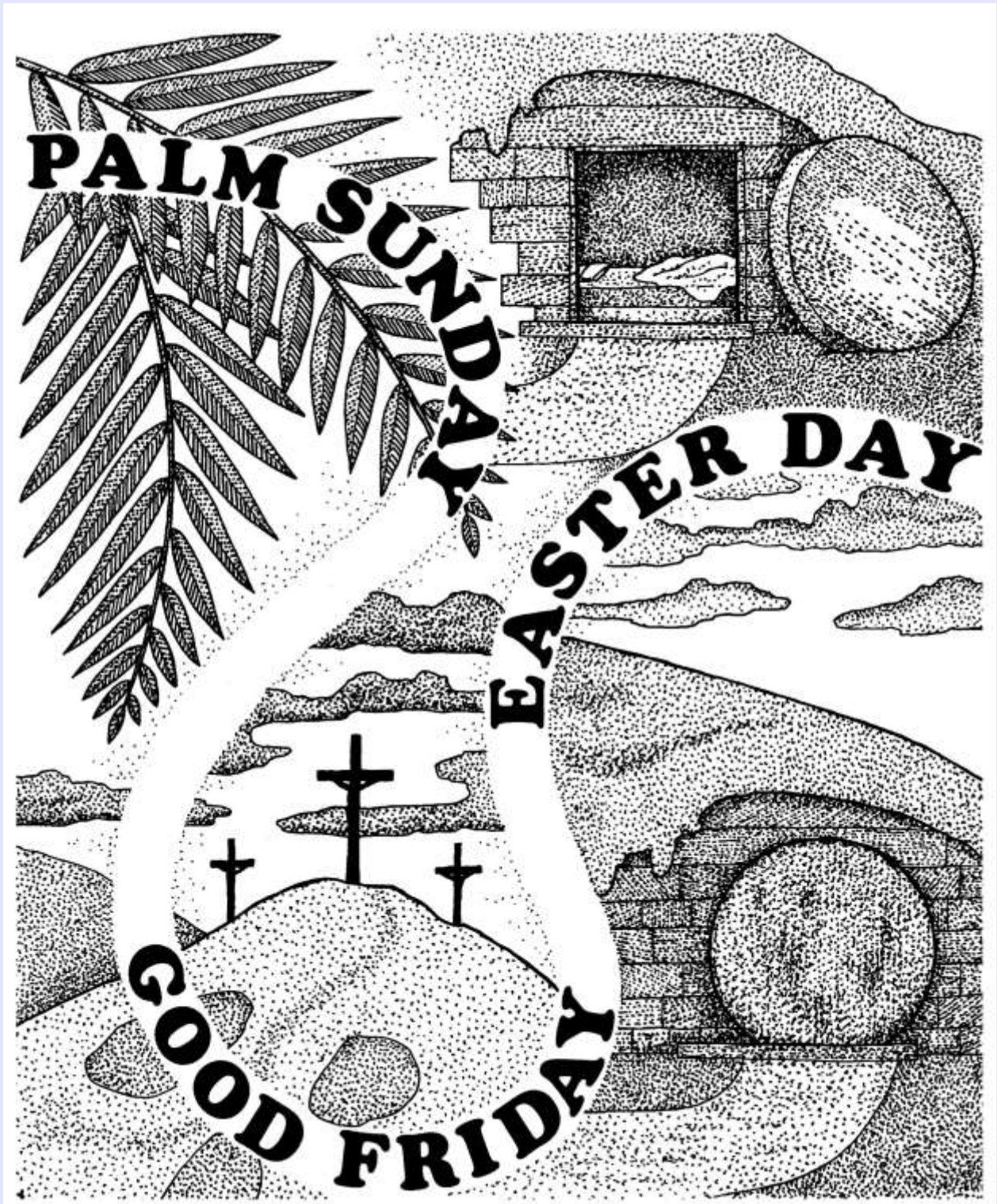


All Saints' Croxley Green

Parish Magazine

March 2024





All Saints' Croxley Green

Sunday Worship in Church

8am Holy Communion BCP
(Second Sunday of the Month)

9.45am Parish Communion

12-12.45pm Family Service
(First Sunday of the Month)

Weekdays

Morning Prayers 8am in Church
Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Thursday 9.30am Holy Communion

The Church is Open Daily for private prayer and meditation.

