

ST MARY'S CHURCH, THAMES STREET, HAMPTON

The Parish Link

EASTER 2019



LIFE WINS

**COME AND CELEBRATE
EASTER WITH US**

www.hampton-church.org.uk



www.hampton-church.org.uk

If you have just come to live in Hampton, your Parish Church welcomes you. Please make yourself known to one of the Parish Staff or Churchwardens. Please visit our website, Facebook or Twitter feeds for all St Mary's Church and our parish information.

Connect with St Mary's...

Please visit our website for all the latest news, events and activities for all age groups.

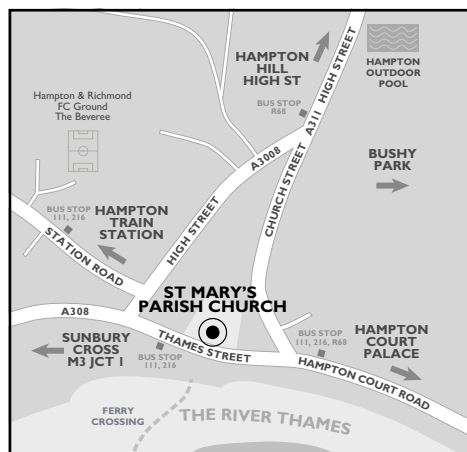
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You can also find us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter or Instagram...



St Mary's Parish Office
Church Street
Hampton TW12 2EB
Tel: 020 8941 7221
parish.manager@hampton-church.org.uk

How to find us...



- Vicar: The Reverend Ben Lovell**.....07734 775102
The Vicarage, 7 Church St, Hampton TW12 2EB..... vicar@hampton-church.org.uk
- Curate: The Reverend Cara Lovell**.....07879 404201
The Vicarage, 7 Church St, Hampton TW12 2EB..... cara.lovell@hampton-church.org.uk
- Asst Priest: The Reverend Geoffrey Clarkson**.....020 8977 1434
109 Cambridge Road, Teddington TW11 8DF
- Asst Priest: The Reverend Alan Jackson**.....020 8898 3093
7 Uxbridge Road, Hanworth TW13 5EG
- Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers)**
- Pat Felstead, 69a Ormond Drive, Hampton TW12 2TP.....020 8979 9990
Rosemary Cumberland, 27 Chichester Close, Hampton TW12 3QJ.....020 8941 2546
- Parish Office**.....020 8941 7221
Parish Manager: Jane Holmes..... parish.manager@hampton-church.org.uk
Parish Administrator: Elizabeth Wait..... admin@hampton-church.org.uk
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- Deputy Churchwardens**
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- Recorder for Christian Stewardship**
- Martin Hart, Banchory, Old Farm Road TW12 3QT.....020 8979 5665
- Hall Bookings**.....020 8979 2615
Patricia Lewis, 7 Manor Gardens TW12 2TX..... hall-booking@hampton-church.org.uk
- Church Flowers**
- Michael Harris, 74 Wensleydale Road, Hampton TW12 2LX.....020 3560 5796
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- Facilities Manager**
- Kel Razza..... kel.razza@hampton-church.org.uk
- Safeguarding Officer**
- Nally Fernando..... safeguarding@hampton-church.org.uk
- Choir Director and Organist**
- David Pimm, CertRCO.....020 8399 2404
- Worship Band**
- John Winterburn..... john@hampton-church.org.uk / 07816 855941
- Bell Ringers**
- Alison Ward.....020 8979 9848



PALM SUNDAY

14 April
10am Procession and Holy Communion
 Come early for donkey rides in the churchyard
6.30pm Evensong

HOLY WEEK

15, 16, 17 April 9.30pm
Meditation and Compline
 Meditative, quiet evening services contemplating the Easter message.
 A great way to end the day in Holy Week

MAUNDY THURSDAY

18 April 7pm
 Lamb Supper, Holy Communion and stripping of the Sanctuary

GOOD FRIDAY

19 April
10am All Age Service & Hot Cross Buns
2pm An Hour at the Cross

EASTER SUNDAY

21 April
6am Sunrise Service
8am Said Holy Communion
9.30am Holy Communion
11am All Age Holy Communion followed by an Easter Egg Hunt

