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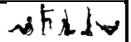
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April 2019	St Mary NACKINGTON	St Mary LOWER HARDRES	St Peter BRIDGE	St Mary PATRIXBOURNE	St Peter BEKESBOURNE
7th Apr Lent 5 Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:4b- 14; John 12:1-8	8:00am BCP Holy Communion	11.00am Family Communion	6.00pm Service of readings and hymns for Passiontide	9.30am Sung Eucharist	All welcome at other services in the Benefice
14thApr Palm Sunday Luke 19:28-40	All welcome at Bridge		11.00am Palm Sunday Benefice Service 10:30am Procession with Donkey starting from the School with Communion	All welcome at Bridge	
Thursday 18 th April Maundy Thursday	All Welcome at Patrixbourne			7.00pm Holy Communion with commemoration of the Last Supper	All Welcome at Patrixbourne
Friday 19 th April	10am -12 noon 'Messy' Good Friday / Margaret's Good Friday workshop combined at Bridge School				
Friday 19th April Last hour service	2pm Last Hour service with readings and music	All welcome at Nackington			
21st Apr Easter Sunday Isaiah 65:17-end; Acts 10: 34-43; John 20:1-18	9.30am Sung Eucharist Canon Reg Humphriss	9.30am Family Service & Egg Hunt	11.00am Easter Choral Communion	8.00am BCP Holy Communion	9.30am Easter Service with Communion and Easter Egg hunt
28 th Apr Easter 2: Exodus 14:10-end- 15:20- 21; Acts 5:27-32; John 20:19-end	All welcome at Lower Hardres	10am Benefice Communion All welcome at Lower Hardres Service			
5th May Easter 3: Zephaniah 3:14- end; Acts 9:1-6 [7- 20]; John 21:1-19	8:00am BCP Holy Communion	11.00am Family Communion	6.00pm Evensong	9.30am Sung Eucharist	10.00am Songs of Praise Lay led

There is Holy Communion every Tuesday at 9.30am to 10.00am at Bridge Church, followed by coffee. All welcome.



The Vicarage 23 High Street Bridge Tel: 01227 206272

E-mail: estellalast@gmail.com

April 2019

writing Happy Easter! In my April parish newsletter. This year this since Easter doesn't actually reach us until much later this month

and Lent has only just begun. During this Lent as a church we have been taking time in our worship and Lent evenings together on Thursdays during March to really think about how our life together deepens our relationship with Jesus and the living God and the difference this makes to our daily lives and the journey we are on together.

This month in our Churches we will have our Annual Church meetings – at these meetings we thank all the volunteers who help to keep our churches going and we elect new PCCs (although often the same faithful people again!) to help continue the work of the church in the coming year. 2019 will be a really exciting time to be on our PCCs as we begin to discern together the way forward which will enable us to realise our vision of becoming a Single Parish Benefice and the benefits this will bring for us as a whole and for each of our churches. If you are on the electoral roll for any of our churches you are eligible to stand for the PCC – if you think you might be interested in getting more involved in this way do give me a ring or come along to one of the annual meetings.

As Lent progresses and we approach Passiontide, Holy Week and Easter there will be many opportunities to join us for services and events that mark some of the most significant historic events that form the basis of our faith. I commend to all those of you who love a Carol Service our service of readings and hymns for Passiontide at Bridge Church on Sunday 7th April which will walk us through the passion story with a series of readings and well known hymns led by our church choir. We will once again be welcoming 'Banks' the beautiful donkey for our Palm Sunday procession on Sunday 14th April, gathering to meet him and bless the palms in the school playground at 10.30 am and then processing through the village with him into church for Family Communion at 11am. Holy Week itself has traditional services for Maundy Thursday (at Patrixbourne) and Good Friday (at Nackington) and for the whole family 'Messy Easter' at Bridge school 10-12 on Good Friday with Easter crafts and Hot cross buns. And on Easter Sunday itself every church in the Benefice will have a service to celebrate the glory of the Resurrection with of course the added joy of Easter egg hunts!

