

**News Sheet – Sunday 3rd March 2024
The Third Sunday of Lent**

LINK FOR THE LIVESTREAM SERVICE - <https://cofewrecclesham.org.uk/streamed-services/>

Please click on the link from ten minutes beforehand and there will be the livestream link to take you to the service

Thank you to all involved in our worship today - and to those offering refreshments and hospitality

IMPORTANT ADMIN NOTICES

FROM CHRIS WILKES, Parish Administrator

The Electoral Roll is being revised prior to the April APCM – this is a register that we join when we choose to call St Peter's Church our 'spiritual home and church family'. **Please contact Chris Wilkes/Jacqueline by Saturday 16th March** if you would like to be added. If your name is already on the list, you don't need to do anything.

FROM HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICERS, SALLY WOODS & ROB DURRANT

The annual briefing for Sides Persons will be on Sunday 17 March after the 10am service. We will bring through our coffees after the service and meet for about 15 minutes. This is an opportunity to hear updates and to raise any queries. Updated guidance will be available at the meeting and emailed out afterwards. **Please do try and attend this briefing in the spirit of solidarity and support for the sterling work Sally & Rob do to keep this side of our church life ticking over safely and securely.**

NEW PCC MEMBERS

SAVE THE DATE! Our APCM will be held on Sunday 14th April after the 10am service where we will be electing officers and reflecting and reporting on how things have gone throughout 2023 – and celebrating a lovely church family and faithful witness to the Lord in Wrecclesham...

If anyone would like to consider being a member of the PCC – please do speak to any current member / Jacqueline to find out more about what it involves. Meetings are held bi-monthly and we are an amicable and supportive PCC – and between us prayerfully and practically help steer the church by taking care of the business of the day – the finances and fabric – and the spiritual life of St Peter's as a whole.

TODAY'S SERVICE – 3rd March 2024

8am - Holy Communion

10.30am First Sunday Service for the Third Sunday of Lent – with refreshments in church from 9.45am

Readings & Hymns: There are **Pew Bibles** available to browse/follow the readings at the back of church

Lectionary: Exodus 20.1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1.18-25; **John 2.13-22**

Hymns: 48 Christ whose glory fills the skies; 16 All Heaven declares; 114 Father, Lord of all creation; 19 All my hope in God is founded

The Collect for the Third Sunday of Lent

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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 for ever.

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE – 10th March 2024

8am - Holy Communion

10.00am – Mothering Sunday Service with poses– refreshments in the church afterwards

TODAY'S MAIN NOTICES

QUIZ NIGHT! – Thank you to the 43 people who came along and made the quiz night such a success.. Thanks to Rob/Sam – to cake-makers, Chris, Beverley, Jill and Sam to all who cleared away - it was a great way to support our social life with a little fundraising along the way. We raised £301 – well done everyone!

CHRISTIAN AID HAMPER APPEAL – To compensate for lack of leaflet collections, Andrew Jones has proposed we make a springtime hamper to raffle in order to donate to Christian Aid Week 2024 – **WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR HAMPER DONATIONS TO BUILD UP OUR HAMPER** – we will leave a box at the back of the church on Sundays – and you can deliver to the vicarage garage during the week – tickets will go on sale after Easter - thank you so much!

NEXT LENT LUNCH. WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH, 12.30-1.30pm – simple soup lunch at the Vicarage, 2 Kings Lane (please sign up or let Jacqueline know if you can (any alms giving (optional) will go to charity)

MESSY CHURCH PLEA (17th March) – TAKEAWAY CONTAINERS PLEASE! – We would like the plastic takeaway containers to make Easter Gardens, please – could you kindly leave them at the back of the church or in the Vicarage Garage – huge thanks! ☺

MESSY CHURCH PLEA (17th March) – SOMEONE TO HELP PREP/SERVICE THE FOOD (simple hot dogs & beans – sausages will already be cooked!) we need someone to be alongside Eddie & Pat to kindly help with the food – need to be there from around 4pm please)