From the Registers

Baptisms

30 December 2018 . . . Montgomery Frederick William Darragh

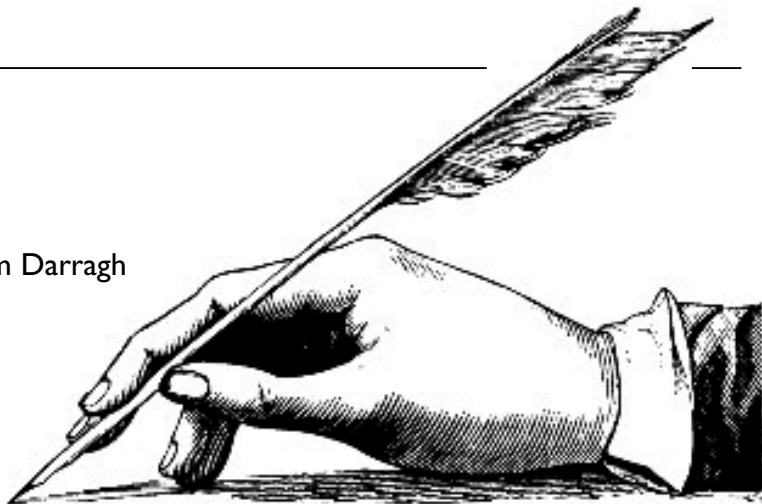
24 February 2019 Ronald Lewis Pettit

24 March 2019 Rowan Thomas Zaharewicz

..... Rhys Alexander Zaharewicz

..... Jennifer Christin Candee

..... Lynda Jane Fulford



Weddings

18 December 2018 . . . John James Blackwell to H el ene Genevi eve Joye de St Pol Elston

Blessing of a Civil Marriage

22 December 2018 . . . Liam Andrew Telfer to Harriet Louise Church

Funerals

18 December 2018 . . . Robert James Cumber, aged 79 years, of Lacey Drive, to Mortlake Crematorium

19 February 2019 Elsa Margaret Hepworth, aged 81 years, to South West Middlesex Crematorium

11 March 2019 Mary Isabel Jean Birchall, aged 64 years, of Chichester Close,
to South West Middlesex Crematorium

20 March 2019 Ralph Nicholas Langley, aged 88 years, of Belgrade Road, to Oakfield Wood Burial
Ground, Shamley Green, followed by a Memorial Service at St Mary's Church

SERVICE TIMES AT ST MARY'S

SUNDAYS

9.30am Holy Communion

A choral service with traditional hymns

11am Sunday Praise

A family friendly contemporary service with youth and children's groups and cr che

6.30pm Prayer Book Evensong

A gentle, traditional service

WEEKDAYS

9am Morning Prayer

(Monday, Tuesday, Thursday)

9am Holy Communion

(Wednesday)

10am First Steps Toddler Praise (Wednesday)

A service for pre-school children with craft, games and refreshments.



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

SPRING HAS CAUGHT ME OFF GUARD

I'm not sure whether it is a particularly warm year, perhaps an ominous side effect of climate change, or just that I mis-remember years past; but this year Spring seems to have descended far too quickly. My (and the churchyard's) lawn is returning with a vengeance, my garden is growing earlier than expected and daffodils are re-appearing where I'm sure they were not last year.

Growth, vibrancy and life are springing up all around me.

It might be a symptom of this being my second Easter as Vicar of St Mary's, Hampton. A new found familiarity has made it feel like Easter is upon us in no time at all. Despite it being almost as late as possible; Holy Week and the variety of celebrations that accompany it are seemingly here impossibly close to Christmas.

Easter gives us the chance to celebrate life breaking through. That no matter the circumstances, central in the Christian promise is that life wins. Whatever the situation or predicament we are in, life always has the last word.

