



From Reverend Janet

Dear Friends,

As I have continued to settle into parish life, I am encouraged and impressed with all that goes on. I am still trying to learn names of regular parishioners who come to Church, as well as others I meet from day to day. Thank you for being so patient – it just takes a bit of time.

Alistair and I enjoyed our daughter's wedding in Derby recently, and when it came to go "home" afterwards, home was in Lincolnshire, not Essex. This for us signified that an emotional shift had taken place, and that home is indeed here with you all.

The story goes, that years ago, when a new Parson arrived in a village church, one of the old wizened country folk said to him, "You must summer us, and winter us, before you can say you know us." How true this is – I reckon it takes at least a year, or even more, before a new Priest gets the measure of things properly, and new ways forward appear at the right time for all concerned.

I particularly enjoyed (if that is the right word), the Ash Wednesday service to mark the beginning of Lent. The ambience of the dark Church in the evening, and the lovely choral singing, together with the penitential liturgy reminding us of the purpose of Lent: a time of returning to God, and renewal through weeks of self-discipline for a season. Lent is a time of waiting for the glory of Easter and the festival celebrations, a good thing worth waiting for. Light is more dramatic than ever after darkness.

Waiting can be active: a time of preparing and getting ready, such as waiting to get married, or to move house. Waiting can be passive: waiting for an expected parcel, waiting for a mechanic to come and fix the car, even waiting for death.

We often have to wait for God in the sense that we pray, and wait for an answer, and He seems to take His time, or not answer at all. We find this frustrating. We don't like to be kept waiting.

God has this to say about it (Isaiah 55: 8-9)

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

We know that God's "higher way" was to send his Son, Jesus, whom we follow. The message of his Resurrection and victory over death has many implications, and needs to permeate all our expectations now.

I wish you all a very Happy and Blessed Easter.

Revd Janet.

Parish Directory

Priest in Charge	The Revd Janet Donaldson	vicar@dsj.org.uk
Curate	The Reverend Sonia Marshall	curate@dsj.org.uk
Churchwardens		churchwarden@dsj.org.uk
	Tony Masters Adrian Hallam	
Assistant Churchwardens	John Worthington Doris Bellairs	
Parochial Church Council		
Chairman	The Revd Janet Donaldson	chairman@dsj.org.uk
Vice-Chairman	Adrian Hallam	
Hon. Secretary	Roger Bridgeman	
Hon. Treasurer	Simon Marshall	treasurer@dsj.org.uk
Covenant Secretary	Peter Wilde	
Electoral Roll Officer	Kim Hallam	
Synod Members		
Diocesan Synod	Canon Niccy Fisher	
	<i>The above plus</i>	
Deanery Synod	The Reverend Sonia Marshall Simon Marshall	
Choir Master	John Worthington	music@dsj.org.uk
Organist	Philip Spratley	
Organisations		
Bellringers	Richard Muspratt	ringers@dsj.org.uk
Church Hall Bookings	Tony Masters	churchhall@dsj.org.uk
Church Ladies' Fellowship	Anthea Wray	
Church Coffee Group	Carole Mills Margaret Flegg	
Church Flowers	Pauline Brooksbank Christine Masters	
House Group	Doris Warner	
Rose & Sweet Pea Show	TBA	roseandsweetpea@dsj.org.uk
Just People	Richard Gamman	youth@dsj.org.uk
Junior Church	Andrea Gamman	juniorchurch@dsj.org.uk
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In this Month's Priory News ...

Dear All,

Writing on a cold, nondescript morning, it's hard to believe that spring has really arrived. Hopefully this edition, from the front cover onwards, will reassure you that it has.

We have a broad spectrum to offer this month, from a contemplative Easter poem by Archbishop Rowan to a challenging Easter quiz. Don't miss Sonia's interesting article about a local link to the King James' Bible and be sure to make a note of the Annual Parish Church Meeting, when *Just People* will perform a Passion Play.

My thanks to everyone who has sent contributions, with special thanks to Tony, who has kept us entertained with his *Wardens' World*. I'm very glad to say he will still be writing for us when he steps down as churchwarden, and has already sent in an article for May's edition!