The Parish Office is open for enquiries from 9am to 12 noon, Tuesday to Friday. Answerphone available outside these hours. Tel: 772109

Parish Administrator: Judith Man

Website: www.croxleygreenallsaints.org

Email: office@croxleygreenallsaints.org

Magazine

magazine@croxleygreenallsaints.org

Vicar:

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The Vicarage WD3 3HJ Tel: 772109

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Assistant Curate:

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Churchwardens

Lyndon Palmer Tel: 720856

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Assistant Churchwardens:

Ann Palmer Tel: 720856

Sacristan:

Chris Oke Tel: 220782

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Chris Fagan Tel: 720319

Parochial Church Council:

Secretary: Chris Fagan

Tel: 720319

Treasurer: Andrew Nobbs

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Hall hire email;

hall@croxleygreenallsaints.org



March 2024

Revd. Canon Miriam writes:

Dear Friends,

So here we are, halfway through Lent already (or even further on depending on when you are reading this magazine). I wonder how your Lent journey is going? Has it fallen by the wayside like good intentioned New Year resolutions, or are you really feeling the pinch with regard to keeping your Lenten discipline of not eating cake (or whatever you have given up), or keeping a set time apart each day to read and pray? Our journey through Lent is not meant to be easy. Lent calls us to Reflect on deepening our relationship with God, Renew our commitment to living out our faith in our daily lives, Repent of the wrongs that we have done against God and other people and resolve to do better, Receive God's forgiveness and Rejoice in the depth of love that he has for each and every one of us. A love that Reveals itself on the cross and through the amazing Resurrection of Jesus. In many respects Lent points us to a solitary journey but being a Christian is not something we can do alone. The early church points to the importance of the community of believers who worship together, pray together, grow together and journey together. This Lent and Holy Week we really want to encourage everyone to recognise the importance of being a part of the worshipping community at All Saints' and supporting one another as we journey and grow spiritually as a church. At the start of Lent we introduced the Prayer Buddy scheme. Please remember to not only pray for your prayer buddy each day but to check in with them when you see them in Church to see how they are getting on with their Lenten journey and also share where you are too. When we can share how God is working in our lives (or even when we feel God is absent) we enable the work of the Holy Spirit to touch us all in ways that are unexpected and powerful. Not only that, we find encouragement from each other, we become more open and aware of God at work in ourselves and in others and it draws us closer together as individuals and as a community.

The journey through Lent is both spiritually and emotionally charged and we experience this especially during Holy Week. Journeying together through the highs and lows of the last few days of Jesus' earthly ministry brings with it an amazing sense of unity, love and support which overflows in joyfulness as we celebrate Jesus' Resurrection on Easter Sunday so I really want to encourage you to participate as much as you can in the different services and activities during Holy Week. It will have such an amazing impact on you personally and spiritually and I would not want you to miss out on this.

Holy Week starts on Palm Sunday 24th March. At our 9.45am service of Holy Communion we will remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, the joy of the crowds as they shouted and rejoiced at the arrival of Jesus waving palm branches and laying down their coats. We will all receive a Palm Cross and, weather permitting, process outside the Church. In the evening, at 6pm, the choir, along with the choir of St Paul's Church Chipperfield, will lead us in the Cross of Christ Service. This service of beautiful music and traditional Passiontide hymns provides an opportunity for reflective worship as we prepare ourselves for the week ahead.

Journeying with Jesus through Holy Week is not simply about being an onlooker, it is about engaging with the events in a personal and spiritual way and each day during Holy Week there will be a service to assist you in this.

On Monday 25th March, at 7.30pm, there will be a short reflective service in Church which will focus on healing and reconciliation. There will be an opportunity for people to receive the laying on of hands and prayers for healing at this service.

