

VIEWES FROM THE PEWS

Linda Mumford – a retrospective view

Shrove Tuesday and **Ash Wednesday** are significant days in the Christian calendar, particularly during the **Lenten season**.

Shrove Tuesday:

Also known as **Pancake Day**, Shrove Tuesday falls on the day before **Lent** begins.

- Traditionally, it was the last chance for Christians to indulge in rich foods before the fasting period of Lent.
- The name “Shrove” comes from the old English word meaning “to confess” or “to be absolved from sins.”
- On this day, Anglo-Saxon Christians would go to confession and receive absolution (being “shriven”) before the start of Lent.
- In many Western Christian churches, people celebrate Shrove Tuesday by making and enjoying pancakes.

Ash Wednesday:

- Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of **Lent**, a 40-day period (excluding Sundays) leading up to **Easter**.
- On Ash Wednesday, many Christians attend special church services where they receive a cross of ashes on their foreheads.
- The ashes symbolize repentance, humility, and dependence on God.
- The tradition of using ashes dates back to biblical times when people would wear sackcloth and ashes as signs of mourning and penance.
 - It’s a solemn day of reflection, self-examination, and commitment to spiritual growth.
 - The ashes are typically made by burning palm fronds from the previous year’s Palm Sunday celebrations.

In summary, Shrove Tuesday is a day of feasting and indulgence before the fasting season of Lent,

while Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent and serves as a reminder of our mortality and need for forgiveness.

We welcome enquiries about Baptism, Thanksgiving for Birth, Confirmation, Weddings, Marriage Blessings, Anniversaries, Memorials, Commemorations, House Blessings, and Special Celebrations.

DIARY FOR SERVICES

Monday 19th February

10.00am Coffee Shop in the Church Rooms

Wednesday 21st February

10.00am Small Steps in Church Rooms

2.00pm Striders & Strollers meet on the Rec

25 February Second Sunday of Lent (Rev'd Clive Kirk)

8:00am No Service

10:30am Holy Communion (Church)

4.00pm Lent Course in Church

Wednesday 28th February

9.30am Cleaning in Church

10.00am Small Steps in Church Rooms

2.00pm Craft & Chat in Church Rooms

3 March Third Sunday of Lent Rev'd Gerard Mee

8:00am Holy Communion

10:30am Holy Communion

4.00pm Lent Course in Church

Monday 4th March

8.00pm PCC Meeting

Contact Linda Mumford on 225425 or news@sendparishchurch.co.uk with any queries or with news for publication or if you would like to receive this by email.

Copies of this newsletter can be found on our website

www.sendparishchurch.co.uk

NEWS AT ST. MARY'S

Sunday 18th February 2024

First Sunday of Lent

Rev'd Clive Kirk

SERVICES

8.00am *No Service*

10.30am Holy Communion (Church)

4.00pm Lent Course in Church

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
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.

NEWS

EASTER EGGS FOR THE SURREY REFUGES OR A TRUSSELL TRUST FOOD BANK: There is a poster on the notice board at the back of church showing the full range of **Meaningful Chocolate Company Fairtrade** eggs and chocolate bars available for this Easter.

(www.realeasteregg.co.uk) Each Original Milk or Dark egg comes with a 24 page Easter story/activity book.

If sufficient milk chocolate original eggs are ordered the price will be £4.50 per egg (otherwise £4.90 per egg). Please get in touch if you would like me to order one or more eggs for you to be delivered direct to one of the Surrey Refuges or for you to give to a food bank of your choice /family or friends. To have an egg delivered direct to a Trussell Trust food bank the cost is £4.30 but you have no control over which Trussell Trust food bank receives the egg. I am placing an order soon and the deadline for orders is Monday 26 February. Sally 07468 886074 or harrison.sally@btinternet.com

ROGER CARTER: Many of you will have known Roger, Daryll Carter's husband - known to his friends as Dougal. Roger passed away on 23rd January and his funeral will take place at Woking Crematorium at 1pm on Thursday 22nd February. All who knew him will be welcome to attend.

LENT COURSE: St. Mary's is holding a Lent Course this year exploring Jesus' time in The Wilderness. The dates are: 18th, 25th February, and 3rd, 17th, and 24th March. I have omitted 10th March due to Mothering Sunday. We will meet in Church at 4.00pm. For more information speak or text to Christine Acock acockchristine@gmail.com or 07513999112.

SEND MAY FAIR

Monday 6th May - 12noon to 3pm

Apologies for mentioning something three months into the future, but forward planning is vital for this to be a success. I am looking for someone (or 2 or 3) to organise the event, and for offers of help on the day. With holidays already being booked up, we need to know who will be available to help. As mentioned before, it is essential that we keep up our profile in the village while awaiting a new incumbent. It is also reassurance to the community that St Mary's Church is ALIVE AND KICKING!! Please speak to Christine Lavender (768420) or email to chris@lavenderfamily.com Many thanks.

WELCOME BOOKLET

The updated version of the Welcome Booklet is now available at the back of church (pink cover). Please take one (or more) and give them to new residents who move in near you. Thank you.

NEW HYMN BOOKS: New revised hymn books have been purchased for St. Mary's Church. There is an opportunity to make a suggested donation of £5.00 (or even more!!!!) towards the cost of a book.

Your donation would include the opportunity to have a bookplate put inside the front cover, perhaps dedicated to a person that you wish to remember, or to celebrate an occasion. Donations can be put in white envelopes which will be available as you go into church. Inside the envelope there will be a slip to fill in with your details and the dedication details.

SAINT COLUMBA'S HOUSE: There is an Open Afternoon this Sunday 18th February from 2.00 to 4.00 pm (free) including an art exhibition and talk plus a presentation by their CEO, with live music and refreshments and a chance to explore their building and grounds. I will be going for an hour hoping to get there for 2pm and back to church for

the Lent Course so can offer a lift to anyone who wishes to go.

There is a poster at the back of church and more information can be found on their website or follow this link:

<https://www.stcolumbashouse.org.uk/event/st-columbas-house-open-afternoon/>

SUNDAY CLUB AND YAC: We have a meeting in the Church Rooms for Sunday Club next Sunday 25th February. We will be reading verses from Genesis chapter 17 and our title is "Trusting God when we don't understand". YAC members are invited to this meeting as we will have some time to make gifts and cards for Mothering Sunday. If your family has a child aged 3 – 12 years old who is interested in joining Sunday Club or a young person in School Year 7 or above who is interested in joining YAC, please get in touch. sundayclub@sendparishchurch.co.uk yac@sendparishchurch.co.uk

FOOD BANK – FEBRUARY NEEDS

Instant mash	Long life milk
Sponge pudding	Razors
Tuna	Conditioner
Tinned fish	Shaving foam
Tinned meat	Deodorant (male and female)
Long life juice	Liquid hand soap
Antibacterial spray	

One-off or recurring payments can be made instead with Gift Aid as applicable: <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/13203>

PHOTOS NEEDED: Do you have any photos of the church, the churchyard, services or church activities that we can use in our Parish Profile that we are preparing now for prospective vicars. The photos will help to showcase our church and church family. Please can you email any photos to helengalvin467@gmail.com Many thanks the PP Group.