Which leads me neatly on to our May deadline, which is much earlier than usual. Please let me have your items as soon as possible and help to make our next edition as full as this one. Many thanks.

Warmest wishes,

Bet.

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Don't forget the [Annual Parish Church Meeting](#). (P6).

Tuck into [Margaret's tasty Easter teabread](#). (P13).

Test your knowledge with our [Easter Quiz](#). (P11).

[Emmaus](#) – a poem by the Archbishop of Canterbury. (P12).

Get ready for the [Deepings in Bloom Container Challenge](#). (P10).

What links Deeping to the [King James Bible](#)? (P9).

[Just People](#) – catch up on their latest ventures. (P8).

Cover picture: Spring lambs near Uffington. [Photo courtesy of Dave Washbrooke.]

Thank you to those who have sent in articles for Priory News. Contributions and suggestions are very welcome. Please let us have your prayers, poems, pictures, comments, reminiscences and anything else you'd like to share. **NB: pictures containing recognisable children must be accompanied by authorisation to publish from their parents or guardians. We will not publish the names of children pictured unless specifically requested to do so by their parents or guardians.**

Please send copy to:

priorynews@dsj.org.uk

Please let us have your contributions for the **May** edition of Priory News **BEFORE** the deadline, **Friday 8th April**. Thank you for your help.

Church Calendar for April

1 st	Friday	<i>Practice Night:</i>	
		6:45pm	Choir
		7:30pm	Ringers
2 nd	Saturday	Noon	-1:30pm: Lent Lunch at the Catholic Church
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT			
3 RD	SUNDAY	10:00am	Sung Eucharist with Holy Baptism
		6:00pm	Plainsong Evensong
7 th	Thursday	9:30am	Holy Communion
		10:30am	Home Communions
<i>Practice Night:</i>			
8 th	Friday	6:45pm	Choir
		7:30pm	Ringers
9 th	Saturday	Noon	-1:30pm: Lent Lunch at St Guthlac's Green School Hall
THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (PASSION SUNDAY)			
10 TH	SUNDAY	8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:00am	Sung Eucharist
		6:00pm	Evening Prayer
<u>St Guthlac of Crowland</u>			
11 th	Monday	7:00pm	Prior to the APCM, <i>Just People</i> will perform their own Passion Play
		7:30pm	Annual Parochial Church Meeting
14 th	Thursday	9:30am	Holy Communion
		11:00am	Deanery Clergy Chapter
15 th	Friday	10:00am	- 11:30am <i>Just People</i> games and coffee morning
<i>Practice Night:</i>			
		6:45pm	Choir
		7:30pm	Ringers
<u>PALM SUNDAY</u>			
17 TH	SUNDAY	10:00am	Sung Eucharist and Procession of Palms
		6:00pm	Evening Prayer
18 th	Monday	<i>Monday in Holy Week</i>	
		2:00pm	Student Cross Pilgrimage
19 th	Tuesday	<i>Tuesday in Holy Week</i>	
20 th	Wednesday	<i>Wednesday in Holy Week</i>	
<u>MAUNDY THURSDAY</u>			
21 ST	THURSDAY	<i>(Sung Eucharist and Blessing of the Oils at Lincoln Cathedral. No morning service here)</i>	
		7:30pm	Eucharist of the Lord's Supper with Footwashing and Stripping of the Altar followed by Watch of Prayer till Midnight

GOOD FRIDAY

22ND FRIDAY 9:30am The Way of the Cross for Children
10:30am The Good Friday Liturgy
No Choir or Ringers practice tonight

23rd Saturday *Easter Eve*

EASTER DAY

24TH SUNDAY 9:00am The Easter Liturgy
6:00pm Festal Evensong

28th Thursday *No Holy Communion service this morning*

29th Friday *The wedding of HRH Prince William and Miss Catherine Middleton
at Westminster Abbey*
No Choir or Ringers practice tonight

