



EWELL PARISH NEWS

The monthly newspaper of St Mary the Virgin Ewell

No. 627

April 2025

60p



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

Holy Week & Easter

13 April – Palm Sunday

08:00 Holy Communion 09:30 Blessing of Palms

14 April – Holy Week

20:00 Holy Communion

15 April – Holy Week

10:00 and 20:00 Holy Communion

16 April – Holy Week

20:00 Holy Communion

17 April – Maundy Thursday

20:00 Sung Eucharist of the Last Supper,
Stripping the altar and Gethsemane watch

18 April – Good Friday

08:00 Mass of the Pre-sanctified
11:00 Children and Families Stations of the Cross
12:00-15:00 Three hours at the foot of the Cross
14:00 Service of Veneration of the Cross

19 April – Holy Saturday

20:30 Easter Vigil and Service of Light

20 April – Easter Day

08:00 and 09:30 Holy Communion
11:15 Family Easter Worship (including JAM)
followed by an Easter Egg hunt
12:00 Bring-your-own Parish Picnic at the Vicarage



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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 2025 edition is noon on Monday 14 April but if possible please send copy before this date.

Fr Mark Stafford writes

Value

Value is something that fascinates me, a rare stamp, say a Penny Black, can be worth thousands of pounds to the right person, but its value when posting a letter, is virtually nil. A diamond on a ring can be worth thousands of pounds, but in that form has no real use, however when turned into a drill bit, it is of little value but of great use!

The way that we, as a society ascribe worth is fascinating and may indicate what we value. Financial gain is seen as a marker of success, and people ascribe a value to the markers of this and make judgements based on this outward show; the Patek Philippe watch, Ferrari and Chanel bag are all shorthand messages say to the world "I'm doing ok", but these things are only worth what someone is willing to pay. After all a watch is just a watch, and a car is just a car, they all tell the time or get you from A to B.

I don't want to give you the wrong impression, or portray myself as above all of this, I am not. I love to look at the fantastic lines of a Porsche and I admire the skill that went into creating a Rolex (and the fact that you know where it is made and not by children in sweatshops), however I would not wish to be defined by these trappings. Doing well in life is not a bad thing and we need the movers and shakers to keep the economy ticking over, but the question of value and worth is an important one to think about.

However, it is important that we do not let these material things become the sole aim in life, that we avoid becoming a slave to our possessions.

I don't think that this is a question of wealth, as I know some very wealthy people who live lives of philanthropy and some equally less wealthy people who are obsessed by the material world. It is more a question of what we value and what is most important in our lives. What are our defining values?

As Christians we are called to live alternative lives, to be defined in a different way and to be radical. We are called to follow Jesus, and as he was, we should be also.

Jesus stood alongside the marginalised, was found in the presence of the poor and needy, he was a ground breaker, who highlighted the challenging issues of the day and made a stand to right the wrong!

We too are called to be ground breakers, to be alongside those in need and to be lights that shine in darkness, challengers of injustice, and to proclaim a new way of being where God's Kingdom will come on Earth as in Heaven.

So, what are the big issues of today that we should be challenging - poverty, famine, war, climate change?

As a Church we are trying to do our bit, we are changing all our light bulbs to low energy bulbs to reduce our carbon emissions, we have planted a meadow area in our Churchyard, we are trying to manage our land to create a green space for wildlife and the people of Ewell to enjoy, We have run warm hubs for the past two years, we have two charities that provide grants to those in need in our parish, we have daily prayed for peace since the outbreak of war in Ukraine and for those suffering in Israel and Palestine and also have a special service every Saturday to pray for peace.

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

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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

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Mrs Marian Morrison 020 8391 2325;

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Diocesan Safeguarding

Safeguarding team 01483 790379;

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Finance Officers

Day-to-day financial queries

Donna and David Boosey 07791 993261;

Email: financeteam@stmarysewell.com

Stewardship Recorder

Mrs Sarah Holmes;

Email: plannedgiving@stmarysewell.com

Private Prayer

The Church can be opened for private prayer on request - please contact Fr. Mark on 020 8393 1297

THE PARISH OFFICE

Administrator:

Mrs Lynne Yuille 020 8393 2643 (Office)

Office email: parishoffice@stmarysewell.com

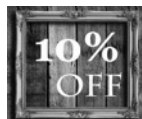
The postal address is: St Mary's Ewell Parish Church, London Rd, Ewell, Surrey, KT17 2AY.

