

Sunday Zone



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Outreach



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Cause of the Month

PILGRIM POST

Journal of the Parish
of St Martin and St Paul

TeaTime



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Jesus. [2 Timothy 2:3]

Worship



St George



50p

April 2024

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Welcome to Pilgrim Post
the Journal of the
Parish of St Martin and St Paul.
Canterbury



Our Parish Vision:

We are called to worship God in Jesus Christ and to make Christ known in our community.

We do not have all the answers. We are on a spiritual journey.

We look to scripture, reason and tradition to help us on our way.

Whoever you are, we offer a space for you to draw nearer to God and walk with us.

Sharing the Journey of the Christian Gospel

	See page 5		Induction Loop
	www.martinpaul.org		Live Streaming
	Parish Magazine - pilgrimpost@martinpaul.org		
	MartinPaulChurches		

INTERREGNUM PARISH MINISTRY

For all enquiries about **Baptisms, Weddings** please contact the **Curate** on **01227 504561** or e-mail: curate@martinpaul.org

Arranging **Funerals**: In the first instance please contact **Mary Butcher** (Ministry Team) on **01227 764200** or e-mail: lgbbutcher@aol.com

The **Parish Office** is in the Parish Centre, Church Street St. Paul's, Canterbury CT1 1NH and is open 10:00 am - 12 noon Monday - Friday.

Please call **01227 768072** and listen to the options to contact our **Parish Administrators or Clergy** whose e-mail details are on page 3.

For **Hall and Church Bookings** - Please contact the **Parish Office** on **01227 768072** or e-mail: office@martinpaul.org

Special Request Prayers Please contact us:

Gwyneth Hartwell 01227 451366 or Doreen Laven 760372
 or on the website at www.martinpaul.org/prayers

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Pilgrim Post

[Published by the PCC]

We welcome items from individuals and church or local community organisations. All items submitted should include a contributor's name please.

The editor may have to edit material submitted. Items on church matters do not necessarily represent the official position of the Church of England.

Advertising

Do please support those who advertise with us and mention that you saw their advertisement in our magazine.

Anyone wishing to advertise should contact the Parish Office.

01227 768072

e-mail: office@martinpaul.org

The Parochial Church Council does not necessarily endorse the products and services advertised.

WORKING TOGETHER IN MINISTRY

Telephone code 01227 unless otherwise indicated

Rector: Vacancy [Interregnum]

Assistant Curate (SSM): **The Revd. Charlotte Sleigh** 768072
curate@martinpaul.org (Option 3)

Readers: **Mary Butcher** lgbbutcher@aol.com 764200

Samuel Keeler-Walker sjkw03@gmail.com 07402 200223

Christopher Robinson sir@cjrobinson.co.uk 07584 355001

Dr. Rosemary Walters ra.walters@btinternet.com 768891

Churchwardens:

St Martin's: **David Stuart** 785900

Christine Robinson (Mobile) 07754 517458

St. Paul's **Michael Keeler-Walker** 720121

Jo Luck (Mobile) 07759 013465

Deputy Warden: **Monica Walling** 787564

PCC Officers:

Chairman: **Christopher Robinson** 07584 355001

Secretary: **Christine Page** office@martinpaul.org 768072

Treasurer: **Gordon Craig** 452428

Church Music:

Organists: **Christopher Gower (St Martin's)** 784422

David Rees-Williams (St Paul's) 07720 742193

Choir Director: **Dom del Nevo** 07753 336648
domdelnevo@gmail.com

Administration:

Parish Centre Premises Supervisor: **Mrs Jackie Curd** 452131

Parish Office (See page 1) office@martinpaul.org 768072

Parish Administrators: **Mrs Chris Page and Mrs Sylvia del Nevo**

Parish Magazine: **Revd. Clive Barlow [Editor]** 784779
pilgrimpost@martinpaul.org

Safeguarding Issues: **Lydia Newington** 768072 (Option 4)

Tourism Manager (St Martin's) **Jessica Morris** 768072
visits@martinpaul.org (Option 5)

PARISH OFFICERS AND ORGANISATIONS

Contact telephone numbers can be obtained from the
Parish Office **01227 768072** or e-mail: office@martinpaul.org