On Tuesday 26th March, at 7.30pm, we gather in Church for our Holy Week meal. Picking up lots of the elements of a Passover Meal, this time of fellowship and worship enables us to gain greater understanding of the words used by Jesus which feature in our services of Holy Communion: 'Jesus blessed you Father for the food...he took bread, blessed it... and gave it to his disciples saying "Take, eat. This is my body given for you" after blessing the cup of wine he shared it with his disciples saying " Drink this all of you... this is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you all...drink this to remember me..."' The meal is a joyful event as Passover Meals are

so it is a fun evening with lovely food. There will be a sign-up sheet in Church nearer the time if you are able to come.

On Wednesday 27th March, at 7.30pm, there will be a short reflective service in Church which will focus on anointing, remembering how Jesus himself was anointed by a woman. There will be an opportunity for people to receive the sacrament of anointing if they wish.

On Maundy Thursday 28th March, there is a service at St Albans Cathedral at 11am where Readers and clergy from across the Diocese attend to renew the promises that they made at their licensing/ordination. The Bishop will also bless the Holy Oils to be used in churches across the diocese for anointing those newly baptised, confirmed, the sick and the dying. This service is open to everyone, and each church is encouraged to take along people from their congregation. It is a beautiful, uplifting service and I encourage you to come along. There will be a sheet out nearer the time so that we can arrange lifts.

In the evening, at 7.30pm, we have our service of Holy Communion with the washing of feet and vigil. For this service the Altar is placed in the nave with the congregation sitting round it to bring to the fore the intimacy of the last meal that Jesus had with his disciples before his arrest. We remember Jesus, kneeling down and washing his disciples' feet. Paul and I will wash the feet of those present who would like this. (For those who feel uncomfortable there will also be an opportunity to receive this gift of love through having their hands washed instead). After Communion, the Altars are stripped and all colour removed from the Church. At the end of the service the choir lead us (in a non-formal way!) singing the Taizé chant 'Stay here, remain here with me, watch and pray' to the part of the Church that has been set up as a garden (to represent Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane) where we can sit and keep vigil for as long as we wish. The vigil ends at 10pm. This is a deeply meaningful and deeply moving service, I do hope that you will be able to join us.

Good Friday starts with the Ecumenical Walk of Witness. Beginning at 9.30am outside the computer shop in Watford Road (opposite the Co-op) we walk through the village with stops on the way for readings, short reflections and hymns finishing at the Methodist Church for Hot Cross buns. This is a lovely opportunity to stand side

by side with or fellow sisters and brothers in Christ from the churches of Croxley Green as our Christian witness to the Croxley Green community.

In the afternoon, at 1.30pm, we will have a series of reflections in Church written by Archbishop Steven Cottrell called The Nail. Unlike recent years, these reflections will take place in the Nave of the Church and there will be no walking or prayer stations. The reflections focus on the individuals involved in the crucifixion of Jesus as they argue their case for not being the one to blame for Jesus being crucified. I do hope that you can join us for this.

Saturday takes us to Easter Eve and another vigil. This time there is a sense of expectation as we listen to Bible readings, sing Taizé chants and light candles to reflect Jesus rising from the dead, his light coming back into the world. It is a service that starts reflectively and moves into joyfulness as we proclaim 'Alleluia, Christ is Risen!' We journey to the font, a symbol of New Life (lighting candles on the way), where we renew our baptism vows and, with the sprinkling of water that has been blessed- we rejoice! Lent is over! Jesus is Risen!

Easter Sunday is our great celebration of Jesus rising from the dead. The 9.45am is a joyous service as we celebrate Jesus' victory over death, He has risen, Alleluia!

After the service we have our traditional Easter Egg Hunt in the Church garden.

With my love and prayers as you journey through Lent and celebrate Easter,

Miriam



A Prayer for Easter **written by the Revd. Michaela Youngson**

When everything was dark
and it seemed that the sun would never shine again,
your love broke through.

Your love was too strong,
too wide,
too deep
for death to hold.

The sparks cast by your love
dance and spread
and burst forth
with resurrection light.

Gracious God,
We praise you for the light of new life
made possible through Jesus.
We praise you for the light of new life
that shone on the first witnesses of resurrection.
We praise you for the light of new life
that continues to shine in our hearts today.

We pray that the Easter light of life, hope and joy,
will live in us each day;
and that we will be bearers of that light
into the lives of others.

