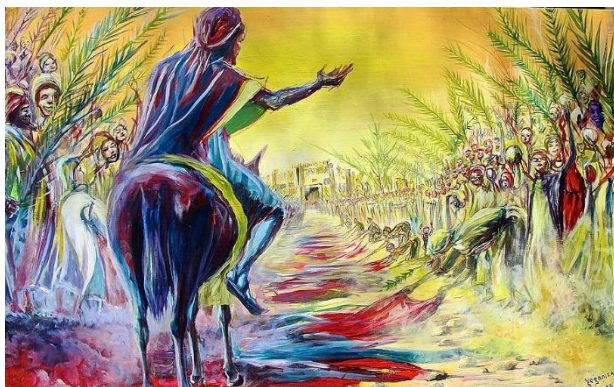


Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 2nd April 2023



Holy Week is a deeply reflective time for Christians. If you didn't know about Good Friday, Palm Sunday would seem like a triumph- Jesus greeted by admiring crowds in a 'red carpet' reception. But we know that will soon turn around. Our lives are marked by Palm Sundays and Good Fridays – triumph and sorrow, admiration and rejection. But that reality is against a backdrop of Christian hope – Easter Day.

Nick Parish

THIS SUNDAY 2nd April - Palm Sunday

- 9.30am** Morning Prayer at St Stephen's
10.00am Sung Communion at St Martin's - in church and live-streamed
6.30pm Evening Prayer at St Martin's (*apologies, but we are unable to live-stream this service, so do come to Church if you can*).

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Mon 3rd – Wed 5th April

7.00pm Stations of the Cross and Compline (see below)

Maundy Thursday

3.00pm Funeral of Peter Lalle

8.00pm Holy Communion

Good Friday

10.30am Ecumenical service in the Town Centre Market area

12.00pm St Martin's Open for prayer, with a reading ,
prayer and reflective music every 30 minutes.

2.00pm At the Cross – incorporating the singing of the
St Mark Passion

EASTER DAY

8.30am Holy Communion

9.30am Holy Communion at St Stephen's

10.00am Sung Communion

3.00pm Beacon Tea

6.30pm Choral Evensong

(10.00am and 6.30pm livestreamed)

Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross which we will use in Holy Week this year have been prepared by the Sisters of the Turvey Community in Bedfordshire. The Stations illustrate Christ's journey to the Cross from his condemnation by Pilate to the crucifixion and burial. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 3rd - 5th April, at 7 pm, we will be following the journey with the help of these vivid illustrations. The Stations will end with Compline in the Lady Chapel with a short reflection on some of those who were part of that journey.

MUSIC@STMARTIN'S NEXT CONCERT Sat April 1st at 4.30pm

The De Beauvoir Piano Trio is a London based prize-winning ensemble formed by violinist Enyuan Khong, cellist Charlotte Kaslin and pianist Élisabeth Pion. The Trio seeks to amplify marginalised voices, creating a new narrative of classical and contemporary music-making. In 2022 they were selected as Ensemble in Residence of the Britten Pears Young Artists' Programme and have since performed at King's Place and the Wigmore Hall. This promises to be a thrilling hour of chamber music for all ages. Don't miss it!

Richard Dacey

Contemplative Prayer

We will be meeting at 11am on Tuesday 4th April for an hour or so of quiet and meditation for Holy Week - in the Lady Chapel in St Martin's. The saying we will take especially for this week will be: John 12.23 where Jesus says: *'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified'*.

All welcome.

Adrian Esdaile

Peter Lalleem RIP funeral arrangements

Peter's funeral will take place at St Martin's on Thursday 6th April at 3pm and there will be a cremation at Randalls Park afterwards. His family have kindly invited anyone attending the service and/or the cremation to join them for refreshments in Church House afterwards. They would like to know for catering purposes how many people to expect. If you intend coming would you please sign the list at the back of the church. If you are not staying for refreshments and would like an order of service please indicate this on the list. Anyone unable to access the list should let their wishes be known to the Parish Office by email to

office@stmartinsepsom.org

John Aronson

Churches Together in Epsom (CTiE)



This Good Friday at 10.30am there will be an ecumenical Service of Worship and Praise in Epsom market place, organized by CTiE.