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

The parish office is staffed periodically during the week. Emails and phone messages will be answered when the office is open.

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GIVING TO ST. MARY'S

If you would like to support St Mary's by regular giving, the easiest way to do this is through the Parish Giving Scheme, which is a simple and secure method for parishes to receive donations by direct debit. You can register for and administer your giving online here:

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/ewell-st-mary-the-virgin-epsom/>

or you can use this QR code:



The scheme handles gift aid automatically and at no cost to St Mary's.

Existing members can amend their giving on-line at any time.

The big question is what are we doing as individuals? Christianity is to a degree about what we do on Sunday, but it is also about the way we live out our faith day to day. How does our discipleship look, how has being a follower of Jesus changed us, what are the big issues on our hearts and how can we challenge these?

WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

Tuesday 1 April 1.05pm — our talented Organ Scholar William Brooke gives our regular Bach on Tuesday Recital, including the uplifting *Prelude and Fugue in G major BWV 541*.

Thursday 3 and 17 April 2.45pm – 3.45pm — **Bereavement café** in Ewell Hall (opposite the Church). Bereavement Café offers a chance to meet with others who understand the experience of loss. Bereavement Café is a space to talk about the pain of bereavement, and find mutual support and encouragement, when you need it most.

Saturday 5 April 2.30pm — **Messy Church goes Wild:** come and join for a fun filled Eco Church meeting. Action songs, craft activities and a Bible story.

Saturday 12 April 7.30pm — Jonathan Holmes gives our first evening concert of the season including fabulous French organ music.

He will include Duruflé's magnificent *Prelude, Adagio et Choral varie sur le theme du 'Veni Creator' Op 4*, Cesar Franck's popular *Third Choral in A minor*, and Baroque composer Nicholas de Grigny's masterpiece, the *Suite sur 'Veni Creator'*.

Lent gatherings – Every Monday evening and Friday afternoon in Lent we are gathering to explore the Bible. Usually, we run the Lent groups using a discussion format, but this year we have been asked to have more of a talk format.

The first three gatherings were in March and the final two gatherings In April are:

Week 4 – Acts and the Epistles

Week 5 – Revelation and revelations

The Friday group meet at 12.00 noon and we have a light cheese and bread lunch followed by a talk on the Bible. We will ask for donations for the lunch and any profit will be given to our Lent charity.

The Monday group meet at 7.30pm for refreshments and then 8.00pm to start the gatherings.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Morning prayer will be said each day at 9:00am

13 April – Palm Sunday –

Holy Communion at 8:00am and 9:30am

Holy Week 14, 15, 16 April –

Holy Communion at 8:00pm (& 10:00am on Tuesday)

17 April – Maundy Thursday –

8:00pm Stripping of the Altar and Gethsemane watch

18 April – Good Friday –

8.00am Mass of the Pre-sanctified

11.00am Children and Families Stations of the Cross in and around the Church.

Noon – 3:00pm Three hours at the foot of the Cross – last hour Service of Veneration of the Cross.

Continued on page 4



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AV/SOUND DESK AT ST MARY'S

Can you help?

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.

The Vicar writes continued from page 3

19 April – Holy Saturday

8.30pm Easter Vigil and service of light

20 April – Easter Sunday

Holy Communion at 8.00am and 9.30am

11.15am Family Easter worship (including JAM), followed by Easter Egg hunt.

12.00 Noon Bring-your-own Parish picnic at the Vicarage

Do check the calendar on the back page for the full list of our services and events.