Parish Office opening Hours are on Page 1

Archivist	Brian Hogben
Bellringers	Sam Keeler-Walker
Christian Aid Week Co-ordinator	Rosemary Walters (<i>See page 3</i>)
Church Library	Rosemary Walters (<i>See page 3</i>)
Christians Together in Canterbury	David Hartwell
Deanery Synod	Rosemary Walters (<i>See page 3</i>)
Eco-Church Co-ordinator	Revd. Sue White
Electoral Roll Officer	Janet Robertson
Flower Arrangers (St Martin's)	Doreen Laven (<i>See page 1</i>)
Flower Arrangers (St Paul's)	Ros Newington
Friends of St. Martin's (Secretary)	Sylvia Gower
Fisherfolk (Parents and Toddlers)	Jackie Curd (<i>see page 3</i>)
'Hangouts' Youth Activity	Sue Spillett
Lifelong Learning Group	Rosemary Walters (<i>See page 3</i>)
Messy Church Events	Christopher Robinson (<i>See page 3</i>)
Mothers' Union (Branch Leader)	Sue Spillett
Outreach Giving Group	(To be determined)
Parish Care 'Bethany' Group	Judith Griffiths
Parish Safeguarding (Children)	Lydia Newington (<i>See page 3</i>)
Parish Safeguarding (Adults)	Monica Walling (<i>See page 3</i>)
Parish Magazine (Editor)	Revd. Clive Barlow (<i>See page 3</i>)
Parish Magazine (Advertising / Circulation)	Parish Office
Quiet Prayers (St Martin's)	Judith Dimond
Servers Rota	Val Taylor
Social Committee Co-ordinator	Jackie Curd
Stewardship Gift Aid Recorder	Richard Llewellyn
Sunday Children's Work Supervisor	Ruth Baker
Senior Visitor Host (St Martin's)	Jessica Morris (<i>See page 3</i>)
The Children's Society	Gwyneth Hartwell (<i>See page 1</i>)


Welcome to Worship

at St Martin's Church, North Holmes Road CT1 1PW
and St Paul's Church, Church Street St Paul's CT1 1NH

SUNDAY SERVICES - APRIL

See Magazine Diary pages 13 - 16

Download our Sunday Service / Newsletter from our Website
www.martinpaul.org

- 9:00 am St Martin's - Holy Communion (*Sung on Sun: 3rd and 31st*)
10:30 am St Paul's - Parish Eucharist with Sunday Zone (*see diary*)
 on our YouTube channel (*see Parish Website for link*)

MONTHLY SERVICES

- 3:30 pm St Paul's@TeaTime - Family Service (*Sunday 14th*)
5:00 pm St Paul's - Choral Evensong and Supper (*not this month*)
5:00 pm St Martin's - Quiet Prayers (*Sunday 28th*)

OTHER SERVICES / WORSHIP ACTIVITY

- 2:30 pm Messy Church – Spring Lane Neighbourhood Centre
(*To be advised*)

DURING THE WEEK

- 8:30 am CCU Chapel - Morning Prayer - Monday (*see page 6*)
9:15 am St Paul's - Morning Prayer - Tuesday and Friday
10:30 am St Paul's - Communion (BCP) - Wednesday (*Coffee in church afterwards*)
12 noon St Martin's - Midday Prayers - Thursday
8:40 pm Compline - Thursday (*on Zoom*)



Induction Loop Facility
This is available in both our churches
as are



Large Print Orders of Service



FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptism at St Martin's

We welcome into God's Church Family:

February 25th - Vianna-Rose Tracey Herron

Funeral at Barham Crematorium

We commend to God's loving care:

March 11th - Ron Winslade



COMMEMORATIONS

*We remember in our prayers those who have died
in April in previous years:*

Bob Taylor, Maureen Tappenden, Marilyn Lewis, Peter Laven,
Joan Oliver, Jolan Malhas, Ian Smith, June Coaker, Ian Burroughs,
Joy Hartwell, Tim Marsh and Ruth Smith, and Chris Spillett.

Interregnum Arrangements

Our Ministry Team and Churchwardens have a very clear sense that although we are going into interregnum (*the time during which we await a new Rector*), we are not like Jesus's disciples hidden in the upper room just waiting to see what happens whilst important things pass us by.

So, all services and events will continue as previously, except that Morning Prayer on Mondays will be in collaboration with the Chaplaincy Team at Christ Church University, where will join them in the their Chapel at 8:30 am for a combined act of worship.

Our Curate Charlotte, along with visiting local clergy and our experienced Ministry Team will be officiating at our Sunday Eucharists in both churches and arrangements for midweek festivals i.e. Ascension Day (possibly with the Cathedral community) will be announced.

If there are any practical matters you need help with, please don't hesitate to speak to one of the Churchwardens or members of our Ministry Team - regarding prayer or pastoral care.

I think we can feel very positive about the future and although in April we'll all be feeling our way a bit as we move into a new normal, with a little bit of practice, and guided by prayer, let's travel together hopefully in the light of Christ.

Michael Keeler-Walker
Churchwarden

PARISH LETTER



Dear Friends,

In the life of clergy change is a constant. Most of us have a number of parishes over the years and with each change we normally move house - sometimes moving diocese as well. For congregations too, life changes. When I arrived as Vicar in Wingham a member of the congregation said, "I have seen eight come and eight go", which was a reminder of the temporary nature of things.

At times of change there are many emotions, anxiety, excitement, gratitude, sadness amongst others, which is perfectly natural and reflects the close bonds that develop over the years. I have hugely enjoyed my time as Rector here, probably dominated by the covid years, and have many happy memories and made many good friends over the last seven years. Parting is a sad moment, and I will miss life in Canterbury and the many opportunities that have come my way to minister and to get alongside you. So, I want to say thank you to you all for your support and prayers in all that we have shared.

