emotional/mental wellbeing difficulties; and live in or around the Epsom & Ewell Borough and are 18+ years then please get in touch with either organisation (no need to contact both). No third party referral is required. Case Workers from CAEE and MFT will support you to improve your situation and emotional wellbeing via face-to-face, telephone or online appointments.

Mary Frances Trust:

Email: fwss@maryfrancestrust.org.uk

Telephone / SMS: 07380 567708

Citizens Advice Epsom & Ewell

Email: fwss@caee.org.uk

Tel: 01372 300421

MAMMA MIA!
2
HERE WE GO AGAIN!

ST MARY'S CHURCH
LONDON ROAD EWELL

Saturday 6th April 2024
 Doors open at 6:30pm for 7:00pm
 Adult ticket price £10, with a glass of fizz,
 Children £5, licenced bar
 Dress to impress like it's 1970
Tickets available in Church
and on Eventbrite

EPSOM & EWELL FOODBANK

Our local foodbank relies on your goodwill and support. Your food donations are vital - please help if you can.

Urgently needed: UHT milk, tinned meat, tinned fish, tinned fruit, sponge/rice puddings, coffee, long-life juice, pasta sauces, toilet roll, shaving gel and cleaning products.

Please no more of these items as we are fully stocked: tea bags and pet food.

You can donate food at St Mary's Church Ewell, Sainsbury's Kiln Lane, Waitrose Epsom and Binstead, Asda Burgh Heath and Tesco Leatherhead, or directly to Epsom & Ewell Foodbank, Good Company Hub, (Behind West Ewell Primary School), Ruxley Lane, Ewell KT19 0JG. Open Monday to Friday 9am - 2pm excluding Bank Holidays.

You can make a monetary donation via the Foodbank website www.epsomewell.foodbank.org.uk.

*** Please make sure all donations are sealed, in date and do not contain alcohol ***

ST. MARY'S ECO GROUP



This month's ECO tips are taken from '52 ECO Top Tips' which can be downloaded from the website of the Leeds Diocese at <https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/resource/eco-tips-for-your-weekly-parish-newsletter/>. We also highlight 'No Mow May' an annual campaign from Plantlife in which St.Mary's is participating.

April – In the bathroom

Spend less time in the shower. Spending one minute less in the shower each day will save up to £7 off your energy bills each year, per person. Heating water uses a lot of energy (www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/home-energy-efficiency/energy-saving-quick-wins).

Turn off the tap while cleaning your teeth. The clean water that flows out of your tap needs energy in many stages of processing and transport before it gets to the tap. Don't waste it!

If your toilet cistern holds more than 6 litres of water (likely if it was installed before 2001) put a Hippo Water Saving device (or a brick) in it to save water each time you flush (eg <http://www.hippo-the-watersaver.co.uk/>)

Fit a water efficient shower head (if you've got a shower that takes hot water straight from your boiler or hot water tank). This will reduce your hot water usage while retaining the sensation of a powerful shower.

Switch to eco cleaning products which biodegrade in the sewerage system and don't damage aquatic life in our rivers and seas. They also contain less harmful chemical for us too.

'No Mow May'

No Mow May is Plantlife's annual campaign calling on all garden owners and green space managers not to mow during May. The PCC have decided that the grass at the top of Churchyard 4 should be left unmown during May. [The area with memorial stones will be mown to respect the feelings of anyone who comes to remember a loved one.] Your lawn can help too! A healthy lawn with some long grass and wildflowers benefits wildlife, tackles pollution and can even lock away carbon below ground. Will you be one of the 20 million gardens in the UK which benefit the environment through 'No Mow May' this year? You can find out more at <https://www.plantlife.org.uk/campaigns/nomowmay/>.

If you have an ECO tip or would like to join our ECO Group, we would love to hear from you. Please get in touch with our chairman, Fr. Mark on 020 8393 1297 or vicar@stmarysewell.com.

SPRING DINNER

Come and Join us!



The next church dinner organised by our Social Committee will be held in Ewell Hall on Saturday 20 April at 6.30 for 7.00 pm.

Come and join us for a delicious three course dinner with entertainment between courses.

