

# St Faith's Lee

The Parish Church of Lee-on-the-Solent

## Easter Day 21<sup>st</sup> April 2019 Weekly Notes

Welcome to St Faith's. If you are a visitor, we hope you enjoy your time with us. If you would like to know more about St Faith's, please fill in a Welcome Card which is found on the desk near the entrance to the church.

### The next week in the St Faith's Community

#### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April - Easter Day

- 5.30am Dawn Eucharist (starts on the beach near Pier Street)
- 8.00am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist
- 11.00am Sundays@11 with Holy Communion
- 6.00pm Evening Prayer

#### Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

- 10.30am Easter Eggstravaganza

#### Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April

- 9.30am Rainbow Toddlers

#### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April

- 11.30am Eucharist
- 2.00pm Cuppa and Company

#### Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April

- 7.00-8.30pm Youth Group at St Mary's

Alverstoke

#### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April

- 8.00am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist
- 11.00am Sundays@11
- 3.00pm Friends of St Faith's AGM
- 3.30pm St Faith's Annual Parochial Church Meeting
- 6.00pm Evening Prayer

**Morning and Evening Prayer** are said in the church most weekdays at 8.30am and 5.00pm. Everyone is welcome.

**House groups** meet during the week for prayer, discussion, friendship and Bible study. For more information, please speak to one of the clergy.



## **Mothers' Union - sponsored walk for AFIA 8<sup>th</sup> April**

WE DID IT! 8 members of our branch walked 5 miles from the church to Titchfield under the guidance of Mary Shepherd. We met members from Warsash branch at St. Peter's where Mary led prayers to complete our walk. Thanks to all involved and to our sponsors! I will announce the final total raised when all monies are collected. Liz Emery - Branch Leader.

## **Steve Dent - exciting news**

Having been ordained as a distinctive deacon, Steve has been a curate at St Faith's for nearly four years. Sadly, Steve is now coming towards the end of his time with us - but I have two exciting pieces of news to share.

Firstly, Steve has in the past year felt the call to priesthood. The church has accepted this call, so Steve will be ordained as a priest at Portsmouth Cathedral on 29<sup>th</sup> June. Secondly, Steve has also felt the call to chaplaincy, and after his ordination as a priest he will start a new ministry as a chaplain at Gosport War Memorial Hospital. Since the hospital is in Alverstoke parish, Steve will be joining the ministry team there. His official title will be "Honorary Chaplain, Gosport War Memorial Hospital and Assistant Self-Supporting Minister at Alverstoke, St Mary with St. Francis and St. Faith's".

Steve's last Sunday with us at St Faith's will be 30<sup>th</sup> June, the day after his ordination to the priesthood, and Steve will be presiding at communion for the first time that day. We will have a special lunch to mark both Steve's ordination to the priesthood, and the end of his (and Jayne's) time with us. Please do pray for Steve and Jayne at this time of change, and join me in praying for every blessing for them both in the future. Paul

## **Holy Week and Easter**

### **thank you**

Thanks to everyone who helped in any way with our Holy Week and Easter events: musicians, readers, people doing things behind the scenes. Special thanks to the Flower Team for decorating the church so wonderfully for Easter Day.



## Annual Parochial Church Meeting - next Sunday

Everyone on the church Electoral Roll is invited to come to the APCM next Sunday at 3.30pm in the church. The APCM reports and accounts are now available in the church - please do take both documents, and read them before the APCM.

### Electoral Roll

The new Electoral Roll is available on Sundays, for you to check your entry. Please do let us know if there are any errors.

### Elections to the PCC

At the APCM on 28<sup>th</sup> April we will be electing two churchwardens, and five members of the PCC.



The PCC (Parochial Church Council) is the governing body of St Faith's and meets 6 times a year, on Tuesday evenings. If you would like to contribute to the life of St Faith's by joining the PCC, you need to be on the church Electoral Roll! Nomination forms are now available at the back of the church for those on the Electoral Roll to propose and second individuals for the above positions. (Do ask them first!)

For more information about what these roles involve, please speak to one of the clergy, or to Luke Marshall, PCC Lay Chair.

# Easter Eggstravaganza

10.30am-12.30pm

Bank Holiday Monday - 22<sup>nd</sup> April

St Faith's Parish Centre & Grounds

Eggs! Eggs! Eggs!  
Roll, Paint, Find,  
Hide, Throw,  
Eat, Catch, Drop!



## Family Fun for Easter



St Faith's Lee  
[www.stfaithslee.org.uk](http://www.stfaithslee.org.uk)

## **The Resurrection: a seemingly hopeless end is transformed into an endless hope**

Happy Easter! The 50 days of Easter begin today and include the feast of the Ascension (after 40 days) and culminate in the feast of Pentecost. I hope that this season of hope will bring you joy and peace as you allow the Risen Lord to come to you and bless you, whatever your circumstances.

