



# ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Greenlands Avenue, Redditch B98 7PZ

Parish of Ipsley

stjohnschurchredditch@gmail.com

**Sunday, 25 March 2018**

Dear All,

The days leading up to Easter often have an understandably sombre feel to them, particularly as we contemplate Jesus' arrest, trial, and execution. It's easy to forget that the week begins with a joyful event, the Triumphal Entry! Palm Sunday is the first day of Holy Week. On Palm Sunday, we commemorate Jesus' celebrated entry into Jerusalem just a few days before his arrest, trial, and crucifixion.

The Triumphal Entry celebrates the coming of the Messiah, Israel's promised king, but riding on a donkey, not the noble warhorse one might expect. He was a king, liberating his people from the oppression of sin by sacrificing himself.

The "triumph" of Palm Sunday is a brief glimpse of how things should have been. Here, Jesus is greeted with joy and celebration, praised as a king and welcomed by his people into their city and their lives. The warm welcome won't last, but at this point in the Gospel story, it's possible to imagine that it might.

Read the story of the Triumphal Entry for yourself and try to imagine what it would've been like to witness it in person. The darkness of the crucifixion looms on the horizon, but this is an occasion of celebration nonetheless—the promised king has revealed himself at last to his people! Hosanna.

Every Blessing,

Canon Garth Nathaniel

**Electoral Roll** The electoral roll opened last week for two weeks. If you are not already on the roll and would like to be, please see Dawn, Sharon or Barry for a form (alternatively they will be on the table in the foyer).

To be eligible for the roll you have to be over 16 years old and resident in the parish, or if not resident in the parish, have worshipped regularly at St. John's for the past six months.

Dawn Wilson, Electoral roll officer

### **Good Friday Walk of Witness - from Oasis Christian Centre**

Join with others in the Town at 9.45am for a short Communion service, as we remember the best day in history, or come along at 10.30am and join in the Walk of Witness through Redditch Town Centre. We'll be singing, reading the bible, focussing on God and giving out hot cross buns and contact cards to everyone we see! meet at: Oasis Christian Centre, Plymouth Road, Redditch Town Centre.

**Senior tea** There will be an afternoon tea and entertainment in the hall this afternoon, if you would like to go please speak with Eileen.

**Care of Church grounds** I have been asked to get together a work team to take care of outside the church. If anyone has any spare time and is interested in helping, would they see me please.

This will be on Tuesdays or Saturdays when the weather picks up, hopefully starting in April. Jobs include weeding, litter picking, outside window cleaning, clearing leaves and general tidying of garden and path areas.

Many thanks, David Jones

**Celebratory Service** There will be a celebratory evening Parish service after Easter at St John's, where those undertaking lay ministry will be commissioned, refreshments will be served after the service.

If you would like to provide cakes, fruit or help serve drinks please speak with Sharon or Barry, but most importantly please do join us at this very special time.

**Data Protection** New regulations about data protection come into force in May this year. To help us ensure we comply, the DCC need to know about any personal data on paper or computer in connection with church activities. If you have any, please speak to Barry Humphrey.

**Reports** Barry needs your report that is to be included in the annual report, as soon as possible. Thank you

**Rachel Summerfield** It is with sadness that I have to say that Rachel passed away last week at the age of 45. Her funeral will be next week. Rachel used to worship at St. John's with her parents.

## Services

### **Palm Sunday**

10:30am Holy Communion with Garth Nathaniel.  
John 12:12-19 'Triumphal Entry'

6:30pm Evening Praise with Garth Nathaniel

### **Maundy Thursday**

3:30 - 5pm Easter Fun at Woodrow Centre with Woodrow community group.

7:00pm Agape Meal in the Huband room, St. Peter's with Mike Palfreyman

### **Good Friday**

9:45am Short Communion at Oasis Christian Centre, Plymouth Road

10:30am Walk of Witness from Oasis Christian Centre into Redditch town centre.

7:30pm Evening Service with Vicki Quarton at St. John's

### **Next Sunday - Easter Day Resurrection**

10:30am Worship for Everyone Communion with Ian Evans

6:30pm Easter Praise Communion with Revd. Richard Harding

## Diary dates

**Tues 12 - 1:30pm** Lent Course - Huband Room, St. Peter's

**Weds 7:30pm** Lent Course - Huband Room, St. Peter's

**Thurs 9:30am** Holy Communion - St. John's, followed by coffee morning.

**Tues 17th April 7:30pm** St. John's AGM - St. John's Church

**Thurs 10th May 7:30pm** Joint Ascension Day Service - St. Peter's

## Lectionary Readings - Easter

M Acts 2.14, 22-32; Ps 16.1-2, 6-end; Mt 28.8-15

Tues Acts 2.36-41; Ps 33.4-5, 18-end; Jn 20.11-18

Wed Acts 3.1-10; Ps 105.1-9; Lk 24.13-35

Thurs Acts 3.11-end; Ps 8; Lk 24.35-48

Fri Acts 4.1-12; Ps 118; 1-4, 22-26; Jn 21.1-14

Sat Acts 4.13-21; Ps 118.1-4, 14-21; Mk 16.9-15

**Collect for the week** 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 forever. Amen

**Call Ann Donovan (for prayer chain) in the first instance on 01527 527789.**

**Please pray for:**

- ❖ Garth and Jenny, Richard and Wendy, Ian and Judy.
- ❖ Licensed Lay Ministers – Maureen, Rosie and Vicki.
- ❖ Wardens – Barry Humphrey and Sharon Forrest.
- ❖ Garth as he returns to work.
- ❖ The Kigezi Water and Sanitation project we are supporting.
- ❖ Alex Hospital: Staff, patients & chaplaincy team serving the community.
- ❖ Graeme and Jackie Russell - Community Missioner in Christ Church.
- ❖ Those recovering from surgery.
- ❖ Chris Tilley who is ill.
- ❖ Staff affected by the closing of M&S in Redditch, especially those with long service.
- ❖ Chaplains of the Kingfisher Centre visiting and supporting shop workers.
- ❖ For our MP Rachel Maclean & the Government involved in Brexit negotiations, for our security services working to keep us safe.
- ❖ Parish Prayers: Croome Close Matchborough, Abbotswood Close Winyates Green, Kempsey Close Woodrow, Woodcote Close Winyates

**Contacts**

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