

Events This week

Friday 17th Holy Communion Weyhill 2.30 pm

Saturday 18th Lent Course Charlton 9 am & The Rectory Enham 9 am

Monday 20th F.O.S.T Tea & Natter Charlton 2.30 pm

Monday 20th Messy Church Hatherden 3 pm

Wednesday 22nd Holy Communion Tangley 10 am

Thursday 23rd Compline Charlton 9.15 pm

Notices from around the Benefice...

Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th Gift Weekend at Weyhill, we are open 10 – noon for coffee and cake if you wish to join us.

Friday 7th April Easter Retreat Day at Penton Park to book your place please contact Judith on 07999 352585 by 28th Feb, spaces are limited.

Tuesday 11th April Messy Church Charlton 10.30 – All welcome, bring the children or grandchildren! Child free? perhaps you can lend a hand to the team helpers always welcome, for further info pls call Karen 07766 945118 or Val 07874 067371

Charlton are looking for a Cleaner and a Building Manager/Bookings Clerk if you can help with either of these roles please contact Terry Milne on 01264 391504

Don't forget we also have lots of events over Holy week, please see the Easter poster for all details

In your Prayers please pray for.....

Those who were commissioned on Tuesday evening, that God brings them a real sense of blessing.

Our Lent courses, that people experience what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

Those suffering for loneliness - may our churches be beacons of hope and fellowship to them.

Community Diary Dates

Passion Play – The High St, Good Friday, also at The Lights Monday 10th April 7.30pm

Andover Saturday Club – 10.30 – 12.30 United Reform Church, pop in for a free taster session or call 01962 857099 for more info

Timebanking Workshop 10.30 – 1 pm Friday 31st March at the Longmeadow Centre

Readings This Week

Exod. 17. 1 – 7

Ps 95

Rom. 5. 1 – 11

John 4. 5 - 42

Next Week

1 Sam. 16 1 – 13

Ps 23

Eph. 5 8 – 14

John Ch 9

Words of Encouragement

We are encouraged by the Diocese to establish a Rule of Life. This involves a number of things. Primarily, it means setting aside a time each day to be with the Lord in Prayer and Bible Reading. The right time for this will depend on our circumstances including the amount of time that we have available. Of course, this will not be effective unless we believe that prayer can change things. Some Christians, sadly, believe that all that prayer does is to change our own attitudes to situations and that praying for other people doesn't make any difference to them! It is best to follow the practice of Jesus who spent much time in prayer, often throughout the night. If it didn't work he would not have done it! We learn from St John's Gospel, Ch. 17, that Jesus prayed for his disciples.

Probably the most natural thing for us to do is to pray for those who are nearest and dearest to us, our family and friends. I have found this to be most effective. So many good things have happened to members of my family. Things that haven't gone well in the past have changed for the better. For instance, one granddaughter who had been living with a boyfriend who didn't turn out to be very nice in a number ways, was sent packing when he revealed that he did not want to have any children. Within a few weeks she had, amazingly found another boyfriend, who seems to have a lovely nature, and who has had a much wider experience of life, having served in Afghanistan and been invalided out of the army, though not with too serious an injury. Already they team up with her sister and boyfriend, who also served in the army and was fortunate enough to come through unscathed. Both of these girls have done well in their careers, indeed far above expectations for their age. These are just two examples of blessings received by members of my family. It could be the same for you. So pray in faith and I am sure that God will bless you.

John Loxton.

Notes from Pastrow Admin

Please contact me on 07999 352585 or admin@pastrowbenefice.org.uk if you have anything you wish to add to the grapevine.