Some Christians have been fortunate enough to have had an encounter with the risen Lord and sense his presence with them at least sometimes. Others, and according to a recent opinion poll, it is nearly half of those who say they are Christians, find believing in the Resurrection difficult.

This final reflection is for those who have doubts, so let's look again at what we know.

Jesus brutal and public suffering and death and the humiliation of his followers who scattered or hid, should have been the end of the story – failure. But it wasn't. Something happened that transformed Jesus' followers and ultimately transformed the world - something that made the events of that Passover not the end of a story but a new beginning. That something was the resurrection of Jesus from the dead – the foundation of Christian belief.

In around AD 53, twenty years or so after Christ's death and resurrection, Paul wrote to Christians in Corinth 'if Christ has not been raised then your faith is useless' he is saying that the Christian faith stands or falls on the resurrection of Jesus.

If it did happen then everything the Bible says about Jesus is true. God can be known as Father; forgiveness is possible, and death is just the gateway to eternal joy. But if it didn't happen then we cannot trust the Bible, - and God, if he exists, is a distant deity and there is no certainty about forgiveness.

So how can we know it is true? There are three clear lines of evidence. Firstly the empty tomb. There could be other explanations of course (e.g. that Jesus didn't really die, or that the disciples stole his body) - but the crucial fact is that Jesus' dead body was never found even though it would have been of paramount importance for the Jewish Leaders and for the Roman governor to find it and disprove the resurrection.

Secondly, the appearances of the Risen Lord. The four gospels, Acts and I Corinthians 15 (probably the earliest written account) mention around a

dozen appearances of the resurrected Jesus. They are varied, unpredictable and unexpected physical events; dynamic not static and lasting - not like a ghost or a momentary vision. Jesus bears the scars of crucifixion and whilst the disciples, after the initial shock relate to Jesus as they always had – there is something different about him. They don't always immediately recognise him, and he can appear through locked doors. Trying to analyse or explain these appearances just doesn't work and misses the point because here we are in the realm of mystery beyond our understanding.

Thirdly and most convincing for me is the fact of the early church. Think back to Good Friday. The hopes and expectations of the disciples had been shattered. Jesus their hoped-for Messiah was dead and worse he had been betrayed by one of his own disciples and denied by another. What a hopeless situation - and yet seven weeks later Peter and the disciples were back in Jerusalem openly and confidently declaring that Jesus who had been crucified was the Messiah and had risen from death. Something had transformed the dispirited, disillusioned and discredited followers of Jesus into a dynamic confident and growing movement. And the disciples claimed that what had transformed them was the appearance of the Risen Lord and his sending of the Holy Spirit on them. And no one has ever suggested a more plausible alternative.

If you still have doubts, then think of the hard facts of the history of the church. Within 20 years of the crucifixion there were groups of people right across the eastern Mediterranean worshipping the crucified and risen Jesus as Lord and Messiah. Within a hundred years large numbers of Christian communities had become established often in the face of persecution across most of the known world. Many Christians at those times of persecution then, and still now, preferred to die rather than give up their faith in Jesus. They had no doubts. The explosive growth of Christianity from the most discouraging start imaginable – a crucified Jewish manual worker and a handful of ordinary people - needs explaining - and the only seemingly credible explanation lies in the combination of the person of Jesus, the phenomenon of the resurrection and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Since the day of resurrection countless millions of people have testified to encountering the risen Lord and knowing his transforming presence in their lives and perhaps many more long for this experience.

So, finally, it is a question of faith. If we think about it, we have faith in many things that we cannot prove – e.g. the love between two people which can be

trusted but not proved. Likewise, the fact that the sun will rise tomorrow can be trusted but how would you prove it?

Let us pray that this Eastertide we shall be able to trust God more and know the gift of the presence of the risen Lord in our own lives and in the lives of those we love who have not yet encountered Jesus. We shall then truly be the Easter people that we are called to be.

### Dates for your diary

Thy Kingdom Come prayer events:

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 7pm Taizé prayer** at Lee Methodist Church,

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30pm Prayer and praise**, hosted by Lee Community Church, at Lee Community Centre

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June-Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June, 6pm-6pm 24 Hours of Prayer**

In the Lowry Room at St Faith's

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June 10am Joint whole-church service for Pentecost**

**Sunday 9th June, 1pm-4.30pm Big Prayer Picnic** for Christians across SE Hampshire, at Portchester Castle

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June St Faith's Summer Fete**

Please do put this date in your diary, and be prepared to help out at the Fete!

### For your prayers during the next week

#### **Collect for Easter Day**

Lord of all life and power,

who through the mighty resurrection of your Son

overcame the old order of sin and death

to make all things new in him:

grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ,

may reign with him in glory;

to whom with you and the Holy Spirit

be praise and honour, glory and might,

now and in all eternity. Amen.