30th Saturday 1:00pm Wedding of David Weston and Tyley Fletcher

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

1ST MAY SUNDAY 10:00am Sung Eucharist
6:00pm Choral Evensong

2nd May Monday *St George*

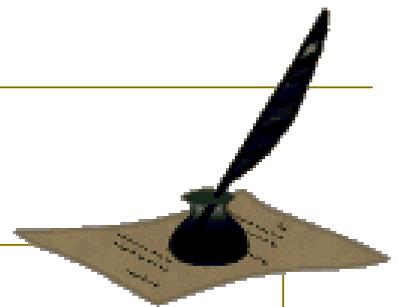
3rd May Tuesday *St Mark, evangelist*

4th May Wednesday *Philip and James, apostles*

5th May Thursday 9:30am Holy Communion
10:30am Home Communions

6th May Friday *Practice Night:*
6:45pm Choir
7:30pm Ringers

Registers for February



FUNERALS: *We commend to God's keeping:*

4th Victor Benjamin Martin (78), followed by interment in Parish Cemetery

9th Constance Beatrice Kemp (85) at Peterborough crematorium



HOUSE GROUP

7:30pm Wednesdays
at 45 Crowson Way, DSJ.
All welcome!

Annual Parish Church Meeting

Our Annual Parish Church Meeting takes place at 7.30pm in the Church Hall, preceded by the Passion Play at 7pm: an account of the Easter story written and produced by Just People.

Are you on the Electoral Roll? (List of voting church members) If not, please see Kim Hallam as soon as possible, and she will advise you accordingly.

Are you currently a Server, PCC member, Churchwarden, Deputy Churchwarden, or Deanery Synod Representative? If you are willing to serve the Priory Church further in this way, you will need to be re-elected, and nomination forms are available at the back of the church. We are most grateful for those willing to take office in welcoming, managing, and planning the general life of the Church, in fabric, ministry and mission, and we hope that you will wish to continue in office.

Please also consider who could be approached as a new member, or new office holder, because we welcome new ideas and efforts.

Servers and PCC members can be nominated verbally beforehand, or on the day. Churchwardens have to be nominated in writing in advance, (forms are at the back of the Church), and nominations cannot be accepted verbally, or on the day of the meeting.

We understand that Tony Masters is not going to stand again as Churchwarden because he has taken over the Hall bookings. Everyone in the Priory Church is grateful for his dedication, work and gentle humour. We now need someone to replace him in this important role.

If you have any questions, please do contact Revd Sonia, Revd Janet, or Adrian Hallam.

Revd Janet.



Wardens' World

Something weird is happening in our house, in the freezer to be precise. Every time I look in there a new type of bread has appeared. It is as if we are being visited by the Bread Fairy every night. For Christine has developed a craze for baking bread and your scribe has become both a guinea pig and a victim. So far we have had plain white, herb and tomato, malt loaf, seeded and multi seeded in addition to the bread which I officially recognise, viz. supermarket thick white sliced and brown wholemeal. Results

so far have varied from melt-in-the mouth and delicious to something which might interest the Ministry of Defence as body armour. Consider the difficulties of your humble servant in being faced with so much choice when seeking a wrapper for a rasher of bacon or simple spoonful of jam; herb and tomato goes well with soup but have you tried it with plum jam? I know tomato is technically a fruit but it is merely confused about its identity and should be safely locked away with the salad. A further problem, whereas proper bread comes in slices as nature clearly intended, this stuff is formed in one big lump. As some of you will know one of my hobbies is

building models from sheet metal and plastic so I am used to cutting things out accurately but when I have a bread knife in my hand this all goes to pot and I end up with something so misshapen the bacon tends to slide off unless I glue it on with ketchup. These are ticklish problems because when Christine is out or away golfing I have to feed myself. Even if I manage to locate an appropriate sliced loaf from the freezer the next difficulty is how to separate the slices. I have found that attempting to pull them apart in one swift move gives results akin to throwing a brick at a window with shards of bread flying in all directions. A better technique is a sharp sideways blow with a hammer and chisel although I would always recommend cleaning the chisel first. Even as I write this, a further chilling development has occurred, since Margaret Flegg has e-mailed three more bread recipes and I may now also have to contend with spiced fruit, granary, and cheese and onion. Surely this amounts to cruel and unusual punishment. I will have to insist on a proper labelling system; even so, before long I may need counselling.

