

Around the Spire



April 2023

Issue No 90

**Our thanks to
pupils at
Clearwater Primary
Academy for our
front cover this
month!**

Page 6



Saint James' Quedgeley & Kingsway
FREE Magazine for the Parishioners
of Quedgeley & Kingsway

Services at Saint James' Church Quedgeley

Morning Prayer—9.15am daily during term time

Holy Communion - Sunday 10.30am except for 1st Sunday in the month when said Communion is at 9.15am.

Holy Communion—Wednesday 10.00am

STJ's Family Service—First Sunday in the month—10.30am

JAM - Every Sunday 5pm—6pm

Saint James' Church Quedgeley & Kingsway

Fun! Singing
Laughter Worship

STJ's
Sunday April 2nd
Palm Sunday
10.30am

Free Snacks

Proceeds to church funds for
St. James' Church
Quedgeley & Kingsway

**Coffee Morning
& Stalls**

Saturday 22nd April 10:00am - 12noon
Saint James' Church Quedgeley GL2 4PN

Tea@2

Wednesday from 2pm -4pm,
refreshments—home made
cakes, quiz and Bingo. Come in
for a chat and make new
friends!

Everyone welcome!

FREE! Come to play and explore with
Saint James'

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**Messy
Easter**

Tuesday 4th April
Saint James' Church
School Lane
Quedgeley
GL2 4PN

1pm - 3pm

FUN **SNACK provided!**

Editorial Easter Special

April 2023

Fr. Hugh Broad



POETS: MUSICIANS: ARTISTS: AUTHORS: - AND SO MANY MORE!

Here is one story from someone's past experience from many years ago which expresses it all!

A young choirboy was intrigued with what was going on at church which was most unusual, not like an ordinary Sunday!

Here comes an outdoor procession with a man riding on a donkey with people from the congregation waving branches from the trees. When he looked closely he had a shock—the man on the donkey was his school headmaster! Then they all went into church - donkey and all!

The a few days later the boys were asked to go to the church—on Thursday it was—time for another shock — how strange, people were having their feet washed by the Vicar—and then he noticed that one of them was his auntie!

The next day was Friday—he knew that it was called Good Friday—and another procession with a great big cross carried by another man, and we all had to follow him through the streets and into church again.

So to Sunday—big celebrations for us boys—lovely hymns for us to sing, processions again and lovely sweet smelling incense—and he was boat boy for the first time! And big Easter eggs for all of us!

They say that the earliest memories we have last the longest, and for this boy it certainly was!

So When was it? —about 1945; Where? - St. Peter's Church Leckhampton, Cheltenham...

WHO WAS IT? YES—YOU'VE GUESSED IT!

YOUR EDITOR OF 'AROUND THE SPIRE'

A VERY HAPPY AND BLESSED EASTER TO ALL OUR READERS!

What am I praying for this month?

By Revd. Mark.



Something that has felt in short supply recently is hope. If we understand hope as simply responding to the world with a sunny personality then it is not surprising that such a hope is hard to muster given the many challenges facing the world. But that is not the kind of hope we know at Easter. The Jews of Jesus' time understood that God resided in the Holy of Holies, an area separated from the rest of the Temple - and all humanity - by a huge curtain. On Good Friday, at the moment Jesus died that curtain was torn. Death, that great divide between humanity and our creating, life-giving God was torn. That great moment of hope begins at the hardest and saddest moment in all of history. This is the kind of hope that comes from outside ourselves, that is the gift of Easter and it is hope in the face of death. It is the tenacious and radical hope that comes with the forgiveness and new life of Easter. My prayer for the world is that the world will be made new in this kind of hope, the hope that never leaves us and is always true.

AMEN

Some Photos from our Mothering Sunday service



John 12: 12-13. *The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the king of Israel!"*

Out and About in Quedgeley & Kingsway with Revd. Mark

On a blustery 9th March a small group of us met for Morning Prayer at St James before setting off to walk around the edges of this very varied parish.