Every blessing

Fr Mark

APRIL CONCERTS

1 April 1.05 pm

Tuesday lunchtime organ recital

William Brooke - Organ Scholar

Including the *Prelude and Fugue in G major BWV 541*

12 April 7.30 pm

Jonathan Holmes - Director of Music

Our first evening concert of the season including Duruflé's magnificent *Prelude, Adagio et Choral varie sur le theme du 'Veni Creator' Op 4*, Cesar Franck's popular *Third Choral in A minor*, and Baroque composer Nicholas de Grigny's masterpiece, the *Suite sur 'Veni Creator'*

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



Springtime and God's creation is coming back to life! Come and join us while we explore that creation with activities, songs, and Bible stories, both indoors and outside, rain or shine, for all ages on

Saturday, April 5 2.30 to 4.00pm

ALL WELCOME

ST. MARY'S ON-LINE QUIZZES



We hold on-line quizzes using Zoom

These are very popular and are fun for all the family, so why not join us?

Our next quiz is on Wednesday 7 May at 8pm

As always, you will need to register beforehand. You can use links provided in the Weekly Notes or you can register by emailing zoom@stmarysewell.com.



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

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A Prayer for April



This year, during April, we are continuing our Lenten journey, travelling through the darkness of Good Friday to the glorious light of resurrection on Easter Day!

We have only got to check the news to find examples of all the inhumanity shown throughout history and which still exists in the world today. On Good Friday, we remember that Jesus died because of people's inhumanity towards each other and the evil they do and continue to do. He willingly suffered in our place to bring us back into a closer relationship with God. So let us pray to God, our Father, and place in his hands the suffering of the world but also giving genuine and heartfelt thanks that Jesus sacrificed himself for each one of us.



But His death is not the end! We also have Easter Day when we remember Jesus' resurrection, lifting despair to the joy of new life and hope! New life and hope are something so very much needed, even in the world today.

Lord, all too often, events, relationships, the pressures of everyday life seek to entomb us, shutting out the light. 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.

Lord, open our lives to your resurrection power! Raise up all that is dead and empty within us that we may live each day as you would have us live it. Lord, in you we have found a Saviour no grave can withstand. Help us to find that miracle of new life that we too may live more fully in the knowledge of your saving grace. AMEN

WARM HUB ALL WRAPPED UP

So that's all folks! Warm Hub has now been wrapped up and put away because the Winter has gone, and Spring is here. Well, it was briefly here and will be again. Although our clientele has usually been bijou in number, each person who visited the Hub has arrived with different needs and we have managed to provide for them to the best of our abilities and almost always help them to leave with a smile. It has been great fun to bond as members of the Warm Hub Team; many thanks to everyone.

VJG

BACH LUNCHTIME RECITALS

Jonathan Holmes - 7 January & 4 February

Janus is the Roman god of beginnings, transitions, gates etc. and is always depicted showing two heads facing opposite directions, forwards and backwards. It was therefore appropriate for Jonathan to include a Janus-head on January's programme, as the music looked back to Christmas and looked ahead to New Year.

Every Christmas we hear that well-known carol 'In Dulci Jubilo'. It was evidently popular in Germany, in Bach's day as well as ours. He composed two chorale preludes on **In Dulci Jubilo**; the first being **BWV 729** and the second **BWV 608**. Both pieces are taken from the Little Organ Book which has featured in many of Jonathan's Bach recitals. **BWV 729** is bold and joyful, while **BWV 608** is more lightweight in character. The New Year piece is **Das alte Jahr vergangen ist** 'the old year is departed'; **In dir ist Freude, BWV 615** welcomes the New Year.

As we have already learned, Bach composed six Trio Sonatas for keyboard (usually organ) and today it was the turn of that in **D Minor BWV 527**. There are three melodic lines – two for the hands, plus one bass line and there are three movements: quick, slow and quick. Lastly, a youthful piece, dating from Bach's Arnstadt days, the **Prelude in G major, BWV 568**.

The Chorale Prelude for Candlemas is **BWV 617, Herr Gott, nun schleuss den Himmel auf** – 'Lord God, now unlock Heaven' – a short, lovely piece. Remember that, at Candlemas, we recall the visit made by Joseph and Mary and the infant Jesus to the Temple at Jerusalem where they met the elderly couple Simeon and Anna who both recognised Him. The occasion is celebrated on the first Sunday of February.

