



## From the Rector's study

May and June are the beginning of summer thoughts, perhaps? May for me is certainly the month of Walsingham and Our Lady. At St Nicolas we are proud of being a Walsingham parish but I wonder what this means to folks who do not necessarily find their way to the Walsingham Cell? For me, a dedication to Mary is not an affectation, but a relationship with the Mother of God. Allow that to sink in a moment... a friendship, a proximity, a relationship with the Mother of Christ. Think of the closeness of that relationship - of Mother and child - and begin to see that we are called into that same family circle - a brother or sister of Christ means a closeness to His mother. Since the time of the Early Church the respect and honour given to Mary was clear, mentioned in Holy Scripture, notably in Revelation 12: John foretold Mary's important role in a breath-taking vision written in the book of Revelation. In this vision John tells of a great wonder appearing in heaven; a pregnant woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars. And God's revelation does not stop at the close of the canon of Scripture. It is in the Church that the Holy Spirit now enlivens the faith of the people and we find in the church's teaching a developing understanding and expression of Mary's central role in the life of the earthly Jesus and the eternal Christ. Blessed Mary was to enthuse, inspire and yes, intercede as she did no doubt on several occasions when people were nervous of addressing Jesus directly. We see a hint of this in the first miracle in Cana. People approach Mary and Mary simply responds, "do whatever Jesus tells you". That is Mary's vocation, to point us to Christ. Over the generations, and perhaps most particularly in England, Mary has inspired the hearts of generations of the followers of Christ - a Mother, an aid to prayer, a Patron of many churches and indeed of the month of May. And so, each May, we wend our way as pilgrims to the Holy House of Our Lady of Walsingham. The "Holy House" is so-called, because the building was erected at the request revealed in a vision. According to tradition, an Anglo-Saxon noblewoman Richeldis de Faverches had a vision of Mary in which she was instructed to build a replica of the house of the Holy Family in Nazareth in honour of the Annunciation. "Our Lady" as a title, is one of respect, like "Your Ladyship" in acknowledgement of the many titles attributed to her: Queen of Heaven comes from the Book of Revelation; Mother of God was determined at the First Council of Ephesus in 431. It was here that Mary was termed from the Greek "*Theotokos*" meaning "God-bearer". The term Mary, Mother of Jesus, was determined to be inappropriate, because it expresses only the earthly dignity of Jesus and not the eternal truth of His Divinity. Across Christendom people identified with Blessed Mary and she became known as Our Lady of... Walsingham, Sorrows, Perpetual Succour... and so forth.



*Lady Richeldis de Faverches, one of the statues at Walsingham. Image taken from the Walsingham website.*

At the Reformation in England there grew a suspicion of all things to do with Mary and indeed all the saints as detracting from the worship of Almighty God. Veneration of items - bones, crosses, the use of candles, indeed symbols and ritual of many types was shunned in an attempt to return to a vision of a purer and simpler understanding of faith; this followed the thinking that things grow more complex over time which has since been undermined by a scholarly recovery of a rich seam of ritual from the very first - early was not necessarily simpler. Quite the opposite. Nevertheless, with this rather misguided interpretation of history, there was an attempt to de-clutter and reform. Statues of Mary were removed and destroyed, centuries of devotion was to be replaced by a simple and somewhat restricted and reduced understanding of the Divine. The

Litmus test of orthodoxy became whether the faith and practice could be traced to Biblical warrant. A virtuous attempt to seek purity resulted in the loss of understanding and access to the rich treasury of

prayer, dedication and ritual which spoke to the depths of the human heart. It would take the generations to pass until the Oxford Movement would restore the more Catholic practices to the Church of England. Sometimes called the Tractarian Movement, the Oxford Fathers began a 19th Century religious movement of "catholic" renewal within the Church of England. Initiated by a group of University of Oxford scholars and clergy, including John Keble, John Henry Newman, and Edward Bouverie Pusey, the movement aimed to counter the perceived secularization and Protestant leanings of the Church. They emphasized the importance of the Eucharist, Apostolic Succession and a more educated clergy, publishing influential writings like the "Tracts for the Times". Central to this was the devotion of the faithful to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

St Nicolas is certainly a Tractarian church today and stands in the tradition of The Revd Nicholas Andrewes (Rector of Guildford St Nicolas from 1631 and Godalming from 1635). A high churchman, in 1642 the House of Commons ordered him to be taken into custody for such practices as elevating the host in the service of Holy Communion and bowing to the Table. What would they have made of our current practices?!

So what of our link to Mary of Walsingham? Although we cannot be certain that this story represents all the details of historical fact, we do know that in passing on his guardianship of the Holy House, Geoffrey de Faverches left instructions for the building of a Priory in Walsingham. The Priory passed into the care of Augustinian Canons somewhere between 1146 and 1174.

It was this Priory, housing the simple wooden structure Richeldis had been asked to build, which became the focus of pilgrimage to Walsingham. Royal patronage helped the Shrine to grow in wealth and popularity, receiving visits from Henry III, Edward II, Edward III, Henry IV, Edward IV, Henry VII and Henry VIII, who finally brought about its destruction in 1538. After nearly four hundred years, the 20th century saw the restoration of pilgrimage to Walsingham as a regular feature of Christian life in these islands and indeed beyond. In 1897, there was a Roman Catholic pilgrimage to the restored 14th century Slipper Chapel, now at the centre of the Roman Catholic National Shrine. Fr Hope Patten, appointed as Vicar of Walsingham in 1921, ignited Anglican interest in the pre-Reformation pilgrimage. It was his idea to base a new statue of Our Lady of Walsingham on the image depicted on the seal of the medieval Priory. In 1922, this statue was set up in the Parish Church of St. Mary, and regular pilgrimage devotion followed. From the first night that the statue was placed there, people gathered around it to pray, asking Mary to join her powerful prayer with theirs. This work of intercession continues to this day. Our association with Walsingham means that we take a Rule of Life as individuals and as a group, or cell, we come together to offer Mass for the work of the Shrine and to enjoy a fish and chip supper as well as some teaching on the Catholic expressions of the faith. If you are interested in joining us, perhaps have a word with Philip Hooper or myself. I commend the pilgrimage to you - the place is special, the food is amazing and the veil between this world and the Eternal is somewhat thinner!

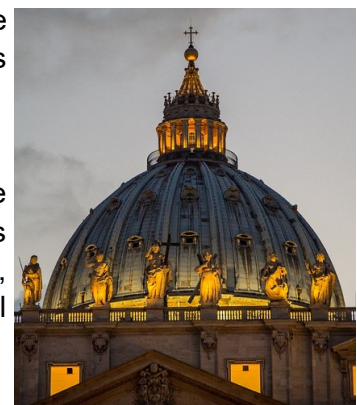


## 2026 and all that

2026 marks the 150th anniversary of the third church on this site. We are looking at some exciting things to do: a St Nicolas Gin, speakers to enlighten us on the history of the building, the importance of Catholic worship, commissioning some music composed by the very talented local composer, Will Todd and a pilgrimage to Rome... more details to follow.

## Canon of Guildford

I was delighted and honoured to be invited by our Lord Bishop to be an Honorary Canon of Guildford Cathedral from May 2025. Bishop Andrew wrote to me and said, "It would give me very great personal pleasure to appoint you an Honorary Canon of the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. This is in recognition of all





that you are giving to the life of the diocese, its parishes and schools.” I join Fr Lobb, Fr Goddard, and Fr Norman as a Guildford Canon and will work on feeding the connections between the town and our Cathedral as well as the wider Deanery which I continue to serve as Dean.