Times of transition are also important moments to put our trust in God. My favourite bible verse says, 'The one who calls is faithful and will do this.' (1 Thessalonians 5:24) which is a reminder that God calls us throughout our lives. I was called here for a season and God has called me on to new pastures, pick up my books and go to the land he is showing me. There is someone out there who is being called to come here in my place for another season and to help you write the next chapter.

That is a useful reminder that as Clare and I leave you, God is still here guiding and leading you into the future, through the interregnum and into a new ministry. A reminder, too, that you are still here and still using your gifts and skills in serving God and your neighbour - very little is different even in a time of change. It may well be that new gifts are discovered, and new ministries encouraged, meaning a time of evolution and new growth for the parish. What is important is everyone pulling together, looking to the needs of each other and putting your trust in God, who journeys with you.

So, thank you and every blessing as we travel on our separate journeys, enriched by the past and open to the future.

Mark Griffin

Goodbye! and THANK YOU

This month we are saying goodbye to Chris Page, who has been half of our Parish Office admin team since joining us in 2012. Chris has looked after Monday - Wednesday sessions in the Parish Office and has been the face, voice and e-mail of our bookings system, as well as our PCC secretary for the last few years. We are all very grateful to Chris for her friendliness and ability to juggle the many tasks that have come her way.

She feels now is the time to retire and enjoy time at home with her husband Jim.

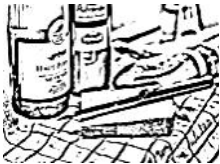
We wish her every blessing and thank her for all she has brought to the role, and also wish her a happy retirement.

Mark

Nosh and Knowledge

Time to plan your table and book your place!

7:30 pm - Saturday 6th April - St Paul's Church



£8 per person to include food
Tables of 8 or let me know if would like me to join
you up with others.

Usual food and bring your own drink.

A fun evening raising money for Fisherfolk this time.

01227 456100 or suespill@tinyworld.co.uk



CANTERBURY



REPAIR CAFE

Saturday 13th April
10:00 am—12:30 pm
Hub Café, Baptist Church
St George's Place, Canterbury
(Opposite Waitrose)

Volunteers with craft skills, help mend clothes, and repair broken things such as household objects, electrical items, computers, phones, bicycles etc, and offer energy advice to make homes, energy-efficient, thus saving money on fuel bills. Repairs and advice are free, although donations are welcome! E-mail: canterburyrepaircafe@gmail.com

LIVING THE LITURGY - APRIL
A Sermon in a Sentence (or Two!)

April 7th - Second Sunday of Easter

Gospel: John 20 v 19-31

The Marks of Resurrection

What are the 'marks' which we and the world need to see to be convinced that new life is possible today?

April 14th - Third Sunday of Easter

Gospel: Luke 24 v 36b-48

Proclaiming Repentance and Forgiveness

How are we to be witnesses to the repentance and forgiveness which Jesus instructs us to proclaim?

April 21st - Fourth Sunday of Easter

Gospel: John 10 v 11-18

Shepherds and Flocks

What metaphor is effective for us today to achieve the qualities Jesus describes of himself in the good shepherd?

April 28th - Fifth Sunday of Easter

Gospel: John 15 v 1-8

The Life of the Vine

What picture does the word 'abide' paint for you? Would 'dwell' communicate better? Why does the Gospel not just use the word 'live'?

Rosemary Walters



A gift in your **Will** is one of the most valuable and lasting ways you can continue supporting the mission and ministry in the Parish of St Martin and St Paul, Canterbury.

For more information, please contact the Treasurer or Churchwardens
(see page 3) or visit our website: www.martinpaul.org

THANK YOU

April Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries
with *Good Wishes* and remembering in our *Prayers*
in the week beginning:

- Sun: 31st** Birthdays: Samuel Keeler-Walker.
(March) Wedding Anniversary: Chris and Christine Robinson.
- Sun: 7th** Birthdays:
Wedding Anniversary: Michael and Monica Walling.
- Sun: 14th** Birthdays:
- Sun: 21st** Birthdays: Sophie Scott.
- Sun: 28th** Birthdays: Christopher Stuart, Ruth Baker and
(For May) William Gauden.

If you have recently joined the congregation at St Martin's or St Paul's and would like your name included in these monthly prayers and good wishes, please let Sylvia del Nevo know at the Parish Office:
Tel: 01227 768072. E-mail: office@martinpaul.org

THE CHOIR @ ST PAUL'S



Whilst there may be rumours of a decline in church choirs in other places, St Paul's has a strong choral tradition, and we are keen to maintain it – however we may need your help to do so.

The choir sings at the 10:30 am Eucharist on Sunday mornings, and leads the popular monthly Evensong and Supper services, as well as other 'seasonal' worship (carol services, etc).

We are always interested in welcoming new members in all voice parts, especially harmony parts, and particularly Basses at the moment. We have quite a high turnover of music as we rehearse a psalm and anthem for every Sunday morning, as well as evensong or seasonal music over the course of each month. This means that commitment can be quite flexible, and the ability to read music is strongly recommended.

