



Registered Charity Number: 1134149

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**SUNDAY 6<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2025**  
**LENT 5 / PASSION SUNDAY**



## DIARY

### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April Lent 5 / Passion Sunday**

- 9.30am Holy Communion at Langley Vale Village Hall
- 10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's
- 4.00pm Lent Group in the Headley Room
- 6.30pm Evening Prayer at St Martin's

### **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April**

- 10.00am Holy Communion

### **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April**

- (tea and biscuits from 3.45pm in church)
- Take Time To Talk – preparing for Easter
- Do come and join us.

*Lynne*

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April Palm Sunday**

- 9.30am Morning Prayer at Langley Vale Village Hall
- 10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's
- 4.00pm Lent Group in the Headley Room
- 6.30pm Second Thoughts at St Martin's

### **Second Thoughts**

For Second Thoughts on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm there will be a service of Sung Compline with an introduction to Holy Week. Also included will be a musical reflection from Erin on the harp.

*Adrian Esdaile*

## **HOLY WEEK AND EASTER**

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April Palm Sunday**

- 9.30am Morning Prayer at Langley Vale Village Hall**
- 10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's**
- 4.00pm Lent Group in the Headley Room**
- 6.30pm Second Thoughts at St Martin's**

### **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April**

- 7.30pm Stations of the Cross and Compline**

### **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April**

- 10.00am Holy Communion**

### **Maundy Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April**

- 8.00pm Sung Communion and watch**

### **Good Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April**

- 12-2pm Good Friday readings and prayer**
- 2.00pm Liturgy of the Cross**

### **Holy Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April**

- 8.00pm Easter Vigil service**

### **Easter Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April**

- 8.30am Holy Communion**
- 9.30am Holy Communion at LV Village Hall**
- 10.00am SUNG COMMUNION**
- 6.30pm Choral Evensong**

## **RIP Ann Bailey**

We fondly remember Ann Bailey, a longtime parishioner at St Martin's who passed away peacefully on 7th March 2025. Anne is survived by husband Sidney, children Richard, Howard, Sarah and Deborah as well as nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Ann's life will be celebrated during a service at Randall's Park Crematorium on 8th April 2025 at 11:45am. Please remember Sidney and the whole Bailey family in your prayers at this sad time.

## **St Stephen's Update**

Given repair costs of £100,000, the PCC wishes to explore our options - what is the best way to secure our future ministry and mission in Langley Vale? We will talk with all the stakeholders - diocese, congregation, village hall trustees and the wider community - to discern together the way ahead. This means that the building will remain in its current state longer than we hoped, but we are grateful we can worship in the hall. The Vicar has written a pastoral letter about the situation, which is sent as an e-letter, with printed letters available at St Stephen's on Sunday morning. If you have further questions, please do mail [rob@stmartinsepsom.org](mailto:rob@stmartinsepsom.org).

***Rob Jeffery, Chair of Fabric***

## **PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY**

Please remember in your daily prayers this week:

### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>**

Our Pastoral Assistants: Mary Gilbert and Elaine Snook. Our Area Dean: Rosemary Donovan. Our Missions: Besom Network (based in Epsom). Those living and working in Cedar Close, Cedar Hill, Chalk Lane, Chalk Paddock and Chalk Pit Road.

## **Monday 7<sup>th</sup>**

Our Parish Manager, Church Administrator and Facilities Officer. Those baptised in our churches, past and future, and their families, godparents and sponsors. Swail House and those who are sight impaired. The deaf and hard of hearing. Those living and working in Chantry Hurst, Chartwell Place, Church Road and Church Street.

## **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup>**

Our Parochial Church Council – officers and members. Our Children’s Church: The Ark – Sarah Jeffery, the children, the parents and volunteers. The Mission to Seafarers and Mission Aviation Fellowship. Those living and working in Chuters Grove, Clayton Road, College Avenue and College Road.

## **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>**

Our Organist: Iain Macfarlane. Our Welcomers: Meg Topley and the Team. The physical, mental and emotional well-being of the people of Epsom and Langley Vale, local mental health units and Love Me Love My Mind (Our Missions). Those living and working in Copse Edge Avenue, Delaporte Close, Denham Road and Depot Road.