Tickets cost £15 and are on sale in Church after Sunday morning services.



Saturday 13 July 2024

We have already had our first planning meeting and the organisation is going well. We have had a site visit to plan for the stalls and attractions as again this year's Fair will be held on Church grounds and inside the Church. Entertainment and events are coming together. As usual the St Mary's Morris Men will be in action!

Lots of help is still required for this event, thank you to those who have already volunteered. If you are interested in helping, please contact me at fair@stmarysewell.com or let Fr Mark know.

Please save the date and look out for more exciting news in the coming weeks.

Many thanks

Harvey Morris
Chair of the Fair Committee

EASYFUNDRAISING FOR ST. MARY'S

Do you make on-line purchases from on-line retailers and if so do you know about Easyfundraising?

More than 8000 on-line retailers (including Argos, John Lewis, Booking.com, British Airways, Tui, Expedia, Sainsburys and Tesco) offer charitable donations through **Easyfundraising**, for purchases made via their website. Presently St Mary's has 37 people signed up to Easyfundraising and we have received £1168 in charitable donations from their purchases.

We can raise much more if more people register and shop via www.easyfundraising.org.uk. Please select **St Mary the Virgin Parish Church - Ewell** as your nominated charity and remember to make purchases via the EasyFundraising website. Thank you!

TOY STORY 3 MARCH

On a bright but freezing cold March afternoon, we held a showing of one of the great children's films, 'Toy Story'. You would be surprised to know that this film is almost 30 years old and despite this fact, it still remains a favourite. We welcomed children and their families into the Church, many of whom we had not previously met, along with regular members of our Church family. During the two planned intervals, we served popcorn, crisps and fruit along with a variety of soft drinks and the occasional St Mary's gin too!

All the children (and adults) were very well behaved and several suggested, having enjoyed the film, that we make the cinema a regular event at the Church. After packing away and cleaning up, we made our way to 'infinity and beyond'!

LS

DATA PROTECTION AT ST. MARY'S

The responsibilities of our PCC are many and varied. They include ensuring that we are compliant with data protection legislation.

Since Christmas some of our policies and procedures have been reviewed. Updated versions of our main data protection policy and our data privacy notices are now available on our website along with our policy for the use of CCTV. Data privacy notices detail the personal data that we collect, how we use this data, the legal basis for this use and the rights of individuals in relation to the data we hold and the way that we use it.

David Dance, Data Protection Compliance Officer

SPRING MARKET

Our ever-popular Spring Market will be held on Saturday 4 May between 10.00am and 12 noon in Ewell Hall.

Admission is free and all are welcome. Tea, coffee and cold drinks will be available for your mid-morning break and there will be an extensive selection of plants, cakes, books, toys, games and bric-a-brac on sale.

Donations of home-made cakes are always welcome. Donations for any of the other stalls will also be welcome. Non-perishable contributions for the stalls can be left in church from Sunday 21 April. Any other items for sale can be brought to Ewell Hall on Friday 3 May between 2pm and 5pm or from 8.30am on the day. Alternatively a list of stallholders is shown below to enable specific arrangements to be made.

There will be a **raffle** – for which any donations will be gratefully received.

We look forward to welcoming you, along with your family and friends, to enjoy this social occasion.

All proceeds from this event are put towards the running expenses of the Ewell Village Fair which is to be held on 13 July.

| | | |
|--------------|------------------|---------------|
| Plants | Gillian Reynolds | 020 8393 3752 |
| Cakes | Sybil Hale | 0208 393 3507 |
| Bric-a-brac | Gillian Merrick | 07817 566562 |
| Books | Geoff Fisher | 01372 720241 |
| Refreshments | Rosemarie Henson | 0208 224 2713 |
| Raffle | Gill Bird | 01372 277436 |



Calling Green Fingered Folk

Plants are Needed for the Spring Market
Start planting up NOW. Thank you. Gill Reynolds

IN THE MONTH OF APRIL

300 years ago, on 7 April 1724: the German composer Johann Sebastian Bach's St John Passion was performed for the first time, at a church in Leipzig.

