

**Monday 12th March**

**10.00am** Lifegroup for Women.

*The Rectory*

**7.30pm** **NO** Evening Prayer at *St Mark’s*

**8.00pm** Start! Course. Session 6.

*St Mark’s*

**Wednesday 14th March**

**10.00am** Little Lions Toddler Group

*St Mark’s*

**Thursday 15th March**

**10.00am** Holy Communion. BCP.

*St Mary’s Vestry*

**11.00am** Lent Course. Exploring the Beatitudes, part 2.

*St Mary’s Vestry*

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)**

Our Annual Meeting will be on **Sunday, 15th April, at 11.45am** (straight after the morning service). It is an opportunity to give thanks to God for all that has happened in the life of our church in 2017 and to get a clearer idea of his good plans for us over the next 12 months. We will also elect our two church wardens and some members of our PCC (please look out for more details on our notice board soon). **Please make every effort to be there!**

**What’s happening for children and families at Easter?**
Please pick up a leaflet with more details and invite others to join us!

***Leading Your Church into Growth* Prayer**

God of mission, who alone brings growth to your church, send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness. Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Tombola – Denham Fayre.** Collection for the Tombola at the Denham Fayre has begun. Please place any unwanted gifts which are in good condition in the Tombola Box at the back of the church. Many thanks.

**Please pick up a #LiveLent flyer** at the back of church, with all special events and services during Lent and Easter. ***Who could you invite to come to church with you?*** To sign up for daily #LiveLent reflections go to www.churchofengland.org/lent or download the #LiveLent app for your mobile device.

**Exploring Confirmation**

Are you interested in being confirmed (or baptised and confirmed)? Here are two opportunities:

(1) Confirmation Service at St James Gerrards Cross with Bishop John Went: Easter Sunday (1st April), 6.30pm.

(2) At Café Church (first Sunday of the month, 3.30pm, St Mark’s) we are thinking about the meaning of baptism and confirmation (next service: 6 May). This is an ideal preparation for a later confirmation date. *Please speak to Christoph if you are interested in being baptised or confirmed.*

**VISION RESPONSE**

What are your thoughts about our vision to pray, welcome and share like Jesus? Which one step could you take? There is still time to fill in a vision response form. They are available at the back. When you are done, post it in the ‘letterbox’ in the entrance area or send it to our church office.

**Easter cards and children’s books** are available on our bookstall at the back of church. Do take time to have a browse.

**PAROUSIA**

Weekly News Sheet

**11th March 2018**

**The Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**Mothering Sunday**

**Denham Church Christmas Appeal**

As we celebrate Jesus Christ, the greatest gift of all, we want to bless people who are struggling this Christmas. We will divide our gifts equally between two charities: **SHOC** (sloughhomeless.org), who are changing lives for homeless people in our area, and Tearfund’s **Middle East Emergency Appeal** (tearfund.org), which is helping refugee families on the ground. Why not go without some nice-to-have things during advent (wine, coffee shop, Christmas cards to local friends), etc and donate the money saved? There is a donations box at St Mary’s or you can drop off an envelope at our church office. Please mark it “**Christmas Appeal”.**

A small selection of **Charity Christmas cards** is now available at the bookstall at the back of the church. Packs of 10 £4.00, or single cards 40p. Do have a browse.

On Saturday 17th December at 9.30am, we will be decorating the church for Christmas. Please come and help, and if you can find lots of greenery to bring, we will be extremely grateful. **Carole 01753 887672.**

**Could you be our next Parish Secretary?** A great opportunity for part-time work (10 hours a week) in our church office from January. We are looking for a practising Christian with excellent people skills, competent in administration and with computers. Could this be you or do you know someone who might want to apply? For more information email rector@denhamparish.church.

**To enquire about booking St Mark’s Hall , Denham Green please go to:**

bookings@denhamparish.church or call the church office.



 **New City Catechism - Part 1: God, Creation & Fall, Law**

 **Question 10:**

 **What does God require in the fifth commandment?**

 ***That we love and honour our father and our mother,*** *submitting to their godly discipline and direction.*

**Exodus 20.12:** Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

**Commentary:** The fifth commandment to honour our parents should be read in light of the good news of Jesus. The command says that as children, we should obey our parents. As adults, we should respect and listen to our parents. And yet the gospel also reminds us that God is our Father, by grace we’re brought into his family, and he is our primary source of love. And if our primary relationship is with him, then we are able to love and honour our parents well, not looking to them to provide what can be found in God alone. *(Tim Keller)*

**Prayer:**Life-Giving Father, we will flourish only when we walk in your ways. Give us humility to honour our parents. May we always live by your commands rather than by our own instincts. Amen.

