

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTED BY THE CHURCH IN



ALDHAM



APRIL 2019

www.aldham-church.co.uk

FROM THE BISHOP OF CHELMSFORD

Light in the darkness

I will begin my celebration of Easter crouched around a fire in the gardens outside Chelmsford Cathedral trying to light a large candle from its flames. When the candle is lit I will hold it aloft, process into the darkened church, and proclaim the ancient Easter proclamation that Christ is the light in the darkness.

In the New Testament all the really important things seem to happen in the dark. Jesus is born in the night. When Judas betrays him and he is arrested, night has fallen. When he dies on the cross there is darkness over the land. And when Mary Magdalene goes to the tomb on Easter morning we are told it is still dark.

This is no coincidence. The death and resurrection of Jesus is best understood as a cosmic victory over the powers of evil, death and darkness. Speaking of the coming of Christ, Isaiah says that the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. When Jesus is born, Simeon says he is the light for all people.

That's why Christians all over the world celebrate Easter in the night by kindling a fire and lighting a candle and proclaiming Jesus as the light of the world. This is also why Christian people today find hope – light in their own personal darkness – through Jesus Christ. We do not find God absent or indifferent to our sufferings. We find he is there with us. Christ is, therefore, not the light at the end of a dark tunnel, but the light to see by, “a lamp to our feet and a light to our path,” a candle to hold in the darkness.

The Risen Christ is also light for the world. As I write this I don't know what is going to happen with our Brexit negotiations. By Easter we are supposed to know; the end of March deadline will have passed. However, there is every possibility we might still be in the dark. The way of

EASTER SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY

14 April 9.15 am
MORNING WORSHIP

MAUNDY THURSDAY

18 April 7.30 pm
at Marks Tey
COMMUNION
and Shared Meal

GOOD FRIDAY

19 April 9.15 am
MEDITATION ON THE
CROSS

EASTER DAY

21 Apr 9.15 am
FAMILY COMMUNION
(+ Junior Church)

Christ can shed light on this as well, showing us the values and principles we must hold onto even if the path ahead is not clear.

*Rt Revd Stephen
Cottrell,
Bishop of Chelmsford*

We exist to honour God and to enable people in our community discover Jesus

CHURCH ROTAS

<i>Cleaning:</i>	Angela d'Angibau, Yvonne Tomassi
<i>Flowers:</i>	
Apr 7 - 21	LENT - no flowers
Apr 21, 28	EASTER - Wendy Byford and team
<i>Churchyard:</i>	Dave Keys, Neil Byford

DIARY DATES

Apr 1	7.30 pm in the Church. Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Apr 2	7.30 pm Village Hall. Annual Parish Meeting
Apr 4	3.00 - 4.30 pm Tea Party
Apr 6	10.00 am Book Exchange
Apr 9	11.45 am Communion
Apr 10	9.30 am - 3.00 pm Christianity Explored at Tile House
Apr 17	11.00 am Christianity Explored. Final session at The Harvest
Apr 19	Easter decorating

PALM SUNDAY

We welcome **Revd Janet Nicholls** as our preacher on **Palm Sunday, 14 April**.

Janet is the Chelmsford Diocesan Agricultural Chaplain. She works alongside the farming community, providing a listening ear and pastoral support. She has a farming background and has an understanding of agricultural issues, and an insight into the unique concerns faced by farming families.

There are four farms in Aldham. It would be good to see their representatives at the service.

LISTENING WELL

I have been thinking a lot, recently, about the importance of listening well to one another in order to understand what is important to each of us; especially what hurts us or makes us angry. Listening to one another's stories is at the heart of building community - building 'common unity'. I have been nudged to think about listening because of an event which I attended recently: the launch of Colchester Citizens.