The purpose was exploration, encounter and embrace. We explored, meeting folk from the Red Cross, Alpha Printing (who print this magazine), Prospect digital training (who run our website) and many folk just along the way.



Last stop - Pilot Inn

We had hot drinks and food at Ogdens in Kingsway, the Roastery at the Orchard and the Pilot. By saying the Lords Prayer at its southern, eastern, northern and western ends, we embraced the Parish with the Gospel. Each of us completed the day with the sense that in all of these encounters, we had truly encountered Christ in this place.



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Easter Collage for St. James'

The pupils of Clearwater Primary Academy have produced the beautiful Easter Collage you see on the front cover of the magazine, this month. The collage will hang in our church during Easter. The collage took pupils several weeks to complete, during which time they chose the colours, the design and put the whole thing together. Its radiant colours will certainly brighten up our lovely old church.

One of their teachers Maddison O'Beirne commented, 'The Reception children are really enjoying learning about how Christians celebrate Easter. Creating this collage together has really helped to bring the story of Easter to life for them and they can't wait to see their art in the Church very soon'

Revd. Mark Siddall, welcomed the lovely collage saying "What a lovely collage of New Life and hope for Easter that the Clearwater pupils have made. Images like this really show us the hope and New Life in a new generation of children - New Life and hope from New Life in our children, what a great Easter message!"



Pupils from Clearwater Academy with the collage they produced ,to be displayed in St. James' over the Easter period.

John 19: 17-18 So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle.

Easter Events at Saint James'

Sunday 2nd April Palm Sunday

10.30am STJ's Palm Sunday celebration

Tues 4th "Messy Easter"

1-3pm : arts, crafts and activities for Easter

Wed 5th Wed in Holy Week

Maundy Thursday

7.30pm, Eucharist of the consecrated
sacrament and stripping of the Altar

Good Friday

12noon The Liturgy of Good Friday, you are
welcome to stay in quiet contemplation ahead
of the final hour

2pm Stations of the Cross to mark the final hour

9th April EASTER 10.30am Easter Eucharist

*The Lamb of God he takes away the sins of the
world*

Creation Care & Travel Savings

One of the most striking images of Easter is that of Jesus appearing to Mary Magdalene and being confused as a gardener.



This is the time of year when our gardens come to life again. Gardens and lawns are precious to many and efforts to replace lawns with wildflowers can be contentious. That is why I like the 'no-mow May' initiative.

There is no need to lose your lawn altogether but simply leave it alone in May to encourage bees, butterflies and wildflowers in this key window of time.

When you do mow, have you considered an old-fashioned manual machine? They are easy to use, relatively cheap and take no electricity or petrol to run. They are also silent if you enjoy some quiet time in the garden. Perfect for the smaller lawns in many of our homes. You can find a review of several manual mowers by googling '[Gardeners world, blue push mower](#)'

Happy Gardening!

Mark



DI RAMSAY'S HOME
In aid of church funds

OPEN
Garden

21ST MAY 2PM - 5PM
Please make a note in your diary!
More Info later!

The poster features illustrations of a butterfly, green leaves, and various flowers like roses and pink blossoms.

Di Ramsay is kindly opening up her garden on 21st May for the afternoon in aid of church funds.

Di is asking if our home bakers can lend a hand and bake some cakes for the event.

Tea and Coffee will also be served. More info in the May edition of the magazine.

***One is never closer to God
than in a garden***



“Lights in their Own Generation”

A series celebrating, month by month, some of those who left a special mark on the history of the worldwide Christian Church.

*“Lights” that shine in April by
Fr. Ian Robb*



9th: Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Lutheran Pastor. Opposed to Nazism, he was banned from teaching, continually harassed by Hitler's regime, before being interned in Flossenburg concentration camp where he was murdered on this day in 1945.

19th: Alphege, Archbishop of Canterbury. Monk at Deerhurst (Gloucestershire), Abbot of Bath, Bishop of Winchester, Archbishop of Canterbury. Murdered at Greenwich, 1012.

