



Bulletin

The Parishes of Stansted Mountfitchet, Birchanger and Farnham ***Sunday 25th March 2018 – Palm Sunday***

FOOD BANK

We are in particular need of tins/packs of soup, long life fruit juice and small bags of sugar. Please leave anything you can provide at the back of church behind the sidesmen's table. Other items running low are: Long life milk, Tins of peas and sweetcorn, Tinned spaghetti, Tins of potatoes (or dried/mashed). Your help is as always greatly appreciated. *Katy Dockerill*

GOOD FRIDAY DEVOTION, ST JOHN'S

It has become a Good Friday tradition for the Choir of St John's to lead a meditation in words and music on the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ. This year's service is entitled *Lift High The Cross* and is based upon words from St John's Gospel. The service will include hymns for congregation, readings, and choir anthems. Everyone is welcome to come at 6pm in St John's Church on Good Friday, 30th March. *Kathy West*

TRAIDCRAFT EASTER EGGS – PLEASE SUPPORT US

This year Easter falls on 1st April. I have ordered some Fairtrade Easter eggs. The milk chocolate eggs are £3.99 each - same as last year (incl. Easter story leaflet & a bag of chocolate buttons). By purchasing these eggs you will help the small-scale farmers and producers to trade their way out of poverty. *Jean N.*

BIRCHANGER SPECIAL

Saturday 21st April

Courtyard Quartet will perform a Juke box of music in the church hall with a fish/chicken/veg chip supper.

£15 / ticket, raffle and drinks available.

Tickets: *Sue 01279-815427 or Elaine 01279-813474.*

WWDP

A big thank you to all the kind people who have given money for the Women's World Day of Prayer 2018. With contributions from the Quakers, the Free Church and the Roman Catholics I have been able to send £140 to the organisers of WWDP. Let's hope that next year we'll be able to have the service as usual, providing the snow stays away! *Stella*

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY COLLECTING BOXES

It is time for me to empty and count the contents of the collecting boxes. Could you please either bring them to church over the next couple of weeks or drop them off at my house. If you would prefer me to collect them from you let me know. *Katy Dockerill*

GOOD FRIDAY MESSY CHURCH - FOOD REQUEST

The next Messy Church will be in St John's Hall and the Church on Good Friday. Tea will be much simpler than usual and we're asked to provide just hot cross buns and cake. Please sign up on the list at the back of church if you are able to donate food. Thank you.

Katy Dockerill (812997)

NOTE FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

Please submit all your contributions for the Bulletin by Wednesday 28th March 9am as the office will be closed on Good Friday. Thank you for your understanding. *BD*

FILM EVENING AT ST JOHN'S

At the Lent Group meetings where the topic was *Feast or Famine*, the film '*I, Daniel Blake*', was often mentioned as a "must see" because it touched on the theme of welfare bureaucracy in modern day Britain austerity. Paul, who led the final session of the group, has already purchased the DVD and it will be shown in St John's church on Tuesday, 27th March at 7.30 pm. There is no charge – and probably no popcorn – but everyone is very welcome to come along to watch this very thought-provoking film. *KW*

NOTE FROM 'CITIZENS ADVICE' IN STANSTED

From the 29th March Uttlesford Citizens Advice will be offering appointments at Stansted Surgery on Thursday mornings. For free, confidential, independent advice about welfare benefits; debt and money problems; family issues including domestic violence; healthcare and carer issues; employment; education and funding; consumer rights; neighbourhood disputes; immigration and residency issues please call 01799 618840 to make an appointment. *Jo Hancock (Office Administrator, Uttlesford Citizens Advice)*

CONNECT 120

This week, Connect 120 means:

- * *Helping at the Easter Service for St Mary's School, Stansted*
- * *Helping with the weekly church visit for Dunmow St Mary's*
- * *Assembly at Magna Carta in Stansted*
- * *Star Club at St Mary's School, Stansted*
- * *Being part of the team welcoming Roseacres and Takeley to Holy Trinity and All Saints Churches*
- * *Running a prayer space at the Easter Art and Craft morning in Takeley*
- * *Joining St John's on Easter Sunday for the First Communion of 4 children from Star Club*

25TH MARCH - PALM SUNDAY

Hymns: 12, 364, 521, 38, 804

Anthem: 'Hosanna to the Son of David'
Russell

Bible Readings:

Reading: Philippians 2.5-11

Reader: Peter Jones

Gospel: Mark 14.1 - 15.47

Interceder: Ray Smith

Traditional Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
who of thy tender love towards the world
hast sent thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example of his patience
and humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1ST APRIL – EASTER SUNDAY

Bible Readings:

Reading: Acts 10.34-43

Reader: Katy Dockerill

Gospel: John 20.1-18

Interceder: Roland Pelly

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

*Those who are sick, especially **Eddie Laird, Lily Suckling and Tricia Walters from Stansted, baby Tilly from Birchanger, and Crystal Cock from Farnham**, that they will have God's healing and peace as they need it and that their families and friends will know God's strength as they support them.*

*Those who have recently died, especially **Geoffrey Ensor and Sharen Horne from Birchanger and Peter Crisp from Stansted**, for their friends and families, and for those whose anniversary of death falls at this time.*

Jesus, you rode into your city in triumph of this day, receiving the shouts and welcome of many. Come into our Churches today. Receive our welcomes and our acclaim. Come to rule in the hearts and minds of all who lead us and help us all to go out and proclaim you as King over all the world.

Please send any material to be shared in the next bulletin or requests for the prayer list to the Parish Administrator by **9am on Wednesday 28th March**. Anything coming after this time will be forwarded to the next week. Thank you.

Bible Readings for the Week Ahead

Mon 26 Mar	Psalm 41 Lamentations 1.1-12a
Tue 27 Mar	Psalm 27 Lamentations 3.1-18
Wed 28 Mar	Psalm 102 Jeremiah 11.18-20
Thu 29 Mar Maundy Thursday	Psalm 42 Leviticus 16.2-24
Fri 30 Mar Good Friday	Psalm 69 Genesis 22.1-18
Sat 31 Mar Easter Eve	Psalm 142 Hosea 6.1-6

Thoughts to accompany these readings are published as "Reflections for Daily Prayer" available as a book or smartphone app. If you have problems obtaining a copy the Rector would be glad to help.

SERVICES FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

St John's Stansted

Mon to Thurs & Sat 5pm - Evening Prayers

Tuesday 9.15am - St John's Tots

Wednesday 9am - Morning Prayers

10am - Holy Communion

Thursday 10.30am - Coffee Pot

8pm - Maundy Thursday Communion

followed by Watch till midnight

Friday 6pm - Good Friday Devotion Service

Sunday 8am - Holy Communion

9.30am - Family Communion

St Mary's Birchanger

Friday 2pm - Good Friday Service

Sunday 11.15am - Mattins

St Mary's Farnham

Friday 12noon - Good Friday Prayers

Sunday 4pm - Easter Sunday Holy Communion

Rector:

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Office Hours: Mon, Weds, Fri 9am-12noon