On one level the Christian belief that a man almost 2,000 years ago walked away from a grave seems naive and stupid. The idea that a Nazarene man from the first century can leave death behind him is an outrageous claim. Yet it is one that we hold firm to.

When compared to the idea of cutting down daffodils that have barely stopped flowering but knowing they will return; the planting of an inanimate acorn, flourishing into a tree; the withered grass springing into life - the resurrection suddenly seems to fit into the order of the universe. Life winning through against the cold, the frost, against the winter.

Spring reminds us of the story that Christians inhabit. The resurrection of life in our gardens tells us that the conquering of death is something we see around us. The

story of Jesus beckoning us to follow him through death to resurrection doesn't seem alien when flowers burst forth from barren earth.

As a church this is something we try to embody. We see a school rising from a disused site. In the next couple of months a youth club will sprout from a derelict bungalow in Oldfield Road. Celebrations, feasts and joy increasingly becoming our watchwords.

We believe that life wins through.

We don't believe in being cowed by the situations we find ourselves in, the political situation that surrounds us or any sense of purposelessness. We will see life flourish. We will see death, disappointment and brokenness defeated. The resurrection tells us that life wins.

There are two words in the language of the Bible's New Testament that mean life:

Bios forms the root of the word biology and speaks of the type of life that means our hearts beat, our lungs suck in air and our bodies function. It is the utilitarian definition of life: the bare minimum to keep us going.

When the Bible promises life it promises us *zoe*, an alternative Greek word for life. The kind of life that we have when we climb a mountain, spend time with our best friends, or partake in the activities that make our souls soar.

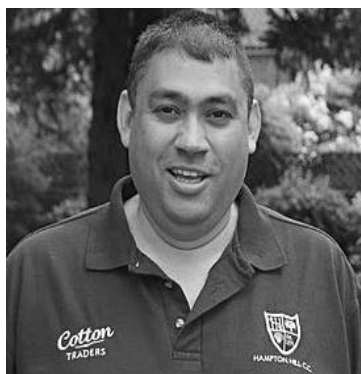
The life that wins through is not merely adequate it is full of celebration and vibrancy. It is *zoe* life. It is the most vibrant flower, the best of spring. The Christian assertion that life wins through is not ignorance in the face of problems but it sees its reflection in the Springtime – It is a message of hope. It is, simply put, a choice not to believe in the power of death's finality. That wherever we are, we can be sure that life wins.

Ben Lovell



The Church is Not Dying!

Written by Nally Fernando



Contrary to what we read in the media the Church is not dying! Yes, it may be struggling in some areas but it was ever thus – just read Paul's letters to the early Church.

'Where am I going with this?' you may ask, and

my response is, 'I don't know!' I am trusting in the Holy Spirit to guide my fingers in typing.

Recently I attended the baptism of my niece's husband in St Albans and it reminded me of that Sunday last summer when we welcomed six members into our church family by way of baptism in the River Thames. The Pastor spoke on a passage from Galatians 3:

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Now the church my niece and her husband attend is an independent church, so different in many ways from the services we have at St Mary's but the message was the same. A good deed does not add to the pension fund for heaven. God is not in the pension game and we already have a banker in our saviour, Jesus. It is through Jesus's sacrifice that we are forgiven and though baptism we are welcomed to become members of the Christian family as we are children of God.

There are so many ways to answer God's call to worship him, a uniqueness here at St Mary's is that we have three styles, choral traditional, contemporary and Book of Common Prayer (BCP). No one service has more importance than another. There is no hierarchy. Each service is different and offers something for everyone and anyone to the praise of God.

I find each service has a special meaning, and yes, sometimes I get more out of one service than another. Is that God talking to me I wonder? We are blessed with musical talents which help us sing His praises, whether it be the choir, worship band or those who play the organ/piano for Evensong. We have a broad range of preachers, each with their own style of teaching. I am sure that some find it easier to listen to X than Y as some will find it easier to listen to Y than X! However, the message is the same, to give us an understanding of the word of God through the love of Jesus and the power of the Spirit.