Amen.

Holy Week Services

Sunday 24th March	9.45am	Palm Sunday Service
	6pm	Cross of Christ Service
Monday 25th March	7.30pm	Reflection in Church
Tuesday 26th March	7.30pm	Holy Week Meal
Wednesday 27th March	7.30pm	Reflection in Church
Thursday 28th March	7.30pm	Holy Communion with the washing of feet and Vigil
Friday 29th March	9.30am	Ecumenical Walk of Witness
	1.30pm	Reflections in Church
Saturday 30th March	7.30pm	Easter Eve Vigil

Please see Miriam's letter for more details about each of these services.

Anyone wishing to join the Choir to sing 'The Cross of Christ' for the Palm Sunday evening service is most welcome.

Choir practise has been arranged for 11th March and 18th March at 7.30pm.

Please contact Anne Oke if you need further information.



Parish Register and Records

FUNERALS

19th February 2024 Jack Horace DELL aged 93 years.

BURIAL OF ASHES

9th February 2024 John Stanley PHILPOTT

17th February 2024 Joanna (Jo) Louise STERK



March Readings

Sunday 3rd March John 2 v 13-22
Third Sunday of Lent

Sunday 10th March John 3 v 14-21
Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sunday 17th March John 12 v 20-33
Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sunday 24th March Mark 14 v 1-end of 15
Palm Sunday

Sunday 31st March Mark 16 v 1-8
Easter Day





Sunday Coffee Charity

UNICEF in the UK

The United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF (UNICEF UK) is a UK registered charity that raises funds for UNICEF's emergency and development work around the world and advocates for lasting change for children worldwide. This includes, for example, working to change UK Government policies and practices that are harmful to child rights in the UK and internationally. UNICEF UK is one of 33 UNICEF national charitable organisations based in industrialised countries.

In the UK, UNICEF UK works with the hospitals where children are born, the schools where children learn and grow, and the services that shape their lives, to make sure that every child has the same chance to shine.

In 2020, they helped nine out of 10 maternity units across the UK, supporting around 600,000 new babies as they enter the world. Around 1.5 million children go to schools that are becoming Rights Respecting, building an environment where every child is safe, respected and nurtured. And they are working with local governments in all four nations of the UK to help make our cities and communities places where all children, especially the most vulnerable, feel safe, heard, nurtured and able to flourish.

All over the world, including here in the UK, UNICEF promotes and protects the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. UNICEF works with partners and supporters to raise funds, promote children's voices and create lasting change for children.





Trek 13 Fundraiser for Alzheimer's Society



I saw an advert for the Trek26 event online and, after looking into it, I decided to enter. As Mum was diagnosed with Alzheimer's a number of years ago, I wanted to raise some money to support the charity which had helped support us through their information, leaflets and their helpline. Walking 26 miles or 13 were the options, so I thought that 13 would be a suitable target for the first walk. Events will take place across the country: Stonehenge, North York Moors, Lake District, Brecon Beacons, South Devon Coast, London and others – London seemed the sensible option, so I signed up. A friend is going to do it with me; she is walking for her mother-in-law who has dementia, so we will keep each other going.

The walk is on Saturday 18th May, through the centre of London. We start in Lambeth, walk along past Battersea Power Station, across the Thames, past the Tower of London, Somerset House, Royal Festival Hall, through Westminster, along The Mall, to Victoria, back across the Thames to Battersea Power Station and back to the starting point. It looks like an interesting route with lots to see as we walk. There are drink stops along the route, and snacks, and of course a medal at the finish line! Hopefully the weather will be kind to us and it will be an enjoyable day. It sounds like the atmosphere will be amazing and that will help us complete the walk.

If you would like to sponsor me, I will be setting up a Go Fund Me page (details to follow) but if you would prefer to give a cash donation please give it to me, Miriam or to the office in an envelope with my name and your name so that I can thank you. I know that the Alzheimer's Society will be very grateful for every penny we raise and it will continue their amazing work supporting others in similar situations. It really is vital and makes such a difference knowing someone is there for you at a really difficult time.

Many thanks for your support, and I look forward to sharing my medal with you!