## **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>**

St Stephen’s Church: its life, worship and mission to Langley Vale. Safeguarding in our churches: creating and sustaining a safe welcoming inclusive space for everyone. The Bible Society, Spinnaker Trust (Our Missions) and all those teaching RE locally. Those living and working in Digidens Rise, Dirdene Close, Dirdene Gardens, Dirdene Grove and Dorking Road.

## **Friday 11<sup>th</sup>**

Our Bell-ringing Team and Tower Captain Mike Bale. Our Ministry Team. All local young families. Those living and working in Downs Avenue, Downs Hill Road, Downs Road and Downs Way.

## **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>**

Our Prayer and Healing Ministry: Contemplative and Centering Prayer. Those who work on our Website, Facebook and YouTube channel. Through the Roof: Wheelchairs for the World (Our Missions) and the Sunnybank Trust (based in Epsom). Those living and working in Downside, East Street and Elmslie Close.

## **STEWARDSHIP – MAKING YOUR DONATION**

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:





## AMECA NEWS MARCH 2025



### [AMECA News March 2025](https://mailchi.mp/8e4ccea35f5f/ameca-news-march-2025?e=78ffce87ce)

Web link is: <https://mailchi.mp/8e4ccea35f5f/ameca-news-march-2025?e=78ffce87ce>

*We dedicate this newsletter to report on the completion of the recent renovations undertaken at Chilomoni Health Centre.*

*With heartfelt gratitude to all those who made this possible. We wish to give a special mention to St George's Hill Golf Club, whose members raised an unprecedented amount of funding on the Captain's Charity Day last June. We also wish to thank Foundation Eagle for their grant funding for solar power, clinical equipment and furnishings for Maternity. Finally we thank The Erach & Roshan Sadri Foundation for their enduring funding support.*

*With deepest gratitude to all those countless individuals who made this possible.*

*From AMECA's Directors in the UK and in Malawi, we thank you for your continuing support and your generosity of spirit.*

*Ruthie Markus, CEO*

## **FOODBANK**

This week we need the following:

Breakfast Cereal

Cooking Sauces

Tinned Fish, Tinned Meat

Tea bags, Instant Coffee - Urgent

Squash - Urgent

Ketchup/Mayonnaise/Brown Sauce

Chocolate Spread - Urgent we have none

Crisps - Urgent we have none

Sugar (500gr)

Custard - Urgent

Tinned Fruit - Urgent

Long life Sponge puddings - Urgent we have none

Savoury Biscuits

Biscuits - Urgent

Chocolate Biscuit Bars

Deodorant (Male/Female) – Urgent, Shower Gel

Adult Toothpaste

Shampoo & Conditioner - Urgent we have none

Sanitary Towels - Urgent we have none

Washing Up Liquid - Urgent



Washing Powder - Urgent

Strong shopper bags and bags for life

## **Sarum College Learning Opportunities**

Cathedral Close, Salisbury

### **Spring 2025 Exploring Theology Schedule**

The Spring 2025 Exploring Theology term begins 29 April

[Register via online booking here](#)

[More about the Exploring Theology programme](#)

### **Living out Christian faith**

Exploring Modern Developments in Theological Conversations

#### **(1) 29 April 2025**

Everyday Faith in Everyday Life:

Spiritual Growth & Faith Development Theory

#### **(2) 6 May 2025**

Disability Theology:

Relationality and Limits as Keys to Living Out Faith

#### **(3) 13 May 2025**

Wonder, Letting Go, and Justice:

The Valley and the Mountaintop

#### **(4) 20 May 2025**

Being Interrupted:

Re-imagining the church's mission from the outside, in.

**(5) 27 May 2025**

Green God: An Introduction to Eco-Theology

**(6) 3 June 2025**

Brit(ish) Public Liberation Theology

**(7) 10 June 2025**

Loving your Enemies:

Exploring Theologies of Conflict, Reconciliation and Forgiveness

**(8) 17 June 2025**

Theologies of death and dying

**(9) 24 June 2025**

Theologies of Social Change through Community Organising

**(10) 1 July 2025**

Theology and Art

## **THE POWER OF POETRY – APRIL**

I was tempted by thoughts of daffodils at this season: perhaps Robert Herrick's '*Fair Daffodils we weep to see you fade away so soon*' or, of course, Wordsworth's famous '*I wandered lonely as a cloud...*'.