Forgive me if I write mainly about Evensong as it is the smallest of our services. I'm not sure anyone really understands Evensong. It is evening prayer with hymns and here at St Mary's it is led by the laity rather than the clergy. The words we use come from the BCP in its strange archaic language which trip even the wary reader (I'm sure Ben would agree). Those words have been said with very little alteration for over three hundred years. Some may ask why we still use them: it is because they still have relevance today. We try and have a guest speaker once a quarter as well as our regular speakers, most of whom you will know. They speak on a broad range of topics, whether it is something personal or based on the set readings from the Lectionary or something completely different. We sing hymns and worship songs usually chosen by the preacher, we plainsong the creed and some of the intercessions, with the minister leading the prayers.

I see Evensong as a reflective service, whether that is on the week past or the week ahead. It is a relaxed service and peaceful service where there is time for prayer and listening to God. I would encourage you to come as I believe you will find it rewarding.

SUNDAY SERVICES:

- 9.30am** Traditional Choir-led Eucharist
- 11am** Contemporary Worship Band-led service with children's and youth groups
- 6.30pm** Evensong using the words of the Book of Common Prayer.

The Newest Member of our Choir

Cara Lovell, interviews the newest (and youngest) member of the St Mary's Church choir – her daughter, Emily

Emily is eight years old and joined the choir six months ago.

Emily, why did you want to join the choir?

I enjoy singing. I heard the choir at church and I thought it sounded lovely, so I wanted to join in. Being part of the choir looked like fun, so I thought I'd have a go.

When do you practice with the choir?

On Friday evenings at St Mary's Church. Junior Choir is from 7.15pm to 7.45pm and then I practice with the rest of the choir from 7.45pm to either 8.30pm or 9pm. We sing every Sunday at the 9.30am church service and also for special services at Christmas and Easter with extra rehearsals for these special services.

What do you wear in the choir?

When you first start you're called a 'probationer' and just wear a blue cassock (which is a bit like a long coat over your normal clothes), but after you pass some singing and music theory tests, you get to wear a white surplice over the top of the cassock. This means that you are a full member of the choir.

What do you enjoy about being a part of the choir?

I really enjoy singing and I like practising with the rest of the choir to make sure that the songs we sing in church go right and sound lovely. The choir are really friendly and help me know what to do. Everyone has fun at choir practices and we often laugh!



What have been some of your favourite moments as part of the choir so far?

I liked the service at the beginning of advent when we sang songs by candlelight. We had to walk around the church carrying candles and singing at the same time. It was really beautiful and special to be a part of.

Another favourite moment was when I received my white surplice having been part of the choir for about three months. I felt proud of myself for working hard to pass the tests to become a full member of the choir.

Would you recommend joining the choir to other children and young people?

Yes! I think other children would enjoy singing with the choir and would also have fun.

Children and adults are very welcome to join the church choir, either on a regular basis or for special occasions. Please contact David Pimm for more information: david.pimm@hampton-church.org.uk.

Join in the Family!

Written by Ben Lovell

If you are part of any club there would have been some process of joining it. Not just a process, but there would have been a discreet moment, an instant, where you went from being the person tentatively trying out the activity to someone completely part of the association. It might have been mundane: a letter or form; it might have been some luxurious ceremony designed to celebrate your new role in a great organisation.

This is also the same for family. I have some friends who are adopting and they approach the time that the paperwork means that their son will be irrevocably part of their household. They will mark this time – probably quite quietly knowing them – with a modest celebration, marking that their family will have grown by one.

Ever since the beginning of Christianity the process that we have marked people joining the Church is by baptizing them. Sometimes this is when they join as part of their family as infants and sometimes it is when they have made a decision, at a time that they can answer for themselves, by immersing them in water. On Sunday the 24 March we welcomed four people into our family of faith by baptism.

The last time we had a full immersion baptism was in the River Thames but March didn't seem likely to have favourable weather for that. So a pool was constructed inside the church, the heater wrestled with until there was some power flowing (it was touch and go!) and water filled the tank.

