

NOTICES

APCM Meeting: Sunday 2nd April 2023 at 2pm.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in Church House on **Sunday 2nd April 2023 at 2pm**. Members of the church electoral roll are invited to attend. Please do join us for a **communal lunch from 12.30pm** before the meeting begins. Church House is located on Broadway Rd, WR11 1BH, next to the Lidl supermarket. Further details can be found on the official notice in church and on the website.

Bostock Room Renovations:

Please be aware renovations are planned for the Bostock room, toilets, and adjoining corridor in church. We do not have a date for commencement of the works but will include a notice when these are due to start. Disruption will be kept to a minimum, but please expect some changes to access in these areas while the work is ongoing.

Maundy Thursday Meal: Thursday 6th April, 6.30pm – 8.30pm.

Come along on Maundy Thursday for an evening of delicious food and good company. A special meal will be held in church accompanied by dramatic Bible readings exploring the story of Jesus' final Passover with His disciples. Lamb will be served as the main course and a vegetarian option will also be available (if you are vegetarian, please add this information to your booking). If you have other specific dietary requirements, you are very welcome to bring food from home. Please sign up online or using the sheet in church.

For our Prayers this Week: For those who are sick, in special need or housebound. Mark, Dave, Kate, Sylvia, John, Colin, Sigi, Pat, Anne, Helen (Pat's daughter).

For the family and friends of those who have died: Thelma Ree.



Today's Services and Events – Lent 4

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.15am Morning Eucharist
- 11.00am Informal Gathering: Children's Groups

Gluten free Communion breads are available. Do please ask one of the welcomers or the Wardens if you require this. The Church is fitted with a loop system. To use this, please switch your hearing aid to 'T'.

Church Diary for the Week

- Mon 20th March - 7.00pm: PCC Meeting
- Tues 21st March - 7.30pm: Prayer Meeting
- Weds 22nd March - 10:00am: Holy Communion
- Fri 24th March - 10.00am: Choir Practice

Next Sunday's Services and Events – 26th March

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.15am Morning Eucharist
- 11.00am Informal Gathering: All-together Service

Important notice: Please be aware there will be two special gatherings over Lent and Easter that will replace the regular 9.15am and 11am services. These services will be on: **Palm Sunday**, 2nd April at 10.30am and **Easter Sunday**, 9th April at 10.30am.

Collect:

Merciful Lord, absolve your people from their offences, that through your bountiful goodness we may all be delivered from the chains of those sins which by our frailty we have committed; grant this, heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Bible Reading: Colossians 3:12-17 ¹²Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. ¹⁵Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. ¹⁷And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Gospel Reading: Luke 15:1-2 and 11-32 **15** Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."¹¹ Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.¹³ "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my

father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.'²⁰ So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.²¹ "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'²² "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.²⁵ "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷ 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'²⁸ "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!³¹ "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

Post Communion:

Lord God, whose blessed Son our Saviour gave his back to the smiters and did not hide his face from shame: give us grace to endure the sufferings of this present time with sure confidence in the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

