



April Newsletter

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This month is what Jesus' whole life was leading up to; a time of amazing highs and deepest lows. John's gospel records many things Jesus said about himself – he is the bread of life, the light of the world, the gate to life, and the good shepherd. It took people, including the apostles, a while to understand the enormity of what he was saying.

When Jesus entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday great crowds greeted him shouting 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord'. The word 'hosanna' means 'help' but within days the people were changing their chant to 'crucify him'. Jesus' disciples saw the horror of his death on Good Friday; they were in despair and desolation as he lay in the tomb on Holy Saturday; it must have seemed a crushing defeat. But, after they had recovered from the shock and surprise, they were filled with the joy of his resurrection.

We must never forget what it cost Jesus to rescue us from our sins. No day can now be ordinary, because Christ is risen. Learning to trust in the risen Jesus is to know eternal life – life that holds us firm through all our experiences, both the highs and the lows, and sustains us to our end and beyond. We continue to think on these things as we continue through lent in the lead up to Easter Day.

This month we begin the season of Annual Meetings. These meetings also allow us to look forward with hope and optimism of what God will do over the next year as well as appointing our new church councils. Together PCC members represent the whole church, holding to the vision of the ministry and mission of the parish for the good of the community. Being true to the community we represent is costly, but essential to the future of the church. We only have to look to Jesus this month to see the cost of sacrifice, so let us continue to be a church family that is loving, welcoming, generous, intergenerational, and inclusive as we witness to the Risen Christ.

Holy Week and Easter Events

Palm Sunday

Sunday 29th March – Benefice Palm Sunday Walk and Service with Bishop Philip.

This year as well as donkey we have a farm! We begin the Easter week with a benefice service and our annual pilgrimage, along the Roman Road from Silchester Village to St Mary the Virgin for a special Palm Sunday Service.

9.30am – if you are planning to walk with us, we will meet at 9.30am at Silchester Village Hall (Whistlers Lane, RG7 2NE). You will need to be dressed for all weathers – we suggest walking boots or wellies and a waterproof coat.

10.15am to 11am – visit the donkey and farm.

10.30am – hot cross buns, hot and cold drinks will be available for everyone at St Mary the Virgin from 10.30am.

11am – if walking will prove difficult for you, do join us at St Mary the Virgin for the service from 11am. While we celebrate holy communion there will be activities for children.

Everyone is welcome to join us for refreshments and enjoy seeing all the animals.

Parking – on Palm Sunday we will keep the church car park for those who are unable to walk with us either from the village or the Walls Car Park. We have managed to get agreement from the County Council that parking charges can be lifted on Palm Sunday, 29th March in the Wall's Car Park, so you are welcome to park there and meet us on route at the top of the Drove. Otherwise, we suggest you park in the village for the walk. Please share transport where you can and if you need a lift to be able to join us, please let Revd Karen know and we'll make sure that this will be provided from the village hall/pavilion or the Walls Car Park.

Monday 30th March at 7.10pm – Final Session of the Lent course at the URC, Immanuel Centre.

Monday 30th March, Tuesday 31st March, Wednesday 1st April at 7pm – Walking the Way of Christ at St Luke's, Pamber Heath. Join in with reading through the whole of St Luke's gospel from the King James version of the bible over these three evenings. Open to everyone to join in with reading a chapter as you'd like to – just turn up. Each evening, we will end with a service of Compline. Any queries, please contact Revd Cathy on 01189701007.

Wednesday 1st April at 10am – Midweek Holy Communion at St Luke's, Pamber Heath and at St Mary's, Tadley with the Café open before and after the service.

Wednesday 1st April at 7.30pm – Final Session of the Alpha Course at St Paul's. Read on in this newsletter for the next exciting benefice course which is open to all.



Maundy Thursday – 2nd April

6.30pm – Maundy Thursday Supper in Silchester Village Hall. Join us for a simple meal of vegetarian soup, bread, cheese, and fruit, as we commemorate the Last Supper. If you would like to come, please let Revd Karen know either on 07525 494025 or at revkarenw24@gmail.com. (Please also let Revd Karen know of any allergies.) The supper will be followed by a service of Holy Communion.

7pm – a CTAT Upper Room Service at Tadley URC.

Good Friday – 3rd April

9.30am – Silchester Three Crosses Service outside the Methodist Church,
Silchester

10am – CTAT Good Friday service outside St Mary's, Tadley

12pm – Three Hours around The Cross in St Mary's, Tadley. Led by the clergy.

Please note: the Youth Group won't meet this evening due to Good Friday / Easter holidays, but will gather again at St Mary's from 6.30pm to 8.30pm on Friday 8th May. (Please also note, this is a week later than usual due to May Bank Holiday weekend.)

Holy Saturday – 4th April

2pm – RISE Easter Egg Hunt and Crafts at St Mary's, Tadley. Join us for an afternoon of crafts and fun as we take part in an Easter egg hunt.

7pm – Benefice Easter Vigil at St Paul's, Tadley. We begin our service outside around the fire, then bring the light of Christ in to the church, heralding the start of Easter Day.

Easter Day – Sunday 5th April

6am – Easter Day CTAT Sunrise Service at Tadley Skatepark. Tadley Common Rd, (off Silchester Rd), Tadley RG26 3TF.

10am – Café Church and Easter Day Family Holy Communion at St Paul's,
Tadley.

10am – Holy Communion for All Ages for Easter Day at St Mary-the-Virgin,
Silchester.

10.30am – Easter Day Holy Communion at St Mary's, Tadley.

11am – Easter Day Holy Communion at St Luke's, Pamber Heath.



Second Sunday of Easter and the Following Week

Sunday 12th April from 10am – Easter Messy Church at St Paul’s. Come along for FREE fun craft activities, stories, and a breakfast buffet feast! Hear the Easter story again and take part in our annual big Easter hunt! If you’ve not been to Messy Church before, it is not like church as you know it. It is very laid back – arrive and leave when you are ready, take part in as much or as little as you like. We had over 150 people last month so why not pop along and find out why so many come each month for Messy Church fun!

Sunday 12th April at 11.45am – Tadley North, St Mary’s APCM. You are welcome to join us for our annual meeting which will take place in the church. If you are not on the electoral roll, but regularly attend St Mary’s do make sure you sign on before the meeting to enable you to have a vote!

Monday 13th April from 10.30am to midday – St Paul’s Easter Morning Get-Together. Everyone is welcome and why not bring a friend or neighbour along for fellowship, food, and friendship? As well as tea, coffee, snacks, and excellent cake, there are games and plenty of conversation!

There will be a second Get-together this month, on Monday 27th April.

If you would like to help with the event please speak to Esther Redpath or Revd Steve.

Friday 17th April from 8am to 10am – St Mary’s Breakfast. Join us for this popular and growing event for a free hot or cold breakfast. Why not pop in on your way to work or school? This month’s breakfast will be raising money for our local RSPCA centre.

Saturday 18th April from 2pm to 4pm – Big 60 Praise Event at St Paul’s. You’ve voted on your favourite worship songs, now come along and worship together as we continue to celebrate St Paul’s 60th anniversary with this special praise event led by the St Paul’s worship band. Join us for songs of praise, guest speakers, and the results from the worship song voting, refreshments, displays, celebration, and fellowship. Everyone welcome.



If you would like to join us, please sign up using the following link:

<https://tickets.myiknowchurch.co.uk/gb/MzA3MS02/t>

Sunday 19th April from 9am to 10am – RISE Family breakfast event in St Mary’s Hall. Free cooked breakfast, crafts and stories, especially for busy families. We think it’s worth getting up early for!

Faith Pictures ****A New Course****

Faith Pictures is a resource developed by the Church Army to help Christians from all traditions talk confidently about their own story of faith. There are six sessions, each one building on the last, to help Christians see where God has been present in their lives, how they can talk about that confidently, and how God is active in the world around us, and wants us to join in with Him. Everyone is welcome, wherever they are on their faith journey, to join this course.

There are daytime and evening courses, so hopefully there will be one you can join.

The dates are as follows.

Evenings: Tuesday from 7.30 to 9.30pm in Silchester Pavilion.

Dates: 21st April, 28th April, 12th May, 19th May, 26th May, 2nd June.

Daytime: Thursdays from 11am to 12.30pm in St Mary's, Tadley.

Dates: 23rd April, 30th April, 14th May, 21st May, 28th May, 4th June.

Please contact Revd Karen if you would like to know more.

What's Happening Towards the End of April

Saturday 25th April from midday – Pub Gathering at The Pelican Pamber Heath. A chance to for lunch out and to meet up with others. Why not come and bring a friend? Company free, and good fun, but lunch to be paid for!

Sunday 26th April at 11.45am – Silchester Parish APCM. You are welcome to join us for our annual meeting. If you are not on the electoral roll, but regularly attend St Mary the Virgin, do make sure you sign on before the meeting to enable you to have a vote!

**Wednesday 29th April at 7.30pm
St Paul's Fete on the Green
planning meeting. All welcome!**

This event seems to grow year on year and we are beginning planning for the next event which will be Saturday 13th June. If you would be willing to help plan this event please speak to Revd Steve. If you would like a stall or know someone that would like a stall please contact Virge –

enquiries@stpaulstadley.org.uk



Thursday 30th April at 2pm – Let's Pray! prayer group meets at St Mary's, Tadley. An opportunity to meet and pray for our world, our community, our families, our friends, and ourselves. If you're not comfortable praying out loud then you're very welcome to come and listen. Everyone welcome.

Electoral Roll

In preparation for our churches' annual meetings, do join the electoral roll (if you are not already on it). Being on the electoral roll means you have a say in how our churches are run and you are able to elect trustees. Even if you don't live in the parish or don't come to church regularly you can still join. Even if you come once a month, please join. If you contribute time, money or care to any of our parishes, please do join. If you are not sure, please speak to one of the clergy team. Forms and return boxes will be in each church.

Sides people and Intercessors

We are in need of more sides people and intercessors. Sides people in particular have an important role, since they are normally the first person anyone entering the church meets. They need to be well versed in the way each of our churches are run, welcoming, generous, and hospitable. They need to be able to follow up and care for newcomers and to be trustworthy as they deal with important service administration.

Intercessors write and lead the intercession prayers in services. Each of the churches has its own rota which means you'd be one of a team of people taking turns to lead the prayers.

If either of these roles feel like something you might be called to, please speak with Revd Steve.

Regular events every week and Home Groups

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| Mondays | Christian Meditation Group in Silchester
St Paul's Morning get together (13 th and 27 th April) |
| Tuesdays | St Paul's Gardeners meet
Prayer Group meets at St Paul's, Tadley |
| Wednesdays | Worship at either St Luke's or St Mary's, Tadley at 10am
St Mary's café is open from 8.30am
The Wednesday Weeders meet outside St Mary's from 10am
Living Word the online homegroup meets |
| Thursdays | St Luke's Coffee Morning from 10am
Let's Pray! monthly prayer group (next date 23 rd April)
Home Group meets at 7.30pm in Tadley |
| Fridays | Breakfast at St Mary's (next date 17 th April)
Oaks and Acorns meets at 10am in St Luke's
Tadley Men's Shed meets at St Mary's
Home Group meets at 4pm in Pamber Heath |

Worship this Month in our Churches

Date:	Services at St Paul's, Tadley – RG26 3PB
Sat 4 th	7pm Benefice Easter Vigil (Chris and Rob)
Sun 5 th	10am Church on the Green Café Easter Holy Communion (Steve)
Sun 12 th	10am Messy Easter (Steve & the Messy Church Team)
Sun 19 th	9am Holy Communion in the Side Chapel (Rob) 10am Morning Worship (Rob)
Sun 26 th	9am LEGO Church (Steve and the LEGO Church Team) 10am Church on the Green All Age Communion (Steve)

Date:	Services at St Luke's, Pamber Heath – RG26 3DX
Wed 1 st	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Cathy)
Sun 5 th	10.30am Easter Sunday Holy Communion (Cathy)
Wed 8 th	10am Morning Prayer (Myles)
Wed 15 th	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Linda)
Sun 19 th	11am Holy Communion (Linda and Cathy)
Wed 22 nd	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Cathy)
Wed 29 th	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Linda)

Date:	Services at St. Marys, Tadley – RG26 4HQ
Wed 1 st	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Chris)
Fri 3 rd	10am CTAT Good Friday Service (Steve and CTAT) 12pm Benefice Three Hours Around the Cross (Benefice Team)
Sat 4 th	2pm RISE Easter Activities & Egg Hunt (Steve, Chris & RISE Team)
Sun 5 th	10.30am Easter Sunday Holy Communion (Chris and Lay Team)
Wed 8 th	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Karen)
Sun 12 th	10.30am Holy Communion (Karen)
Wed 15 th	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Cathy and Paddy)
Sun 19 th	9am RISE (Steve and the RISE Team) 10.30am Holy Communion (Steve)
Wed 22 nd	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Steve)
Sun 26 th	10.30am Holy Communion (Cathy)
Wed 29 th	10am Midweek Holy Communion (Steve and Charles)

Date:	Services at St Mary the Virgin, Silchester – RG7 2HH
Sun 5 th	8am BCP Holy Communion (Karen) 10am Holy Communion for All Ages for Easter Day (Karen)
Sun 12 th	9.30am Holy Communion (Cathy)
Sun 19 th	10am Morning Worship (Colin)
Sun 26 th	10am Holy Communion (Karen)

Date:	Events / Services Elsewhere
Thu 2 nd	6.30pm Benefice Maundy Thursday Supper and Service of Holy Communion in Silchester Village Hall (Karen)
Fri 3 rd	9.30am Silchester Three Crosses Service (CTAT Silchester)
Sun 5 th	6am CTAT Sunrise Service at Tadley Skatepark (Cathy and Mark)
Sun 12 th	5pm Benefice Evening Community at St Peter's (Myles)



Benefice of Tadley, with Pamber Heath and Silchester

Please keep this booklet for reference and check for updates via email.

Like our Facebook pages:

@St.Marys.Tadley

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@silchesterchurch

or go to our websites:

<https://st-marys-church-tadley.org.uk/>

<https://www.stpaulstadley.org.uk/>

<https://www.silchesterchurch.co.uk/>