This will be followed by family crafts and outreach activities. All are invited. If you can help in this event, such as in stewarding, crafts, manning the stall, prayer ministry, preparing hot cross buns etc. please email Jane Williams: chair@ctie.org.uk.

If you can sing in the choir, brought together to lead the singing in this one event, please email David Williams: admin@ctie.org.uk. Rehearsal information is on the [CTiE 'Upcoming Events' webpage](#).

Beacon Teas

There will be a Beacon Tea in the Church at 3pm on Easter Sunday, 9th April, to which you are all welcome. There will be (cold!) hot cross buns, Simnel Cake, filled rolls, (possibly small chocolate rabbits), and other refreshments as usual. Do come.

It will be the last Beacon Tea in its present form. Attendance has dwindled since last year – only three people for the last one in March – so it seems to have outlived its usefulness and appeal. We shall not entirely vanish but will probably hold just three a year: close to Christmas, Easter, and one in the summer (probably in July). In addition, our present intention is to also have three light and informal lunches during the winter with homemade soup, rolls, cheese, and fruit. The lunches would be held in Church House at 1.00 p.m. on a weekday. But note that our plans are at an early stage just now and are not, unlike the Commandments, engraved in stone.

Mary Gilbert and Elaine Snook

ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION

The Electoral Roll is due to be revised on 21st April 2023 and a notice to this effect has been displayed outside both our churches since 5th April 2023. Please check that your name is entered in the current Roll (at the back of St Martin's), or with me by email (aronson_john@hotmail.com). If you are on the Roll and there have been changes to your address or contact details please inform me or the Parish Office. Your full details can be checked in the office. If you are not a member and would like to join please complete an application form available at the back of St Martin's and hand it in to the Parish Office. The Roll will be closed for any new entries from 20 April 2023 until after the Parish AGM on 7th May 2023.

John Aronson, Electoral Roll Officer.

Knitwear gifts from Epsom College

Sixth-formers from Epsom College's Community Service Unit have been knitting away since the autumn and have produced a beautiful range of hats, scarves and knee blankets, which they have very kindly donated to St Martin's. Up to the Mission and Outreach Committee now to decide how best to distribute these lovely and useful gifts. If you have any thoughts, please do speak to one of us. ***Laurence Impey***



INITIAL REPORT ON CYCLONE RELIEF DONATIONS

12th On Saturday March 2023, Southern Malawi was hit by Tropical Cyclone Freddy which has been recorded as one of the strongest storms to hit the southern hemisphere. The death toll today is well over 500 and expected to rise, due to mudslides, flooding and fallen houses.

The main affected areas were Blantyre City, Blantyre District, Chikwawa, Chiradzulu, Machinga, Mulanje, Neno, Nsanje, Phalombe, Thyolo, Zomba City and Zomba District. At least 500,000 people are displaced. Malawi was already suffering from a prolonged Cholera outbreak and health authorities have warned of an increased cholera risk due to damaged water systems and toilets.



Road from Blantyre to Chilimba. (10 mins from house).

An initial £2,000, (Kwacha 2,478,060) was donated by AMECA, (including personal donations) to The Rotary Club of Limbe, who have made donations to a relief camps identified together with DoDMA (Department of disaster management affairs).

In collaboration with the Blantyre District Health Office, AMECA, on the ground in Blantyre, has been providing direct relief to relief camps in Chilomoni, close to AMECA's home in Namiwawa.

Lumbila Primary School Relief Camp:

Initially, around 150 displaced people were sheltering in the camp, including pregnant mothers, breast-feeding mothers and many children. They had no blankets and were sleeping in classrooms on a stone floor.



Mothers and children room

Chilomoni Health Centre have been sending out a medical team daily, who assess the general health of the displaced community and refer, if required. The team also liaise with the District Health Office and with the local relief camp committees, comprised of a Victims Committee and a Volunteers Committee. The local Police from Chilomoni were also assigned to the camp to ensure security for donated items.