This month, however, I have selected a less well-known poem than either of these. It is quite short, and this month I am well within the space limits of the Newsletter. The poem is by Laurie Lee (1914-1997). He is known more for his prose, in particular *Cider with Rosie*, and *As I Walked Out One Midsummer Morning*, which tells

of his journey on foot to London and then to Spain just before the upheaval of the Civil War.

*Cider with Rosie* is an autobiographical account of his childhood in the village of Slad in Gloucestershire, with its descriptions of a way of country life which had endured for a thousand years and is now gone. Much of it sounds delightful, although life for those with little money was sometimes harsh. He was brought up by his mother, siblings and half-sibling, his father having decided not to return to his family after the First World War and who set up home elsewhere. It says something for the education given in the local village school that Laurie Lee became a noted writer and also worked for the Ministry of Information in WW2, and one of his brothers, Jack Lee, became a film director (his films included *A Town Like Alice*, and *The Wooden Horse*).

Poetry was probably his preferred medium, and he published five volumes of poems. This poem, the title of which is apt for this time of year, was written in a rather gloomy London and it was then, in his self-imposed exile from the village, that images appeared in his mind of his childhood home – which he returned to later, buying the cottage in Slad where he had been brought up, and spending a lot of time in his local pub, The Woolpack. (I believe there is a plaque in the pub commemorating him.) It is perhaps true that our childhood memories often become sharper when we are far distant, in time and space, from those scenes, and in *April Rise* this is apparent.

It is a very descriptive piece, and I was struck by his use of colour (lemon-green, soapy green, emerald sun, white water, green hand) as if distance not only had lent enchantment but had clad the

scenes in an intensity of bright hues. A writer in *The Guardian* once wrote that 'He had a nightingale inside him, a capacity for sensuous, lyrical precision'.

*April Rise:*

If ever I saw blessing in the air  
I see it now in this still early day  
Where lemon-green the vaporous morning drips  
Wet sunlight on the powder of my eye.

Blown bubble-film of blue, the sky wraps round  
Weeds of warm light whose every root and rod  
Splutters with soapy green, and all the world  
Sweats with the bead of summer in its bud.

If ever I hear blessing it is there  
Where birds in trees that shoals and shadows are  
Splash with their hidden wings and drops of sound  
Break on my ears their crests of throbbing air.

Pure in the hare the emerald sun dilates,  
The lips of sparrows milk the mossy stones.  
While white as water by the lake a girl  
Swims her green hand among the gathered swans.

Now as the almond burns in smoking wick,  
Dropping small flames to light the candled grass;  
Now as my low blood scales its second chance,  
If ever world were blessed, now it is.

***Mary Gilbert***



# Epsom Good Friday



CHURCHES  
TOGETHER  
in Epsom

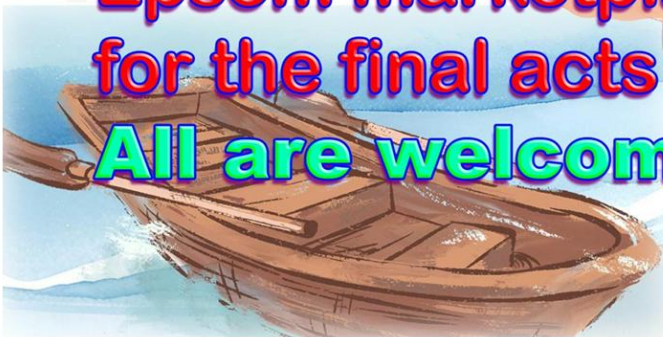
April 18th 2025

Join us 10:30 am in  
Rosebery Park, by  
the pond, as the

## Jesus Drama

unfolds: moving to  
Epsom marketplace  
for the final acts

All are welcome



**Submitting an item for the newsletter:  
Please ensure that all items are emailed to the office marked  
'For Newsletter' in the title by  
12 noon on Wednesday, to be included for that week.**

**Parish Office:**

**The parish office is open from 9.30am – 12.30pm every  
Monday, Wednesday and Friday.  
Church House, Church Street, Epsom,  
KT17 4PX Phone: 01372 722567  
E-mail: [office@stmartinsepsom.org](mailto:office@stmartinsepsom.org)  
Website: [www.stmartinsepsom.org](http://www.stmartinsepsom.org)**

**If you would like to be added to our mailing list so that you  
receive the newsletter and orders of service weekly, please  
email the parish office. Please contact clergy and lay  
ministers via the office.**