Jonathan also played two major arrangements of Bach by **Max Reger**. Reger, who died in 1916, was an admirer of Bach. He did not attempt to 'correct' the music, as it were, but by keeping faithfully to the surviving manuscripts, sought to re-imagine the piece on a large-scale organ with a huge variety of stops, like ours here at Ewell. These enable a fuller, richer sound. Today we heard two of Reger's arrangements. Firstly, the **Chromatic Fantasia and Fugue, BWV 903** which is an example of Bach's skill as an improviser, for which he was famous in his lifetime. The second Reger adaptation was the **Toccata in D major, BWV 910**

Listening to these pieces, we must conclude that Reger deserves to be better known than he is. In his short life, he wrote a vast amount of music and was well known in Germany as conductor and teacher. Two events in particular stand out about Reger's life. One is that he courted controversy by marrying a wife from a staunch Protestant family – his own family were equally staunch Catholics. The second thing is that his early death came as no surprise to his friends for, as well as over-indulging in food and, especially, drink, he suffered from depression. Very sad really.

TT

FOUR FREEDOMS: The first is freedom of speech and expression – everywhere in the world. The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way, everywhere in the world. The third is freedom from want.... everywhere in the world. The fourth is freedom from fear... anywhere in the world.

Franklin D Roosevelt

EPSOM & EWELL FOODBANK

Our local foodbank relies on your goodwill and support. Over 90% distributed comes from our donations. In 2024 our foodbank donated nearly 8,000 meals. Your food donations are vital - please help if you can.

Urgently needed: squash, tinned fish, cooking sauces, instant coffee, tea bags, long life milk, ketchup/mayonnaise, custard, powdered milk, tinned fruit, long life sponge puddings, sugar (500gr), savoury biscuits, biscuits, crisps, chocolate biscuit bars, chocolate spread/honey, deodorant (male/female), shower gel, shampoo & conditioner, children's toothpaste, washing up liquid and washing powder

Please no more of these items as we are fully stocked: pet food, tinned tomatoes, pasta, and pulses.

You can donate food at:

St Mary's Church Ewell, Sainsbury's Kiln Lane, Waitrose Epsom and Banstead, 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.

You can sign up to the Foodbank newsletter on their website at www.epsomewell.foodbank.org.uk

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



Please Save the Date

The 2025 Ewell Village Fair will be held on **Saturday 12 July** in the Church and grounds. Planning has already started, but as always this is a massive undertaking. If you would like to run or man a stall or help with the organisation, please speak to Fr. Mark or Lucy. Planning meetings will be held 2 April, 6 May, 3 and 25 June and 8 July.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS HOLY BAPTISM

We welcome you into the Lord's family

23 February Arabella Maisie Marsh

MEAL AT MIMOZA



Mimoza, the Turkish restaurant on Ewell Village High Street was the location of our February Parish meal out. Mark and I duly arrived at 7.25pm expecting to be at the restaurant a little early in order to welcome the hordes at 7.30pm but by the time we arrived, our congregation were so eager, that most of the group had already taken their seats and ordered drinks - everyone had obviously been looking forward to this evening out and Mimoza did not disappoint.



Having already forwarded the menu choices to the restaurant, the staff were efficient and organised and managed to get everyone fed with the correct meals. Conversation was flowing (as were the drinks) and the food was absolutely delicious. Mimoza had arranged a special menu for us and exceeded our expectations with limitless bread and dips and even some extras along the way. Portion sizes were large and even though I thought I might be able to squeeze in a pudding, because they did look delicious.... I just couldn't manage it.



Everyone appeared to enjoy themselves and I am now considering the location of our next Parish meal out. If you missed it this time, please be sure to come along next time.

Watch this space!

Lucy S



ST. MARY'S ECO GROUP

FAIRTRADE EASTER EGGS

In February the PCC agreed to apply to be a Fairtrade church. In our article below we explain what Fairtrade is. When you have read it, can you support Fairtrade this Easter by buying Fairtrade Easter eggs?

What is Fairtrade?

Fairtrade is an international movement. It has a vision of a world in which all producers enjoy secure and sustainable livelihoods, fulfil their potential, and decide on their future.

Fairtrade works with farmers and workers in more than 1,900 producer organisations, across 68 countries, so they can improve their living standards, invest in their communities and businesses, and protect our shared environment.

