

## News Sheet - for Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025 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

**There are no flowers in church during Lent – but thank you to those who have provided **hospitality** this week – and to all who make up our **worship team** for this Sunday's service – we are blessed...**

**CONGRATULATIONS!** – To Lizzie and Steven – Mr & Mrs Karagozlou, who were married yesterday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March and we pray for their marriage to be rich in love, joy and fulfilment together...

### NOTICES

**THANK YOU – A huge thank-you to Jim Jeffery** who has stood down from his commitment as Funeral Verger after 15 years of faithful service. There is more to say at the APCM, but for now – thank you so much, Jim, on behalf of St Peter's church family past and present for this very special ministry that offers a consoling and comforting presence to those who are grieving and saying farewell to a loved one....

**DEANERY SYNOD, Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 7.30pm at St Mary's Frensham – ALL WELCOME – ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO EXPLORE THEIR CALLING TO SERVICE & MINISTRY IN SOME WAY**

- **John Valentine, the Dean of the Diocesan Local Ministry Programme** will be coming to explain all the exciting training opportunities provided by the Diocese, including LMP, FIM, and 'Caleb'. He can also explain the difference between LLMs and LAMs and more mysterious acronyms!

**CHURCH SPRING-CLEAN MORNING** – Whatever job you fancy doing - inside or outside – we will be there from **9am SATURDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL** - Please do come along and help give our church a spring-clean ready for Easter and spring/summer season – refreshments will be served! 😊

**ANNUAL PAROCIAL CHURCH MEETING - SUNDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2025, 11.45AM**

Everyone is welcome to attend – to celebrate our church life together, to hear reports of the past year and to consider the year ahead.... Please do come along if you can - in support and solidarity for St Peter's Church **'As we think about the life of St Peter's and our part in it, it is worth bearing in mind that it was no accident that 17 of the 36 parables of Jesus had to do with property and stewardship.'** – William James Dawson

**CHURCHWARDEN** – A reminder that Rob will be stepping down as Churchwarden this year – we will be seeking a new Churchwarden from April. Please do pray about whether you or someone you know might be called to take this on – **please speak to Rob** if you would like to find out more about the role as Churchwarden as it stands...

**PCC MEMBERS** – It would be lovely if a few more people might come forward and be part of our PCC – we meet bi-monthly at 7.30pm on the evening of the third Wednesday of the month in the Leverton Hall to represent the church family in taking care of the spiritual, business and practical matters of our church life. **Please do think about whether this might be something that God might be calling you to do – and speak to Jacqueline or other members to find out more.**

**Quiz Night thank-you** – to Rob and Sam for setting up and to all the cake makers and Colin on the raffle – and to everyone who helped clear away... While this was a social event, we did raise over £200 on the raffle and entry – so thank you to those who came and supported it – next Quiz in October!

**NEW! – THE BARN DANCE IS BACK! – SAVE THE DATE & GET YOUR TICKETS (limited numbers) - £20 each or £45 for a family** – this will include a posh – please see Rob for tickets....

**CONFIRMATION** – There will be a Confirmation Service in All Saints, Crondall on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 9.30am. Any church in the Deanery is most welcome to bring their own candidates to be confirmed in this **service. IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO CONSIDER BEING CONFIRMED – that is, saying a grown-up 'yes' to the baptism vows we made as a baby/child/young adult** – then please do let Jacqueline know and we can arrange to make preparations and join our friends at All Saints Crondall for this joyful occasion

**EASTER LILIES** – if you would like to make a contribution towards the Easter Lilies in memory of a loved one, please see Chris Gray and let her know their name – we will put a notice with the Easter Lilies in commemoration..