And now a word from our sponsor If you are reading this on or before April 2nd you still have the opportunity to come and listen to the Glebe Singers at our concert in Deeping St James Roman Catholic Church that evening at 7:30. You won't have far to travel, there will be drinks and mingling in the interval and you can sit in safety and comfort while observing the fear in the eyes of the choir as we toil beneath the lash of our conductor. As our American cousins would say "Y'all come now".

Finally, something genuinely serious as I can't end without mentioning Benghazi because of the people there who I know; kind and warm-hearted people with whom I worked, joked and travelled. If our editor wishes, perhaps I might tell you about some of them in a future edition. In the meantime, let's hope they are not to be left at the mercy of the lunatic in Tripoli.

Tony Masters.

News from the Tower

During an inspection of the bells, two of the ringers had a look on the church roof to see if they could identify the areas where the rain was leaking in. No definite causes for the leaks were evident, however, two other faults were found; firstly a window pane had fallen out which was put back into place and secondly, one of the drainage pipes was found to be blocked, which they managed to clear.



In the ringing chamber we are very pleased to have the assistance of Alistair in helping to raise the standard of our ringing and to improve our techniques.

We are currently planning a bell ringing tour of churches in Northamptonshire in May.

Mike Gentle.

Just People

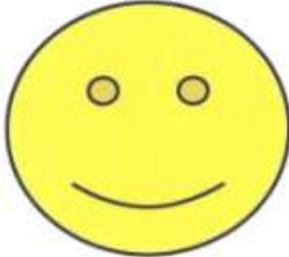
We have been extremely busy at Just People working on 2 projects coming up during April. Our passion play is progressing well and will be performed on Monday 11th April at 7.00 as a prelude to the APCM; yet another reason to come along to this event!

Later that week on Friday 15th April the group is hosting a family morning in the Church Hall. Parents or carers are invited to bring their children along and enjoy a cup of coffee with friends whilst their children are entertained by our young people. Please pass the word to anyone you think may be interested and do feel free to come along even without a child in tow!

Games and Coffee morning!

All proceeds go to the Winston's Wish, a charity that deals with bereaved children.

£1 per child for games session



Adult entry to coffee morning free!

Friday 15th April 2011

Children's games: 10 – 11.30

All ages welcome!

Coffee morning 10 – 12

Drinks and home-made cakes available!

Richard Gamman.

Church Ladies' Fellowship

The AGM was held on 3rd March in the Priory Church Hall, followed by a beetle drive and refreshments. A donation of £10 was presented to Sonia Marshall on behalf of the school children at Sunday School to provide stationery etc. The second donation, of £250, was presented to a representative of the First Responders.

We now have 31 members who meet twice a month in the Priory Church Hall. We have a variety of speakers. Membership is £7 per year and a £1 at each meeting which includes a raffle ticket, tea/coffee and home-made cakes. What a great deal!

Why not come and join our friendly group? Visitors are always welcome.

Our recent sale of books, bric-a-brac and jumble raised £184.64. Thank you so much to all who helped on the day and to those who sent in items.

Carole Mills – Secretary.

Dr Robert Tighe and the King James Bible

The King James Bible celebrates its four hundredth year of publication this year. It is the work of more than fifty scholars grouped into six companies of translators. Interestingly, one of the translators has links to the Deepings.

The Tighe (or Tyghe) family were well known locally. In the sixth year of King Edward VI (December, 1552) one Robert Tyghe founded a charity for repairing the 'highways, bridges and causeways' within the parish of Deeping St James and other 'necessary and charitable deeds of alms' to be bestowed in the said parish as be thought expedient' by six feoffees appointed for the purpose. The charity was one of those later forming Deeping St James United Charities.

Robert Tighe, the scholar, was not born until 1562 (but was no doubt related to the founder of the charity – perhaps his grandson?). He was the son of John and Arabella Tighe of West Deeping. Studying at Trinity College Oxford, he received his BA degree in 1581, his MA in 1585 and BD from Magdalen in 1596. He further received a BD degree from Cambridge in 1603 and Doctor of Divinity in 1603. After ordination he became rector of Chigginfold (Winchester) in 1596 and from 1598 until his death in 1616 was vicar of All Hallows, Barking. In March 1602 he was appointed archdeacon of Middlesex, a post that he retained until his death.