Rehearsals are held at St Paul's on Friday evenings from 7:30 pm - some members of the choir can often be found in the New Inn after rehearsals.



We do our best to provide a friendly, relaxed and inclusive atmosphere for our rehearsals. If you are interested, please speak to a member of the choir, or contact me 07753 336648 or domdelnevo@gmail.com.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Dom del Nevo
Choirmaster

* * * * *



* * * * *

MU Monthly reflection and Prayer for April – We celebrate abundant life with full and thankful hearts. We give thanks for the imprint of heaven which enhances our life in the here and now. May our appreciation of all we enjoy bring praise to our bountiful God. Amen.

Our Creative prayer – Look out of a window or go for a walk and take note of 3 things you see which give you pleasure. Give thanks for the lens of faith and thankfulness through which we can appreciate and enjoy God’s gift of abundant life.

Coming and Going - I am writing this between us making our Mothering Sunday posies, and meeting for our Wave of Prayer slot. As this edition of Pilgrim Post is being published earlier than usual, you will probably read this just before we make Easter baskets for St Martin’s hospital on Wednesday 27th March at 2:00 pm. Do come along if you can as it is always a happy time and the baskets are so well received and appreciated. Do also bring any small baskets you may have and eggs etc to fill and decorate them.

This Month: On Wednesday 3rd April, we will be having an all-age Easter Party and Beetle Drive from 2:30 - 4:30 pm. There will be fun and food for all in an Easter Week celebration. There is Corporate communion at 9:30 am on Saturday 13th April as usual and Prayertime is on Thursday 25th at midday in Jesus Chapel in the Cathedral Crypt.

Next Month: Canon Emma Pennington, our Diocesan MU Chaplain, is coming to lead our meeting on Wednesday 1st May with the theme of Ascension. So put the date in your diary and come along and enjoy the reflective meeting and get to know her in a smaller gathering.

So lots happening around a very different Easter, as we wish Mark and Clare ‘Godspeed’ on their move to Derbyshire.



An inspiring return Visit

In 1963 or '64, I went on a sixth-form trip from London to visit the newly opened Coventry Cathedral.

I remember being stunned by its glory, each piece of art work so thoughtfully positioned, beautiful in its own right and adding to the holiness. As a sixteen year-old who was wondering if the Christian story had something to say to her, I realized that this religion was not just a dusty medieval relic, but relevant and active in my modern 'Sixties' world.

In March this year, I finally returned and met my teenage self. I was moved all over again, and this time able to wander at my own pace around this holy place and then out into the 'empty' space of the ruined original Cathedral, flattened by a bombing raid in 1940.

I stayed to join a local primary school group in the Cathedral's daily Litany of Reconciliation which can be found on the Coventry Cathedral website* and is central to its mission to build peace in the world, and this is the homily that the Chaplain that morning offered to the children, and to me:

As a young man, newly -wed, he had hastily opened up a boxed wedding present, and in his rush he broke the lovely china dish packed in the box. If only, he'd thought, the box had been labelled 'Fragile, handle with care', he'd surely have taken more care - and just so, we should always treat everyone we meet as if they too wear an invisible label: 'Fragile, handle with care'. Amen. *(www.coventrycathedral.org.uk)

Judith Dimond



A - Z for CHURCH EXPLORERS

I = Insects



Rare and often very unnatural. When they do appear they tend to have symbolic significance i.e. Exeter Cathedral - misericord.

Bee - activity, good order, eloquence, vigilance. (*Hive is attribute of St Ambrose and St Bernard*)

Butterfly - Resurrection. Caterpillar - life (*e.g. Exeter Cath. Bosses*)

Grasshopper - (*locust*) can symbolise Christian Mission.

Scorpion - evil, treachery, infidelity.

Contributed

PARISH DIARY

See **Sunday Newsletter** / and **Weekly E-mail** for any changes.



Services are on our YouTube channel
(see Parish Website for link)

To receive them please contact: office@martinpaul.org

Non-Eucharistic Weekday Services - See page 5

Choir Practice Friday 7:30 pm (St Paul's)

3rd Wednesday

10:30 am Prayer Book Communion - St Paul's

Refreshments in Church afterwards every Wednesday

2:30 - 4:30 pm All-age Easter Party and Beetle Drive - Parish Centre

4th Thursday

12 noon Midday Prayers - St Martin's

7th Second Sunday of Easter

Psalm 133. NT Acts 4:32-35.

NT 1 John 1:1- 2:2. GP John 20:19-end.

9:00 am Sung Holy Communion with hymns - St Martin's



10:30 am Sung Eucharist with Sunday Zone - St Paul's

Refreshments in the Parish Centre afterwards

10th Wednesday

10:30 am Prayer Book Communion - St Paul's

11th Thursday

12 noon Midday Prayers - St Martin's

13th Saturday

10:00 am - 12:30 pm Canterbury Repair Café (*see page 8*)

9:30 am MU Corporate Communion - St Paul's (*see page 11*)

2:00 pm for 2:30 pm Spring Celebration Concert - St Paul's (*see page 18*)

14th Third Sunday of Easter

Psalm 4. NT Acts 3:12-19.