The celebration of Easter is the final part of the story which sees our loving creator God reach out to the whole of humanity with his love, his peace and his capacity to triumph over evil. Do visit our beautiful churches this Easter as they bear witness to God's enduring presence in the life of our communities for generations past and hopefully generations to come.

Yours in Christ

OBJ

Rev. Estella Last, Vicar

Dates for the diary - April 2019

Tuesday 2nd		
9:30am	-	Holy Communion, St Peter
Bridge		
3:00pm	-	Holy Communion, Bridge
Haven		
Wednesday 3 rd		
8pm		- APCM
Bekesbourne	, Bekesbourne Vil	lage Hall
Thursday 4 th		
9am		- 11am- Little
Lambs		
7pm		- APCM
	with Bridge, Bridg	e Church
Monday 8 th		
7.30pm	-	Caring and Sharing,
Mansfield Co	urt	
Tuesday 9th		
9:30am	-	Holy Communion, St Peter
Bridge		
2:30pm	-	Holy Communion, Mansfield
Court		
Wednesday 10th		
10:00am	-	FISH pop-in coffee, Bridge Village
Hall		
2-3.30pm	-	Lower Hardres Community Café at
the John Bak	er White Hall	
Tuesday 16 th		
9:30am	-	Holy Communion, St Peter
Bridge		
3:00pm	-	Holy Communion, Saxon
Lodge		
7.30pm	-	After 8s, Mansfield Court
Wednesday 17 th		
3:00pm	-	Hymns at Bridge Haven
2-3.30pm	-	Lower Hardres Community Café at
the John Bak	er white Hall	
Friday 19 th		Manage Observation and Managements On a difficulty
10am-12am-	a! al a. a	Messy Church and Margaret's Good Friday
Workshop, Br	•	
	School Hall	#

Tuesday 23rd





THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING Of the Parishes of the Bridge Benefice will be held as follows: Lower Hardres with Nackington:

Tuesday 2nd April 7pm at the John Baker White Hall **Bekesbourne**, **St Peter's**:

Wednesday 3rd April 8pm at Bekesbourne Village Hall **Patrixbourne with Bridge:**

Thursday 4th April 7pm at St Peter's Church Bridge

Details of the business of these meetings can be found on notices displayed in the Parish Churches. Each Annual meeting will be preceded by the Annual Meeting of Parishioners at which the Churchwardens for each Church are elected and appointed.

In addition, the Electoral Roll for each Ecclesiastical Parish is undergoing a full revision – application forms can be collected from the churches.

New Electoral Rolls for St Mary's Patrixbourne with St Peter's Bridge St Peter's Bekesbourne

Every six years a new Church Electoral Roll has to be compiled. Preparations for this are underway with application forms being available in the churches. If you would like to be included on the new Roll for your chosen church please complete a form and return it to a Churchwarden.

Songs of Praise Bekesbourne 3rd March - 40 DAYS of LENT - 48 at BEKESBOURNE.

The congregation numbered more than the days of Lent. Thirty five adults and thirteen children to be exact.

Preparing for Lent was the theme of the Songs of Praise service and Stuart Field engagingly explored the forty days of Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Palm Sunday which is the period framed between Christmas and Easter, two of the major Christian festivals.

Everyone achieved a full understanding of the meaning and derivation of the parts that made up Lent as children and members of the congregation added to Stuarts elegant timeline of the period.

The bells rang out to welcome the hardy congregation in the less than welcome weather and there was a very good assembly of hymns accompanied by guitar, organ, and violin music.

What could cap off such an inspiring service? Why of course, pancake racing in the church meadow in the threatening but brightening weather.

The next Songs of Praise service is on 31st March and the theme is Mothering Sunday. Everybody is welcome to join in another of these innovative services. Martin Fry

News From Lower Hardres

Mothering Sunday - will be celebrated on Sunday 31st March at 9.30am at our family service, St Mary's Lower Hardres. Posies and cards will be given out. Obviously we will be having our traditional Simnel Cake. There will be lots for children to participate in.