175 years ago, on 10 April 1849: American mechanic Walter Hunt was granted a US patent for his invention of the safety pin. He immediately sold the rights for \$400, which is about \$12,000 today. The company he sold it to made millions from it.

150 years ago, on 5 April 1874: Johann Strauss II's operetta Die Fledermaus was performed for the first time, in Vienna.

30 years ago, on 26 April 1994: the first post-apartheid multiracial elections were held in South Africa. Nelson Mandela was elected president, and took office on 10 May

20 years ago, on 1 April 2004: Google launched its free email service, Gmail.

ST MARY'S PARISH RETREAT



On 11 May you are invited to join St Mary's Parish Retreat at The Abbey in Chertsey. Our venue is a large Georgian house, with a comfortable sitting room, a dining room, a TV room, a garden room and a quiet room. The house has a large walled garden with plenty of seats and is a member of the Quiet Garden Movement.

You may wish to come along to enjoy the company of other members of St Mary's or to take time out on your own. The day is for you to do as you choose - to read and reflect, to chat, to be creative or to enjoy some peace and quiet in the garden, very conscious of the beauty of God's creation. There will be books to borrow, (though you may wish to bring a book of your choice), a craft activity, a puzzle and a discussion group. You can be inside or outside depending on the weather and on your inclination.

The (optional) programme for the day will be –

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| 10am to 10.30am | Arrivals and coffee or tea, biscuits. |
| 10.30am to 10.40am | A short said service of Opening Worship |
| 10.40am to noon | Your choice |
| Noon | A said Holy Communion service |
| 1pm to 2pm | Lunch Bring your own lunch |
| 2pm to 3.30pm | Your choice |
| 3.30pm to 3.40pm | A short said service of Going Out Worship |
| 3.40pm to 4pm | Tea and cake and departures home. |

Tea, coffee and biscuits are available through the day. There is no charge for the day but donations are welcome. (The suggested donation is between £5-£10 to help with the running costs of the house.)

The address is The Abbey, Colonel's Lane, Chertsey KT16 8RJ. There is plenty of parking. Lifts are available. Please sign the list at the back of church if you hope to come or email assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com. Please indicate if you'd like a lift.

Any questions to Sue Ayling (020 8337 6347 or assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com)

Seventeenth Century Nun's Prayer

Lord, thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will some day be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details; give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by.

I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of other's pains, but help me to endure them with patience. I dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and a lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint - some of them are so hard to live with - but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people. And, give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so.

Amen.

REPORT FROM THE PCC

At the PCC meeting on 12 March members voted to accept a proposal from the Eco Group to join in with a 'No Mow May' campaign. This will be restricted to the far end of Churchyard 4, away from graves which will still have mown access. There will be blue heart shaped signs explaining the project, which is hoped will attract butterflies and other insects. It was also agreed that this will be reported in the Weekly Notes along with the question to the congregation, 'What could you do?'

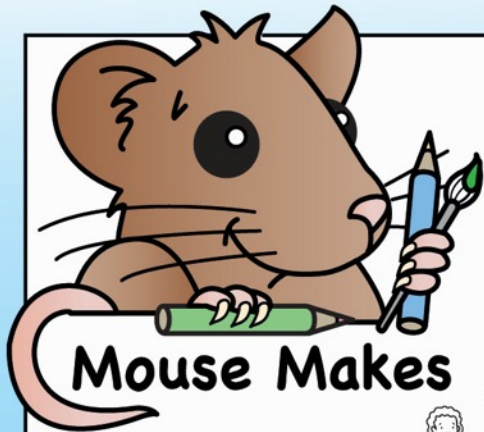
Permission has been sought to slightly reposition the monitor in the south aisle, in order that more people on that side of the church to have a better view. Similarly, there will also be a new monitor under the gallery in the Welcome Area, allowing a view of the high altar during services.

The PCC agreed to the purchase and installation of an outdoor defibrillator for use by the public on the external wall of the Hall.

Recent power outages in the church were discovered to be caused by deterioration of the wiring to the external lighting system. Members approved the repair and replacement of the necessary wiring and equipment to be carried as soon as possible.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 9 April.