**LENT COURSE – Out of the Wilderness...**

**When:** Beginning Thursdays 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> March, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> April

**Where:** 24 Buttermer Close, GU10 4PN (Thank you to Chris & Frank for hosting)

## **TODAY'S SERVICES Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March – The Third Sunday of Lent**

**8am** - Holy Communion

**10am** – Parish Communion – followed by refreshments in the hall after the service

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

**Lectionary:** Isaiah 55.1-9; Psalm 63.1-8; 1 Corinthians 10.1-13; Luke 13.1-9

**Hymns:** 167 For the beauty of the earth; 333 Jesu, lover of my soul; 196 God forgave my sins; Cm 466 Now the green blade riseth; 238 Great is thy faithfulness

### 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. Amen

## **NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE – 30<sup>th</sup> March – Mothering Sunday / Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**8am** - Holy Communion

**10am** – Parish Communion – with Mothering Sunday posies, followed by refreshments in the hall after the service

**EVERY WEDNESDAY: 8.30AM ONLINE MORNING PRAYER (NEW TIME!)** (although Jacqueline is in person at St Peter's Church when she leads it – you are welcome to join her either in person or on zoom...)

Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87443605688?pwd=UYiMVbph9q6XaSTsxcawvA4ixebxjT.1>

Meeting ID: 874 4360 5688 - Passcode: 307447

### **Please see Notice Board for up to date news / events / services**

#### **PRAYERS FOR:**

Christine Paine, Andrew Jones, Beryl Tate, 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...

**We remember all those dear to us whose years' mind falls around this time** - in our church family especially remembering Penny Cleland (RIP 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and Reg Skeet (RIP 30<sup>th</sup> March 2024)  
(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](mailto: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....

### **OTHER NOTICES**

**FREE TICKET PASS FOR WESTMINSTER ABBEY** – I have secured a pass that allows 6 visits for the year church family members to use – up to four people per visit- **there are three passes left for the coming year** – please see Jacqueline to reserve your pass

#### **PCC**

- ***From April 2025 – there will be a vacancy for the service position of Churchwarden – please see notice above...***
- **Youth Ministry** – We are spending time praying and considering what we are able to offer our youth in the community. We have an idea for running a Wednesday afternoon 'drop in' youth café where young people from Weydon for example can come and relax/do homework/catch up etc - Jacqueline has been working with the Diocesan Youth Ministry enablers and has attended a course supported by Youthscape called 'Launchpad' from which this project idea has evolved. **If you are interested in playing a role/being part of a rota in helping with the (very relaxed) youth café – just by gently 'being around' or perhaps serving the 'bottomless toast/milk shakes/hot chocolate(!)' – please do speak to Jacqueline. Jacqueline will be the main leader in this but will need the support of at least 'one other' each week** (this role will be supported by the (simple) CofE safeguarding process for volunteers) The plan is to launch after Easter in May.

**Farnham Assist – details available by the notice boards** – Farnham Assist reach out to older people who live alone or who are carers

**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](mailto:carolzeiher@sky.com).

## **THIS WEEK'S THANK YOUs... Please see above plus**

To all of us for being there for each other and doing what we can for the love of the Lord and our Church! ☺

### **GENERAL NOTICES**

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

**Farnham Foodbank** BASKET IS LOCATED ON THE LEFT-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
- **For March:** Instant mash; Tinned meat such as hot dogs, tinned stew or ham; Sponge puddings, jelly and fruit pots; Tinned vegetables - carrots, peas - no sweetcorn please; Ladies deodorant; Shampoo

**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](mailto:info@farnham.foodbank.org.uk) or call 07901 58153 visit our website [farnham.foodbank.org.uk](http://farnham.foodbank.org.uk)

**Diocese News** - If you would like to receive news and information from the Diocese, please sign up to their [weekly parish brief](#).

### **Lectionary Readings for the Third Sunday of Lent**

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9 (Pew Bible p.740)

The Lord says this: <sup>1</sup>Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. <sup>2</sup>Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. <sup>3</sup>Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. <sup>4</sup>See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. <sup>5</sup>See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

<sup>6</sup>Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. <sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. <sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (Pew Bible p.1154)

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, 'The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.' We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it

Gospel reading: Luke 13.1-9 (Pew Bible p.1051)

<sup>1</sup>There were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.

<sup>2</sup>He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?' <sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them - do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem?' <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.'

<sup>6</sup>Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" <sup>8</sup>He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. <sup>9</sup>If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."