

Dear Friends,

We celebrate Easter Sunday only after first remembering what happened on Good Friday. The Son of God himself was captured and killed by those in power. His love held him on the cross. His love for us. The Easter story of Christ's resurrection from the dead is a story about defeating the power of suffering and death. Death has lost its sting and we are offered the gift of eternal life.

Over the past few years, we have witnessed inspiring signs that love, not greed or the will to power, is the truly genuine human reality. When we see what the outpouring of friendship and compassion for the Ukrainian people which this crisis has provoked, it strengthens our hope. When we see communities growing after the pandemic, it shows us that loving kindness and grace are the building blocks for the future

In the fifteenth chapter of his first letter to the Corinthians, St Paul points to the heart of our faith - indeed he literally nails it; it is the death of Jesus on the cross, and what happened thereafter:

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain...

For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.

I wish you a blessed Easter, and I pray that the Gospel of the Resurrection may bless and comfort you always, and especially in any darkness that may have touched your own life in this past year. May the risen, living Christ – the light that pierces the darkness – be close to you, always.

Alleluia Christ is risen, he is risen indeed Alleluia!

Rev Julie

Matthew 21:1-11

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

```
"Say to Daughter Zion,
"See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.""
```

The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹⁰ When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"

"The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The Sovereign LORD has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary.

He wakens me morning by morning,

wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed.

The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears;

I have not been rebellious,

I have not turned away.

I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard;

I did not hide my face

from mocking and spitting.

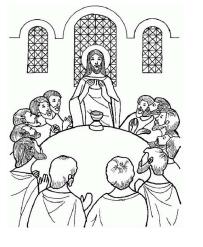
Because the Sovereign LORD helps me,
I will not be disgraced.
Therefore have I set my face like flint,
and I know I will not be put to shame.
He who vindicates me is near.
Who then will bring charges against me?
Let us face each other!
Who is my accuser?
Let him confront me!
It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me.

Who will condemn me?

Collects

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human race
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and
humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

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



Thursday 6th April - Maundy Thursday

7pm – Holy Communion with music and Reflection at St Mary's Church

Friday 7th April - Good Friday

10am – All age service with prayer stations, Easter garden, and hot cross buns at St Mary's Church

2pm – Meditations at the foot of the cross at Holy Trinity Church

XI Crucifixion by Malcolm Guite

See, as they strip the robe from off his back
And spread his arms and nail them to the cross,
The dark nails pierce him and the sky turns black,
And love is firmly fastened onto loss.
But here a pure change happens. On this tree
Loss becomes gain, death opens into birth.
Here wounding heals and fastening makes free
Earth breathes in heaven, heaven roots in earth.
And here we see the length, the breadth, the height
Where love and hatred meet and love stays true
Where sin meets grace and darkness turns to light
We see what love can bear and be and do,
And here our saviour calls us to his side
His love is free, his arms are open wide.





Sunday 9th April - Easter Day

Sunrise Service

Possible sunrise service on the forest
Time to be confirmed Please check the website.

For more information, Please contact Rev Julie Sear on 01892 770436 or email: revjuliesear1@gmail.com.

websites: hartfieldchurch.org, colemanshatchchurch.org

8am – Holy Communion BCP at St Mary's Church

9.30am – Easter Celebration with Holy Communion at St Mary's Church

11am – Easter Celebration with Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church

Easter Morning by Malcolm Guite

He blesses every love which weeps and grieves
And now he blesses hers who stood and wept
And would not be consoled, or leave her love's
Last touching place, but watched as low light crept
Up from the east. A sound behind her stirs
A scatter of bright birdsong through the air.
She turns, but cannot focus through her tears,
Or recognise the Gardener standing there.
She hardly hears his gentle question 'Why,
Why are you weeping?', or sees the play of light
That brightens as she chokes out her reply
'They took my love away, my day is night'
And then she hears her name, she hears Love say
The Word that turns her night, and ours, to Day.

He is not here;
he has
Risen!

Sunday 16th April

We Welcome Rev Trevor Harrison to both our services.

9.30am - Holy Communion at St Mary's Church

11am – Matins at Holy Trinity

Sunday 23rd April

9.30am – Morning Worship at St Mary's

11am – Holy communion at Holy Trinity

Annual Parochial Church Meetings

Holy Trinity APCM Monday 24th April at 7pm in Trinity Hall.