Janet Martin

Social and Fundraising Committee Diary

Quiz Night Friday 19th April

The All Saints' Quiz Night is back!

Hosted by Ben Guest, we will be having a Quiz Night on Friday 19th April at 7.30pm in the Church.

Tickets will cost £12.00 each, with food included, alongside a donations bar and a raffle.

Tickets will be available to buy soon but please put this date in your diary for a fun filled evening.

Ann Palmer



World Day of Prayer Friday 1st March 2pm at The Baptist Church Croxley Green

All the churches in Croxley Green will be gathering together for this World Day of Prayer. This is a great opportunity for all people everywhere to join together and have a time of prayer and reflection linking with people throughout the world.

Please come and join us at the Baptist Church at 2pm for this service, followed by refreshments, as we hear stories, sing praises and unite in prayer for just and harmonious solutions that would bring an end to human suffering and achieve security and peace for all people around the world.



For further information and resources, together with details of services in your area, see the WDP website: wwdp.org.uk

Coffee with a Cop

Once a month, at Friday Café, the local PCSOs have arranged to come and join us for a coffee and cake and are available for us to raise any issues we have and to get to know them. They often bring puzzles and quizzes to tax our brains and make us think too.

The following dates are when they will be available at Friday Café, but they may pop in on other Fridays if they are available:

Friday 15th March

Friday 12th April



Do come along and join us for a coffee and a chat.

Musings on life...

I'm taking care of my procrastination issues. Just you wait and see.

I hate it when I see an old person, and then realize we went to school together.

My boss calls me 'The Computer'. Nothing to do with intelligence; I go to sleep if left unattended for 15 minutes.

Parish Pump

March Prayer Diary

Date	In our Church Family
1st	Derek Wakefield
2nd	Katie, Martin and Scott Wakefield
3rd	Mary Wong
4th	Michael Adam
5th	Shirley Barnes
6th	Jane Bates
7th	Sam Beard
8th	Nik and Fran Bennett
9th	Mary Bittles
10th	Shelagh and Tony Booth
11th	Rae Bowyer
12th	Ben, Michelle, Sanna and Sophie Brogden
13th	Kelly Buckle
14th	Alick and Hazel Burge
15th	Carole Chesterfield

16th	Brian and Jennifer Clemow
17th	Maureen Cliff
18th	Jane Colbourne
19th	Anne and David Dougans
20th	Kathryn and Jemima Duffy
21st	Pamela Evans
22nd	Chris Fagan
23rd	Shirley Ford
24th	Pat Foster
25th	Janet Francis
26th	Sylvia Furzey
27th	John Galloway
28th	Simon, Tracy, Ian and Charles Galloway
29th	Sarah Gardner
30th	Liz Gowshall
31st	Ben, Sarah, Abbie and Joshua Guest



Christian Aid - Fundraising Event

Arts Cafe Saturday 20th April 11am - 4pm

Croxley Green's Christian Aid Committee, on which Fran Bennett and Anne Oke are your representatives, is holding an Arts Cafe at St Oswald's Church and Hall. There will be a Cafe, children's activities, local arts and crafts displays and live music. All Saints' Church was unable to support the first event held last year, but we do hope that you will come along to enjoy this day and help raise funds for Christian Aid which is working to support people of all faiths and none, in areas of desperate need in our world. Thank you.



ARTS CAFE

Saturday 20th April 11am to 4pm
St Oswald's Church & Hall, Malvern Way
Café, children's activities, arts & crafts displays & live music



christian aid We believe in life before death

Church Electoral Roll Revision

The annual revision of the Church Electoral Roll will be made during the week of Monday 1st to Friday 5th April in preparation for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) on Sunday 28th April 2024, following the morning service.

If you are a lay person, baptised, are aged 16 years or older and resident in the Parish or, if not resident, you attend services at All Saints', you are eligible to be on the electoral roll as a lay member.

Existing members will remain on the roll unless they signify their wish to withdraw. Application forms for enrolment with an information pack will be available in the church and the Parish Office from Sunday 10th March onwards or can be obtained from me (contact details below).