This is achieved through a global community of millions – farmers and workers, supply chain partners, brands, retailers, shoppers, schools and governments – to pay fair prices and uphold fair production standards and practices.

Fair prices provide an immediate lifeline for farmers and workers struggling with low incomes and disadvantaged by global trade.

Chocolate Easter Eggs

In recent years, the price of cocoa beans has slumped. Disease and age are damaging cocoa trees, while climate change is making crops harder to grow.

Most farmers who grow the cocoa used in chocolate Easter eggs earn an average of **\$1 per day**. It's just not enough to meet their basic needs.

What difference does choosing Fairtrade make?

When you choose Fairtrade chocolate, you know that farmers in places like Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana are getting a fairer price for their cocoa.

Farmers and workers receive the **Fairtrade Minimum Price** for their crop. It means they are more likely to be able to cover household costs like education, food and healthcare.

They also receive an additional **Fairtrade Premium** which they can choose to invest in their communities and to fight the effects of climate change.

Choosing Fairtrade means backing farmers with fair pay, enabling them to create better lives for their families and communities.

Where can you buy Fairtrade Easter eggs locally?

These days many manufacturers make Fairtrade products and many local shops sell them. You can find where to buy Fairtrade Easter eggs here:

<https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/media-centre/blog/fairtrade-easter-eggs/>

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 MARKET

Our ever-popular Spring Market will be held on Saturday 17 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 11 May. Any other items for sale can be brought to Ewell Hall on Friday 16 May between 2pm and 5pm or from 8.30am on the Saturday. Alternately 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 12 July.

Plants	Gillian Reynolds	020 8393 3752
Cakes	Lucy Morrell	020 8873 2184
Bric-a-brac	Gillian Merrick	07817 566562
Books	Geoff Fisher	01372 720241
Refreshments	Valerie Wood	020 8393 5991
Raffle	Gill Bird	01372 277436



What can I eat for Easter?



Can't eat beef.....mad cow.
 Can't eat chicken..... bird flu.
 Can't eat eggs..... Salmonella.
 Can't eat pork.....fears that bird flu will infect pigs.
 Can't eat fish..... heavy metals in the waters.
 Can't eat fruits and veggies..... insecticides and herbicides.
 Can't eat potatoes, pasta, bread, rice.....nasty carbs.

Hmmmmmmmm! I believe that leaves.....chocolate.



On Sunday 16 March we were pleased to welcome Louise Shorthose, the Outdoor Learning Manager of the Surrey Wildlife Trust to speak at both the 8am and 9.30 services. Louise now writes below about the work of the Trust and how we can all help nature.

Helping Nature at Home

When we experience lovely spring mornings full of bird song, blossom and blue skies it can be hard to believe that nature is in serious decline. When you hear the stats that 1 in 3 species are at risk of being lost from Surrey and that globally we have lost 75% of wildlife since the 1970s, it can feel a little hopeless. At Surrey Wildlife Trust we believe that it is not too late to help nature and our mission is to see 30% of land and sea restored for nature by 2030. Small actions that you take are easily replicated elsewhere and together they make a big difference! Take the strip of grass removed in St. Mary's churchyard with the help of 6th formers at Ewell Castle. This new meadow area may look a little bleak now, but it has removed nutrients from that area which will knock back grasses and allow the wildflower seeds planted to get established. The students so enjoyed getting their hands dirty that they have planned a bigger area to clear and seed in a house competition at school. Why not try a small patch in your own garden? The wildflowers and long grasses in a meadow are important for caterpillars and butterflies as well as a whole array of other invertebrates. In turn these provide food for some of our more threatened species such as bats, reptiles and hedgehogs. The turf you remove can be piled up to create a 'bee bank' which provides nesting sites for important pollinators such as solitary bees and beetles. Wild garden areas encourage species such as thrushes, toads and hedgehogs back into the garden and these are the natural predators that so many of you growing vegetables need to keep the slugs at bay.

Consider planting a native hedgerow in your garden and you are providing a corridor for nature full of future nest sites for birds and mammals and a food source for many birds. If you live near a main road then it also serves as a natural air purifier trapping pollutants as well as locking up carbon and a hedge can significantly reduce traffic noise.