Good Friday Workshop - This year our workshop will be held on the 19th April from 10.00am - 12.00, and will combine with Messy Church. Please note that the workshop will be held at Bridge School and not in John Baker-White Hall, because the floor is being varnished at the Hall. There will be Hot Cross Buns, and we will have lots of fun, all welcome. Please let Margaret know on 765598, or Julie on 788316. Our next workshop will be in J.B.W.Hall.

World Day Of Prayer

This was held on 1st March at Bridge Church. It was a very moving, meaningful and uplifting service, and was well attended. Those participating for excellent, and i wish to thank them.

Easter Day - 21st April

On this day we will have a family service at 9.30am. Refreshments will be served at the end, while the children hunt for eggs. Children will decorate our lovely white cross with flowers to Gods Glory. Do come.

A Very Happy and Blessed Easter Margaret



A lunch date invitation to everyone

The annual home-made soup and bread lunches will take place again in Bridge this year.

When: the Thursdays of Lent –April 4th and 11th(final two)

<u>Time</u>: any time between 12 noon and 1.30pm.

<u>Where</u>: at 1 Riverside Mews, Bridge (off Riverside Close) Canterbury, CT4 5TW. (Bus 89 or 17 from Canterbury).

This invitation is to everybody, not just church members. It's friendly and informal and if you haven't been before, we would love to see you.

All donations will go to Christian Aid.

Please ring 831956 the day before to book.

Alan & Jean Barber.

FAIRTRADE NEWS

Stop press: The sale of Fairtrade chocolate in the 5 Benefice churches during Fairtrade Fortnight raised £286.30. Many thanks to everyone for supporting Fairtrade, Cocoa Farmers.

Jean Barber

Bridge Flower Arrangers

Easter is fast approaching and plans to decorate St. Peter's Bridge are under way. If anyone would like to donate money for an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one please contact Viv Brasier or a churchwarden. I am keeping the price at £3 per lily. Decorating will start 9.30 on April 20th. If anyone is interested in seeing how the flowers are arranged or lending a hand please feel free to pop into church to see. Viv Brasier.

Fish Scheme (neighbourly help) News. Tel no: 07935 966 080

The Coffee Pop-In at Bridge village hall will be on Wednesday April 10th from 10 to 11.15. We are appealing for any cups and saucers you can happily spare and also for knitting wool. Please bring them to the Pop-In but if you need help to get them there do ring Rosy on 830204.

The annual fund-raising Bring and Buy will be during the May Pop-In on May 8th. Please bring anything you think might find a good home. Cakes always do and so do books, toiletries, manageable plants and lovely raffle prizes. Thank you.

Thanks

Thank you very much to all the kind people that helped me when I fell ill in the Bridge Church, on Saturday 16th March.

Kathleen Ratcliffe

Bridge & District History Society

The next meeting will be on Thursday April 18th at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. Heather Newton, Head of Conservation at the Cathedral will talk about the many and varied conservation tasks being undertaken at this most important of Canterbury's ancient buildings.

Members £4.00, non-members £5.00 to include refreshments.

Canterbury Food Bank at All Saints Church, Canterbury

Another huge thank you for the many bags of items that St Peter's Church produces on a fortnightly basis and which I deliver to the Tuesday morning Distribution Café in Military Road, Canterbury. The items are ideal and completely suitable for the needs of the many families, couples and singles who attend.

At a recent Café opening I asked one of the main supervisors who was visiting, what was most needed at the Warehouse in Chestfield, where all the items are sorted and then packed into the individual bags for us to distribute on production of the relevant Voucher. These are currently:

Rice

Tinned or UHT puddings and desserts (eg rice pudding, Angel Delight etc)

UHT Orange juice

Spaghetti and spaghetti sauces (jars or cans)

Powdered and tinned potatoes

Toilet rolls

It is 15 months since I joined the Distribution Café at All Saints. We are a very friendly team, although we have just lost our Tuesday morning Co-ordinator who organised the rota and supervised the mornings. She was snapped up for a responsible fulltime job. Two of us have stepped up to the plate and will be sharing this responsibility with immediate effect. Two new volunteers have joined our group and I know they will find this a very rewarding experience.