NT 1 John 3:1-7. GP Luke 24:26b-48.

9:00 am Said Holy Communion - St Martin's

10:30 am Sung Eucharist - St Paul's

Refreshments in the Parish Centre after the service

3:30 pm TeaTime Family Service - St Paul's



17th Wednesday

10:00 - 11:30 am Fisherfolk Toddler Group
Parish Centre (see page 25)

10:30 am Prayer Book Communion - St Paul's

18th Thursday

12 noon Midday Prayers - St Martin's

4:30 pm - 6:30 pm Hangouts Youth Activity - Parish Centre

Copy deadline for May Pilgrim Post

19th Friday

10:00 - 11:30 am Fisherfolk Toddler Group
Parish Centre (see page 25)

21st Fourth Sunday of Easter

Psalm 23. NT Acts 4:5-12.

NT 1 John 3:16-end. GP John 10:11-18.

9:00 am Said Holy Communion - St Martin's

10:30 am Sung Eucharist with Sunday Zone - St Paul's
Refreshments in the Parish Centre afterwards



23rd Tuesday - St George

Patron of England c.304

8:00 am Holy Communion - Canterbury Cathedral

24th Wednesday

10:00 - 11:30 am Fisherfolk Toddler Group
Parish Centre (see page 25)

10:30 am Prayer Book Communion - St Paul's

7:30 pm Contemporary Theology Group (*see page 24*)

25th Thursday - Mark the Evangelist

8:00 am Holy Communion - Canterbury Cathedral

12 noon Midday Prayers - St Martin's

12 noon MU Midday Prayertime - Cathedral Crypt (*see page 11*)

26th Friday

10:00 - 11:30 am Fisherfolk Toddler Group
Parish Centre (see page 25)

27th Saturday

10:30 am Growing in Faith - Worship and Breakfast at St Paul's

28th Fifth Sunday of Easter

Psalm 22:25-end. NT Acts 8:26-end.

NT 1 John 4:7-end. GP John 15:1-8.

9:00 am Holy Communion - St Martin's

10:30 am Sung Eucharist with Sunday Zone - St Paul's

Refreshments in the Parish Centre after the service

12:15 pm Annual Parochial Church Meeting (*see page 24*)

5:00 Quiet Prayers—St Martin's

PARISH DIARY - MAY

See **Sunday Newsletter / and Weekly E-mail** for any changes.

1st Wednesday - Philip and James, Apostles

10:30 am Prayer Book Communion - St Paul's

Refreshments in Church afterwards and every Wednesday

2:00 pm MU Meeting at the Parish Centre

2nd Thursday

12 noon Midday Prayers - St Martin's

5th Sixth Sunday of Easter

Psalm 98. NT Acts 10:44-end.

NT 1 John 15:1-6. GP John 15:9-17.

9:00 am Sung Holy Communion with hymns - St Martin's

10:30 am Sung Eucharist with Sunday Zone - St Paul's

Refreshments in the Parish Centre afterwards

8th Wednesday

10:30 am Prayer Book Communion - St Paul's



**The Church and Social Justice
at a time of Economic Crisis
and Environmental Catastrophe**

Saturday 18th May - 9-9:45 am Registration. Ends 5:00 pm.

A day conference at Canterbury Cathedral Lodge, the Precincts,
Canterbury CT1 2EH - **Full details in Pilgrim Post next month.**

PET'S CORNER



Torwin, our Tortoise



Torwin, our tortoise, can disappear
He'll disappear 'most any day
Sometimes he's gone, sometimes he's here.
Just what happened, I'll try to say.

We left for France, toward the end of the year
Torwin was active before we went
When hibernation time is near
We ready a box before the event.

While we were away the cold had been
We feared for Torwin, alone in the garden
Upon our return, he couldn't be seen
How could we ever beg his pardon.

We had to hope that his reptile nature
Would lead him to burrow deep in the ground
We couldn't know if the frost would go deeper
We searched the garden all around.

When Daffodils and Snowdrops appeared
Torwin was spied by our youngest grandson
He survived the short winter, despite what we feared
Because of his genes, his challenge was won.

Paul Wilton - March, 2024

[If you have a story, anecdote, or poem about your pet, or an animal encounter that you would like to share with our readers, do please send them to me. Editor]



Spring is in the air and the ground is beginning to be workable. At one point I thought all my spring flowers were growing webbed feet. March was the month for the Big Plastic Count, and you will be getting your household results. It is very difficult to avoid so much of the plastic we try to recycle or have to bin when retailers insist on putting so many

items into plastic boxes or bags and covering them with unrecyclable plastic film.

Eco Survey: Thank you to everyone who filled in the survey. There have been several very positive suggestions as to how we, as a church, could make progress towards Zero Carbon and we will be sharing those with you as soon as we can.