JIGSAW PUZZLING – CALLING ALL PUZZLERS TO MAKE UP JIGSAWS FOR OCTOBER FESTIVAL! – We would like to start gathering made-up puzzles to display for the bi-annual October Festival – 19/20th October – there are lots of puzzles to choose from in the vicarage garage – and boards will be available – **thank you so much!**

Hear Here - is a Diocese of Guildford project in partnership with Sight for Surrey and the NHS, where NHS audiology trained volunteers provide community-based hearing aid maintenance – for more information: <https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/hearhere/>

Could you become a Hearing Champion? Hearing Champions are volunteers who have been trained by NHS audiology staff in the basics of hearing aid maintenance. Volunteers from parish churches will be trained on safeguarding matters and have had the appropriate police checks.

We can provide our church as a local venue if we have people interested in providing this valuable service – it seems to be held monthly as a drop-in at other venues...

If anyone feels drawn to exploring the possibility of becoming a Hearing Champion, please speak to Jacqueline and/or contact Jude Darby, the Diocesan Hear Here Lead - Telephone: 07827 567014 Email: hearhere@cofeguildford.org.uk

ON THE ROAD TO EASTER – Lent and Easter...

Forthcoming Lent Course– beginning 2pm Thursdays 22nd & 29th February – 7th, 14th, 21st March

at 24 Buttermer Close (Thank you Chris & Frank) — **you don't have to attend every session....**

Easter Lilies – If you would like to make a donation towards the Easter Lilies in memory of a loved one, please kindly give your donation to Chris Gray, with your loved one's name(s) and we will have an 'In memory' list by the chancel display. Of course, if you would rather not have the name listed, please do say....

HEALING SERVICE FOR PALM SUNDAY – 6PM, Sunday 24th March – please see notice board for details of this gentle and what we hope is a calming and hopeful service as we seek God's wholeness and peace.

DATES FOR THE DIARY – LOOKING AHEAD!

- **Saturday 8th June** – BARN DANCE AT ST PETER'S CHURCH!
- **Tuesday 18th June** – Rowledge Community Choir Summer Concert in aid of the Dan Eley Foundation (it's a lovely repertoire!)
- **Sunday 28th July** – St Peter's Songs of Praise – back by popular demand, we sing our favourite hymns with refreshments at the interval...
- **Saturday 14th September** – Last Night at the Proms is back! – bring your proms hampers as we enjoy local music for first half & then livestream the finale of the Last Night at the Proms from the Albert Hall – more info to follow

BAPTISM AND/OR CONFIRMATION: Affirming our faith – all ages: if you would like to consider affirming your journey of faith through Baptism and/or Confirmation, then please come and speak to Jacqueline about preparing for this very special occasion – it will be lovely to share the journey with you... ☺ (07806 775974 / 01252 716431 – vicar@cofewrecclesham.org.uk) – **Confirmations also take place during the year in local churches** if this might be more preferable – either way, it will be good to talk more about next steps...

Farnham Assist – 2024 Programme now available by the notice boards – Farnham Assist reach out to older people who live alone or who are carers – **Please do take one if you or anyone you know might benefit from becoming part of the Farnham Assist community** – monthly Sunday lunches – pie & pint club for gentlemen – knit & natter – Ladies pub lunches – day trips & walks – and transport to help – it's all there...

Junior Church – I am praying for the mobilisation of a regular monthly (at least) Junior Church – is this something you might be interested in – or do you know someone who might like to be part of this? We have a very good resource that means the planning and prepping is already done – just the delivery and a heart for the little ones – that they get the chance to develop their faith and spirituality – and have fun along the way! We do have some funding to be allocated to a part-time role (3-4 hours per week) – if this option is of interested. **Please do come and speak to me or pass on my details if anyone would like a chat about this. (07806 775974 – jackieds8@hotmail.com)** In the meantime, please pray for the revival of our Junior Church and family ministry.