Liz Divall
PCC Seretary



Some time after Jesus had risen a few of His disciples met together to go fishing. They fished all night but caught nothing. As the sun rose a man on the shore asked; "Have you caught anything?" "Not a thing" they answered.



He said to them "Throw your net out onto the right side of the boat and you will catch some." So they did and they and they caught so many fish they could not pull in the net. Then John recognised the man, "It is the Lord!"



READ

the story in **John 21**

How many times had the risen Jesus revealed himself to the disciples before this?

Read John 21:14

How many disciples were there? Who were they?

Read John 21: 11

How many fish did they catch?

Read John 21: 11

A large illustration of a fishing net filled with fish. Inside the net, there is a word search grid. The words are arranged in a grid with some letters missing:

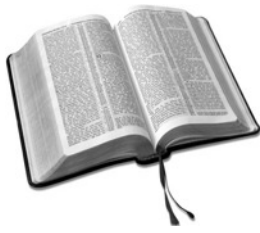
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| J | O | H | N | S | S | O | C | S | I | N | | | |
| M | S | H | C | B | N | T | B | A | | | | | |
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| C | A | U | G | H | T | L | D | O | F | U | L | L | |

DISCIPLES • TIBERIAS • SEA • SIMON PETER • THOMAS • NATHANAEAL • JOHN • DAY FISHING • BOAT • NIGHT • CAUGHT • NOTHING • WATER • SHORE • FISH • CAST • NET RIGHT • FIND • HAUL • LORD • FULL • LAND • FIRE • BREAD • BREAKFAST • JESUS

Colour in all the fish

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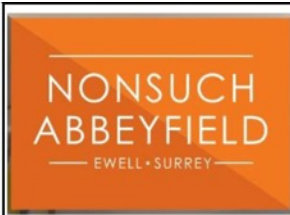


The Greenwood Family are directly involved in the running of the Company, ensuring that your wishes are carried out with the utmost dignity and precise attention to detail.

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www.acts435.org.uk/our-mission/how-we-work/



Calendar for April



Morning Prayer will usually be celebrated at 0900 Monday to Saturday and shown online (Saturdays will be specifically Prayers for Peace)

- T 02 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
- Th 04 1445 Bereavement Café (Hall)
- S 06 1430 Messy Church goes wild
- S 06 1830 for 1900 Mamma-Mia 2 Singalong (in Church)
- S 07 EASTER 2**
 - 0800 Said Holy Communion - 1662 (Lady Chapel)
 - 0930 Jesus and Me (JAM) (Hall then Church)
 - 0930 Sung Holy Communion
- T 09 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
- 1305 Lunchtime Bach Organ Recital
- 1930 PCC Meeting (Parish Room)
- S 14 EASTER 3**
 - 0800 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
 - 0930 Jesus and Me (JAM) (Hall then Church)
 - 0930 Sung Holy Communion
 - 1115 Choral Mattins
- M 15 2000 Julian Group on Zoom
- T 16 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
- Th 18 1000 St Mary's Toddler Group (Hall)
- 1445 Bereavement Café (Hall)
- S 20 1830 for 1900 Spring Dinner (Hall)
- S 21 EASTER 4**
 - 0800 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
 - 0930 Jesus and Me (JAM) (Hall then Church)
 - 0930 Sung Holy Communion
 - 1730 Choral Evensong
- M 22 1930 PCC Meeting (Parish Room)
- T 23 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
- Th 25 1000 St Mary's Toddler Group (Hall)
- S 27 1930 "Love and Nature" Lizzy Humphries Soprano (former chorister at St Mary's) and Jonny Allsopp Accompanist (former Organ Scholar at St Mary's)
- S 28 EASTER 5**
 - 0800 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
 - 0930 Jesus and Me (JAM) (Hall then Church)
 - 0930 Sung Holy Communion
 - 1115 Sung Mattins
 - 1830 Deanery Confirmation Service
- T 30 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)

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What if life could be more like this, more of the time? What if you didn't have to deal with the never-ending upkeep of a house and garden? If you could downsize responsibilities and upsize your quality of life? And what if there's an option that doesn't involve buying another property and all that it entails?

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So when at last I'm carried in,
the Lord won't ask 'Who is it?'

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