Monthly Tip: A Rocha (Eco Church) Celebrate Spring. Immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of the season – breathe in the fragrance of blossoms, observe budding catkins, note different bird songs, spot footprints, or use the Pl@ntNet app to identify spring flowers. Nature can boost our happiness, so spend time in your garden, on your balcony, and in local green spaces. Dedicate quality time to appreciate creation's beauty and thank God for the hope that spring can bring. This seems a very appropriate tip for us all especially in this Easter season.

St Martin's Churchyard: Some of the snowdrops that were planted have flowered in the churchyard and we need to have a go at the brambles again. The two heaps we created between the trees on the far side are beginning to subside and should be full of insects. There are no signs of hedgehogs but patience and persistence in providing them with shelter will hopefully result in them visiting us. The squirrels are as busy as ever and Lottie continues to keep them in order as we walk to church on Sundays.

The Deanery Eco Group has contacted the council about No Mow May and discovered that the issue is the lack of equipment to mow long grass. We need to consider whether there are parts of the churchyard that could be set aside, the grass and other plants allowed to grow thus creating pockets that are wildlife friendly. It looks untidy but ultimately will be of benefit to everyone.

The Eco Fayre planned by the Deanery Eco Group is to be opened by the Lord Mayor. She is very interested in the work of voluntary groups in the city and very supportive. Do make every effort to attend on 11th May from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm at St Peter's Anglican Church, Canterbury.

The pizza man will be there and his pizzas are very good. **Sue White**

Words of the Saints - April

These prayers or quotes for reflection are taken from Saints or others Commemorated in our Common Worship liturgy.

25th - Saint Mark, Gospel Writer.

The Gospel according to Mark; chapter 16: 'The Shorter Ending of Mark':
'And all that had been commanded them [the women at the tomb] they told briefly to those around Peter. And afterward Jesus himself sent out through them, from east to west, the secret and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation.'

30th - Pandita Mary Ramabai, 1922

(A high caste Brahmin and scholar of Sanskrit, pioneer for women's education and social reformer; visited England and was baptised an Anglican; translator of the Scriptures)

"A life totally committed to God has nothing to fear, nothing to lose, nothing to regret."

"People must not only hear about the kingdom of God, but must see it in actual operation, on a small scale perhaps and in imperfect form, but a real demonstration nevertheless."

Judith Dimond



Kent and Canterbury Hospital

SPRING CELEBRATION CONCERT

with Thanet Male Voice Choir

Saturday 13th April - St Paul's Church

Doors open 2:00 pm for 2:30 pm Start - Tickets £8 per person can be purchased at the door and include refreshments (under 18s free - must be accompanied by an adult)

All proceeds support patients, staff and visitor facilities.

www.lofkch.org.uk

SPRING TIME GARDENING TIP

Do make sure you buy yourself one of the new digital electric garden trimmers. They're cutting-hedge technology!

Contributed



Perils on the Ministry Road

250 copies of the Parish Pocket-sized diary were paid for by local advertisements procured by the printer at no cost to the church. Sale at 50p each would produce £125 for church funds.

On the day the diary's arrived and were delivered to the PCC Secretary, she came to see me anxiously clutching a copy. 'Is everything all right, I enquired?' 'Well, not exactly' she replied, 'I really don't know what to say.' I could see there was a problem.

It was the very simple advertisement from the village post office which contained a biblical reference 'Proverbs 23 verse 28'. The PCC Secretary had looked it up

and been horrified to read; 'The harlot lies in wait like a robber, and increases the faithless among men'. It looked as if the owner of the post office could be referring to his wife!

I grabbed my Revised Standard Version of the bible to see what might have happened. Sure enough when I opened the page where chapter 22 moves into chapter 23, I could see that what the man intended to convey was in Proverbs 22 verse 28 - 'Remove not the ancient landmark which your fathers have set'. The viability and future of the local post office were under threat. The owner was wanting to say, 'Use it or lose it.' I needed to have a word with him.

To say that he was embarrassed by what had happened is an understatement, for he now feared his marriage as well as his business was in peril. Action was needed.

On being approached, the publishers (at no cost to the parish) saved the day on every front by sending me 250 self-adhesive stickers showing the post office advert with the biblical text corrected.

The PCC Secretary, did what was necessary, and the diary went on sale. No reference to this incident appeared in the PCC minutes.

Editor



THIS MONTH'S POEM - from Rosemary Walters

+++++

An extract from *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.
If ever I heard 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.
Now, as the almond burns its 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. Laurie Lee

Laurie Lee (1914-1997) English poet, novelist and screenwriter, who was brought up in the small village of Slad in Gloucestershire.



OPEN DOORS

Cause of the Month - April

This is an international Christian charity supporting Christians facing persecution and discrimination in many countries, affecting over 365 million brothers and sisters worldwide. This may surprise many of us. I count myself very fortunate to be a Christian in Britain, rather than in North Korea, Somalia, Eritrea and elsewhere.

A recent email reported the abduction of about 500 children in two separate attacks from schools in northern Nigeria, many of whom will have been from Christian families. Boko Haram terrorists were the perpetrators who have abducted many children before and held them for ransom. Details can be deeply distressing. Open Doors ask for prayers for the release of the children and that God's comfort will surround them and their loved ones.