Being on the electoral roll is important as it signifies a commitment to membership of All Saints' and enables you to vote for the election of members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and the Deanery Synod at the APCM and also to stand for election yourself. The PCC works with the Vicar to serve and run the Parish; it appoints committees and groups to manage particular areas such as worship, buildings and social and fundraising activities.

If you wish to be included on the electoral roll, please complete a form which you will find in a pack at the back of the Church or obtain from the office. Please place your completed form in a sealed envelope or hand it to Revd. Miriam, to me or to Judith in the Parish Office on or before Thursday 28th March (Maundy Thursday).

The revised list of those enrolled on the electoral roll will be available for your perusal at the back of the Church for two weeks commencing on Saturday 6th April, prior to the APCM.

If you require further information or have any questions please contact me.

Chris Fagan, Electoral Roll Officer, tel: 01923 720319

Email: bardwell28@virginmedia.com

Love and serve one another

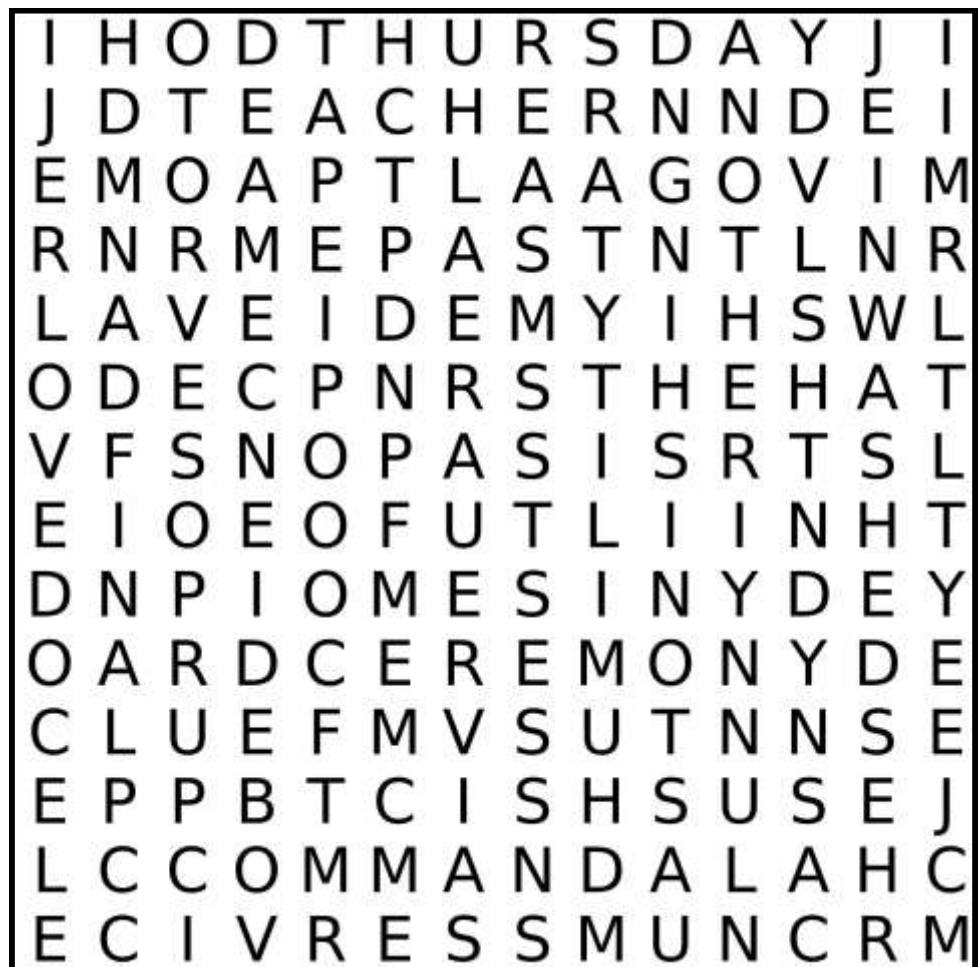
Wordsearch

From Parish Pump

On Maundy Thursday we recall the final command that Jesus gave to His disciples before His death. After the Last Supper, He rose and washed His disciples' feet. This was astonishing for a 'teacher' to do, but He had a firm purpose in mind: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." His disciples were to love through service, not domination, of one another.