Cake and coffee provided.

St Mary's APCM Sunday 30th April in Church – 9.30am for a time of café style worship with our APCM.

Please put the dates for the APCM's in your diary.

This is a significant moment in the life of the church. It is a time of thanksgiving as we look back and give thanks to God for all that He has been doing in the life of our churches and community.

It is a time to focus on the present, what are the blessings and challenges. It is also a time to look forward, to pray for the coming year with vision and hope. All ages, different skills and gifts all growing and praying together.

We elect our Churchwardens and PCC.

Please make this meeting a priority and pray for the mission and growth of our Benefice.

Rev Julie



With tea, coffee and Homemade cakes Everyone is welcome.

Next date are:
Thursday 23rd March
Thursday 13th April
For more information, please contact:
Caroline Daszewska 01342 321150
Sheila Van Maurik 01892 770273
Eve James 07753 615032



Trinity Hall, behind Holy Trinity Church, Coleman's Hatch, TN7 4HN

Friday, April 21st 6.00pm

Beaverbrook

The War Years

by

Barbara Richards

The talk will begin at 6.00pm

and will last for about 45 minutes.



Refreshments will be available from 5.45 and also after the Talk, when Barbara will be happy to answer your questions.

Contact the following for more details and booking.

<u>events@colemanshatchchurch.org</u>

Caroline Daszewska- 07513 290482



TRINITY HALL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

Come and join us!

Next Session Friday 28th April 7pm to 10pm

Supper Interval—bring your own. Expert caller

Everybody welcome—no experience necessary £5 per adult children free + very welcome

For more information: Caroline 07513 290482

Church Street Community Café

1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 2pm till 4pm Homemade cake, tea and coffee. Everyone welcome.

> Next dates are: Thursday 6th April Thursday 20th April

For more information contact Joanne Griffin on 07941 856715 or msioannegriffin@gmail.com

Kate's Children and Youth Corner

An exciting event happening is in May. Connect@5 is going to Maycamp, a youth weekend away run by Chichester Diocese. We have 6 young people going, and we are really excited to see what God will do over that weekend.

Nearer the time we will be asking for cake and lots of prayers.

<u>Little Stars parent and toddler group</u>

At St Mary's Church Every Monday during term time from 9.15am - 10.45amFor ages 0-5 We play sing some songs do a bible story.

With snacks for the children and tea and coffee for the adults.



1st & 3rd Sundays, 9.30am

Connec In Church 27th April 11th May MAYCAMP Games, Food, Bible Study 8th June

Summér social For more information contact Kate Dillingham (Children's and youth worker-St Mary's Church, Hartfield) at katedillingham97@gmail.com

St Mary's Church Hartfield

Year 5 and up

22nd June

6th July-

From ages 3-6 & 7-11 years old **Dates of Sunday Discoverers** this term 16th April 7th Máy 21st May 4th June

18th June

2nd July

16th July

Join us for each Sunday discoverers as we find out more about

If you would like to get in touch with Kate her email is katedillingham97@gmail.com



This week we are praying for...

For peace and justice in our world. For the leaders of the nations. For our Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, our government and all who bear responsibility for our nation, for wisdom to seek first justice and peace.

For refugees, the international response to the refugee crisis – and for our own response. Pray for the families we are welcoming to our Parishes, for host families and for the whole support network.

For those across the world suffering from the impacts of climate change. For a greater sense of urgency from politicians and major companies in tackling the causes and consequences.

For those who are unwell including Jim; Andrea; Ardyne and Sandra; for Rosie Hewson; for those who are bereaved.

For Donna Dewar as she recovers from hip operation on Saturday 25th March.

For Joyce Jamieson as she recovers from her knee operation.

We pray the family of Enid Lambeth. For James, Roger, Daniel and Toby.

We have been asked to pray for Teddy who is 1 and is battling Leukaemia. We pray for his parents Kate and Scott. Teddy is currently in Great Ormond Street hospital and will be there for several months, undergoing intensive treatment. Pray for the specialists who are treating him. If you would like to know more about Teddy here is the link https://gofund.me/7cb5a41c.

I can do all things

through hrist who Strengthens me.

- Philippians 4:13