(The complete *New City Catechism* is available as a book, a free app or at [newcitycatechism.com](http://newcitycatechism.com))

Mothering Sunday was originally a time when people returned to the church in which they were baptised. This meant that families were reunited as adults returned to the towns and villages of their parents. In time, it became customary for young people who were working as servants in large houses, to be given a holiday on Mothering Sunday. They could use this day to visit their own mother and often took a gift of food. Traditionally, people observed a fast during Lent (the period from Ash Wednesday until Good Friday). However, the fast was lifted slightly on Mothering Sunday and many people prepared a Simnel cake to eat with their family. A Simnel cake is a light fruit cake covered with a layer of marzipan. Traditionally, it is decorated with 11 or 12 balls of marzipan, representing the 11 disciples and, sometimes, Jesus Christ. One legend says that the cake was named after Lambert Simnel who worked in the kitchens of Henry VII of England sometime around the year 1500.

Welcome to church! If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello to the service leader or a member of the welcome team so we can welcome you personally. As it is Mothering Sunday this week there will be NO Sunday Club for children during the 10.30am service, we will all celebrate together.

*Christoph Lindner, Rector*

**www.denhamparish.church**

**www.denhamparish.church**

**Worship next week**



**18th March**

**5th Sunday of Lent**

**8.00am Holy Communion** *St Mary’s*

**Sidesman:**  Philip Constable

**Reader:** Stephen Barrett

**Readings:**  Heb. 9. 11-15

 John 8. 46-end

**9.55-10.00** **Pre-service Prayer**

*St Mary's, front of church*

**10.30am Morning Worship**

*St Mary’s* with Sunday club for children & Older Children

**Journey to the cross: Pilate**

**Sidesmen**: Marion Francis & Victoria Lucas

**Readings and readers:**

1 Peter 2. 22-25 Sandy Wickenden

Mark 15. 1-20 Stuart Montgomery

**Prayers:** Derek Sharp

**Sunday Club Leader:** Sonja Clements

**Easter 2018 at St Mary’s**

Join us at St Mary’s for:

**Palm Sunday,
25 March 10 am:**

We meet at the Village Memorial Hall to follow Joey the Donkey to church. The church service will begin

at 10.30am.



**Easter Sunday, 1 April 10.30am:
Easter Celebration Service**

**After the service:**

**Big Easter Egg Hunt for children!**

There will be a special Sunday Club for children during both services.



**From 1 Samuel 1**

Hannah lived a long time ago and she was married to Elkanah. As time went by Hannah became sad because she had no children and all her friends had.

Every year, Hannah and Elkanah, with lots of their friends and families, went on a journey to visit God’s house, the temple, at Shiloh and worshipped there. One year Hannah was so sad that she decided to go into the temple on her own to pray and ask God for a baby.

She prayed and cried and prayed and cried. She promised God that if he gave her a baby boy, she would bring him to the temple to be a special helper there.

The temple priest, Eli, saw her and spoke to her. He prayed that God would answer her prayer. Hannah left the temple feeling much happier.

Hannah and Elkanah went home and in time they had a baby boy called Samuel. Baby Samuel grew up. He learned to crawl. He learned to walk and talk.

When he was about your size, Hannah, Elkanah and Samuel went again with all their friends to visit the temple. Hannah took Samuel to Eli and she said a special thank you prayer to God for giving her Samuel who was part of God’s plan.

*This is the word of the Lord*

**All: Thanks be to God**

In your prayers this week, please remember **Ethel White, Thelma Mann, Peggy Wasley and Christine Willson.**

Also anyone known to us who is sick or suffering the pain of bereavement at this time especially the family of **Muriel Senior and Ernest Smith**.



**Worship Today**



**Mothering Sunday**

**11th March**

**4th Sunday of Lent**

**8.00am Holy Communion** *St Mary’s*

**Sidesman:**  Carlene Litchmore

**Reader:** Roger Gage

**Readings:**  Gal. 4. 21-end

 John 6. 1-14

**9.55-10.00** **Pre-service Prayer**

*St Mary's, front of church*

**10.30am Mothering Sunday Family Service**

**Sidesmen**: Brian & Heather O’Regan

**Reading and readers:**

1 Samuel 3. 20-28

Charlotte and Rebecca Hearnden-Smith

**Prayers:** Ann Collins

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**Collect**

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.