**Those to be christened:** Noah Mooney

**Those who are unwell:** Martin Over, Sue Harrap, Vicki Edwards, Angela Whitbread, Margaret Parker, Ceila Delicate, George Fisher, John Fellows, Doug Griffiths, Terry Wilson and David Almond

**Anniversaries of Death:** Ruby Scott (21<sup>st</sup>); Frank Styler (23<sup>rd</sup>), Charles Pepper, Evelyn Black (24<sup>th</sup>), Margaret Shaw (26<sup>th</sup>), Tony Edleston, Dan Ferris (27<sup>th</sup>)

# **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April - Easter Day**

## **8.00am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion**

*A traditional communion service using the 1662 order of service*

President: Jan & Michael Beer      Assistant: Alison King

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## **9.30am Parish Eucharist**

*A formal choral service of Holy Communion*

President: Paul Chamberlain      Deacon: Steve Dent

Preacher: Mary Kells      Intercessions:

Epistle: Acts 10:34-43      Angela Torroni

Gospel Reading: Luke 24:1-12      Jo Drew

Chalice: Annabel Brammall; Jayne Dent; Kim & Jon McDonald

Hymns: All the hymns are in the order of service

## **11.00am Sundays@11 with Holy Communion**

*A service for all ages, with a music group, various media, and activities for adults and children.*

Leader: Paul Chamberlain      Preacher: Mary Kells

Songs: See what a morning; King of Love; How can it be; Happy Day (The Greatest Day in History); Thine Be the Glory

## **6.00pm Evening Prayer**

*A traditional reflective service with music and a sermon*

Officiant: Paul Chamberlain

Opening Hymn: 117      The day of resurrection

Psalm: 105

First reading: Isaiah 43:1-21

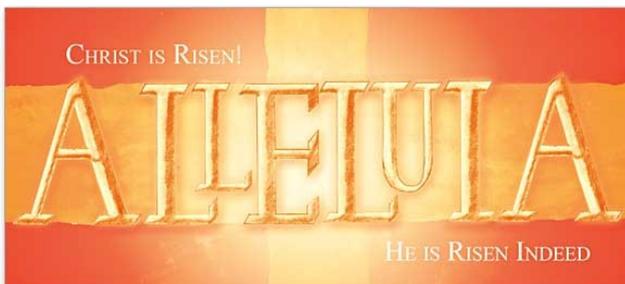
Second reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11      Mike James

Homily: Paul Chamberlain      Mike James

Hymn: 113      Love's redeeming work is done

Intercessions: Gillian Sinclair

Hymn: 107      Good Christian men, rejoice and sing



## In the Church and Parish Centre 21<sup>st</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> April

	Church	Bulson Hall	Lowry Room
<b>Sun 21<sup>st</sup> April</b>	5.30 Dawn Eucharist 8.00 Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Eucharist 11.00 Sundays@11 6.00pm Evening Prayer	Refreshments 11.15 Sundays@11	9.00am Choir 11.15 Sundays@11
<b>Mon 22<sup>nd</sup></b>		10.30-12.30 Easter Eggstravaganza	
<b>Tue 23<sup>rd</sup> Apr</b>	8.00 Silent Prayer 8.30 Morning Prayer 5.00pm Evening Prayer	9.30-11.15am Rainbow Toddlers 1.30-2.30 & 2.45-3.45pm Pilates 6.15-7.15pm Yoga	9.30-10.30 Zumba 3.30-4.30pm Starz Ballet
<b>Wed 24<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	8.00 Silent Prayer 8.30 Morning Prayer 5.00pm Evening Prayer	1.00-3.00 Weight Watchers 7.30-9.15 Lee Choral Society	1.00-2.00pm Falls Prevention Class 7.30-8.30 Zumba
<b>Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	8.00 Silent Prayer 8.30 Morning Prayer 11.30 Eucharist 5.00pm Evening Prayer	9.30-10.30 Yoga 2.00-3.00pm Cuppa & Company 5.30-6.30 Yoga 6.45-7.45 Pilates	
<b>Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	8.00 Silent Prayer 8.30 Morning Prayer 5.00pm Evening Prayer	1.00-2.00pm Zumba Gold	10.00-11.00 Jiggy Wrigglers 6.30-9.00pm Choir & worship group practices
<b>Sat 27<sup>th</sup></b>		9.30-10.30 Zumba	
<b>Sun 28<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	8.00 Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Eucharist 10.30 Traidcraft stall 11.00 Sundays@11 3.00 Friends of St Faith's AGM 3.30 St Faith's APCM 6.00pm Evening Prayer	Refreshments 11.15 Sundays@11 2.30-5.30 Private party	9.00am Choir 11.15 Sundays@11