

News Sheet - for Sunday 30th March 2025 The Fourth Sunday of Lent
MOTHERING SUNDAY

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...

Thank you to Jill, Jenny, Wendy C and Wendy W for making our beautiful Mothering Sunday poses this year

EASTER SERVICES @ ST PETER'S CHURCH

Messy Easter: An Egg-straordinary Story! - 6th April, 4pm

Activities – hot food – family fun

Palm Sunday 13th April, 10am

With Palms and Gospel Narration
of the last days before Easter

Holy Week

Reflection and Night Prayer: 7-7.45pm Monday to Wednesday

Maundy Thursday, 8pm

Communion of the Last Supper

Followed by vigil until 10pm (optional)

Good Friday

10am All Age service & hot cross buns

2pm – Hour at the Cross

Easter Sunday 20th April

5.45am – a short Sunrise Service – with a cuppa & hot cross buns after
(Vicarage Garden, 2 Kings Lane GU10 4QB)

8am Holy Communion (traditional)

10am: Celebration Service for Easter

(Easter Egg Hunt – wear your Easter Bonnets for the Easter Parade!)

Don't forget to be getting your Easter Bonnets ready for our light-hearted 'Easter Parade'!

PALM SUNDAY – Sunday 13th April

- **Rev Sandy is asking for people to take part in the reading of the Passion Narrative for Palm Sunday** – please do let her know if you would like to read...
- **Healing service: 6pm Sunday 13th April** – a gentle and peaceful service to be still and be open to God's healing grace of peace and comfort and strength....

NEW! – DRAMA FOR HOLY WEEK – 7PM MONDAY 14TH APRIL @ ST THOMAS-ON-THE-BOURNE - The Devil's Passion: a reflection on modern day evil and hope in our time.

Rev Sandy Clarke says: Sometimes the Easter story's over familiarity makes us forget the world changing significance of the love and hope our Lord has given us. Today we need this love and hope for ourselves and for those around us more than ever. Justin Barber's play tells the most wonderful story on earth from a raw and urgent perspective You can book here: <https://thebourneparish.churchsuite.com/events/wj5q7mrn> - tickets cost £15 booked in advance, £18 on the door...

Rev Jacqueline will be at St Peter's Church, 7-7.45pm for the usual Holy Week Reflection and Night Prayer Monday-Wednesday....

NOTICES

URGENT! – MESSY CHURCH ARE LOOKING FOR PLASTIC TAKEAWAY CONTAINERS FOR MAKING EASTER GARDENS – CAN YOU PLEASE DROP THEM OFF IN THE VICARAGE GARAGE OR CHURCH – THANK YOU!

LENT COURSE – Out of the Wilderness...

The day time session this week will be 2pm Wednesday 2nd April at Chris and Frank's house - 24 Buttermer Close, GU10 4PN (Thank you to Chris & Frank for hosting)

- **There will be an evening session at 7.30pm Thursday 3rd April at the Vicarage, 2 Kings Lane – an opportunity to reflect on Lent / Easter** – please do bring a poem / hymn or reading that you might associate with Lent / Easter if you wish, that we can reflect on...

CHURCH SPRING-CLEAN MORNING – Whatever job you fancy doing - inside or outside – we will be there from **9am SATURDAY 5TH APRIL** - Please do come along and help give our church a spring-clean ready for Easter and spring/summer season – refreshments will be served! (we won't have access to the hall but will have refreshments in the church) 😊

ANNUAL PAROCIAL CHURCH MEETING - SUNDAY 6TH 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.**

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..

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 22nd 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

TODAY'S SERVICES Sunday 30th March – Mothering Sunday and the Fourth Sunday of Lent

8am - Holy Communion

10am – Communion Service for Mothering Sunday – 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

Lectinary: Joshua 5.9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5.16-21; Luke 15.1-3,11b-32

Mothering Sunday: Exodus 2.1-10; Ps 34.11-20; Colossians 3.12-17; John 19.25b-27

Hymns: 26 All things bright and beautiful; 186 Give thanks; 290 I danced in the morning; 93 Colours of day; 183 Give me joy in my heart

The Collect for Mothering Sunday

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; 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

The Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Lent

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. Amen

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE – 6th April – The Fifth Sunday of Lent – followed by APCM

8am - Holy Communion

10.30am – First Sunday Service – with refreshments in the church beforehand from 9.45am

11.45am – **The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)**

4pm – Messy Easter: An Egg-straordinary Story

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...

RIP – Michael Preece – parishioner of St Peter's Church – we pray for Michael's family and friends as they mourn...

We remember all those dear to us whose years' mind falls around this time - especially today we remember Reg Skeet, praying for his family as they remember. We thank Reg and Ivy for their faithfulness and friendship over the years...

(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....

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.

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 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 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 or call 07901 58153 visit our website 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](#).

Readings for Mothering Sunday

Bible Reading: Colossians 3.12-17 (Pew Bible p.1187)

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let 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. And 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."

The Gospel Reading: John 19.25b-27 (Pew Bible p.1092)

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. 26 When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' 27 Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Lectionary Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Lent

First Bible Reading Joshua 5:9-12

After the Israelites had crossed over the Jordan river, The LORD said to Joshua, 'Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.' And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year. *NRSV*

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 5: 16-21

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. *NRSV*

Gospel Reading Luke 15:1-3 & 11b-32

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.'

So he told them this parable: 'There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe - the best one - and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate.

Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, "Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!" Then the father said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found."