

Issue No 17 Sunday 30th April 2017

Events This week

Friday 28th Organ Concert Charlton, details below

Wednesday 3rd Holy Communion Tangley 10 am

Friday 5th Holy Communion Charlton 2.30 pm

Notices from around the Benefice...

Organ Concert at Charlton with Dirk Jan Ranzijn, Friday 28th April, doors open 7 pm, tickets available from Terry 391504 or Alison 333046.

Lego & Duplo bricks required for Messy church. If you are able to help please call Rev Val 01264 748065 thank you

Saturday 8th July At 3.00pm. **Hatherden Concert** with Cellist, **ORLANDO JOPLING**
Tickets are £12.50 includes wine and refreshments after the concert. For tickets contact Rosie Swain 01264 735357 or rosie.swayne@btinternet.com.

Don't forget you can advertise your events here please forward information to Jude at admin@pastrowbenefice.org.uk or call 07999 352585

In your Prayers please pray for.....

Our schools and a safe start to the summer term. We pray especially for those preparing for exams.

Those who are recently bereaved, may God bring them a sense of peace in a time of great sadness.

Our year of prayer, that we may continue to be inspired to say our prayer daily for the growth of our churches.

Community Diary Dates

The Mariposa trust is holding one of its Saying Goodbye services at Winchester Cathedral on 13th May at 10.30 am, for anyone who has either personally lost a baby at any stage of pregnancy, at birth or in early years, or who has been affected by a family members or friends loss.

Monday 3rd July Out of the Ashes, The Lights Andover 7.30 pm – for tickets please contact The Lights or Zoë Cleeton 07775 622449

MAITs Quiz night 13th May, St Michaels Weyhill Rd, for information and tickets email dawn.dearden456@gmail.com or ann.lancaster01@btinternet.com

Readings This Week

Acts 2. 14a 36 – 41 Ps 116 1 – 3, 10 – end
I Pet. 1 17 – 23 Luke 24. 13 - 35

Next Week

Acts 2. 42 – end Ps 23
I Pet. 2. 19 – end John 10. 1 - 10

Words of Encouragement

The main point of the parable of the pearl (Matthew 13:45-6) is that it was worth the finder sacrificing everything else in order to have it; which is clearly intended to point us to the supreme worth of entry into the Kingdom of Heaven as being something worth sacrificing everything else in our lives to obtain.

But this principle also works the other way round and reminds us of our value to God: of how precious we are to *Him*. This is what Holy Week and Easter have been all about: God regarding every human being as so precious that He was willing to give His all ("even unto death upon a cross") that we might be saved into His Kingdom.

And it is because it states that fact so unequivocally that the first few verses of Isaiah chapter 43 form one of my favourite passages in the whole Bible. So if you ever feel down or insignificant or useless, just relax into the everlasting arms of God and hear Him saying to *you*, personally, those words of encouragement:

Fear not, for I have redeemed you. . . I am the Lord your God, . . . your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my eyes; and honoured, and I love you.

Andrew Warner

Notes from Pastrow Admin

Sainsbury tokens end this week so please hand in all those you have collected to help Hatherden & Smannell Schools. Thank you Jude