In 1604 he was appointed as a translator for the King James Bible, one of the 'First Westminster Company' charged with the translation of the books from Genesis to II Kings inclusive. Also in the 'Westminster Company' was Lancelot Andrewes, later Bishop of Winchester and noted Anglican theologian. Robert Tyghe was described as 'an excellent textuary and a profound linguist'.

I have often read from the King James Bible at choral evensong knowing that Robert Tighe was one of the contributors, but from now on it will be with special interest when a reading from this section of the Old Testament crops up!

Sonia Marshall.

Dates for Your Diary

The Church Coffee group will be holding the following fund raising events:

12 th May	10:00 – 11:15	Coffee Morning
28 th July	3:00 – 4:30	Afternoon Tea
22 nd September	10:00 – 11:15	Coffee Morning
1 st December	10:00 – 11:15	Coffee and Mince Pies

Please come and join us. Everyone welcome.

Bill Flegg.





Photo courtesy of John Marsh.

Will You Miss the Bus?

Stagecoach Service 22 "Peterborough - The Deepings" will cease to operate on 16th April next.

So far as I have seen, there appears to have been little or no publicity for this demise of service let alone any public consultation! Ironically brand new buses were operating the service from the beginning of March!

Delaine are altering their timetables for the 101, 102 and 203 services but, as I understand it, there will no longer be a direct service to Peterborough from the heart of the village.

John Marsh.

[We would have liked to have printed the Delaine timetables but this was not practicable. Please see www.delainebuses.com for more information. Bet.]

The Container Challenge!?

Last year the judges of the RHS East Midlands in Bloom competition were particularly impressed with the 'number, quality and diversity' in the unusual container competition for which we received a special Judges Award. This undoubtedly helped DSJ to achieve the highest number of points for a newcomer and the Silver Award. The challenge this year is to increase the number of unusual



Photo courtesy of Judy Stevens.



Photo courtesy of Judy Stevens.

containers and this is where you come in! The washing machine drum and wash day vignette entered by Janice Wilson of Church Street most impressed Lady Chomodley from Easton Walled Gardens but this year the competition is open again to three categories; for a business, a young person - up to the age of 16 and a general category. These containers are left in-situ in the

garden where they will be judged. There will be another prize for the most unusual

small container which will be judged as part of the Rose and Sweet Pea Show. It is also intended to have an Unusual Container Trail over the last weekend in June, maps will be on sale (£1) at the Rose and Sweet Pea Show and it will be possible to tour those Unusual Containers whose entrants are happy to have them on the trail.

If you are short of inspiration and plants and would like to come and share a cup of coffee and take instruction from Daphne Ledward (affectionately known as Daffers



Picture courtesy of Judy Stevens.

when she was a regular on the Jimmy Young Show) there is a plant sale and coffee morning on Saturday May 14th at Priory Church Hall between 10am and midday.

If you do have any plants that you would like to donate to the Sale or knitted gifts we would be very happy to receive them - and, of course if you would like to enter a container, we would like to hear from you too! Call me on 01778 348859 or email judy.stevens1@btopenworld.com.

Judy Stevens.

Easter Quiz

1. Mardi Gras or carnival takes place around the World on Shrove Tuesday. What does Mardi Gras literally translate to in English?
2. Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper but which Jewish festival took place at the same time as the Last Supper?
3. The monarch gives money to the poor on Maundy Thursday in a ceremony that historically included the washing of the feet of the poor. Who was the last monarch to perform this ritual?
4. Which artist painted the famous mural in Milan depicting The Last Supper?
5. Jesus was crucified at Calvary also known as Golgotha; what do these words mean in Hebrew?
6. Who was the male star of the 1980 British film, "The Long Good Friday"?
7. Who was the first person to speak to Jesus after he had risen from the dead?
8. Easter is a movable feast and can occur between March 22nd and April 25th; how is this date decided?
9. From what does the name Easter derive?
10. Who wrote the song "Easter Parade"?
11. Who wrote the poem entitled "Easter 1916" about the Irish Easter uprising?
12. Which Scottish football club play their home matches at Easter Road?

Bet Washbrooke (Answers next month.)

A Poem for Easter

Browsing the Archbishop Rowan's website (www.archbishopofcanterbury.org), I came across this poem. I found it both thought-provoking and an ideal subject for meditation. I hope you will agree.