In the pouring rain, we inspected the village, to see some of the devastation to the housing:



The first priority was to purchase blankets, especially for mothers and children; the committees were really efficient and made lists of those who had received blankets and how many were still required. Once the displaced community had enough blankets, the next challenge was to supply strong plastic

sheeting to allow those whose houses were damaged, but still standing, to undertake makeshift repairs, in order to keep dry and therefore be able to return home.



Families with houses still standing were given 10m of plastic sheeting, which enabled 37 families to return to their homes; this relieved a lot of pressure on the relief camp.



The donation of some footballs and skipping ropes absolutely delighted the children and helped them to get outside and play, lessening the effects of trauma from the cyclone. The little boy below, pictured with his mother, was found alive, despite the house falling on him:



Mulunguzi Primary School Relief Camp:

Situated on the other side of Chilomoni, when I visited the Mulunguzi Relief Camp, there were 110 displaced people made up of 39 families. The camp also had two committees, a Red Cross Committee and a Camp Committee. They already had received blankets and some donations. It was estimated that 13 families had suffered total destruction of their houses and would need to remain in the camp for the time being.



At the time of writing, 6 rolls of heavy-duty plastic sheeting were donated, enabling 23 families to return to their homes today. More sheeting will probably be required. Soap and sugar and some footballs were also given to the camp committees.



AMECA is also liaising with Blantyre District Health Office (DHO) to give some support to the relief camps at Chilaweni. The bridge to the village was washed away some weeks ago before the cyclone, which already made access to the Health Centre and Maternity Unit virtually impossible. At one point, even the ambulances could not access the village and patients had to be carried to the tar road. We are currently assessing the needs of 2 camps near the maternity unit and will respond accordingly. The likelihood is that I will travel there with staff from the DHO in the next day or so. There are other camps in the catchment of the health centre, but apparently vehicle access is very tough.

At home in Blantyre, there is nothing to complain about compared to the plight of so many. Power and water have been very patchy; sometimes we have one but not the other, sometimes nothing for a long time. The tar roads are still quite hazardous and a nightmare, with some main roads completely broken or cut off. The mud roads are starting to dry up a little, but driving has been interesting, to say the least!!

Supplies of maize in town are low due to donations to the relief camps and the price of foods has risen sharply. Our main hospital at Queens has been totally overwhelmed; shortages of drugs, doctors and beds. We know that sadly, many people have died simply because there was no capacity to treat them. Medical friends report that they have never experienced trauma on this scale in their medical careers.

Accounting:

£2,000, (Kwacha 2,478,060) was donated by AMECA to The Rotary Club of Limbe.

To date a further £2,380.36 which approximates to Kwacha 2,949,337, has been either pledged or donated from Rotary Club of Epsom and from individuals. This amount and any further donations will be transferred to Malawi in a few days, but this will not affect our ability to utilise funds in the meantime. Anticipated spending will be made to complete any donations to Mulunguzi and then to the relief camps at Chilaweni.

To date an amount of Kwacha 1,007,230 has been spent as follows:

DATE	ITEM	AMOUNT	CAMP	COMMENTS
18/03/23	50 Blankets	0	Lumbila	Donation from Rotary Limbe member
20/03/23	50 Blankets	275,000	Lumbila	A G Aboo, Limbe
20/03/23	4 pks @ 50m Plastic Sheeting	100,000	Lumbila	Plastic sheeting for roofing
20/03/23	100 Plastic spoons	2,990	Lumbila	
20/03/23	100 Plastic plates	0	Lumbila	Donation from RK Plastics
20/03/23	100 Plastic beakers	0	Lumbila	Donation from RK Plastics
21/03/23	6 pks heavy duty plastic rolls	270,000	Lumbila	Rajani Suppliers Blantyre
21/03/23	36 tablets of local soap	8,820	Lumbila	Sana, Blantyre
21/03/23	2 footballs & 4 skipping ropes	32,000	Lumbila	BFB shop, Blantyre
22/03/23	2 footballs & 1 skipping rope	30,500	Mulunguzi	BFB shop, Blantyre
22/03/23	6 pks extra heavy duty plastic rolls	270,000	Mulunguzi	Rajani Suppliers Blantyre
22/03/23	6 packets sugar + 36 soaps	17,920	Mulunguzi	Sana, Blantyre

And finally, a few of the beneficiaries:



Ruthie Markus
23rd March 2023

Carbon Fast for Lent, weeks '6' and '7'.