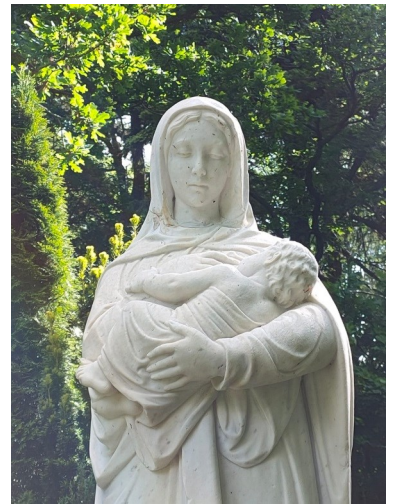
I have been asked whether this changes anything: well, it means that the Catholic expression is given a seat at the Cathedral, our tradition is expressed and I will be able to support the Cathedral Dean in his ministry across the diocese. I have also been asked whether this changes how we are to address me!! No, is the short answer! I am still proudly Fr Neil, but rather than simply The Reverend, it becomes The Reverend Canon, or just Canon Roberts for short - but not Canon Neil - never Canon Neil!! Better still, just Fr Neil. I would very much like to welcome as many from St Nicolas as possible at **Evensong on Sunday 25th May at 6pm** - please do come. **Fr Neil**



## Safeguarding at St Nic's – dates for your diary

Next month we will be focusing on safeguarding in our church community. Safeguarding reflects how we care for and minister to one another - which of course we do all year round, quietly and consistently through worship and activities with children and adults.

Jo Radley and I, as Parish Safeguarding Officers, do our best to ensure that we welcome, respect and value all members of our community and protect and support children and adults who are vulnerable. Those who lead activities are recruited safely and have received the required Diocesan training; the PCC receives and discusses our reports at every meeting; and we are always ready to listen to concerns raised, however small they may seem, and respond promptly following our own policies and the excellent advice of the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.



However – it is up to all of us to create and build a culture of caring for one another, especially those who are most vulnerable, in the way Christ did. With this in mind, we are celebrating **Safeguarding Sunday on 22<sup>nd</sup> June at our 10 o'clock Mass**. The liturgy and the address will reflect what it means for St Nicolas' to be a community which cares for and protects adults and children from harm. We encourage you all to participate in this.

For PCC members and all who carry leadership responsibilities for adults, this will be followed by an afternoon which will build on our Diocesan training to make it specifically relevant to our own church. We will work through some scenarios and stories, all fictional, to help us understand the complexities of care, support and confidentiality when concerns are raised, and to ensure the best response. You as leaders will have received an invitation for this event, on **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June, 1-3.30pm at Ladywell Convent**. If you haven't received an invitation and think this would be helpful to support your ministry at St Nic's, then please contact Cath in the parish office.



We look forward to sharing these important events with you.

**Jill Sandham** Parish Safeguarding Officer



Th 1

Fr 2

Sa 3

16:00-18:00 Messy Church at St Nicolas



**Su 4** Easter II

**08:30 Holy Communion**

**10:00 Mass**

Tu 6

10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel,

We 7

10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel, 11:00 Mass

Th 8

10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel

19:30 Walsingham Cell Mass and meeting

Fr 9

10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel, 11:00 Mass, St George's Chapel

20:00-22:00 Fizz & Friends

**Su 11** SCHOOL SUNDAY

**08:30 Holy Communion**

**10:00 Mass**

Tue 13

10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel

We 14

10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel

Th 15

10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel

Fr 16

10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel,

Sa 17

16-18 May Parish Pilgrimage to Walsingham



**Su 18** Easter IV

**10:00 Mass**

Tue 20

10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel, 17:00-18:30 Toastie Tuesday

We 21

10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel

Th 22

10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel

Fr 23

10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel, 11:00 Mass, St George's Chapel

**Su 25** Easter V

**08:30 Holy Communion**

**10:00 Mass**

**18:00 Installation of the Rector as Honorary Canon at Choral Evensong, Guildford Cathedral**

Tue 27

10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel

Wed 28

10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel

Thu 29

ASCENSION DAY

10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel

Fri 30

VISIT OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel,

11:00 Mass, St George's Chapel





<b>Su 1</b>	<b>Sunday after Ascension &amp; PCC Commissioning</b>	<b>08:30 Holy Communion</b> <b>10:00 Mass</b>
Tue 3		10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel
We 4		10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel, 12:00 Mass, St George's Chapel
Th 5		10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel
Fri 6		10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel, 11:00 Mass, St George's Chapel
Sa 7		Messy Church at GURC 
<b>Su 8</b>	<b>Whitsun &amp; Blessing of Ministries</b>	<b>08:30 Holy Communion</b> <b>10:00 Mass</b>
Tu 10		10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel
We 11		10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel
Th 12		10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel
<b>Fr 13</b>		10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel, 11:00 Mass, St George's Chapel
Sa 14	School Fair	
<b>Su 15</b>	<b>Trinity Sunday</b>	<b>08:30 Holy Communion</b> <b>10:30 Cubs &amp; Beavers United Service at GURC</b>
Tu 17		10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel
We 18		10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel
Th 19		10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel
Fr 20		10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel, 11:00 Mass, St George's Chapel
<b>Su 22</b>	<b>Safeguarding Sunday</b>	<b>08:30 Holy Communion</b> <b>10:00 Mass</b>
Tu 24		10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel <i>17:00-18:30 Toastie Tuesday</i>
We 25		10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel
Thu 26		10:00 Mattins, The Lady Chapel
Fr 27		10:00 Mattins, 11:00 Mass, St George's Chapel
<b>Su 29</b>		<b>08:30 Holy Communion</b> <b>10:00 Mass</b>



## Mission Enabler update

April has been a busy month with lots of Easter activities and I have lost count of how many Easter eggs and chocolate bunnies I have hidden or handed out at various activities!

We had a lovely **Messy Easter** celebration at Guildford URC as we thought about all the different events of Holy Week. The children created an Easter Garden in a wheelbarrow, thank you to Caroline for providing the materials. I then had some funny looks as I wheeled it down to Saint Nics the following morning! We also made a beautiful cross by weaving coloured thread around nails on a wooden board. Thank you so much to Peter for creating the outline for us.



On the last week of term we hosted 120 year 10 students from Christs College for an **Easter retreat**. We gave them a real Saint Nics welcome with full on smells and bells from Fr Neil, then they had a guided tour of the church with reflections. Thank you so much to David, Catherine, Hilary, Darrol and Fr Ali for taking on the challenge as tour guides! In the same week we also hosted our own school for their Easter service.



On **Palm Sunday** we celebrated by following a real life donkey from Saint Nics up to the URC for a joint service. It was a wonderful sight as I turned round and watched the crowd heading up the hill lead by the Saint Nics' servers.



During the Easter holidays we held an **Easter Family Fun Day** where the church was open for anyone to come and join us from 10:30am to 3pm. There was an Easter trail, following the story of Holy Week, lots of crafts to help us reflect on Easter, tasty refreshments and toys and games to play with. Thank you to Darrol, Jo, Cath, Jill, Hilary and Pauline who came along to support the event.



Looking ahead, in exciting news we will be opening bookings very soon for our summer **Holiday Club**, 28<sup>th</sup> July - 1<sup>st</sup> August. This year's theme is 'Rock Band.' I am still looking for a few more volunteers to help during the week, so please do get in touch if you are able to do so.