This lowering people into water and raising them up reminds us powerfully of the central Christian message. We are called to follow Jesus – who died and was raised. As we are immersed, so we remember that we die to ourselves and as we are lifted up we are given new life; joyous, hopeful life; in Christ.





FIRST STEPS

BABY & TODDLER PRAISE

An opportunity for babies, toddlers and their grown-ups to get together for singing, stories, crafts and Jesus.

Every Wednesday during term time at 10am.

St Mary's Church, Thames Street, Hampton TW12 2EB

Contact Cara Lovell for further details:
Telephone: 07879 404 201
cara.lovell@hampton-church.org.uk

BIBLE STORIES SINGING CRAFT & JESUS



FOR BABIES, TODDLERS & THEIR GROWN-UPS

A safe space for your little ones to play while you relax, have a cup of tea and make friends. Our weekly activities include craft, singing and story-telling. If your baby is still too young to join in with some of these activities then we have baby mats so your baby can still enjoy watching the older toddlers play.

We are here every Monday during term time, 1.30–3pm

St Mary's Community Hall, Church St, Hampton TW12 2EB

Contact Mary Collins for details:
Tel: 07415 814 195 maryjcollins86@gmail.com

TOYS CRAFT STORY SONGS COFFEE CHAT FRIENDSHIP

Mini COSMOS

FOR INFANTS 3 TO 7 YEARS

Mini-COSMOS begins in the church service and then the children leave for their own activities in the church hall.

We meet on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of the month during our 11am service.

We come back in time for a blessing in the service.

COSMOS

FOR CHILDREN OF JUNIOR SCHOOL AGE

COSMOS meets in the hall during our 11am service for activity, craft and fun.

We meet on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of the month during our 11am service.

We come back in time for a blessing in the service.



MTV Youth, Hampton is a registered charity, run by the community for the community and runs on **Friday nights 7pm-8.30pm.**

It's a safe space for 8-14 year olds to hang out, try new things and have fun. For well over two years we have been running the club from two separate sites – Hampton Baptist Church for indoor activities and St Mary's Primary School for outdoor sports – whilst trying to secure long term premises. Finally however the wait to be back on one site again is almost over!

Having recently signed the lease with Richmond Council to use the derelict caretaker's bungalow next to St Mary's Primary School, work is now well underway to make the building fit for community use. This is obviously huge news for the club and we are very excited about being together on one site again in the very near future.



Good progress being made at the new bungalow.

If you are 8-14 years old and would like to attend the club, an online parental consent form will first need to be completed – go to www.mtvhampton.org.uk/consent. Once completed you can then come and join in. If you know of anyone who might be interested then please invite them along!

There are also opportunities to join our Junior Council (10+), become a Young Leader (14+) and win a Jack Petchey Achievement Award (11+).

MTV Youth, Hampton is supported by professional youth workers and trained volunteers. Entrance costs £1 and we offer free squash, sandwiches and fruit, together with a tuck shop.

For more information please contact us at: info@mtvhampton.org.uk



NEWS FROM NO.5

NICK NEILAN, YOUTH PASTOR

No.5 is a very welcoming and encouraging youth group for 11-18 year olds. It's a great space for young people to hang out and explore what Christianity has to say about life's questions.

We currently meet on Sundays during term time from 10.45-12.00 at the old vicarage (No.5 Church Street) as well as running trips and socials throughout the year. Last year this included going to Escape Rooms, donutting at an outdoor ski slope and Indigo at the O2 with Guvnor B (pictured), LZ7, Faith Child and an audience of 2,000+ young people.



This year we want to go bigger, deeper and continue to have fun so if you are aged 11-18 and are interested in joining us on a Sunday or at one of our upcoming socials then please contact:

nick.neilan@hampton-church.org.uk for more details

Worthing Trip October 2018

Written by Enid Cuthbert

Our annual midweek trip to the Chatsworth Hotel in Worthing was a great success with people from all churches and a Quaker joining us. The weather was sunny and warm, which made walking or sitting on the nearby sea front a pleasure as well as encouraging us to go shopping! Having our own coach transport meant we didn't have to carry our own cases or extra bags to and from Worthing. There is a library and games room in the hotel, but I think we were all too busy to take advantage of these facilities. Maybe if it had been raining or we hadn't chatted too much we might have!