Food for Thought

Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute

We are being very seasonal at our meeting on **Tuesday 16 April** at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall and are having a practical evening with **Margaret Palmer** who will be showing us how to make **Sugar Easter Eggs.** The **competition** for April is for members to bring an interesting item beginning with the letter "P". If you would like to join us for this evening or are interested in the WI generally, please do come along. We are always delighted to welcome visitors and guests.

And a couple of dates for the diary.

The WI celebrates its Centenary this year and, as mentioned previously, we have organised some special events in May and June.

On **Friday 3 May** we will be holding our fund-raising **Afternoon Tea** in the Pavilion on the Recreation Ground from 2.30 until 4.30 pm. There will be tea and cake (priced £3), a raffle and bring and buy. Please join us on what we hope will be a fine late spring afternoon at the Pavilion.

This event is closely followed by our special "Cake and Coffee and Concert" in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Saturday 18 May when we invite everyone to join us in celebrating our Centenary. Do make a note of the date and watch out for the posters with more details nearer the time.



Good Friday - 19th April 10am-12 noon Bridge School Hall Easter crafts, story and hot cross buns for everyone. All Welcome

For more information contact: Rev. Estella Last t: 01227 206272

The Friends of St Peter's Bridge, and The Friends of St Mary's Patrixbourne

COFFEE & CAKE & CONCERT

Saturday 6th April 10:15 to 11:30 at Bridge Church

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Come and join in with songs and rhymes, old and new, on a musical journey to some familiar places

Suggested donation £3, children free All proceeds are for the upkeep of our churches

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

We should like to remind you that our **Annual Spring Show** is on **Saturday 6 April** in Bridge Village Hall. The Show is open to the public from 11.00 am until 1.00 pm, with Prize Giving at 12.45pm. As mentioned in last month's "On the Nail" we have included three Open Classes for everyone to enter, members and non-members alike, with voucher prizes awarded to the winners. These classes are:

- 1. 6 chitted seed potatoes in an egg box
- 2. a flower arranging class entitled: "Emergence" an exhibit, space allowed 51x51cm/20x20 inches, height unrestricted (accessories allowed) for the photographers: "A Winter Scene", photo unframed, not to exceed 8 x 6 inches (NB photos not to be digitally enhanced and all entries to be produced within the last 12 months).

There is no charge for entries which should be brought to the hall between 8.00 and 10.00 am on the morning of the show. We would love to be inundated with exhibits. If you would like to know more or require a schedule, then please contact the Show Secretary, Kathy Walder, on 830057/07791 656539/ kath@askwalder.com

For those of you who are carefully nurturing your "Chairman's Challenge" entry, please remember to bring along your pot of narcissus.

As a considerable amount of planning and effort is involved in staging our shows, we would be delighted if residents would come in to support us and enjoy the colourful display of exhibits. There is no entry charge. Refreshments will be available throughout the morning and there will also be a plant /bring and buy stall and a raffle

National Vegetable Society - Kent Association

The programme of events continues on **Wednesday 10 April** (7.30 for 8.00 pm) in Bridge Village Hall, when, as a deviation from vegetable growing, Frank Turner will be giving a talk on **"The Secret Life of an Arms Dealer"** which I am informed is a true story. Non-members are always most welcome.

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

Spring Show



Saturday 6 April Bridge Village Hall

Show open to public 11am to 1.00pm Presentation of Prizes 12.45 pm

Includes 3 Open Classes (for all to enter):

- 6 chitted seed potatoes in an egg box
- for flower arrangers: "Emergence" an exhibit space allowed 51x51cm/20x20ins, height unrestricted (accessories allowed)
- a photo, unframed, not to exceed 8" x 6" entitled "A Winter Scene"

Refreshments

Raffle

Plant/Bring and Buy Stall

For Show Schedule and more details, telephone Kathy on 830057



Bekesbourne Bell Tower Needs You!





On Sunday mornings and Monday evenings you may hear the Bekesbourne Church bells ringing out across the valley. Apart from the war years they have been rung for celebrations and church services for over 100 years.

We want to keep the tradition going but we are often short of ringers. We have one learner coming along, but we need more.