21st: Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury. Teacher, abbot, archbishop, died in 1109.

23rd: George, Patron of England. Soldier in Palestine, martyred for his faith in 304. After the Crusades he was made Patron of England.

25th: Mark the Evangelist. John Mark, travelling companion of Paul & Barnabas, later imprisoned in Rome with Peter & Paul. Leaders of the Early Church state that “Mark was the interpreter of Peter, and that which Peter remembered was recorded by Mark” - and so the first of the four New Testament gospels came into being. It is highly likely that Mark was executed after Peter and Paul on the orders of the Emperor Nero, which would make the date his gospel 64 – 65AD.

27th: Christina Rossetti, poet. Associated with the Pre-Raphaelite movement but famous for her poetry on religious subjects. “In the bleak mid-winter” is among her work. Died on this day in 1894.

29th: Catherine of Siena, teacher of the faith. A Dominican nun, nourished by a life of contemplative prayer and mystical experiences. An adviser on political and religious matters and an ambassador to the pope in Avignon. She produced copious writings on the religious life as well as numerous letters of counsel and advice. She died in 1380.

If family and friends are coming round for Easter why not treat them to Tricia's luscious Beetroot & Chocolate cake? It's very moreish so don't be surprised if it soon goes!



Ingredients

100g butter
75g chocolate chips
185g caster sugar
2 eggs
175g s r flour
4g baking powder
175g fresh cooked beetroot
85g full fat soft cheese
50g icing sugar

Method

Preheat oven to 180c or 160c fan. Grease and line a 2lb loaf tin. Melt chocolate chips in a bowl over simmering water then place to one side. Beat butter until soft and creamy. Beat caster sugar into the mixture until pale and fluffy. Beat in the eggs a little at a time and then fold in the melted chocolate. Stir in the flour and baking powder and fold in the grated cooked beetroot.

Place mixture in the tin and level the top, Bake from 45 minutes to 1 hour, until firm and risen .Cool in tin for 15 minutes before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely.

Frosting Beat the soft cream cheese, stir in the sieved icing sugar and beat together. spread on the cold cake.

Enjoy !



Tea@2

QUIZ

Our Tea@2 group grows from strength to strength. From the end of March our group resumed the 2pm start time.

We make copious cups of tea and coffee, have lots of homemade cakes, a friendly quiz and a fun game of Bingo with a chance to win a prize.

So why not pop along one Wednesday afternoon for a cuppa, meet some new and old friends. Many thanks to Emily and her Dad, Revd. Mark, who came to visit us over the half term holiday and took her turn as Bingo caller. Also huge thanks to Fr. Ian who has become our Bingo caller on more than one occasion!

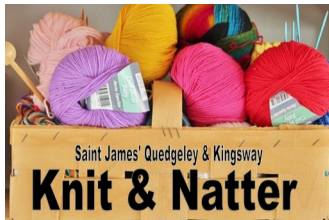


Fr. Ian's hidden talent as a Bingo caller. He was a real hit with our Tea@2 crowd

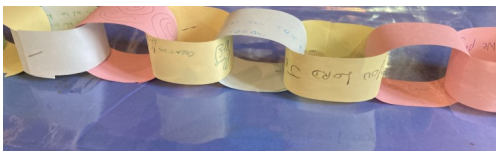


Our Editor Fr. Hugh regularly attends Tea@2. He is seated here, having a chat to Fr. Ian and Pat Wakely, one of our volunteers.

Saint James' Knit and Natter group visited Tea@2 to sell some of their fabulous Easter gifts. Knitted rabbits, chickens, sheep and coronation crowns were on display all reasonable priced and all containing a small Easter egg or sweet. If you didn't manage to purchase anything from the Knit and Natter stall don't despair. The group will be selling more Easter gifts on April 2nd following the morning service at church.



StJ's Family fun, laughter and worship, snacks, coffee/tea afterwards
 1st Sunday in every month 10.30am



The importance of prayer was a major feature at STJ's family worship service last month. Everyone helped to make a huge prayer chain. Thanks to Revd. Ann and the team for leading us through the service and the volunteers for providing refreshments.