Bet Washbrooke.

Emmaus

First the sun, then the shadow
so that I screw my eyes to see
my friend's face, and its lines seem
different, and the voice shakes in the hot air.
Out of the rising white dust, feet
tread a shape, and, out of step,
another flat sound, stamped between voice
and ears, dancing in the gaps, and dodging
where words and feet do not fall.
When our eyes meet, I see bewilderment
(like mine); we cannot learn
the rhythm we are asked to walk,
and what we hear is not each other.

Between us is filled up, the silence
is filled up, lines of our hands
and faces pushed into shape
by the solid stranger, and the static
breaks up our waves like dropped stones.
So it is necessary to carry him with us,
cupped between hands and profiles,
so that the table is filled up, and as
the food is set and the first wine splashes,
a solid thumb and finger tear the thunderous
grey bread. Now it is cold, even indoors,
and the light falls sharply on our bones;
the rain breathes out hard, dust blackens,
and our released voices shine with water.

© Rowan Douglas Williams 2004



Archbishop by the Sea of Galilee, Jerusalem
© Rowan Douglas Williams

Cooking with Margaret

Easter Teabread



Ingredients

- 250g plain flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 1 tsp mixed spice
- 125g butter
- 110g light muscovado sugar
- 250g mixed dried fruit,
- 150ml milk
- 150g marzipan
- 1 tbsp apricot jam

Method

1. Preheat oven to 180°C/350°F/gas 4. Grease and line a 1kg loaf tin with baking parchment.
2. Sift the flour, baking powder, bicarbonate of soda and spice into a large bowl. Add slivers of butter then rub it in until it resembles fine breadcrumbs. Stir in the sugar and dried fruit. Add the milk and mix to a soft consistency.
3. Spoon half the mixture into the tin. Pull off small chunks of marzipan and make a layer of them over the cake mixture, but not right to the edges. Spoon in the rest of the mixture and smooth the surface.
4. Bake for an hour until well risen and firm to the touch. Cover with foil for the last fifteen minutes if necessary. Cool in the tin for ten minutes then run a knife round the edge in case any marzipan has stuck to the tin, remove the loaf and place on a cooling rack.
5. Heat the jam with 1 tbsp water until just boiling, mix well then brush the glaze over the warm loaf. Leave to cool before serving.

Margaret Flegg.

Trains and Trams

Our annual railway and tram show will be held in the church hall during the weekend of 16th and 17th April. As this is the week end of Palm Sunday there will be less activity in the church but there will be pictures posters and paintings on view.

Fliers and posters will be available from beginning of April.

Put these dates in your diaries and make sure your family and friends know.

Philip Spratley.





Thanks, Pat and Welcome, Lyn

My thanks to Pat Smith, who has retired after delivering Priory News for a number of years.

We welcome Lyn Witherington to our delivery team. She takes over Pat's distribution round with edition.

Doris Bellairs.

Rotas for April

		Servers	Sidespersons	Intercessors
Sun 3rd	THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT			
	10:00 am	Paul Boswall Chris Halley	Team D: Kim Hallam, Graham Hardy, Trevor Harwood	Bet Washbrooke
	6:00 pm	John Sellars		
Sun 10th	THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT			
	8:00 am	Geoff Armstrong	George Knowles Ken Rimmer	
	10:00 am	Simon Marshall John Sellars	Team E: Liz Bridgeman, Bill Flegg, Margaret Flegg	John Marsh
Sun 17th	PALM SUNDAY			
	10:00 am	Paul Boswall John Sellars	Team F: Doris Bellairs, Christine Masters, Val Wilde	Martin Fisher
Thu 21st	MAUNDY THURSDAY			
	7:30 pm	Simon Marshall Chris Halley		
Fri 22nd	GOOD FRIDAY			
	10:30 am	Geoff Armstrong		
Sun 24th	EASTER DAY			
	9:00 am	Simon Marshall Chris Halley	Team A: Doris Bellairs, Mary Hamilton, Vivien Hamilton	Sonia Marshall
Sun 1st May	THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER			
	10:00 am	Paul Boswall John Sellars	Team B: Joy Cunningham, Ann Meekings	Niccy Fisher