Yes, I've got a bit behind again. Nevertheless, here are challenges for (the end of) this week, and for Holy Week.

Week 6, 26th March - 1st April: Fast from driving.

The Challenge: Fast from driving this week, especially on regular trips where you can plan ahead. If possible, use public transport, walk or cycle to get to work, church, shopping or other regular activities. Think about how you can combine trips rather than take lots of shorter trips. If you need to use a car for reasons of mobility, getting to work or transporting others, consider offering or sharing lifts.

The Draft Local Plan for Epsom and Ewell that was out for consultation looked at making it easier and more pleasant for people to walk and cycle around the borough.

Week 7, 2nd - 8th April: fast from screens.

- Go outside and pay special attention to the intricacies and beauty of Creation.
- Find alternative activities when on a bus, train, when 'bored' or in the evening.

This might be very easy for some of you, but I think I'll find this one the hardest to remember to keep...!

Best wishes,

Helen Williams

Join The Big One!

On Friday 21st April Christian Climate Action is inviting people from churches to join them at St John's, Waterloo at 11am for worship at noon, led by Christian Aid, TearFund and others, before a pilgrimage to outside Parliament to make a stand for Creation and hoping for change for the future. The Big One is four days of events focussing on climate justice and care for the environment. It has been planned with the police and will be family friendly. Here's a taster of some of the things that CCA and others are planning:

- Friday 21st April is the Day of the [No Faith In Fossil Fuels Service and Pilgrimage](#). We are gathering at St John's Church, Waterloo at 11am, for **worship** at noon led by some of the Christian NGO's mentioned above. This will be followed by a [pilgrimage](#) to the The Big One protest outside Parliament.
- On Saturday 22nd April, we are gathering at the protest at Parliament at 11am, for worship at noon focused on racial and climate justice, led by our friends from Black Majority Churches. There will be a Catholic mass at 3pm.
- On Sunday 23rd April we are gathering at the protest at Parliament at 11am, for worship at noon led by young people whose future is in the balance. There will be an Anglican Eucharist at 3pm.
- On Monday 24th April we are gathering at the protest at Parliament at 11am for worship at noon led by Christian Climate Action looking to the future.
- Each day there will be community and creativity, prayer and song and care for Creation.

Visit <https://christianclimateaction.org/2022/10/22/the-big-one/> for more details. **A group from Epsom will be going up by train on 21st April and we hope you will join us.**

Please contact me (directly if you have my details, or through the church office) for more information.

Best wishes,
Helen Williams

STEWARDSHIP

Giving to St Martin's and St Stephen on the Downs

For general and stewardship giving you can give online via the Charities Aid Foundation. Donations can be either a one-off donation or a regular donation using direct debit. To make a donation either:

1. Click on the following link:
<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/13377>
OR
2. Use your Smart Phone and Scan the QR Code below.



3. You can give cash in Church
(use the collection plate provided)

THE CORONATION

Plans are underway for St Martin's celebrations. These are the details we have to date:

Saturday 6th May Coronation Day

We will show the coronation service in church on the large screens. There will also be children's activities including a procession in fancy dress. Bring your own snacks, but we'll provide tea and coffee and something bubbly to toast the new King & Queen.

Sunday 7th May Coronation Big Lunch

After the 10.00 service is our Annual Church Meeting which will be followed by a Coronation Big Lunch. It will be a 'bring and share' and may include a BBQ. The day will end with a quiet and reflective service of Evening Prayer at 6.30pm.

Monday 8th May The Big Help Out

You may already have plans to take part in a volunteering activity. However, if anyone would like to suggest or organise a St Martin's activity, please let the churchwardens know.



MISSION OF THE MONTH – APRIL

HOME, ABROAD and NATIONAL

For the Month of April we are focusing on all people of Mission and also thinking of the Charities, Societies, Causes and Projects that we support and donate to annually which are divided between those Abroad-Nationally- and Locally.