There are many more different ways individuals can help nature – some more obvious than others like providing water for wildlife in the form of a small pond or even a bird bath. But what if you don't have a garden? Did you know 70% of the UK is now farmland, the majority of which is beef and lamb pastures of no value to nature? Think of the difference in land available for nature if demand for meat reduced! You don't need to become vegetarian but consider having plant-based meals more often and save having meat until dinner time!

Litter picks help tackle the problem of plastics entering our food chain and by ensuring a litter free Epsom and Ewell we can stop harming wildlife directly as waterfowl and mammals can so easily get caught up in plastics and packaging which finds its way from pavements to watercourses.

Nature really is the best medicine for us too! Not only is it the source of many medications prescribed today, being in nature has been scientifically proven to boost our immune systems, keep us physically fit, improve our mood and reduce stress. A daily dose of at least 20 minutes a day can benefit us

all. So stand up for nature – sign petitions, use your voice and make sure our council and politicians understand that we all need access to nature-rich green spaces.

If you are already doing something small to help nature or now feel inspired to do so then record your action here on this simple form which will allow the Surrey Wildlife Trust to map where people are helping to restore nature across our community: <https://arcg.is/1zDb4b0> or scan the QR code:



Tick off the actions you complete! ☒

 Leave your garden wild	 Water for wildlife	 Food for wildlife
 Chemical free gardening	 Plant a hedgerow	 Go flexitarian
 Use your voice	 Homes for wildlife	 Walk, cycle, take the bus
 Litter pick	 Plant a tree	 surreywildlifetrust.org

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM OUR ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER

2025 is the year when a new Electoral Roll is compiled. All names on the present roll will be removed and everyone new or old must apply for enrolment.

What does this mean for you?

If you are on the present Electoral Roll, you should, by now, have received a new form which must be completed and returned by 20 April, for you to be included on the new roll.

If you are new to the Electoral Roll, either please speak to me directly (I'm usually at the 9.30am service on a Sunday), or pick up a form from the Welcomer/Sidespersons at the back of church before or after a service. The form is also available from the Church website and from Lynne Yuille, our Parish Administrator, at parishoffice@stmarysewell.com.

Please either, return the form in person, placing it in the blue box at the back of the Church, post it to The Electoral Roll Officer, Parish Office, St Mary the Virgin, London Road, Ewell, Epsom, Surrey KT17 2AY. or email it to safeguardingofficer@stmarysewell.com.

All completed forms must be returned by the end of the 9.30am Service on Sunday 20 April.

Remember, you must be on the Electoral Roll, in order to take part in the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) which, this year, takes place on Sunday 11 May and is where important decisions are made regarding the next year at St. Mary's.

These are the correct dates. Please ignore the dates printed in the March issue of EPN.

Helen Crossley
Electoral Roll Officer
Email: safeguardingofficer@stmarysewell.com

EASTER FLOWERS & LILIES



Whilst this winter has not been the kindest in terms of the weather, we can look forward to spring, flowers, buds on the shrubs and trees, which all remind us of the gift of the circle of life. Fresh flowers in church at Easter are a popular way of celebrating this season of regeneration and it would be wonderful to be able to celebrate it with a full display of

flowers in church once again.

If you would like to make a general donation towards the Easter flowers, or, in particular, for a lily in memory of a loved one, please contact Lucy (in the choir) or email flowers@stmarysewell.com. We suggest a donation of £4 for each lily.

Cash is preferred, either give to Lucy or the churchwardens, in an envelope on a Sunday, or you can make a donation by online transfer to the St Mary's Flower Arrangers account (please request details from the above email address). The closing date for lilies is Monday 7 April. Don't forget to say how many lilies you would like and of whom they are in memory. A notice is put up on Easter Saturday by the font with your loved ones' names.

Thank you to the many of you who have given generously towards the flowers in the last year at St Marys. It is so very much appreciated, and they have been enjoyed by so many more.