The weekend of **9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> May** is very busy! We have **Fizz and Friends** on the Friday evening, at the URC there will be our annual **Big Brekkie** in support of

**Christian Aid**, and our teenagers from **Pizzas@8** will be washing cars to help raise money as well. Please let me know if you would like to attend, walk-ins are welcome on the day though. Then on the Sunday we will be welcoming our school for **School Sunday** where the children help run the service. We hope you can join us to show your support for our school.



**Nicky Geraghty**

[missionenabler@saintnics.com](mailto:missionenabler@saintnics.com)

Weekdays			
Children's activities	<b>Under 5s</b> Adult and baby/toddler groups <b>Little GURCKins</b> Mondays 10-11:30am at Guildford URC Toys, crafts, singing and refreshments	<b>CAFE PLAY</b> Cafe Play Wednesdays 10-11:30am at Saint Nics Toys, crafts, singing and refreshments	<b>Little FISHES</b> Little Fishes Last Friday of the month 11am at Guildford URC Faith based games, stories, crafts and singing followed by a bring and share lunch
	<b>Families</b> Children accompanied by adults <b>Messy Mondays</b> Mondays 3:30-4:30pm at Guildford URC Crafts, stories and music for under 7s, accompanied by an adult.	<b>Movers and Shakers</b> Tuesdays 3:30-4:30pm at Guildford URC Music group for under 7s, accompanied by an adult.	<b>Messy Church</b> First Saturday of the month 4-6pm Faith based fun, games, crafts and tea for families <i>see websites for location</i>
	<b>Years 3-6</b> Youth group <b>Toastie Tuesdays</b> Last Tuesday of the month 5:00-6:30pm at Saint Nics Games, crafts and a place to come and relax with tuck shop	<b>Years 7-13</b> Youth group <b>Pizzas@8</b> Last Friday of the month 7:30-9:00pm at GURC Youth group with games and activities	





The Headteacher, Christina (Stina) Witkowski writes:

As we come to the end of the spring term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on all the wonderful progress our children have made, not only academically but in every aspect of their development. It has been an absolute joy to watch them grow in confidence, curiosity, and kindness, as they continue to build their character and self-awareness.

This term has seen our young learners develop new skills in handwriting and spelling; embrace challenges in reasoning questions in their maths lessons; and celebrate each other's successes from trying a new food for the first time or learning to work with more independence. But beyond their classroom achievements, it's the growth of their whole selves that has been truly inspiring. Whether it's showing empathy to a friend, working as a team in Forest School, or exploring their creativity on Pause Days, the children have blossomed in ways that will serve them for years to come.



I would like to thank our fantastic PSA community who held a wonderful Mother's Day breakfast at the beginning of the week as well as delivered a fun-filled Easter egg hunt to round off the last day brilliantly for our children.

Some dates for your diary:

**13 June (Fri)**

**PSA Father's Day Breakfast & School Sports Morning**

**14 June (Sat)**

**PSA Summer Fair**

**22 July (Tue)**

**Leaver's service at St Nicolas**

**8-10PM**

UPCOMING DATES:

7TH FEBRUARY

9TH MAY

11TH JULY

FREE OF CHARGE,  
DONATIONS WELCOMED.

# FIZZ & Friends

**LADIES GROUP**

A CHANCE TO RELAX AMONGST FRIENDS  
ENJOY SOME CALMING ACTIVITIES, SOAK UP  
THE ATMOSPHERE IN OUR BEAUTIFUL  
CHURCH AND, OF COURSE, ENJOY SOME  
FIZZ!  
(NON-ALCOHOLIC DRINKS ALSO AVAILABLE!)

It would be helpful to know if you are coming, so please drop Nicky an email to let her know so we don't run out of fizz!

**ST NICOLAS GUILDFORD**

MISSIONENABLER@SAINTNICS.COM

WWW.SAINTNICS.COM

# THE ROCK BAND

28TH JULY - 1ST AUG

# HOLIDAY CLUB

AT GUILDFORD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Bookings open 22nd April

CRAFTS

STORY

GAMES

MUSIC

FUN

Faith based fun as we get creative with  
the world of rock music!

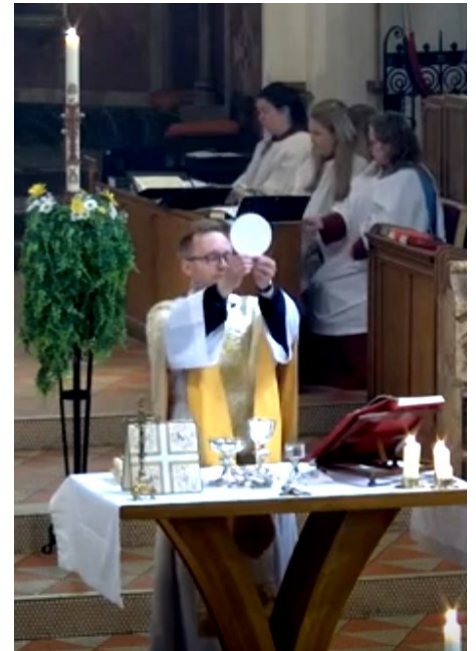
www.guildfordurc.org.uk | www.saintnics.com

In partnership with






## What does Easter mean to me?



For me, Easter is more important than Christmas. I can hardly believe the enormity of what was done for us. As I write, and contemplate, I feel very small and humble indeed.

There is a meditative quality in the way that the services at St. Nicolas' lead us through Holy Week to the intensity and profound experience of the Easter Triduum and on to Easter Sunday.

The joyous celebrations of Palm Sunday turn so quickly to feelings of fear and foreboding. As we see Jesus the servant, washing the feet of his disciples, so, somehow we are there again. We are bound together with all those disciples who were there then, and part of all those who have been part of that profound experience down the centuries.

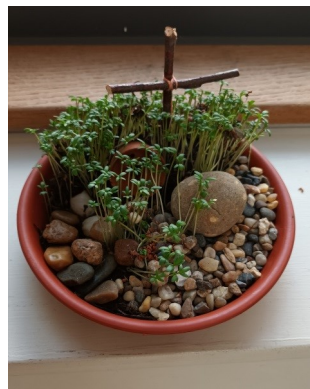
From the account of the Last Supper we read, *"And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them saying, This is my body, which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you."* (Luke 21 v 19-20)

As we partake, somehow time loses meaning. We become one, bound together with all through time into one body, part of a whole which we cannot fully understand. The dramatic stripping of the altar, and the difficulty of the vigil throughout the night lead us towards the intensity of pain and despair felt at the crucifixion. The sense of loss we feel is there for us just as it was then, and has been for so many down through the ages. Yet, as the darkness of Easter Saturday, with its confusion and devastation give way to incredulity and then joy on Easter Sunday, we know we are truly blessed. May God bless us all this Easter, and onwards. **Hilary Fletcher**



For me, the meaning of Easter is the Resurrection. As I recall a priest saying years ago, if there had been no Resurrection, there can be no Christianity. We have all been born but only the Son of God rose from the dead.

In my childhood, and indeed my student days, Easter also meant the holidays with time at home and visiting friends and relations. But always Easter itself has been the celebration of the Resurrection. Since my confirmation when I was twelve, the six weeks of Lent have been the build-up to Easter with the climax of Holy Week. **Philip Hooper**



God's promise of the resurrection is seen every springtime in the new growth of leaves, buds and flowers. Also chocolate!!