This is just one example of a crying need that the parish contributes towards with prayerful support of the great work of Open Doors.

April Archive 1984



The Bishop of Dover would be leading a Quiet Afternoon in St. Paul's on Saturday 7th., the day before Passion Sunday. Bishop Third had also been at the helm of one of the Lent House Groups taking place in the parish.

Writing of Holy Week and Easter, the Rector made special mention of the Service of New Fire and First Eucharist, which in those days began at 11.15 on the evening of Holy Saturday.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting was imminent, and this magazine contained the annual report, which was substantial. Of particular interest was the Sunday School report, in which Mary Fennell commented on the growing number of children, and the fact that the creche and the younger Sunday School children both had to meet in the Church Hall. (The older boys, 8-13, met in the vestry.) The idea of a combined opening act of worship was working well. A notable innovation (not previously covered in Pilgrim Post) was a monthly Family Eucharist, for which the Sunday School children joined with the congregation and often participated.

In the report on the fabric, goods, and ornaments of St. Martin's, it was mentioned that a silver chalice and paten had been stolen. Recovered by the police, they had been repaired and polished and were now back in use. It was noted elsewhere that the St. Martin's Guides (not a uniformed group, but a body of volunteers), of whom there were 26, continued to welcome visitors between May and September.

The diocesan leaflet included a response by the Archbishop to the question: How can we attract more young people into the Christian faith? Perhaps surprisingly, he was dubious about contemporary styles of worship. Making a distinction between churchgoing and faith, he put the emphasis on personal example. It was also reported that the choir of Hythe parish church, under Berkeley Hill, was the only British choir to gain a place at an international festival in Lovato, Italy. 40 years on, Prof. Hill still has a thriving choir, though the boys now sing only at Evensong, not in the mornings. A former student of his directs the music at Holy Trinity, Folkestone, with whose choir we have a personal link.

Brian Hogben

JESUS in JOHN'S GOSPEL



IN PERSPECTIVE

There are four distinct approaches to Jesus in the New Testament Gospels - they are each different and give us a guide on how Jesus impressed those who knew him, and what it was about him that changed their lives for ever.

In the other three gospels, the Jesus of history speaks in a particular way with a wealth of parables, and in short, pithy, vivid sentences. The gospel of John gives a different profile. There are no parables, but long mystical discourses whose style often closely resembles that of the evangelist himself rather than the actual words of Jesus.

Probably written around AD 90, the Jesus of history loses his human side and takes on a glow of divinity as the Christ of Faith. Nothing seemingly bothers him. No one argues with him. He is in complete charge at all times. He even decides when he will allow people to kill him. His death is not a defeat but 'the hour' of his triumph. Jesus, portrayed by John to the community of faith in Ephesus, is 'majestic' and reigns triumphantly in glory.

Conclusion of the Series. Four gospels - four distinct approaches to Jesus. Within our community of faith wherever we are, we are free to choose how we see Jesus. Each of us needs a different Jesus at different times in our lives. The historical Jesus came to save us from the things we each need to be saved from and to give us abundant life. Created in the image of the God we worship 'in spirit and in truth'. Taking Jesus into ourselves, our lives are changed for ever. The spirit of truth leads us into all truth. The Jesus of history and the kingdom he proclaims is good news, and freedom, and the Christ of faith assures that we are each known and loved by God for this life and into eternity.

Editor

MAGAZINE COPY

If you have an article, story, or notice that you would like to share with Pilgrim Post readers please e-mail it in Word.doc format to:
pilgrimpost@martinpaul.org

THANK YOU



NEWS FROM ST MARTIN'S

Royal Kentish Camino



St Martin's Church has joined forces with St Mary & St Ethelburga Church in Lyminge and with St Mary & St Eanswythe Church in Folkestone to unite three generations of important Christian women. Together, the three churches are opening a new pilgrimage trail starting at St Martin's and passing through the Kent Downs National Landscape and Elham Valley to finish at the shrine of Saint Eanswythe – the only shrine in England that still houses the relics of its founding saint.

Here at St Martin's, the pilgrimage aims to bring light to the work of Queen Bertha in welcoming St Augustine and his men to Kent and providing much needed support in converting her husband as well as the kingdom of Kent to Christianity. Bertha's influence has long been overshadowed in history, relegated to the side of the main story and yet now, with the help of this project, we hope that her part in the story will become better recognised.

Meanwhile her daughter Ethelburga and granddaughter Eanswythe are being remembered for their influences in forming some of the first Christian communities in the country. This is an important step that has been made in bringing the long-forgotten women of the past back to the forefront of the narrative, and, we hope that through this project, people will feel themselves being able to connect more closely to these women and their faith.

The project aims to be officially launched at the end of April and more information can be found online.

St Martin's on Television

St Martin's Church had not one, but two encounters into the world of television last month. The first was the filming for the Easter Sunday Songs of Praise Special, and those involved tell me that it was a rather cold and early start but well worth it to see our small church on the TV!