LM

THE EXAMEN

The *Examen* is a method of reviewing your day in the presence of God. It is actually an attitude more than a method, a time set aside for thankful reflection on where God is in your everyday life. It has five steps, which most people take more or less in order, and it usually takes 15 to 20 minutes per day. Here it is in a nutshell:

1. Ask God for light

I want to look at my day with God's eyes, not merely my own

2. Give thanks

The day I have just lived is a gift from God. Be grateful for it

3. Review the day

I carefully look back on the day just completed, being guided by the Holy Spirit

4. Face your shortcomings

I face up to what is wrong – in my life and in me

5. Look toward the day to come

I ask where I need God in the day to come

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OUR LENT CHARITY 2025

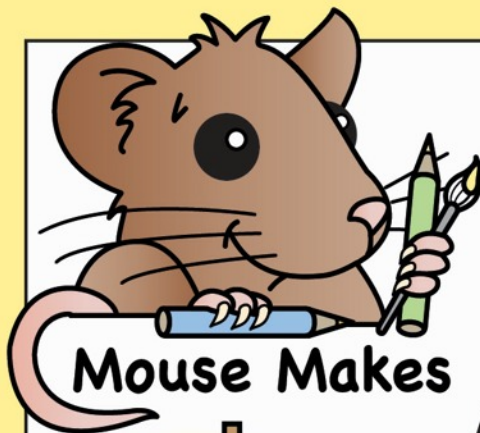


At our first Lent Lunch this year more than two dozen of us enjoyed soup and bread followed by coffee and biscuits and a lot of chat. It raised over £70. Fr Mark's lecture was stimulating and challenging and posed questions to be answered next week. No binge 'watching' allowed!

This year we are supporting a charity which focuses on education and water supply in the Himalayan country of Nepal. As ever, education and good sanitation are ways to a better future. Girls and children with disabilities can be sidelined as far as education in Nepal goes. With the support of the Dolma Foundation working closely with those on the ground, boys, girls and those with needs in these remote areas have a greater chance of accessing education and being able to complete it. And in a country dominated by the snow-capped roof of the world, for many clean water can be in short supply. The Dolma Foundation has three main areas of work.

- 1 Water and Sanitation. The Foundation installs water and sanitation systems in remote villages in Rasuwa district which don't have running water and therefore suffer from frequent health issues. Dolma does this in partnership with The Worshipful Company of Plumbers charity in the City of London. In a recent project in Thade the community has seen the stream above their village capped and the water piped over 1,800m to two 2,000l storage tanks, all at over 2,300m above sea level. These then feed the public standpipes. Taps in every house would be wonderful, but two villages can gain standpipes for the same amount that one could gain household taps.
- 2 Educating children from the Rasuwa and Langtang area of Nepal. This is a Himalayan district which suffers widespread poverty. For those most affected by poverty and/or marginalised, Dolma offers them a solid education at their partner school - Highland Boarding School in the provincial town of Dhunche. Dolma supports the children's education for as long as they wish and has had a number of graduates from college (for which they need to go to the capital Kathmandu).
- 3 Children with disabilities. The Dolma Foundation supports several children with disabilities, with a particular focus on blind children which they send to the specialist Laboratory school in Kathmandu.

Dolma Foundation is regulated by the Charity Commission of England and Wales. They are entirely voluntary in the UK, and with extremely low overheads in Nepal, they ensure that almost every penny of donations goes to the beneficiaries in Nepal. <https://www.dolmafoundation.org/>



Mouse Makes



On the cross Jesus opened wide his arms for us.
Jesus put an end to death by dying for us,
and showed us the resurrection to
come by His raising to new life!



Jesus is risen!

The angel said:
"Jesus ...is not here, for He
has risen, just as He said."
Matthew 28:6

Jesus is here

Jesus said:
"Where two or three
come together
in my name I am
there with them."
Matthew 18:20



READ the story of
the resurrection in:
Matthew 28:1-10
Mark 16:1-19
Luke 24:1-49
John 20:1-29
and 21:1-14

R E D E E M E R
E A S T E R P I
S A V I O U R S
U L T I M J A E
R I E D E L I N
R V J E S U S S
E E W B S P E P
C C L O I S S N
T H O S A N N A
I R R O H Y E U
O I D N P P W S
N S G O T E L L
K T A F O A I O
I Y O G J C F R
N U J O Y E E B
G O O D N E W S



Jesus will come again!