There are Displays on the Boards at the back of Church and Lists also, to give more information. Please will you hold them in your Prayers. Thank You.

Jill Chapman (Mission)

FOODBANK

We urgently need:

Pulses, Long life fruit juice, Powdered milk, Cooking sauces
Savoury biscuits, Noodles,
Shampoo / conditioner, Ladies deodorant
Shaving gel/foam, Adult toothpaste

Please use our supermarket donation points or bring donations directly to us at Epsom & Ewell Foodbank, Good Company Hub, behind West Ewell Primary School, Ruxley Lane, Ewell KT19 0JG.

We are open for donations Monday - Friday, 9am-2pm.

Please ensure donations are sealed, in date and do not contain alcohol.

Donations can also be made if you prefer by texting any amount between £1 and £20 followed by your chosen amount to 70450. If you wish to donate a larger amount please e-mail us.

foodbank@goodcompany.org.uk

Many thanks for all your support - we really do appreciate it!

Our Donations

The volunteers at the Food Bank were delighted with the boxful of our recent donations, particularly all the bags for life. So thank you! The box needs filling again, so please look at the list below and bring what you can.

Sarah Lutton

St Martin
of Tours



Epsom



St Stephen
on the Downs

Lanalev Vale

Charles Wood St Mark Passion

Good Friday

April 7, 2023

2.00pm

This performance is part of St Martin's Good Friday Liturgy

St Martin's Choir

Ben Thapa -Evangelist

Alastair Wright -Christ

Iain Macfarlane -organ

Richard Dacey -conductor

St Martin's Church, Church Street
Epsom KT17 4PX

music@StMartin's

CONCERT SERIES 2023

Sat 22 April at 4.30pm

DEBRA MORLEY -soprano

Debra has performed as a soprano soloist in opera, oratorio and recital in venues including Cadogan Hall, the Purcell Room and the RAH. She is joined by her husband Graeme Lodge for a selection of her favourite songs and arias.



Sat 27 May at 4.30pm

CHRIS LEE JAZZ QUARTET



Luke Annesley -bass
Joe Pettitt -sax

Chris Lee -piano
Winston Clifford -drums

Shakespeare has been a source of inspiration for countless musicians down the ages: his literary output has inspired not only leading composers in the classical tradition but jazz composers such as Ellington and Shearing. This programme includes 'After Shakespeare', a suite of four pieces for jazz quartet by Chris Lee.

Sat 17 June at 4.30pm

TWILIGHT ENSEMBLE



Celebrating Romantic vocal music from composers of the 19th century, Twilight Ensemble return with a new programme which explores the sonorities and timbres of music from across Europe. From Hungarian, Polish and Spanish dances to Italian folksongs, from virtuosic piano variations of operatic arias to florid battles of coloratura, this programme is full of passion, flair and vitality.

More information at www.stmartinsepsom.org

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, EPSOM KT17 4PX

Registered Charity No 1134149

Admission to the concerts is by donation. You can also use our QR code to support the series at any time.





**MYNYDDISLWYN
MALE CHOIR**



**Mynyddislwyn Male Choir
In Concert**
with Epsom Male Voice Choir
Saturday 29 April 2023
St Martin's Church Epsom at 7:30pm



This promises to be a delightful evening of song with a mixture of male voice classics and popular tunes from the two choirs. Mynyddislwyn Male Choir are from Oakdale in the Welsh valleys and EMVC had great pleasure in singing with them at their Chapel in October last year.

Tickets are available now at £10pp. Here's the link
<https://buytickets.at/epsommalevoicechoir/877039>

Submitting an item for the newsletter:

Please ensure that all items are emailed to the office by 12 noon on Wednesday, to be included in the newsletter for that week. Thank you.

Parish Office:

***Church House, Church Street, Epsom,
KT17 4PX Phone: 01372 722567
E-mail: office@stmartinsepsom.org
Website: www.stmartinsepsom.org***

The Parish Office is open Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Please contact clergy and lay ministers via the office.