On March 4th, a large group of people from different organisations, societies and religions met together at St Botolph's, in the middle of Colchester to form 'Colchester Citizens Alliance'. The aim of Colchester Citizens is to bring together ordinary people and societies to work and act together for the common good. In the very early stages (2017), member organisations undertook a 'listening campaign' where over 5000 local people were listened to to find out what the main issues were that concerned them. The four main issues were centred around affordable housing, bus travel, mental health and hate crime. I have been involved in a small way in the group looking at mental health provision, especially amongst young people in our community. On March 4th they invited the NELFT (North East London Foundation Trust) directors to join us at the Colchester Citizens launching assembly. After a number of young people had shared about the way they had been helped with their mental health, they asked NELFT to add Colchester to their website, with signposting details of the mental health and well-being provision available for young people and their parents/carers in our area. They have promised to make those changes.

Part of what we, as Christians, spend time

WHO'S WHO

Priest-in-Charge	Revd Ian Scott-Thompson, The Rectory, Church Lane, Marks Tey, Col. CO6 1LW	01206 215772
Curate	Revd Wendy Pagden, 5 Rockingham Close, St John's, Colchester, CO4 0NJ	01206 844677
Churchwardens	Mrs Coral Wingate, 79 Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey, CO6 1LS	01206 210369
	Mr Ken Thompson, 20 Hines Close, Aldham, Colchester, CO6 3RL	01206 210809
Secretary	Mrs Anne Matthews, 18 Scott Drive, Lexden, CO3 4JD	01206 575603
Treasurer	Mr Richard Gough, 12 Oaktree Cottages, Brook Road, Aldham, CO6 3RJ	01206 215688
Newsletter Editor	Mr Iain MacCallum, 9 Handford Place, Queens Road, Colchester, CO3 3NY	01206 571070

doing in our communities is listening to one another, and finding ways in which we can support one another. Jesus commanded us to love one another as he has loved us. Part of loving another person is to listen to them with attention – not in order to tell them what we think, or to solve their problem, but just to be there and to listen. If you would like to talk to Ian, our Rector, or me, your Curate or somebody at the church about an issue which hurts you or which makes you angry, do get in touch. In the meantime, lets all listen attentively to those we encounter today.

Wendy Pagden, curate

ALDHAM W.I.

The next W.I. meeting will be on Thursday 18 April, at 7.45 in the village hall, when we will be celebrating our 51st birthday. Our speaker, Linda Scoles, will be giving a talk entitled Where Have All The Characters Gone? Visitors and friends most welcome.

Jean Jennings

EASTER LILIES

... at £1.50 a stem, may be had in memory of a loved one who will be remembered in the prayers on Easter Sunday. Orders to Jennifer MacCallum by Sunday, 7 April please. (01206 571070)

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING ...

... will be at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. Guest speaker - Steve Scruton from BBC Essex"

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING ...

... will be on Monday, 1 April at 7.30 pm in the Church. The Annual Report for 2018 will be available. The APCM is an opportunity to hear reports on the activities of the church in 2018, to ask questions, and elect the officers of the church.

EASTER DECORATING ...

will be at 10.45 am on Good Friday.

TEARFUND

The Tearfund Web editor polled its supporters recently with one simple question: 'What does it mean to you that Tearfund is a Christian organisation, open about its beliefs?' In the 1,257 replies. He said three things shone out:

Trust "To me it's run not only to the Charities Commission standards but to God's standards of compassion and truth."

A spiritual response to poverty

"Tearfund follows Jesus, caring for the whole person." It's an extension of the love we have been shown by Christ to others.

A way to follow Jesus

"I don't see Tearfund as just a charity that I support, but as a group of people I'm in partnership with. They help me get a little closer to walking with Jesus the way I want to. They are engaged all over the world, in places where my heart can go but my feet can't."

The government has promised Match Giving to Tearfund until 17 May, to help combat plastic pollution. Go on-line, and google "Tearfund Match Funding".

ROMAN RIVER BRIDGE ...

... is approximately 3 weeks behind schedule and therefore isn't due to re-open until 29 April.

The work at **Marks Tey Station bridge**, is still under negotiation with Network Rail. It looks like it will be June or July when this might happen.