Maundy
Thursday
Final
Command
Jesus
Disciples
Death
Last
Supper
Washed
Feet
Astonishing
Purpose
Teacher
As
Loved
you
Must
One
Another
Service
Domination
Latin
Ceremony
Medieval
Humility
Obedience

In Latin, the opening phrase of this sentence is 'mandatum novum do vobis'. The word 'mundy' is thus a corruption of the Latin 'mandatum' (or command). The 'washing of the feet' ceremony was an important part of the medieval church's liturgy, symbolising the humility of the clergy, in obedience to the example of Christ.



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SATURDAY 9TH MARCH, 11AM - 3PM

Meet at Weston Wood, WD3 3AT, to embark on a litter picking journey around the woods, canal and Croxley Common Moor.

TUESDAY 12TH MARCH, 11AM - 4.30PM

Meeting at the Parish Council Offices for an adventure around our public footpaths and boundry.

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01923 710250 WWW.CROXLEYGREEN-PC.GOV.UK @CROXLEYGREENPC



9th March Savio the youngster who found God

A number of years ago the hit film *Slumdog Millionaire* touched millions of people with its story of a youngster triumphing against all the odds. Dominic Savio did the same thing. In fact, he is a good patron ‘child saint’ for children today who

struggle to get anywhere in life.

Savio (1842 – 57) was born into a poor family in Riva, near Turin. There were 10 children. The father was a blacksmith, the mother a seamstress. Somehow, they managed school fees, and when Dominic was 12, he was sent to the famous school of John Bosco at Turin.

A strict Roman Catholic school wasn’t exactly the set for ‘Who wants to be a Millionaire’, but Savio loved it. He responded with enthusiasm to the wise and moderate spiritual guidance of Bosco, and began to grow. He was soon widely loved for his cheerfulness and friendliness to all. He was respected by fellow students for his mature, sound advice. Behind it all lay the key: Savio had discovered God for himself, and had responded with all his heart: one story of him tells how he was rapt in prayer for six hours continuously.

Sadly, Dominic Savio contracted tuberculosis. He accepted his disease with dignity and composure. He did not fear death – his deep and radiant faith assured him that something far better lay beyond.

Savio died aged only 15. He had never been a millionaire; his riches lay in his faith in Jesus Christ. The memory of this lovable lad lived on, so deeply had he touched the hearts of the people who knew him. Over 100 years later he was still remembered – and made a saint by the Roman Catholic Church.

Parish Pump

The Gardener

Spring's a time for planting in the warming earth
Seeds and saplings growing at this time of birth.
Carefully we tend them, pulling out each weed
Watering and weeding every plant and seed.

Yet we are just helpers – nothing done alone
For without our Father, nothing will be grown;
He's the Creator, He alone can bring
Growth into our gardens each succeeding spring.

Let us praise our Maker who makes life appear,
Praise Him in the springtime, and throughout the year;
Praise Him for all nature – ev'ry tree and flower
Gaze upon the garden, praise Him every hour!

God the gracious gardener cares for more than plants
As to us, His children every breath He grants.
He that for salvation gave His only Son,
Do not fail to praise Him for all that he's done.

By Nigel Beeton





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Observations for Lent *from Parish Pump*

People are like tea bags – you have to put them in hot water before you know how strong they are. – *Anon*

God only asks you to do your best. – *Robert H Benson*

If you're headed in the wrong direction, God allows U-turns. – *Anon*

Smile Lines *from Parish Pump*

Mother's reward

A man was decorating his new den and decided it was a good place to display all the awards he and his two sons had won at various athletic competitions. When he had filled two whole walls, he remarked to his wife that it was a shame she had no awards to contribute.

The following day, she produced, neatly framed, the birth certificates of their two sons, and added them to the display.

Missing socks in your life

What does it mean when all the socks in your laundry match, with none left over?

You're now losing them in pairs!

Expensive boat

A vicar was planning an Easter pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and was aghast when he found it would cost him £50 an hour to rent a boat on the Sea of Galilee. He protested to the travel agent that the cost was ridiculous. "That might be true," replied the travel agent, "but you have to take into account that the Sea of Galilee is water on which our Lord himself walked."