**Name supplied**



### **Mary Magdalene**

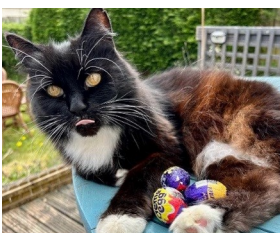
Washed His feet with her tears, pouring on oils and perfumes- drying them with her hair. Showed humility.

Followed Him to His death, prayed at the Cross- saw Him in the garden. Displayed compassion and love.

A woman of courage, a child of strength, loved by the Saviour.

**Mary.**

**Debbie Nobbs**



**My Easter Sunday. Mr. Bear  
(Master of Debbie and Craig Nobbs)**

## What does Easter mean to me?



Easter speaks to me of new life, hope and inexpressible joy and of a risen saviour. The resurrection is the cornerstone of our faith. It is a declaration of life salvation and hope for the world, 1 Peter 1 verse 3. Without Easter, life would be meaningless and directionless. In a dark, sometimes confusing and often violent world, Christ is our hope. He gave his life for me, for us and shows us how life should be lived.

Jesus gave us the most precious gift of all, his own life so that we might have life. **Jean Woolley**

*1 Peter 1 verse 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,*



### Gethsemane

Gethsemane, peaceful and serene,  
Where the Olive trees grow.  
One man, praying -  
Whose life would be taken away.



Gethsemane, garden of despair,  
One man's devotion -  
Betrayed by a kiss,  
Then led away to Calvary,  
Composed and dignified.

Gethsemane, deserted,  
abandoned,  
One man's life surrendered,  
Nailed to the Cross, for all  
mankind,  
Our sins forgiven.

**Debbie Nobbs**

The Christian Easter has always puzzled me. A time of nature's renewal and the joy of hunting chocolate Easter eggs I could understand, but my grandmother also used to hint at a time of tombs and rock caves mysteriously opening, not quite daring to explain more fully during the Communist era. So the Crucifixion and Resurrection have always been shrouded in mystery, even more so once I heard the Biblical explanation.

This Easter, life looked bleak; a close friend and long-term source of strength and inspiration had died suddenly, I came back from Prague having visited my mother in her care home perhaps for the last time and the world political situation felt unpromisingly dark, and indeed still does. It all spoke of endings and the Crucifixion with little sign of a Resurrection.

Our Maundy Thursday service let a beam of light onto the Resurrection for me and with it some relief and hope as to what this could mean for us today. Hearing, so beautifully sung, Jesus' last commandment to



love one another, showed a possibility of partaking in a resurrection. A willingness to understand, accept and attempt to practice this most important and also most difficult commandment, in all circumstances, could bring about a huge change; a transformation of all our relationships with one another, with the world and, in time, within the world. This is a resurrection of the here and now.

My mother is hardly able to speak now but, when awake, impresses on me the need to love and be kind to one another. I have never known her to attend a church service but it feels like she is already looking at another world. **Jana Phillips**

*John 13:34-35 "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."*



# What does Easter mean to me?

## EASTER

Rise heart; thy Lord is risen ....  
The Sun arising in the East,  
Though he give light, and th'East perfume;  
If they should offer to contest  
With thy arising, they presume.  
Can there be any day but this,  
Though many suns to shine endeavour?  
We count three hundred, but we miss:  
There is but one, and that one ever.  
*George Herbert, priest & poet (1593-1633)*



The love of God is endless. It has no beginning, it has no end. It envelopes us and sustains us. How to comprehend the infinite, how to find words to express it ? And so it is with Easter: so pivotal, so resonant, so powerful. All I can do is describe how I feel at the moment of writing, knowing that next week my thoughts may be very different.

This year I am preoccupied with Coventry Cathedral, a story of destruction, despair, forgiveness and hope. A story of resurrection.

On 14 November 1940, the city of Coventry experienced its own Golgotha, subjected to a massive air raid. The medieval city centre was obliterated in a firestorm and the 15th century St. Michael's Cathedral was gutted and reduced to rubble. The day after, inspecting the smoking ruins, Provost Richard Howard, vowed to rebuild. The new cathedral, designed by Basil Spence and utilising the talents of the foremost British artists of the day, became a symbol of national post-war reconstruction.

In 1940, there were far worse horrors to come but, at the time, no one knew that. The brutalisation of Coventry was shocking. Many were understandably outraged and vowed that the Germans, having sown the wind, would reap the whirlwind. But Howard refused to give way to recrimination. In a message on the BBC on Christmas Day 1940, he said: "We are trying to banish all thoughts of revenge. We are going to try to make a kinder world." The words "Father, Forgive", inscribed on the wall behind the altar in the ruins, define the spirit of reconciliation at the heart of the cathedral's mission.



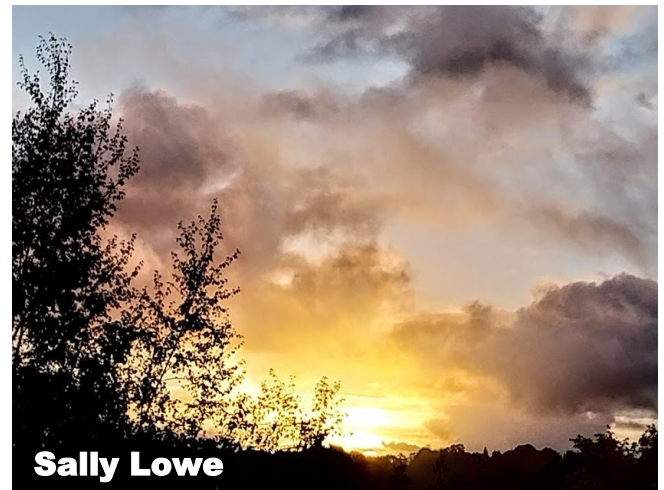
I know of nowhere that speaks of Easter with greater force and clarity than Coventry Cathedral. It tells me that there is certainly evil in the world and that we are capable of the most terrible actions, but that evil's triumph is always temporary and that we are also able to achieve wonderful things.

Renewal. A fresh start. A spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation.

Hope over despair.

Resurrection.

**David  
Greenwood**





**David Greenwood** will be telling the inspirational story of obliteration and re-building of Coventry Cathedral at the Haslemere Festival.

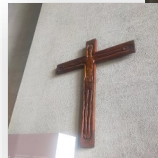
**14 May 11am.**

**Haslemere Educational Museum.**

78 High Street, Haslemere, GU27 2LA

Tickets £6 from Haslemere Hall Box Office

<https://haslemerefestival.org.uk/events/father-forgive-coventry-cathedral/>



## A Visit to Coventry Cathedral

Might you be interested in visiting Coventry Cathedral? Depending on numbers, we could make our way to Coventry by train or car shares in time for lunch. David would then guide us around the Cathedral before heading home.

This is planned for some time during the school summer holidays. If interested, please speak to David or Jana or email David on [david.greenwood19@btopenworld.com](mailto:david.greenwood19@btopenworld.com)



## Quantum physics data suggests that death may not be the end, physicist says. By **Fr Neil**

For centuries, death has been considered the definitive end of life, a biological certainty. However, emerging theories rooted in quantum physics suggest that death may be an illusion shaped by our perception.

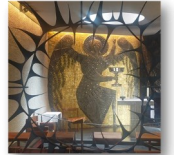
At the heart of this idea lies the principle that an observer influences reality — changing how it appears and its nature. This principle challenges the notion of an objective reality, implying that what we experience, including death, could be a construct of our minds.

Let's dive in. Biocentrism is a theory by Dr. Robert Lanza. It proposes that life and consciousness are central to the universe's fabric.