As usual, ably organised by Pat Felstead, we had a great speaker in Canon David Isherwood who attended with his wife Anne. (It transpired they used to live in Avenue Road, Hampton!). David led us in different avenues of thought which took us into vibrant question and answer sessions.

Our musical leader was Paul Revis accompanied by his wife Maggie. Paul gave a talk on his musical career and played guitar and Maggie led us in singing hymns of our own choice which we greatly enjoyed!

The great sense of fellowship was felt throughout the three days and it ended all too soon. Thank you Pat!



RICH IN YEARS 2019

The Rich in Years visit to Worthing this year is 8-10 October and we have been very fortunate in arranging for the Rev'd Gordon Warren to be our Guest Speaker.

Please come and join us in what we know will be an enjoyable short break.
To make a booking ring Pat Felstead on 020 8979 9990.

ENGLISH SONG RECITAL

by Roger Martin and Martin Pagnamenta



A fundraising concert in aid of the

GOOD SEEDS

EDUCATION SUPPORT PROGRAMME IN MANDIMBA, MOZAMBIQUE

7.30pm Saturday 27 April

St Mary's Church, Hampton

Light refreshments available from 7pm

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Songs by Finzi, Purcell, Butterworth and Britten among others!

The Good Seeds programme supports 100 students to attend school.
Costs for 2019 are £36 per secondary pupil and £26 per primary pupil.

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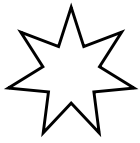
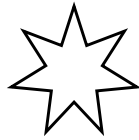
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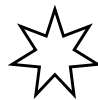
PRESENTS

CORNUCOPIA

(A miscellany of rehearsed readings, sketches and music)

Saturday 13 April 2019 at 7.45pm

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To reserve a place call: 020 8941 1267

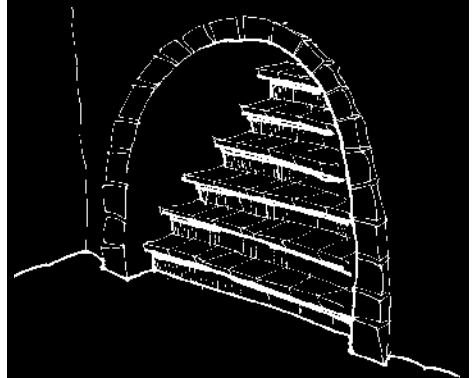


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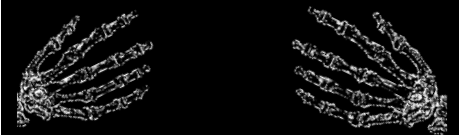
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EDITION OF THE LINK
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The Parish Link

Volunteers deliver the Parish Link free to every home in the parish.

Contact the editor:

link@hampton-church.org.uk

Advertising:

SUSAN SPRAGGS

Telephone: 020 8941 0204

linkads@hampton-church.org.uk



ST MARY'S BOOK CLUB

Meets on the first
Monday of the month
(second Monday if
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Contact:
Pat Felstead
020 8979 9990

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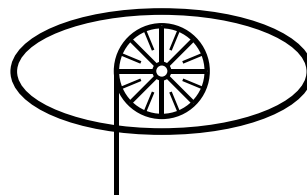
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6.30pm – Evensong

MON 15, TUES 16 & WED 17 APRIL

9.30pm – Meditation and Compline
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MAUNDY THURSDAY – 18 APRIL

7pm Lamb Supper, Holy Communion and stripping of the sanctuary.

GOOD FRIDAY – 19 APRIL

10am All Age Service with Hot Cross Buns followed by children's activities
2pm Good Friday Service: An Hour at the Cross

EASTER SUNDAY – 21 APRIL

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Holy Communion

11am All Age Holy Communion followed by Easter Egg Hunt