Calling all singers.... Do you like to sing? Come and join our informal choir. No experience needed, you don't need to read music or commit to regular Sundays. We will meet at 9.30 before the service to run through the hymns with David - just turn up. For more information please contact me on 07548830018 or email carolzeiher@sky.com.

OTHER HEADLINES / CHURCH NOTICES

THIS WEEK'S THANK YOUs... To all of us for being there for each other and doing what we can for the love of the Lord and our St Peter's Church! ☺

- Thank you to the Fabric and Finance Team – to Sally for overseeing our health & safety and Safeguarding priorities - and to Gerald, Philip, Rob & Sam and Jonathan who keep the building and its maintenance ticking over and looking neat and cared for – and to Sue & Lizzy and others who help to take care of the hall space and users – we are very blessed...
- To Kathryn for our meaningful Lent Station which is located by the vestry door – please do take 5 minutes to engage with the invitation to think about our personal journey through Lent...

PRAYERS FOR:

Margaret Jeffery, Beryl Tate, Jenny Emberson, Andrew Steward, Penny Cleland, Andrew Jones, Gerald Martin, Zoe Perkins – for all who are poorly, and give thanks for the healing and ongoing wellbeing of all recovering and on the mend from illness....

Years Mind: We remember all those dear to us whose years' mind falls around this time....: *(please let Jacqueline know if you would like someone remembered by name ...)*

Please also pray for the life and work of our Church, that we might be part of God's revival, and loving and transforming grace here in our place...

Please contact Jacqueline on vicar@cofewrecclesham.org.uk or 716431 / 07806 775974 if you have a notice to share – or if you would like to talk about something else – her day off is a Monday....

HELP NEEDED, PLEASE – techy team rota - we would like to extend the team - it is not as challenging as it sounds! Please do speak to Rob/Jacqueline or any of our wonderful Techy Team if you would like to know more – you will be on the rota roughly once every 4/5 weeks – you can work with another person if you like to be in a team!

WRECCLESHAM OVER 60'S – On 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month @ 1.30pm – a lovely group meet at the Leverton Hall – please pick up a leaflet for information....

Farnham Foodbank

THE BASKET IS NOW LOCATED ON THE RIGHT-HAND SIDE OF THE CHURCH BY THE DOOR

Please only donate long-life goods – fresh and perishable goods cannot be accepted – thank you for all that you contribute

- **Please** continue to put donations in the basket and Lizzy Hendry will kindly be taking the food to the Foodbank – thank you everyone...

Contact: mail: info@farnham.foodbank.org.uk or call 07901 58153 visit our website farnham.foodbank.org.uk or follow on Facebook [facebook.com/farnhamfoodbank](https://www.facebook.com/farnhamfoodbank)

GENERAL NOTICES

- **Lions Fuel Appeal** – help available to contribute towards challenging fuel bills – please see Jacqueline or visit Farnham Town Council website (under grants)
Donations can be made to <https://www.lionsgiving.co.uk/Appeal/farnhamwenceslas> or by cheque (payable to Farnham Lions Club CIO and endorsed WFP on the back) sent to Farnham Lions Club, 45 Edward Road, Farnham GU9 8NP
- **Diocese News** - If you would like to receive news and information from the Diocese, please sign up to their [weekly parish brief](#).

LECTIONARY READINGS – The Third Sunday of Lent

First Reading – Exodus 20:1-17 (Pew Bible p.74)

¹Then God spoke all these words: ²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labour and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work – you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 1.18-25 (Pew Bible 1148)

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

‘I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.’

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Gospel reading: John 2:13-22 (Pew Bible 1070)

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, ‘Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!’ ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, ‘Zeal for your house will consume me.’ ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, ‘What sign can you show us for doing this?’ ¹⁹Jesus answered them, ‘Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.’ ²⁰They then said, ‘This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?’ ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken