

St. Peter's Ardingly

Parish Magazine

April 2022



Visit our web site www.ardinglychurch.org.uk

50p



St Peter's Church, Ardingly

Who's Who at St Peter's

Rector	Revd John Crutchley	892332
Associate Priest	Revd Chris Sutton	07903 068366
Reader	John Witherington	892277
Wardens	Nigel Cheater	892769
	John Witherington	892277
Secretary to the PCC	Jane Taylor Cheater	892769
Treasurer	Jean Jeffery	415317
Organist	Jill Veasey	892442
Safeguarding Coordinator	Jane Taylor Cheater	892769
Church Centre Manager	Jill Veasey	892442
Church Centre Bookings	Carol Grossman	416707
Magazine Editor	Sue Laker	892117
Pastoral Care Authorised	Kathy James	891047
Lay Ministers	Sue Laker	892117

SUNDAY SERVICES

9.00 am A traditional form of Holy Communion

10.30 am Morning Worship – our main service – see Services page

**The church is open on Sundays and Thursdays from 10am to 5pm
for private prayer and Sundays-Fridays during Lent**

See the following pages for full details of all this month's services

RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

As Mary went to Jesus' tomb on the first Easter Sunday morning she was in despair. Her world had ended. It seemed that the cycle of evil and retribution had triumphed and that the grave had overcome the most exciting life she had ever encountered. But then Mary heard the Gospel, the good news: CHRIST IS RISEN.



In other words, she understood that life is stronger than death, that light overcomes darkness, and that love will always conquer evil and hatred. Because the resurrection is not just about one man over two thousand years ago in Palestine. It is about the whole way the Universe works. The resurrection says that there is more to life than we can see in this world alone and that means that we still have hope. Hope amidst all that might otherwise lead us to despair, both in our own lives and in world events. And more. It is the hope and promise beyond death of new life. Of life everlasting.

The truth is of course, that our lives - indeed our entire world - can sometimes seem very dark with war and rumours of war. It has certainly felt dark as we have witnessed the appalling events unfolding in Ukraine. God does not promise that there will not be such moments of struggle; indeed Jesus explicitly said that there would. But the promise of Easter is of light breaking through the darkness. The promise of Easter is of a magnificent 'Son Rise.' The good news of Easter is that darkness will pass because the light of Christ displayed to the entire world in the resurrection conquers death and evil and love triumphs.

So, whatever we may be struggling with now, we should hear again the Easter message. It is the message of our loving God, who says to his beloved world that what may seem hopelessly dark from a human perspective holds the potential for a new beginning. It is the darkness before the dawn!

The miracle begins at that empty tomb where we greet the Risen Lord Jesus Christ, saying in faith and as Christians have said across the centuries: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

With all my prayers for a blessed and Holy Easter.



Need a helping hand?

Serving the community in simple ways
If you have a problem there are people willing to help



AT YOUR SERVICE

Call 892442 or 892307

A community project managed by St Peter's Church

NOTICE BOARD for APRIL

Meeting Point Coffee Mornings will take place on 4th and 25th April in Hapstead Small Hall from 10.15 to 11.30 a.m. All are welcome. Help is appreciated in setting up tables etc.



Ardingly History Society

Tuesday 19th April at 7.45pm
Hapstead Hall

Talk by Geoffrey Mead on
"The River Ouse from the Source to the Sea"

Children's Society Boxes

The annual collection of the boxes is now due. We would be grateful if you could bring your boxes to Church during April and let us have them, if this is convenient. We normally attend the 10.30 service. If it is easier for you, we are happy to collect your boxes from you. Our home telephone number is 01444 415317 so please let us know if you would like us to arrange a suitable time to collect from you.

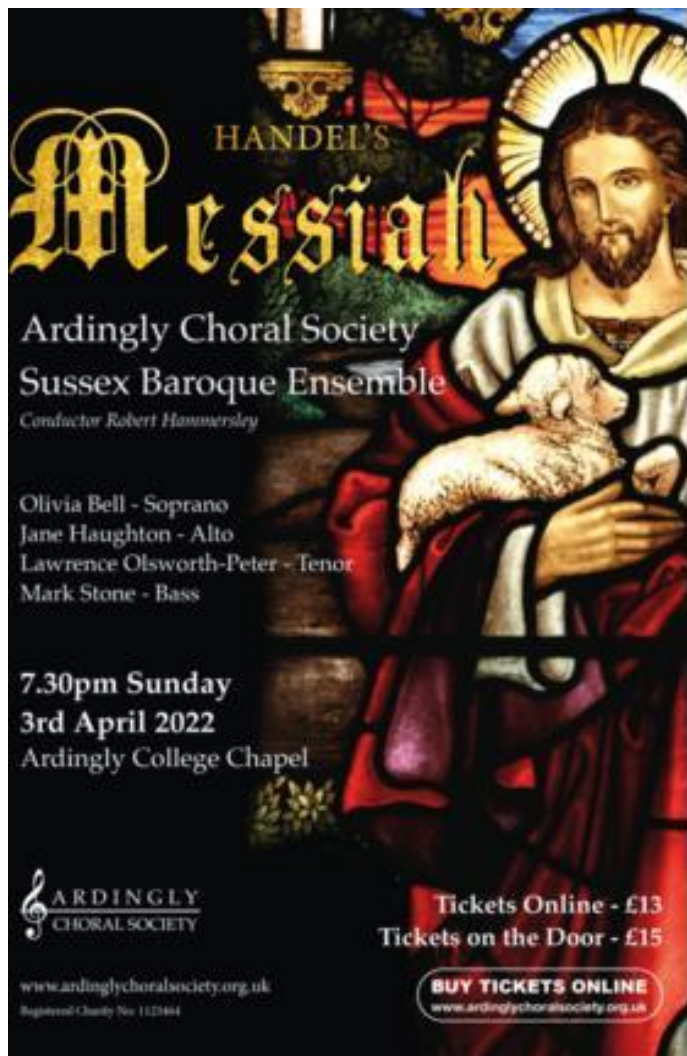
Thank you all for your generosity in supporting this worthy cause.
Jean & Tony Jeffery

Film night: 31st March. The film is "Belfast"
Tickets cost £7 and are available from Fellows
or the old Post Office



Annual Parochial Church Meeting

27th April at 7.00pm at the Church Centre



FSW will be holding the Quiz Night with Fish & Chips (Vegetarian Sausage and Chips available) on **Saturday 7 May 2022 at 7pm**. Tickets will £15.00. There will also be a bar.

Please note that tables will be limited to 6 people this time. Tickets will be available from Deb Ruse (01444 892717)



CHURCH SPRING CLEAN

SATURDAY 2ND APRIL



It's that time of year again! Each year we give the church a good clean before Easter, so please do join us on Saturday 2nd April. Bring dusters, cloths, brushes and any cleaning materials which you think would be helpful. Cobweb brushes are always useful.

If enough of us are there, it only takes a couple of hours – and it's only once a year!

The church will be open around 9.00 a.m. that day and suitable refreshments will be on offer during the morning.

Come when you can and go when you must!



"It's not as picturesque as the old steeple
but it's saving a fortune in electricity bills!"

Services in April 2022 and for HOLY WEEK and EASTER

Sunday 3rd April

The Fifth Sunday of Lent (Passiontide begins)

9.00am

Holy Communion (BCP)

Philippians 3: 4b-14; John 12: 1-8

10.30am

Morning Praise

Philippians 3: 4b-14; John 12: 1-8

6.00pm

Open to God

A service of Evening Prayer

Sunday 10th April

PALM SUNDAY

9.00am

Holy Communion (BCP)

Philippians 2: 5 – 11; Luke 19: 28 – 40

10.30am

Holy Communion [CW]

Philippians 2: 5 – 11; Luke 19: 28 – 40

Thursday 14th April

MAUNDY THURSDAY

7.00pm

As we remember how Jesus and the disciples gathered in the Upper Room to share the Last Supper, we will gather in the Church Centre for supper followed by a celebration of Holy Communion.

Friday 15th April

GOOD FRIDAY

11.00am

*The Greatest Love of All
An 'open-air' service for everyone held on the Recreation Ground,
Ardingly*

The Greatest Love of All

2.00pm

*A Meditation on the Passion of the Cross
A service that through music, word, quiet reflection, meditation, and
images, will help us to focus upon the death of Christ on the Cross.*

Sunday 17th April EASTER DAY

9.00am

Acts 10: 34 – 43; Luke 24: 1- 12

Holy Communion (BCP)

10.30am

Holy Communion [CW]

"He has Risen!" A service of Holy Communion for Easter Sunday Morning

Sunday 24th April

The Second Sunday of Easter

9.00am

Acts 5: 27 – 32; John 20: 19 – 31

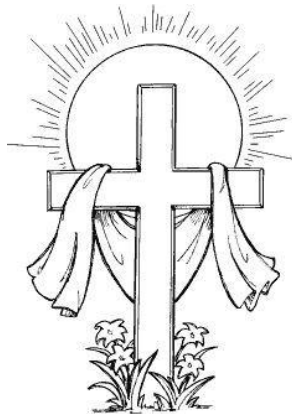
Holy Communion (BCP)

10.30am

Morning Praise

Acts 5: 27 – 32; John 20: 19 – 31

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in the Church Centre at 7.00pm on Wednesday 27th April



NEWS FROM SAMARA'S AID

SOARING FOOD PRICES: This week [mid March] Syrian prices, including food, have soared yet again. The price for one litre of cooking oil is now 13,500 SYP, while the monthly salary of most workers and even professionals is 40-100,000 SYP. Can you imagine spending a quarter to a tenth of your entire monthly income on one bottle of cooking oil? It is unbelievable. The cost of animal feed has also risen so much that a lot of people have been selling off their livestock as they cannot buy food for them.



SHEEP: It is a different story for our herd of sheep. We are blessed to have all the *tibn* - the dried, chopped wheat straw - from our harvest last year, so we have a good base food for feeding the sheep.

Some of the older lambs have just been weaned and the ewes are now being milked every day. Their milk is so rich and creamy and is being made into yoghurt, and some will be used to make butter and cheese. All of this dairy produce is then being used to supply our orphans and widows project, with some of the dairy produce being served to the children who eat in our Outreach Centre and some being distributed to families.

FOOD FARMING: The crops on our other farm are growing beautifully: wheat self-seeded from last year, cabbages which have already been harvested in part and given to orphans and widows, and onions and lettuces (Syrians eat a lot of salad).

A WIDOW WITH FIVE CHILDREN: A local, very poor widow I visited while in Syria in January is helping with making our dairy products. We are especially keen to support her and her five children through providing employment and livelihood opportunities rather than just regular aid handouts. This way she and her family can be self sufficient and can maintain a sense of dignity and self respect, while also helping to support other orphans and widows. When I visited her it was freezing and her roof was leaking as the snow melted. Her hall floor was sopping wet in spite of the big bucket catching many of the drips. Her husband died of cancer, and two of her five children suffer from a medical condition that requires expensive hospital treatment from time to time. She told the whole village after our visit that God had answered her prayer, and had sent us to her. She had been praying that God would help her and her children as she had no one else left to ask, living in poverty in this isolated rural area with no prospects whatsoever. God did indeed send us to her. We gave her some grain to sow, and she will now help to make the yoghurt, butter and cheese from the sheep's milk. Now she has some real opportunities to gain some financial independence.

DIGNITY BAGS: A huge 'thank you' to everyone who has donated, packed and helped in other ways in response to the recent appeal. The number of bags donated has far exceeded all expectations and each bag will be a wonderful blessing to everyone who receives it.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Service at St Augustine's, Scaynes Hill

On 4th March five of us headed off to St Augustine's Church in Scaynes Hill to attend the World Day of Prayer service.

Each year the service is put together by a different country and this year it was prepared by the Christian women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Rev. Beverley Miles began the service with a prayer for peace in Ukraine. A group of ladies from different local churches then led the service of hymns, readings and prayers based around Jeremiah 29 v 11: "I know the plans I have for you". This is a verse of hope and hope was the overarching theme of the service. The people in Jeremiah had all been exiled to a place where they did not want to be and they were longing to return to their homeland.

Three modern day stories were told by Lina, Natalie and Emily, demonstrating how God had freed them from their individual places of 'exile' and isolation. Lina had been trapped in poverty and God brought her and her son to a safe space amongst people in her local church who "love them and will not let them down". Natalie was rescued from fear and abuse and she now has a life filled with "more joy and beauty than she ever thought possible". Emily's plans were turned upside down at the age of 16 when she was diagnosed with brain tumours and needed lots of surgery. She has learned that "God knows the plans he has for her and she does not need to know them. She just needs to trust him".

Candles were lit as symbols of light shining through darkness and everyone received a packet of seeds – symbols of God's hope.

Prayers of thanksgiving were said and we were all encouraged to go away reflecting upon God's promise to the people of Judah, and what it might mean to us today:

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. Plans for your welfare and not for harm; to give you a future with hope. Then, when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you" (Jeremiah 29 v 11)



A special artwork had been chosen for this year's theme. It is by Angie Fox, who has used several images to depict freedom (an open door to a pathway across an endless open vista), justice (broken chains) and God's peace and forgiveness (the dove of peace and a peace lily breaking through the pavement).

The service was followed by a splendid tea in the adjoining Church Hall and we all had an opportunity to chat to people who had come from other churches nearby.

Sue Laker

HEATHER JOHNSTONE (CMS)

Heather writes that the Rehema project in Tanzania is still hard hit by the pandemic and the ladies are without work because customers have not returned to the café and shop. She asks for prayers for guidance and wisdom as she looks for ways to revitalise or even reinvent the project, and for the Rehema team to be able to provide for themselves and their families once again.



FSW update

Dear Friends,



After a busy half term in February we are back to our usual routines. We are very excited to be able to plan our usual family activities this year, and are currently planning our residential visit to Dalesdown in April. We are also preparing for the arrival of new family support practitioners following our recent round of recruitment, and will be giving you all the information about them as soon as we can. We were also delighted to be involved with Archbishop of Canterbury's recent visit to the Diocese, when we attended an event in Lewes discussing the role of the church within communities – it was a very interesting and thought-provoking evening.

With Easter approaching, we are still open to registrations for our Easter Walk on Monday 18th April and would love you to join us. All the information can be found on the Events page of our website or by contacting Jo in the office jo@familysupportwork.org.uk.

Some of you may be following Peter Gayler's progress on his fundraising pilgrimage to every English cathedral this year. If you aren't yet aware, it's a fascinating challenge and Peter is updating his page regularly with very interesting information and photos about every cathedral he has seen. You can find this at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/cathedralpilgrimage>.

We are sending out more food parcels each week as the impact of the rising cost of living hits home. Our foodbank still has healthy levels of most items, but if you are collecting donations for the foodbank, we would be particularly grateful for coffee, tinned fruit, biscuits and multipack/family packs of crisps or other savoury snacks.

Thank you as always for your kind support.

Nikki Kerr, FSW Director of Fundraising and Marketing

ST PETER'S C.E. PRIMARY

We had a very exciting start to the month of March, with the opening of our brand new library! Most appropriately, the opening took place on World Book Day (March 3rd) and so the children were dressed in the most imaginative characters from their favourite book.



It was a very full day, with authors being invited to school to talk to the children and, of course, there was cake!!

Our sporting activities are becoming even more varied, with our pupils participating in both a Netball and a Badminton festival. Ardingly College hosted an event as part of the FA's 'letgirlsplay' initiative and St Peter's KS2 girls put on an impressive display! Not to be outdone, some of our KS1 children took part in the Sports Hall athletics event - enjoyed by everyone!

We are so fortunate to have a supportive school community. Parents are always willing to help and this is a real bonus for the school as a whole. Along with the wider community, we have been collecting donations to go with the wonderful Igor on his trip to the Ukraine border. Many of you will know that for many years, the sunflower has been used as an emblem for peace in Ukraine. We are now going to be organising a 'St Peter's Tallest Sunflower' competition to demonstrate our support for Ukraine and our continued prayers for peace.

Kathy James

The new library:



Ardingly Connected Together

As Easter approaches the Ardingly Connected Together team is planning hard for our celebrations, designed to sprinkle a little bit of joy around the village! Last year our Easter Egg Hunt proved to be very popular so we are dusting off the maps, getting the Easter eggs ready and ordering the Easter bunnies to hide the eggs!! We hope you will come along, share in the fun with your family and friends and have a lovely walk around the village while hunting for those eggs.



There is going to be an open air service organised by St Peter's Church, on the recreation ground on Good Friday and, of course, there will be the celebratory service in the church on Easter Sunday.

We are planning events for the Queen's Jubilee too. We are working with the Parish Council and others to make sure that the village has a chance to celebrate properly for Her Majesty's anniversary - more details will follow.

Kathy James

Tel. 891047, Mob: 07703 295081. Email: kathrynjames7@sky.com

INVITATION FROM ARDINGLY COLLEGE STUDENTS:

After Easter, Ardingly College will be restarting the IT support group which has in the past helped some of the senior residents in the village.

This time, it will be held in the new cafe & it will be a place for villagers to mix with, and enjoy the company of, some of the older College students. There will be opportunities to seek advice & support with devices, but also board games to play together (Scrabble/Dominoes etc...). Free tea, coffee and biscuits will be served by the students.

For help with transport or to book a place contact the School Office on 01444 893000.

BRIDGING AGES

CONVERSATIONS
WITH ARDINGLY
STUDENTS!

FREE TEA,
COFFEE AND
BISCUITS!

GET SOME
IT SUPPORT!

BOARD GAMES
FUN!

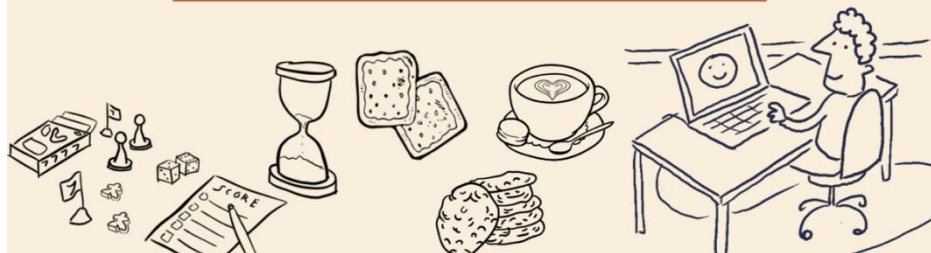
WHEN : EVERY MONDAY; 16:30 - 17:30

25TH OF APRIL ONWARDS

WHERE : ARDINGLY COLLEGE - CAFE

for more information:
debbie.nicholson@ardingly.com

WE'RE EXCITED TO SEE YOU THERE!





AROUND THE VILLAGE

Aid for Ukraine

Donations of warm clothing, bedding, toiletries, and other essentials flooded in after Igor Srzic Cartledge announced that he would collect donations for Ukrainian refugees in Poland. In no time he had to say "Stop! I haven't room for any more!" as Ardingly residents proved once again what compassionate and generous hearts they have.



Many people also helped to create an inventory and load the van and on 11th March Igor set off with a friend, Kate, to drive across 5 countries to the Polish/ Ukrainian border. They arrived in Poland on Saturday 12th March and reached Medyka on the Ukrainian border on 13th.



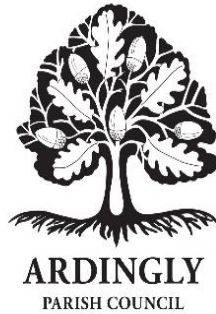
Donations had arrived from all around Europe, and people of different nationalities were cooking food and distributing it to the refugees. Watching Ukrainians sort through the donations to find whatever they needed was an emotional scene and one that Igor will probably never forget.

Igor and Kate arrived back in England on 15th March after an unforgettable journey of 2,500 miles through 5 countries.

WELL DONE, AND THANK YOU!

Living God
where there is waste, let us bring recycling,
where there is recycling, let us bring re-use,
where there is re-use, let us bring sustainability,
where there is sustainability, let us bring justice
where there is justice, let us bring love.

John Polhill



Ardingly Parish Council

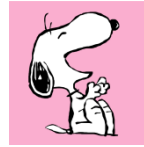
The Parish Council had a number of meetings at the beginning of March, culminating in agreement of the plans and schedules for the refurbishment of the pavilion. We are now inviting contractors to express an interest in tendering for the work. Anyone who expresses an interest will be sent all the relevant information and be invited to tender. This is a formal process and we hope that this will enable the work to commence later this year.

We have also been able to agree the contract for the tennis/multi-sport courts to be refurbished and re-marked. This should commence fairly soon and, although it will mean that there will be no access to the courts for a short time, this will result in a fantastic restored surface, with clear markings for us to use and enjoy.

The situation in Ukraine has caused everyone deep distress and the Parish Council is talking to the Church and others to see what practical support can be offered. There has been an amazing groundswell of support in the village and we hope to be able to work together to make this support be as effective as possible.

On a brighter note, we are beginning to look forward to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and are making plans for a village celebration. We are planning to have an afternoon tea party in the village on **Sunday June 5th** so get your party shoes ready!!

NOT TOO SERIOUSLY ...



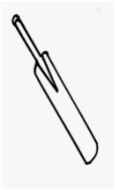
It was Palm Sunday but because of a sore throat, 5-year-old Johnny stayed home from church with a sitter. When the family returned home, they were carrying several palm fronds. Johnny asked them what they were for.



"People held them over Jesus' head as he walked by," his father told him.

"Wouldn't you know it," Johnny fumed, "the one Sunday I don't go and He shows up."

A small boy returned from Sunday School in tears. When questioned by his anxious mother, he explained: "This morning they told me that Jesus wants me for a sunbeam. But I want to be a train driver!"



As the manager of our hospital's cricket team, I was responsible for sorting out the equipment for the games. One day as I walked through the surgery department carrying a bat that belonged to one of the surgeons, I passed several patients and their families in the waiting area. I heard one man say to his wife, "Look, darling, here comes your anaesthetist."

When my wife caught me standing on the bathroom scales, sucking in my stomach, she laughed, "Ha! That's not going to help!"

"Oh yes it does", I replied. It's the only way I can see the numbers."



Sign on a Scottish golf course: "Members will refrain from picking up lost balls until they have stopped rolling".



A small boy was asking his mother where he came from and when he heard his mother's explanation, he replied: 'Mummy, when God planted the seed in your tummy, was there a photo of me on the packet?'

Parish Register

There are no entries in the parish register this month.

That day was a day like never before
As the Saviour died and the darkness grew,
Earth shuddered and rocks were split apart
As the veil of the temple was torn in two.

The centurion who witnessed all these things
The earthquake, the One who was nailed to the wood,
Seeing Him die could only say,
'Surely this man was the Son of God'.

He rose as conqueror of the grave,
Death was defeated, the stone rolled away –
And man was released from all his bonds,
Christ rose as victor that glorious day.

The Light had pushed the darkness back,
He now stands resplendent for all to see,
Forgiveness, redemption all wrought on the cross,
The eternal fruits of Calvary.

By Megan Carter

Meeting Point Rota

4th April: Adele and Diana

25th April: Jill, Alison and Deb

Brass Cleaning

Week beginning 9th April: Adele Collins

Flower Rota

1st April: Pam (Lent)

16th April: All flower arrangers please(Easter)

29th April: All flower arrangers please



General Information

BIBLE READING NOTES: Regular reading helps us to grow as Christians. Bible Reading Fellowship notes are available from Glynis Doerr (892431). Email: glynismdoerr@gmail.com

CHURCH CENTRE: Hire of Centre, crockery, cutlery and chairs: contact Carol Grossman 416707

GIVING: Special weekly or monthly envelopes or bankers' order forms are available from Jean Jeffery (415317). It is also possible to donate on our website. Anyone paying income tax or capital gains tax is encouraged to sign a Gift Aid declaration which would enable the church to claim tax (currently 25 %) on all their giving. Please make cheques out to *St Peter's Church, Ardingly*.

MAGAZINE: Annual Subscription £3.00. Can be delivered or posted (if posted the cost is £12.50 per annum). **MAGAZINE EDITOR:** Sue Laker, 19 Ardings Close, Ardingly RH17 6AN (892117). Please submit items for inclusion by Friday before the penultimate Sunday in the month. Email to: emails4sue@gmail.com

TRANSPORT: If you require transport to church, or if you could provide it for others, please contact Jill Veasey on 892442 or Jonathan Summers on 892307.

HOME GROUPS meet for bible study, prayer and fellowship on various weekday afternoons and evenings in homes. New members are very welcome. Contact: John Witherington 892277.

ANGELS & URCHINS: At St Peter's Centre on Thursdays, 9-11.00 during term time. Contact Jill Veasey 892442.

PRAYER DIARY APRIL 2022

*"I call on you, O God, for you will answer me;
Give ear to me and hear my prayer ."
(Psalm 17 v 6)*



- 1 John and Sally Crutchley and their family
- 2 Pray for peace in Ukraine
- 3 Church services today. May God's voice and touch be known
- 4 The Meeting Point team and all who enjoy coming
- 5 The Covid situation at home and around the world
- 6 All Samara's Aid volunteers and safe transit of the aid containers
- 7 Andreas & Bambi, learning the culture & language and reaching out in S.E. Asia
- 8 Give thanks for the delights of God's creation
- 9 All bishops & clergy and others who lead worship
- 10 **Palm Sunday.** Praise God that He is King and Almighty
- 11 Refugees and all who have fled from violence
- 12 Those who are seeking work or have been made redundant
- 13 Belinda and the IMARA team; the sponsored children
- 14 The church family. Tonight's Maundy Thursday service and meal
- 15 **Good Friday.** The services in the Rec and in church today
- 16 All who work in the NHS and Care sectors
- 17 **Easter Sunday.** Jesus is Risen! Praise God for His victory over death
- 18 The ACTS team and all who bless the village
- 19 The government and all in positions of authority
- 20 Heather Johnstone & the Rehema Project in Tanzania
- 21 All who are struggling financially
- 22 World leaders and their advisors
- 23 Yemen, Syria, Myanmar & other countries with great needs
- 24 Our services today; pray for blessing and new life
- 25 All who have suffered loss recently
- 26 The Queen and Royal Family, living life 'in the spotlight'
- 27 The PCC and the APCM this evening
- 28 Christians in Nepal and the work of the Aanandit Church
- 29 Teachers and pupils, preparing for exams soon
- 30 Praise God for the difference He has made in our lives

**The deadline for the May magazine is
noon on Friday 15th April**