You'll find the chain on the altar in the Lady Chapel at the church—go and have a look . Why not say a prayer while you are there?

You are warmly invited to
Jam
 Every Sunday 5pm—6pm @ Saint James' Church
 Quedgeley & Kingsway. Everyone welcome—
 Music, Singing, Food and Fun!



Together we work out what church is for and grow in friendship

Quedgeley Town Council



Last month we were pleased to announce 3 new faces joining the council and this month we are pleased to announce that we have another new face. This means that we now have 16 councillors so working to full capacity. This means that meetings are proving lively and interesting with lots of work taking place at the committee level. All our councillors bring with them different backgrounds, life skills and a broader age range. New Councillors bring a fresh pair of eyes to the council, something that we welcome, to ensure that we continue to be a proactive and forward thinking council. Take a look at our office window and you will see a snapshot of each councillor or alternatively you can log onto our website www.quedgeley-tc.gov.uk.

Moving forward, the council intend to hold another Futures seminar where they get together for a day to discuss aspirations and projects. Quedgeley Town Council is a Quality Gold Council and with this brings a commitment to its community and an assurance that your council keeps up to date with the times.



Easter – Our Easter Egg Hunt arrangements are being prepared as we speak. The staff exercise lots of willpower during this time with hundreds of Easter eggs hoarded in the office. Our office banner is up and this is a reminder to all of you that the Easter Egg Hunt takes place at 10.00am on Easter Monday at the Local Nature Reserve off Curtis

Hayward Drive. This event is geared towards under 11's and it is an opportunity for the community to come together, do an Easter trail and win some chocolate. There will also be a colouring competition, cupcakes and a face painter. This event will take place whatever the weather so please do come along and support it. It's always very popular and we only have so many packs to give out.

Each pack equals one chocolate egg so once they've gone they've gone!

Your Town Councillors continue to be present at Tesco, sometimes on a Saturday and sometimes on a Thursday. The aim of their presence is to be visible to the community and available for questions or concerns. If you see them, please do say hello.



A reminder to everyone that if you are looking to book a party or an event, there is a wealth of venues at your disposal. Quedgeley Community Centre, Kingsway Community Centre, Waterwells Sports Centre and Kingsway Sports Pavilion are all available to book and the good news is that if you are a Quedgeley/Kingsway resident you get a reduced rate. Our centres do get booked up quickly so even if you are thinking ahead, now is the time to contact us with your enquiries.

We hope you all enjoy a good Easter and in our next insert we will be giving some more information regarding our meetings.

World Book Day at Field Court Infants



Pupils at Field Court Infant Academy enthusiastically welcomed World Book Day. Their teachers dressed up as characters from well known books and pupils had to guess who they were! How good are you at naming the various characters?

STOP PRESS

Congratulations to staff and pupils of Field court Infants School in Quedgeley for a 'Good' Ofsted. The first line of their Ofsted reports reads '*A fun and happy place to learn*'. *The school vision of 'love life, embrace learning and believe together' threads its way through all aspects of school life*



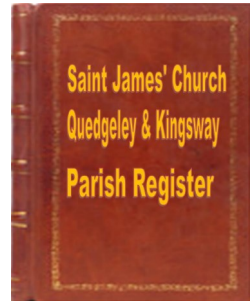
For those of us who have been privileged at some point to be part of the school I'm sure we would agree. Well done everyone! May you continue to progress from strength to strength.

Date for Diary—Summer Fayre 10th June 12noon –4pm more info soon!

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER - MARCH

FUNERALS:

March 1st CLAUDINE PRATT
3rd ERROL MATHURA
10th HELEN STARR
21st CHRISTINE GILL



" Rest Eternal Grant to them O Lord - and let light perpetual shine upon them"

John 11:25-26: *"Jesus said 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.*

Who's Who in the Parish Church

Priest –in– Charge	Land Line	Mobile	Email address
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