"Well, at £50 an hour for a boat, I am not surprised!"



SAINT OSWALD'S HOLIDAY CLUB

**"HOLD THE
FRONT PAGE"**

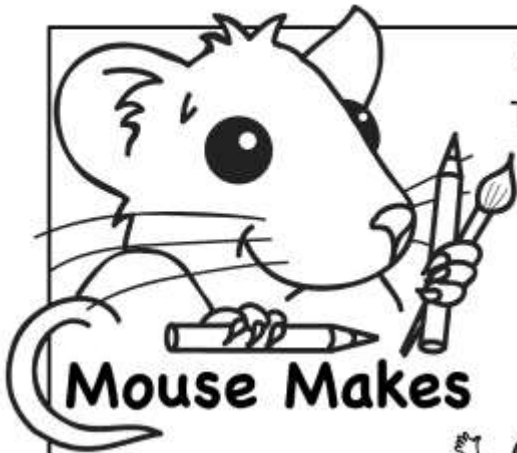
**Wed- Fri
24 - 26 July
9.30 - 3.00**

**For
children
from
Reception
to
Year 6**

**at Saint
Oswald's
Church**



SAVE THE DATE!



"I am the resurrection and the life.
The one who believes in me will live
even though they die."

John 1:25



READ the Bible
passages to find
the answers to the
crossword clues

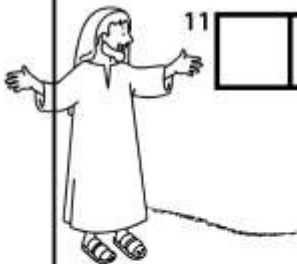
Matthew 21:1-11

1. Which city did Jesus ride into?
2. What did he ride on?
3. What did the crowd shout?
4. What did clothes did they put down?
7. What did they cut down to spread on the road?



Matthew 26:17-29

15. What feast did Jesus celebrate?
12. Who did he celebrate it with?
11. What did Jesus break to eat?



Matthew 27:27-61

17. What was Jesus' crown made of?
9. What was Jesus crucified on?
14. Who's tomb was Jesus buried in?
13. What did they wrap Jesus' body in?
16. What did they roll in front of the tomb?

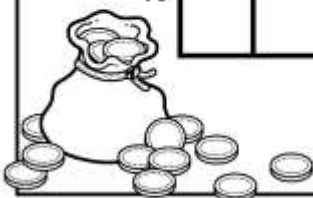
Matthew 26:36-75

6. What did Jesus go to do at Gethsemane?
18. Who denied Jesus?



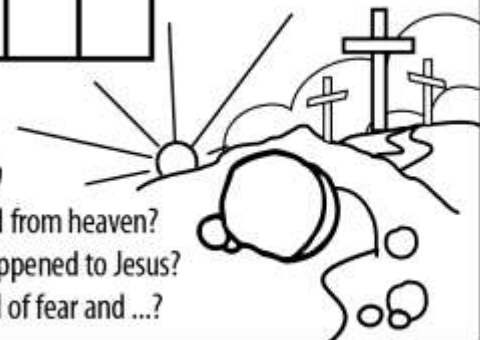
Matthew 26:14-16

- 8d. Who betrayed Jesus?
10. How many silver pieces was he paid?



Matthew 28:1-10

5. Who descended from heaven?
19. What had happened to Jesus?
- 8a. Mary was full of fear and ...?



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Let's Talk About Mental Health

A series of 'drop-ins' about Mental Health has been organised by Ruth Owusu-Ansah (Parish Nurse). We meet in the Committee Room at All Saints' Church Hall from 12.30 to 2pm. Refreshments are served.

Friday 22nd March

Anxiety and Stress

Friday 26th April

Bipolar Disorder


Friday 24th May

Self Harm


Friday 28th June

Mental Health First Aid

Please come along and join us if you can.



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Please e-mail contributions to magazine@croxleygreenallsaints.org by the copy dates below. If you have any queries, please contact one of the team above. Thank you.

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We encourage articles from a wide range of contributors and the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editors.

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