SPRING CLEANING AND CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY

A big, big thankyou to nearly 20 of you who tackled the Spring Cleaning of both the inside and outside of the church.

Deadline for May Newsletter

22 APRIL

To: Iain MacCallum or
Jane Smith, 7 Church Grove

WORSHIP AT ALDHAM

You are warmly invited to all our services

31 Mar	9.15 am	MOTHERING SUNDAY All-age Service
7 Apr	9.15 am	HOLY COMMUNION
14 Apr	9.15 am	PALM SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP with Revd Janet Nicholls
18 Apr	7.30 pm	MAUNDY THURSDAY at M.Tey COMMUNION and Shared Meal
19 Apr	9.15 am	GOOD FRIDAY Meditation
21 Apr	9.15 am	EASTER DAY FAMILY COMMUNION (+JnrCh.)
28 Apr	9.15 am	MORNING WORSHIP



CRECHE The Tower Room is available every Sunday with sound relay of the service. FAIRTRADE COFFEE and TEA are served after all 9.15 am services.



Worship at Marks Tey

<i>1st Sunday</i>	11.00 am	Morning Worship
<i>2nd Sunday</i>	11.00 am	Morning Worship
<i>3rd Sunday</i>	11.00 am	Holy Communion
<i>4th Sunday</i>	11.00 am	Morning Worship
<i>5th Sunday</i>	11.00 am	Morning Worship

The women found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

Luke 22 vv 2-3

Please support your local Traders

BEAUTY THERAPIST	The Beauty Rooms, 117 London Rd, Marks Tey	01206 211831
BOILER SERVICING	J Butcher 24 Gainsborough Rd. Sudbury CO10 2HT	07885 504036
BUILDER	Ottley Whitehouse, The Pink, Copford Gn.	01206 211212
BUTCHER	Willsher, 87 London Road, Marks Tey	01206 210365
CARPETS & FLOORING	The Blue Goose, 8 Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey	07973 407986
CARPETS & FLOORING	Tey Carpets at Home, 25 Keable Road, Marks Tey	01206 212826
COMPUTER ASSISTANCE	Roger Walker, 16 Hines Close, Aldham	01206 211143
DELOTO DOG GROOMING	Karen, Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey CO6 1LS	07970 990564
ELECTRICAL	Aaron Pearson, 1 Rowan Close, Stanway	07825 224420
FINANCIAL ADVICE	WRS Fornham, 227 London Road, Stanway	01206 214980
FIREPLACES & STOVES	D.W.Parsons, Showroom Enquiries	07860 350038
FUNERALS	A.Birkin & Sons, 6 West St., Coggeshall	01376 561316
FUNERALS	Hunnaball, York House, 41 Mersea Rd.	01206 760049
FUNERALS	E. England Co-op, Stanway Retail Pk, Peartree Rd	01206 804911
FUNERALS	R.Gwinnell & Sons, 112 Ipswich Rd.	01206 868585
GARDEN & HOME MAINTENANCE	SJT, 59 Keable Rd. Marks Tey	07985 386758
GARDENING & ODD JOBS	Gary Todd, 3 London Road, Marks Tey	01206 212274
MOBILE DISCO	Jacks Tracks, 25 Norbury Close, Marks Tey	07751 867880
MOBILE HAIRDRESSER	Sarah, 4 Norbury Close, Marks Tey	07884 005978
NAIL TECHNICIAN	Deeva Nails & Beauty, Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey	07516 699101
OPTICIAN	The Eye Centre 15 Market Hill Coggeshall CO6 1TS	01376 561156
PHARMACY	86 London Road, Marks Tey	01206 212878
PLUMBER	Mark Nayler, 1c King George Rd, CO2 7PE	07763 468391
REMOVALS & STORAGE	K.Dobbs, Unit 1-2, Bellhouse Farm, Stanway	01206 212444
ROOFING SERVICES	Daniel Wicks, 4 Honeywood Close, Marks Tey	01206 212032