We will have the Church and bell tower open Saturday 27th April 2 - 4pm.

David Durell our instructor will show you the first steps to becoming a bell ringer.

There is no commitment if you decide it's not for you.

Please don't be shy - come along if you are interested.

For more information call David 07860323622 or Gill 07729123132



Baby and Toddler Group Every Thursday during term time 9-11am



Bridge Recreation Ground Pavilion

Open to all pre-school age babies and toddlers (with parent / guardian). Come and enjoy a cuppa and a chat in a relaxed safe atmosphere while your children play with others. Sessions include free-play, drinks & snacks, craft activity.

Suggested donation £1 per child.

For more information contact estellalast@gmail.com



With thanks to Bridge Parish Council

The Quiet View

Mary Magdalene, the Blockbuster film will be shown again for Holy Week, on **Monday 15**th **April 7pm** followed by refreshments. Starring Chiwetel Ejiofor and Rooney Mara, this is an authentic and humanistic portrait of one of the most enigmatic and misunderstood spiritual figures in history. A very moving film that takes us, unusually, to the heart of Jesus' life and message. Suggested donation £5 Please book with Lizzie

Silent Retreat - Saturday 27th April 10.30 – 4pm with the Janki Foundation -**Building Resilience** Through **Gratitude** & Appreciation - Led by Dr Julia Ronder, Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist, Certified Mindful Self-Compassion Teacher. Please bring your own lunch -suggested donation £20 and for more information and to book please go to www.newron.co.uk

Taiji Qigong continues on the 2nd Monday evenings and 4th Thursday afternoons of each month with Melanie French. This is a wonderfully gentle way of harmonizing body, mind and soul and Melanie is an excellent teacher £6 Please book with Melanie m.s.french00@btinternet.com

Taizé Prayer – Friday 5th at 7pm. Candles, icons, simple chants – just come along! Donations welcome

AND A DATE FOR THE DIARY! Saturday 8th June - Quiet Day with Marianne Rankin – author of 'An Introduction to Religious and Spiritual Experience" Marianne will present her fascinating findings from all over the world and from past to present with opportunities for reflection and questions. She is a nationally acclaimed author and places are limited. £25 More information next month and on the website – book now to reserve your place.

We would love to welcome you!

Lizzie Hopthrow
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Afternoon Tea



at the Pavilion

on Bridge Recreation Ground

Friday 3 May

2.30 until 4.30 pm



£3.00 (to include tea and cake)
Bring and Buy, Raffle (to be drawn at 4.00 pm)
All Welcome

Littlebourne & District Royal British Legion

The Branch is now thriving under our new Branch Chairman Bob Catt, Secretary Kevin Costello and Treasurer Paul Howson. At our March meeting our outgoing Chairman, Ray Tupper, was paid tribute to in his absence. He is having health problems and could not be present, however we wish him well.

We have several social events "in the pipeline". More on those later.

Anyone interested in joining the Branch will be welcome. You do not have to be an exservice person - just somebody who wishes to be part of the "Legion" and support a very worthwhile cause. Details are in our notice board outside Littlebourne Hall or come along to a meeting - every second Tuesday of the month - 8pm in the Littlebourne Recreation Club. Next two meetings will be held on 9th April and 14th May.

Speedwatch Training

Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne Parish Council is very concerned about the speed of vehicles travelling along our village roads. The Parish Council is hoping to recommence 'Speedwatch' checks in the villages and would like to hear from anyone interested in getting involved.

If this is something that might interest you, the Parish Council would be pleased to hear from you. Please email the Clerk, <u>clerk.bwp@outlook.com</u> to express your interest.

We look forward to welcoming you to our 'Speedwatch' team.



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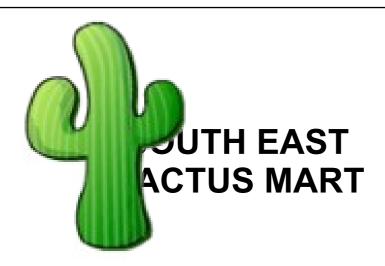






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