According to this view, space and time are not fixed entities but tools our minds use to interpret the world. If time is merely a construct, death as a time-bound event may not truly exist.

Quantum theories like the "many-worlds" interpretation also suggest that all possible realities coexist, meaning death in one universe might signify continuity in another. While these ideas are speculative, they challenge our understanding of existence, offering a fascinating lens through which to explore life and death.

## Father Forgive - The Rebuilding of Coventry Cathedral







This year marked the 110th occasion of the **St Nicolas 9th Guildford Good Friday Breakfast.** Rather aptly attended by about 110 scouts and guests, the cooked breakfast, supplemented by porridge and hot cross buns, was served in Peaslake Village Hall on Good Friday morning. This was followed by a hike up Pitch Hill where Jerome and Lesley were invested by their children as Scout Leaders and badges and creme eggs were distributed. During the Breakfast our Group Chair Helen Marsh interviewed Explorer Leader Jenna Clare about how she got involved and why she does it, encouraging the adults to get involved in the leadership of the group. If you'd like to know why I am still, after many years(!), a volunteer in our Scout Group, do ask - I might even be able to persuade you to get involved too! **Cath Anderson**





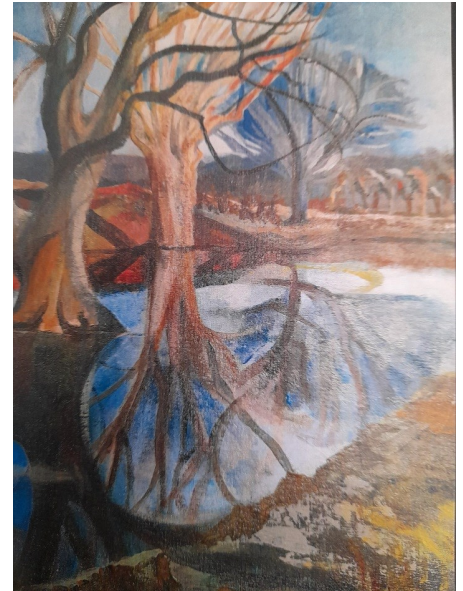


## The Good Grief Club

**Helen Trussler**



We meet at The Cosy Club at Tunsgate on the last Wednesday of every month from 2pm. Open to men and women. Please speak to [Helen Trussler](#) or [Jean Taylor](#) for more details.



### Grace Beckett writes & paints her feelings of grief

I was in St Nic's lighting a candle for Michael Gale, my late husband, when Helen was there for the morning opening hours. She invited me to come along to her sessions and eventually I did get to the Cosy Club on a Thursday afternoon.

There is much written about grief by Diana Kubler Ross especially about the many stages which, I am sure you know, run from disbelief, anger, depression, bargaining, to acceptance. Nowhere did I find there to be any description of the experiences I was having of the physical feelings of pain and hollowness. The feeling that it should end and that it was never going to. I understand now that we are supposed to be able to live our lives around grief and that like a river life flows on around these islands which do not go away but which we adapt to.

It was a great surprise to find that others were in the same boat and that at times they were struggling to keep afloat. When I experienced grief because of my son plunging into the depths of his illness and becoming estranged from our family, I was offered counselling on the telephone by several agencies. I found one in particular was just ticking boxes. I had to answer questions in particular about whether my grief was leading me to end my own life. There was no integrity or honesty in the exercise.

Having meetings to do with grief is not easy and hearing and comparing does require some authentic participation. We discussed dreams and experiences to do with messages received and the degree of comfort that these gave. I would say that Helen facilitates a forum that can provide some comfort to the bereaved and a way of supporting the bravery required to carve out a new approach to a life with grief and with a way a future around these feelings.

**Wendy Gabriel writes** We are incredibly lucky at St Nicolas Church to have the Good Grief Club run by Helen Trussler which is held once a month at the Cosy Club in Guildford. A compassionate, supportive group like this is a place to feel understood, validated and less isolated knowing that others are



experiencing similar feelings. We are all carrying our grief and knowing you are not alone is extremely comforting. Helen has huge empathy and it is a safe place to express difficult feelings in an environment where there is no judgement. The meetings are good for boosting self-esteem and we also have fun as a group and enjoy chatting about a variety of topics. We recently met for lunch at The March Hare which was an enjoyable social get together with friends who are all on this same journey.





*Image from Vatican Media*

## **Pope Francis 1936 - 2025 R.I.P.** by **Ray Lamb**

Pope Francis, born Jorge Mario Bergoglio in Argentina in 1936, son of Italian immigrant parents, died on Easter Monday at the age of 88.

He decided to train for the priesthood following a profound experience in confession at the age of sixteen. Clearly a gifted leader he was appointed head of the Jesuit order in Argentina at the age of 36, was

appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Buenos Aires in 1992, then Archbishop in 1998, and he became a cardinal in 2001. Then followed the surprise resignation of Pope Benedict and Francis' election in 2013.

He was praised by many as a man of humility and simplicity. In his first appearance as the new Pope, addressing thousands of pilgrims from the balcony in Saint Peter's Basilica, Francis thanked the crowd for its embrace in a sign of submission to the faithful, and asked them to pray for him. There were a number of serious issues facing the Catholic church at that time including widespread accusations of paedophilia and sexual abuse by priests, the Vatican's opposition on the use of condoms, and birth control, in vitro fertilisation, abortion, and sexual education; also a much-needed overhaul of the Vatican's bureaucracy - the Curia - which was said to be stalling reforms within the church, and serious failures with the Vatican bank.

His desire as Pope was to emphasise the need for "a missionary and pastoral conversion", encouraging laity to share in this task. His stance on social and economic issues favoured redistribution of wealth among the poor, but he presented conservative views on same-sex marriage, denouncing plans to legalise the practice in Argentina as a move to "destroy God's plan". Like his two predecessors, Pope Francis was known to oppose abortion and the ordination of women. He actively engaged in inter-religious dialogue and promoted ecumenism with other Christian Denominations, forming a particular friendship with our Ex-Archbishop Justin Welby.

He leaves a global church where many issues remain unresolved - some have become increasingly dismayed that he failed to follow up on the possibility of giving greater roles to women or to end the practice of celibacy. He did allow the blessing of same sex marriages but that itself created serious divisions particularly within African communities.

So, after a Papacy of 12 years, he leaves us with memories of a man who touched many hearts and will be genuinely missed, though perhaps remembered also as a contradictory figure who left behind a church still riven with disagreement over where to go next. Against expectations, he held fast to traditional church doctrine but left open many issues about broadening the global reach of the church.

**Sources:** (i) 'Pope Francis, Who's the new Pope?' author Stephen Benedict; (ii) Wikipedia; (iii) Daily Telegraph 22nd April 2025; (iv) Christopher Lamb - CNN.

*Image from the BBC website*



# Pope Francis wrote this while in hospital

sent by **Fr Neil**

“The walls of hospitals have heard more honest prayers than churches...  
They have witnessed far more sincere kisses than those in airports...  
It is in hospitals that you see a homophobe being saved by a gay doctor.  
A privileged doctor saving the life of a beggar...  
In intensive care, you see a Jew taking care of a racist...  
A police officer and a prisoner in the same room receiving the same care...  
A wealthy patient waiting for a liver transplant, ready to receive the organ from a poor donor...

It is in these moments, when the hospital touches the wounds of people, that different worlds intersect according to a divine design. And in this communion of destinies, we realize that alone, we are nothing. The absolute truth of people, most of the time, only reveals itself in moments of pain or in the real threat of an irreversible loss.