Songs of Praise was not our only foray, for St Martin's also filmed a short piece with ITV Meridian at the start of March on the history of the Church and the influence of Queen Bertha. Our curate, Charlotte spoke to journalist Andy Dickenson about the importance and heritage of the church and the impact Queen Bertha had; whilst churchwarden Chris- ➡

-tine Robinson spoke about the spiritual importance and how pilgrimages are encompassed into the feeling of St Martin's rich history. The aim of the piece was to celebrate Bertha and her influence during Women's History Month and to try and let people know that they have such an important historical church right on their doorstep.

I am happy to hear that many people enjoyed watching it and the very next day the church welcomed visitors who had seen it on the news. As the year goes on, I hope that we can keep bringing the story of Bertha and St Martin's to the wider community.

Jessica 'Jess' Morris

Tourism Manager – St Martin's Church

ELECTORAL ROLL



- Belong**
- Participate**
- Contribute**

CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION and the APCM

If you are on the Church Electoral Roll you don't have to do anything! If you would like to join the Roll, please contact the Parish Office or Janet Robertson, our Electoral Roll Officer, who will give you an application form.

The Roll allows you to vote at church meetings but more importantly to feel a real part of the parish community. The revision opened on Sunday 17th March, and will close on Sunday 12th April. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting takes place on Sunday 28th April after St Paul's 10:30 am Service - please make a note in your diary.



Wednesday 24th April
7:30 pm—9:00 pm (prompt)

Topic: The Messiah in Judaism and Christianity.

Speakers: Dan and Lavinia Cohn-Sherbok,
Professor Emeritus of Judaism, University of Wales, and former
Principal, West Heath Girls' School, joint authors of works on
Judaism and Christianity.

Whatever your interests or viewpoint, you will be most welcome to join us. There is a charge of £5 at the door for each talk to cover costs (people in full-time education free).

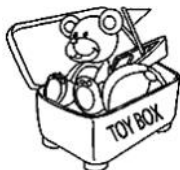
Judith Dimond



Parish of St Martin and St Paul
Fisherfolk Toddler Group

Wednesday and Friday
10am – 11.30am
(Term Time)

Run and Supported by the Parish Mother's Union, the Fisherfolk Toddler Group provides a special, fun filled and safe environment for your babies and toddler children.



St Paul's Parish Centre
Church Street (St Paul's)
Canterbury
Contact: Jackie Curd
07712 432906



For more information please email: fisherfolk.stpauls@gmail.com



Fisherfolk-St Paul's



www.martinpaul.org



office@martinpaul.org

A QUIET DAY at MINSTER ABBEY

Saturday 27th April - 10:00 am - 2:30 pm
(unless otherwise advised)

Do you feel that you need to just pause for a while and get away from the demands of daily life? If so, a quiet day is an opportunity to do just that. A time to stop, reflect and be refreshed. It will give you some time and space to explore your spiritual life and deepen your relationship with God through silent reflection and prayer.

We spend a short time in worship. There are a couple of short inputs throughout the day from the leader, and the rest of the day is spent mainly in silence doing what you feel comfortable doing. It may be



reflecting on the talk, with the help of a worksheet if you want one. Sitting or walking in silence; drawing, writing, or just “being”. The day ends with a simple celebration of the Eucharist.

Minster Abbey has some lovely grounds where everyone can find a quiet spot to be alone.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like to take part.
01227 764200 E-mail: lgbbutcher@aol.com

Mary Butcher



CANTERBURY BOWLING CLUB PLAY BOWLS OPEN DAY

Saturday 27th April - 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

All ages are welcome to just turn up wearing shoes with flat soles for **FREE** coaching session.

*Free Parking on site South Canterbury Road CT1 3LJ
just before K&C hospital*

For any further information

E-mail: canterburybowlingclub@ymail.com .

ENDPIECE



Early one morning an elderly lady phoned her neighbour and said, “Please can you come over and help me. I have a very difficult jigsaw puzzle, and I can't figure out how to get started.”

When her neighbour asked, “What's it supposed to be when it's finished?” She replied, “According to the picture on the box, it's a rooster.”

Her neighbour decided to go and help her with the puzzle. When he arrived, the old lady showed him the puzzle spread out all over the table.

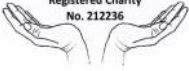
He studied the pieces for a moment, then looked at the box and turning to her, said: “First of all, no matter what we do, we're not going to be able to assemble these pieces into anything resembling a rooster.”

Then he took her gently by the hand and said, “Secondly, I want you to relax. We'll have a nice cup of tea.” Then with a deep sigh he said:

“Let's put all the Corn Flakes back in the box.”

Contributed

The Adkinson Relief in Need Charity
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Registered Charity
No. 212236



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Canterbury & Thanet

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Collation arrangements as advised

THANK YOU



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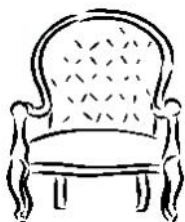


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