		Bread & Wine	Coffee	Flowers	Cleaning	Brasses
Sun 3 rd	THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT					
	10:00 am	Joy Cunningham Carole Mills	Pat Feek Doris Warner	LENT	Liz Spratley Sandra Jones	
Sun 10 th	THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT					
	10:00 am	Doris Bellairs Christine Masters	Johanna Jones	LENT	Liz Spratley Sandra Jones	Joan Dyke Lynda Mann
Sun 17 th	PALM SUNDAY					
	10:00 am	Christine Payne Ann Meekings	Liz Spratley Linda Sellars	LENT	John & Linda Sellars	
Thu 21 st	MAUNDY THURSDAY					
	7:30 pm	Martin Niccy Fisher		LENT	John & Linda Sellars	
Sun 24 th	EASTER DAY					
	9:00 am	Dick & Anthea Wray	Bill & Margaret Flegg	EASTER	John & Linda Sellars	
Sun 1 st May	THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER					
	10:00 am	Pat Feek Doris Warner	Pat Feek Doris Warner	Mr Bond	Janet Lill Marion Stevens	

Readings and Readers for April

		OT Reading	OT Reader	NT Reading	NT Reader	Gospel Reading
Sun 3 rd	THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT					
	10:00 am	Exodus 2.1-10	Jacob Boswall	[Baptism]		Luke 2.33-35
Sun 10 th	THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT					
	8:00 am	Ezekiel 37.1-14		Romans 8.6-11		John 11.1-45
	10:00 am		TBA		Trevor Harwood	
Sun 17 th	PALM SUNDAY					
	10:00 am	Isaiah 50.4-9a	Joy Cunningham	Philippians 2.5-11	Simon Marshall	Matthew 26.14-27.end
Thu 21 st	MAUNDY THURSDAY					
	7:30 pm	Exodus 12.1-14	John Worthington	1 Corinthians 11.23-26	Peter Wilde	John 13.1-17,31b-35
Fri 22 nd	GOOD FRIDAY					
	10:30 am	Isaiah 52.13-53.end	Martin Fisher	Hebrews 10.16-25	Victoria Worthington	John 18.1-19.end
Sun 24 th	EASTER DAY					
	9:00 am	Jeremiah 31.1-6	Adrian Hallam	Acts 10.34-43	Tony Masters	John 20.1-18
Sun 1 st May	THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER					
	10:00 am	Acts 2.14a,22-32	Joy Cunningham	1 Peter 1.3-9	Bill Flegg	John 20.19-end



Bishop's Letter

Dear Friends

As the effects of the recent recession and the Government's actions to reduce the budget deficit impact on peoples' lives, levels of uncertainty are growing. Locally, with a significant dependence on government or local authority spending, the depth of uncertainty becomes evident in the course of many conversations.

If it is not uncertainty about one's own job, it is uncertainty about the employment prospects for children and grandchildren. Alongside many inequalities which come when you are on the 'losing side of the economy' - living with the uncertainty of possible redundancy, no jobs, low income and waiting for an upturn in the economy is a driver for despair. Against this background of uncertainty, we have to ask what is the Good News that we can offer out of our faith? Have Christians got more than words of comfort?

Well I believe that we do indeed have much to offer which is tangible, but it starts with the truth, frequently ignored, that in the Bible the opposite of uncertainty is not 'certainty' but 'direction'. Faith points us in the direction for finding what is essential - the direction for finding truth. Uncertainty in life means that the way ahead become featureless and the normal patterns of life no longer give shape to the future.

Yet at the heart of our faith we discover that relationships are the enduring features and landmarks which give texture to our lives and from which we can find direction. It feels very obvious to say that there is more to us than our work, but in times of uncertainty and despair, the obvious needs restating and experiencing.

We make many claims that our church buildings are at the heart of the community. In times of uncertainty we can demonstrate the truth of this by using them as places of meeting and encounter for those seeking direction and a rebalancing of their lives. There are many examples of how this has been achieved such as drop-ins, CV writing groups, debt counselling etc. They have enabled the church to be there in times of uncertainty, offering the texture of relationships to help move people from uncertainty to finding a direction when all seems lost.

+David Grimsby