A hospital is a place where human beings remove their masks and show themselves as they truly are, in their purest essence.

This life will pass quickly, so do not waste it fighting with people.

Do not criticize your body too much.

Do not complain excessively.

Do not lose sleep over bills.

Make sure to hug your loved ones.

Do not worry too much about keeping the house spotless.

Material goods must be earned by each person—do not dedicate yourself to accumulating an inheritance.

You are waiting for too much: Christmas, Friday, next year, when you have money, when love arrives, when everything is perfect...

Listen, perfection does not exist.

A human being cannot attain it because we are simply not made to be fulfilled here.

Here, we are given an opportunity to learn.

So, make the most of this trial of life—and do it now.

Respect yourself, respect others. Walk your own path, and let go of the path others have chosen for you.

Respect: do not comment, do not judge, do not interfere.

Love more, forgive more, embrace more, live more intensely!

And leave the rest in the hands of the Creator.”

—Pope Francis



*Image from Wikipedia*

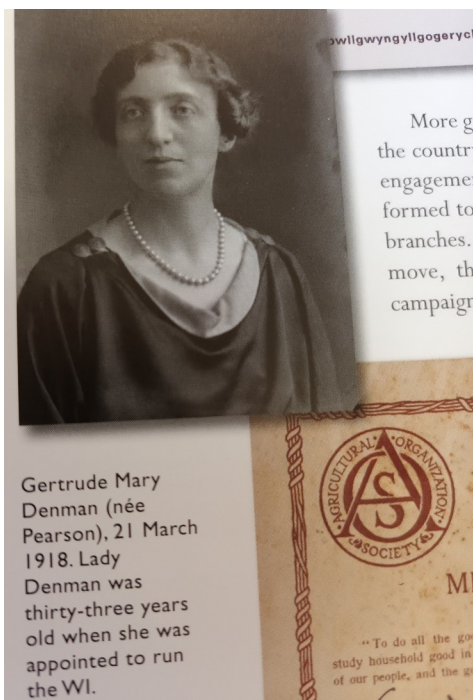


*Image from the BBC website*



## The Women's Institute by Janet Busby

The inspiration for the Women's Institute (W.I.) which is the largest women's



voluntary organisation in Britain came from Canada where the first W.I. was set up by Mrs Adelaide Woodless and Mrs Erland Lee at Stoney Creek in 1897. The object was to encourage country women to play a more active role in village life. When a pioneering Canadian member moved to Britain in 1913 she recognised the benefits of a similar organisation for Britain. In 1915 she spoke at the end of an Agricultural Organisation Society meeting. This inspired Mr. Nugent Harris to persuade Mrs Watts to see if it could work and in September 1915 the first WI of England and Wales was established in the small Anglesey village of Llanfair. The idea spread to England the first two branches being in Sussex and Dorset. In 1918 Lady Denman was appointed to run the W.I. and she built up a lot of support around the country.

During the second World War, in 1940, Archbishop Cosmo Lang wrote that the W.I.'s were well entrenched in War Work. They build up a reputation for home made cooking and crafts in villages; they assisted at village events and built up choirs. They established their own college in Oxfordshire, named after Lady Denman, where they held courses.



*Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother at the Hertfordshire Federation Rally at Knebworth House 1949*

a poem by William Blake set to music by Hubert Parry. It was first used by the Suffragettes and later adopted by the W.I. **Jerusalem** is still sung at National and County meetings. It used to be sung at all local branch meetings but some have given up the practice.

*Her Majesty chats to Denman College students at the opening of the Home Economics Centre in 1979. From WI website.*

Over the years the Royal Family have participated; Queen Elizabeth II and the Queen Mother at Sandringham, and Sophie Duchess of Edinburgh at Bagshot in Surrey. Queen Elizabeth was President of Sandringham W.I. and attended meetings when in Norfolk. Over the years the W.I. have campaigned for numerous projects and are still active today.

There is an annual National Meeting held in different venues around the country which members from each W.I. have the chance to attend. Unfortunately, starting in 2025, this will now only occur every three years with 'on-line' meetings in the intervening years.

W.I. is often referred to as **Jam and Jerusalem** because of their reputation for making jam and excellent cooking. Jerusalem refers to a



*Barford WI members on a charabanc outing to the Peak District, c.1925*





**Worplesdon W.I.** This branch was formed in 1920 and has been active in the village for over 100 years. It helped to pay for the Memorial Hall in the early days and has assisted at Village events ever since. We have our own Royal connection through the Rev Andrew Elphinstone (Rector 1953 to 1962) whose wife Jean (herself, amongst other things, a Lady-in-Waiting to the Queen) was a very active member

Today we meet on the first Wednesday of each month, still in the Memorial Hall which we helped build 100 years ago. After monthly business we have a speaker on a wide variety of subjects and then socialise over tea. Once a year we hire a coach for an outing to a place of interest. Between meetings we gather socially for things like short walks or to visit a Garden Centre, or a visit to Wisley. Recently we had a tour of Abbots Hospital and a visit to Godalming Museum, both were interesting and educational.

We celebrated our 100th anniversary in 2020 and received a letter from Queen Elizabeth II, and a certificate from the Surrey W.I. Federation. This month one of our members celebrated the 50th Anniversary of her joining the branch. We are a small but very friendly group and will be pleased to welcome new members.



### History

The WI has been inspiring women for over 100 years.

Discover more about our history, from our origins through to the present day.



*Historical facts are taken from the book "The Women's Institute" by Susan Cohen (Shire Books)*

*Left: Betty, who celebrates 50 years as a member, cutting the Branch's 105th Anniversary Birthday Cake. (Photograph by Jan Messenger). Right: Some of the current Worplesdon W.I. members visiting Wisley.*



**Daniel Lucas**, who has reliably attended to St Nicolas' Parish Centre plumbing in the past, has formed

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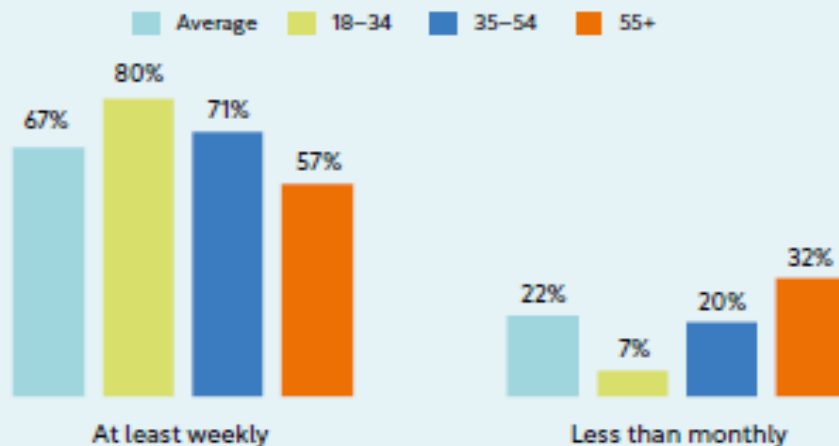
**Church attendance has risen by 50 per cent over the last six years, busting the myth of church decline.** The findings come in *The Quiet Revival*, a new report by Dr Rhiannon McAleer and Dr Rob Barward-Symmonds, based on 2 data sets commissioned by the Bible Society and conducted by YouGov.

‘While some traditional denominations continue to face challenges, we’ve seen significant, broad-based growth among most expressions of Church – particularly in Roman Catholicism and Pentecostalism. There are now over 2 million more people attending church than there were six years ago.’