Jesus said:
"I will come back
and take you to
myself so that you
will be where I am."
John 14:3



JESUS • ALIVE • RISEN
LORD • SAVIOUR • KING
RESURRECTION
PEACE • NEW LIFE • JOY • GOOD NEWS



MESSIAH • REDEEMER
CHRIST • SON OF GOD
HOSANNA • PRAISE
GO TELL • EASTER



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, Sainsbury's and Tesco) offer charitable donations through **Easyfundraising**, for purchases made via their website. Presently St Mary's has 41 people signed up to Easyfundraising and we have received £1564 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!

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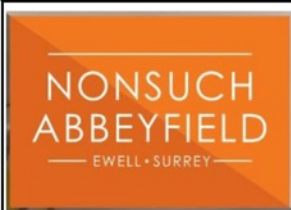


The Greenwood Family are directly involved in the running of the Company, ensuring that your wishes are carried out with the utmost dignity and precise attention to detail.

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'...giving to anyone who has need.'

St Mary's is part of the ACTS435 network of Churches. ACTS435 is a Christian online giving charity that anonymously connects those who want to give with those who are in need of their help, through a network of local churches and charities. Please visit the web site below to help explain how ACTS435 works or speak to Fr Mark.

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

Calendar for April

Said Morning Prayer will usually be celebrated at 0900 Monday to Saturday (Saturdays will be specifically Prayers for Peace). All services are shown online.



T	01	1000	Said Holy Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
		1305	Bach Organ Recital by Organ Scholar, William Brooke
W	02	1400-1500	Ewell Castle Prep School Easter Service (Church)
		1930	Ewell Village Fair Meeting (Parish Room)
Th	03	1430-1630	Ewell Castle Snr School Easter Service (Church)
		1445-1545	Bereavement Café (Hall)
F	04	1200-1400	Lent Course (Parish Room)
S	05	1430-1600	Messy Church Goes Wild
		1900 for 1930	(Live) Elvis Tribute Concert 'Walk a Mile in My Shoes' (Church)
S	06	PASSION SUNDAY	
		0800	Said Holy Eucharist 1662 (Lady Chapel)
		0930	Jesus and Me (JAM) (Hall then Church)
		0930	Sung Holy Eucharist
M	07	Day	Home Communion by Clergy
		1930-2130	Lent Course (Parish Room)
T	08	1000	Said Holy Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
W	09	1930	PCC Meeting (Parish Room)
F	11	1200-1400	Lent Course (Parish Room)
		1900	MAP Team Meeting (Vicarage)
S	12	1930	Organ Concert by Jonathan Holmes
S	13	PALM SUNDAY	
		0800	Said Holy Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
		0930	Jesus and Me (JAM) (Hall then Church)
		0930	Sung Holy Eucharist
		1115	Choral Mattins
M	14	2000	Holy Communion
T	15	1000	Said Holy Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
		2000	Holy Communion
W	16	2000	Holy Communion
Th	17	MAUNDY THURSDAY	
		1445-1545	Bereavement Café (Hall)
		2000	Sung Eucharist of the Last Supper
			Stripping the Altar and Gethsemane Watch
F	18	GOOD FRIDAY	
		0800	Mass of the Pre-sanctified (Lady Chapel)
		1100	Children & Families Stations of the Cross
		1200-1500	Three hours at the Foot of the Cross -
			Last hour Veneration of the Cross
S	19	HOLY SATURDAY	
		2030	Easter Vigil and Service of Light
S	20	EASTER SUNDAY	
		0800	Said Holy Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
		0930	Sung Holy Eucharist
		1115	Family Easter Worship incl. JAM followed by Easter Egg Hunt
		1200	(Bring your own) Parish Picnic at Vicarage
T	22	1000	Said Holy Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
S	27	EASTER 2	
		0800	Said Holy Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
		0930	Jesus and Me (JAM) (Hall then Church)
		0930	Sung Holy Eucharist
M	28	1930	PCC Meeting (Parish Room)
		2000	Julian Group (Zoom)
T	29	1000	Said Holy Eucharist (Lady Chapel)

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