**More men than women go to church** *The Quiet Revival* shows that men (13 per cent) are more likely to attend church than women (10 per cent). And as well church decline being reversed, **the Church is also becoming more ethnically diverse**, with one in five people (19 per cent) coming from an ethnic minority. Close to half of young Black people aged 18–34 (47 per cent) are now attending church at least

## Younger churchgoers read the Bible more often than older churchgoers

How often churchgoers read or listen to the Bible outside of a church service, by age group



Question: How often do you normally read or listen to/hear the Bible outside of a church service (e.g. at home or elsewhere)?

Base: Churchgoing Christians

monthly.

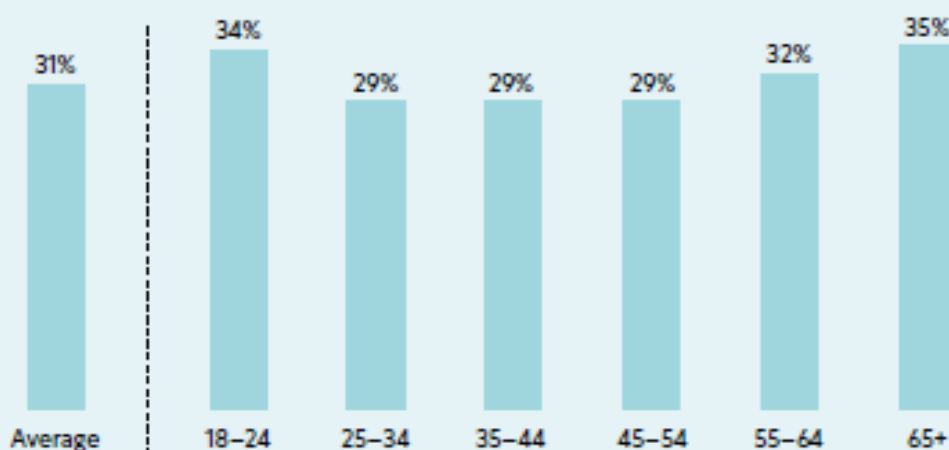
It’s also great to see that Bible reading and confidence in the Bible have increased as well as church growth. Some 67 per cent of churchgoing Christians read the Bible at least weekly outside church.

## Churchgoers are more likely to give to charity

Church growth has an impact on society, says *The Quiet Revival*, as churchgoers are more likely to actively participate in things that benefit the local community, such as donating to food banks, volunteering or giving to charity.

## More than a third of young non-churchgoers would attend if invited

Percentage of non-churchgoers who would attend a church service if invited by a friend, by age group



Question: Apart from weddings, baptisms/christenings, and funerals, would you attend a church service if you were invited by a friend?

Base: non-churchgoers

**Christians also report a higher life satisfaction than non-churchgoers**, with a greater connection to their community and less stress and anxiety.

Download the whole report:

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/research/quiet-revival/form>



## Aunty Ruth's Boiled Fruit Cake

I love using family recipes. My mum's recipe 'file' is with my sister in Portugal but I have some that I either copied out or mum typed out for me. This isn't one of her's, but my Aunty Ruth's (mum's cousin) - a lovely gentle lady who won a prize in a fruit cake competition for this recipe.

I don't make it very often as it is supposed to have a "small tin of crushed pineapple". I can never find it but instead I used a tin of pineapple rings and blended them with the juice. Hope I've done this prize-winning recipe justice - you will have to find out at a Friday coffee shop in the future.

### Ingredients:

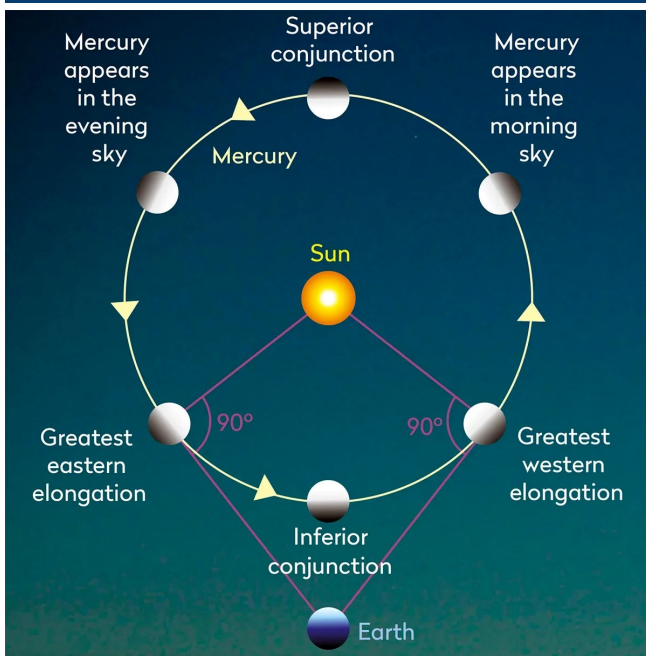
325 g mixed fruit  
175 g soft light brown sugar  
175 g glace cherries (cut in half)  
Small tin of crushed pineapple (or blitzed pineapple rings/chunks and juice)  
110g butter or margarine  
2 large eggs, beaten  
225g self-raising flour

Mix the fruit, sugar, cherries, pineapple and butter/margarine in a saucepan over a low heat. Bring to the boil, then allow to cool for 20 minutes. Then mix in the eggs and flour.

Bake in an 21cm (8 inch) greased/lined tin at Gas 3 / 160C / Fan 140C for about 90 minutes.



## The night sky in May & June Rory Fenner



*Illustration from BBC Sky at Night magazine. The best time to see Mercury is at eastern or western elongation when its orbit is far enough from the Sun's glare.*

**May** The **Sun** moves from Aries into Taurus on May 21. **Mercury** remains out of sight in the pre-dawn sky before passing through **Superior Conjunction** on 30 May. **Venus** is now a lovely morning star, reaching **Greatest Western Elongation** on 31 May. **Mars** is an evening object after sunset, passing north of the Beehive Cluster M44. **Jupiter** is a brilliant evening object in Taurus after sunset for the first half of the month. It is in conjunction with the Sun next month. **Saturn** is a morning object, still too close to the Sun for observation but may be visible by the end of the month. **Uranus** is in conjunction with the Sun on the 18 May and is not visible. **Neptune** is with Saturn in the pre-dawn sky but will be difficult to see.

**June** The **Sun** moves from Taurus into Gemini and the Summer solstice on 21 June. **Mercury** is visible in the second half of the month, providing an early evening apparition. **Venus** is a brilliant morning star in the pre-dawn sky and can be seen some 10deg 45mins before sunrise. **Mars** is now fading but it is an evening object before sunset. **Jupiter** is in conjunction with the **Sun** on 24 June and is unobservable. **Saturn** is starting to be

seen in the morning sky before sunrise. **Uranus** is emerging in the morning twilight but will get better by the end of June and will be east of Venus in the strong twilight. **Neptune** will be hard to observe in June but will be close to **Saturn**, a handy way to locate it.





# Church bulletin board

The following appeared in church bulletins  
or were announced at church services.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off – let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again', giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

The Rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing 'Break Forth Into Joy'.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5pm – prayer and medication to follow.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7pm there will be hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7pm. Please use the back door.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge – Up Yours.'

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

Compiled by Max Bowen

Sent for our delight by **Darrol Radley**



Once again, Tuesday Group has been enjoying a varied programme of events and activities. The month of March began with something always popular - our yearly Pancake Day meeting, where pancakes are served to all and opportunities for chat among the members of the Group abound. At the following meeting, an "individual contributions" session gave everybody the chance to share their knowledge and experiences of places of historical interest close to, but not within, Guildford Town Centre. The interpretation of "close to" was fairly liberally interpreted, and so there was mention of Godalming, and the Aldershot Observatory, but also of Lewis Carroll's grave in the Mount Cemetery, and Guildford Park car park. It was a very informative meeting, as was Guest Speaker David Greenwood's third and final talk on "The Story of the Symphony", which brought the story of this developing form up to date, and took a look at what might happen in the future. A paper-and-pencil quiz, for teams of two, on the topic of Food and Cookery gave mental powers a lively workout.



In April, the subject of "Archaeology" gave rise to a number of interesting, if not particularly significant, archaeological finds being displayed (it's amazing what can be dug up in a back garden) and many experiences being shared. At the time of writing, Tuesday Group is on a short break, but will return before the end of the month for a ropework session with practical elements, and a look at traditional sea-shanties.

The programme for May and June is no less full of variety, and everyone is welcome to attend; attention is drawn to the meeting on 20th May, when a guest speaker has been invited, and this is a meeting to which casual visitors will be specially welcome.

## Meetings in May:

6th - Craft session.

13th - Guest speaker: Topic, "Sir Isaac Newton"

(27th - School holidays - no meeting)

## Meetings in June:

3rd - Summer-themed Bingo - the TG way

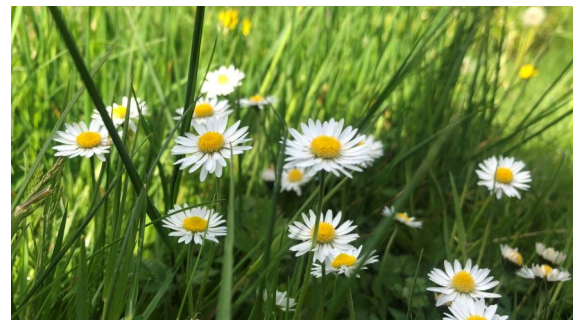
10th - Individual contributions: "The sweetshops of my childhood"

17th - Board games

24th - In-house speaker: Topic, "Stories behind the constellations" *Written by Cathy Goodwin*



Photos **Chris Goodwin**



## Eco News

### The non-benefits of Artificial Grass

- 1) Creates huge volumes of plastic waste.
- 2) Lasts 8-12yrs & can't always be recycled.
- 3) Pollutes soil with microplastics.
- 4) Has a large carbon footprint.
- 5) Contributes to flooding.
- 6) Overheats making artificial grass lawns unusable.
- 7) Has to be swept or vacuumed & cleaned with detergent.
- 8) Has NO wildlife benefit.



### No-Mow May

By locking away the lawn mower for a few weeks, it's not just the grass you will be letting grow. Lawns are made up of a tapestry of plants that nestle in amongst the grass-clover, plantain, and daisies, to name just a few. And they need to flower and set seed to thrive, which in turn allows bees, butterflies, and other insects to feed and shelter.

To encourage and support this biodiversity, try mowing just once a month, instead of weekly.



## Life Issues Series

*At Godalming Baptist church*  
*Queen Street, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 1BA*

### PASTORAL CARE IN CHALLENGING TIMES

*Led by Andy Peck*  
*Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2025 9.30 am - 1 pm*  
*Coffee available from 9 am*

- **What is pastoral care according to the Bible? What role might you play in caring for others?**
- **Looking at the five stages of church involvement and the care needed for each**
- **How do we understand the suffering that God allows? How do we serve at a sustainable pace?**
- **How do we involve others? How might our care extend beyond the local church?**

It is said that a crisis doesn't make or break, it just reveals! There are times when we feel challenges in caring for others, either because we feel like we are just 'hanging on' to faith ourselves, or because the situation being faced is stretching us like never before. The recent COVID pandemic left many reeling!

In this session, we aim to step back and provide an assessment of what pastoral care is and what it isn't, look together at our mind-sets as we face challenges, and provide a faith-filled expectant outlook that takes Romans 8:28 seriously, knowing that 'in all things God is at work for the good of those who love him'.

The morning will be a mixture of teaching and small group discussions with time for questions. Notes will be provided.

Please reserve a place, with payment of £8, by contacting **Sally Pollard** [pollard3@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pollard3@hotmail.co.uk),  
**tel: 01483 428646** by **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May**.

## GLASTONBURY PILGRIMAGE



The 101st Glastonbury Pilgrimage this year takes place on **Saturday 6 September** in the grounds of Glastonbury Abbey.

The Saturday proceedings start at 12.00 noon with a Solemn Concelebrated Mass sung in the Nave of the ruins of the Abbey Church. The pilgrims then have time for lunch, a picnic in the beautiful grounds or at one of the numerous establishments in the town. At 3pm we join in a procession of

the Blessed Sacrament through the streets of the town back into the Abbey grounds for a service of Benediction.

Last year saw two car-loads from St Nicolas and those on their first visit marvelled at the beauty of the abbey and its grounds and the deeply moving services. Do come and join us this year, as I am sure you will enjoy it. If interested, please contact me. **Philip Hooper**

## 20 glastonbury 25 pilgrimage

glastonbury  
abbey grounds  
saturday 6th  
september  
2025

12 noon  
solemn mass  
3pm  
procession  
of the blessed  
sacrament  
& benediction

further  
information to  
follow

[glastonburypilgrimage.co.uk](http://glastonburypilgrimage.co.uk)





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**What:** Big Brekkie and car wash

**When:** Saturday 10th May

**Where:** Guildford United Reformed Church,  
in the Sanctuary

**Time:** 9am - Midday  
Please sign up in the church foyer or  
email [familiesworker@guildfordurc.org.uk](mailto:familiesworker@guildfordurc.org.uk)

All welcome, bring a friend.

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**SOUTHWARK**  
◆ CATHEDRAL ◆

## An update on the Icons on Ammunition Boxes exhibitions

**Southwark Cathedral**  
was delighted to announce  
that its exhibition in  
February 2025 raised

almost **£20,000** to support front line medical units in Ukraine. This came from visitor donations and the purchase of several icons. The exhibition, shown at St Nicolas last June/July, was comprised of icons painted on fragments of ammunition boxes by Ukrainian artists Sofia Atlantova and Oleksandr Klymenko, and presented in partnership with Ukrainian foundation "Peli can live", the **Rotary Club of Guildford Chantries** and the **Rotary Club Kyiv-Capital**.

**SAVE THE DATE**

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FAYRE**

**SATURDAY**

**5th July**

**2 - 4 pm**

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deadline is Sunday 15 June  
for July/August 2025 issue.**



**ECO CHURCH**  
AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT

## NOT JUST SUNDAYS

### Tuesdays

### Tuesday Group @ 9:30

Social Group for adults

**Toastie Tuesdays @ 5**  
for School Years 3 - 6 (monthly)

**Beer & Banter @ 7:30**

Men's Group (monthly)

**Curry & Questions @7:30**

Exploring Faith over Food  
(quarterly)

### Wednesdays

### Cafe Play @ 10

Pre School Toddler Group

### Fridays

### Coffee Shop @10:30

### Monthly Lunch &

### Bible Study @11:30

### Fizz & Friends @8

Women's Group (twice a term))

### Saturdays

### Messy Church @4

(monthly)

[www.saintnics.com](http://www.saintnics.com)

**ST NICOLAS**  
GUILDFORD