

Christening of Sophie Bullen - welcome!

Today we welcome Sophie Bullen, the daughter of Karl and Caroline, who is being baptised at the Parish Eucharist. If you're visiting us today for Sophie's christening - welcome! We hope you enjoy your time with us.

Elections to the PCC

At the APCM on 28th 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.



Flower Seeds Wanted

Do you have any spare flower seeds? Becca Chamberlain and Rebecca Parrett are interested in receiving any spare flower seeds, to use for making seed balls at the Easter Eggstravangza on Easter Monday. Please pass your spare seeds to them, or drop them into the church office.

Revision of St Faith's Electoral Roll

Today is the last day for completing an Electoral Roll form, until after the APCM. This year there is a complete revision because every six years each parish has to totally revise their Electoral Roll. If you have not completed your form please do it today and hand it to one of the Churchwardens, or a member of the clergy. Thank you.

Holy Week and Easter

Holy Week begins next Sunday, so Easter is fast approaching. Please do make sure you have a copy of the Holy Week and Easter flyer, giving you information about all the special events happening in Holy Week and Easter this year.

Holy Week and Easter 2019
Join us as we mark Jesus' passion, death and resurrection
14th - 21st April 2018

Songs of Praise
A service of praise and thanksgiving for Palm Sunday 6pm, Sunday 14th April

Mary Magdalene
A service about one of Jesus' first disciples, and the one who was the first to see the risen Jesus, followed by discussion 7.30pm, Monday 15th April, Bulson Hall

Arguing with power
A Holy Week evening service inspired by the Jesus community
7.30pm, Tuesday 16th April, Bulson Hall

How deep the father's love for us
A service of contemporary praise and worship, reflecting on the washing of the cross
7.30pm Wednesday 17th April, Bulson Hall

Maundy Thursday Eucharist
A special Eucharist on Maundy Thursday including foot washing, the day Jesus shared his last meal with his disciples, washed their feet, and gave the church Holy Communion. 7.30pm, Thursday 18th April at St Faith's

Good Friday - 19th April
10.00am Joint Leo Churches service at Leo Community Centre
12noon Good Friday for Everyone - A Sunday@11 eve service for all ages, Bulson Hall
7.30pm The Liturgy of Good Friday - An ancient observance in which we meditate on the cross and share in the bread and wine consecrated at the Eucharist on Maundy Thursday, St Faith's
Breadline - A service of light and darkness telling the 'disciple's' journey to Good Friday, Bulson Hall

Easter Day - 21st April
5.30am Dawn Eucharist - starting on the banks (if not raining)
8.00am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Eucharist
11.00am Sunday@11
6.00pm Evening Prayer

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Lent Reflection for Passion Sunday - 7th April 2019

Each week in Lent, Revd Ann Leonard writes a Lent Reflection for us.

Passiontide marks our invitation to enter with our Lord into his suffering and crucifixion so that we can know in an even deeper way what his death and resurrection mean for us.

Today's set gospel story for Passion Sunday (John 12:1-8) happens in Bethany just outside Jerusalem. Jesus along with many pilgrims who have come for the Passover festival, is staying in an outlying village because Jerusalem is so full. He is staying with his friends, Lazarus, recently raised from the dead and the sisters Mary and Martha. In John's gospel it is Mary who anoints Jesus for burial by pouring costly ointment over his feet and drying them with her hair – a shocking action for a woman in that culture and a seeming waste of precious resources - and this might have been the tipping point for Judas who went on to betray Jesus.

Jesus knows he is on his final journey towards his death.

There is no escape from the fact that despite almost universal denial in our culture one day we will die. Our ancestors put their burial places in churchyards in the centre of towns and villages, serving as a reminder that we will all die. But we now build our crematoria on the very edge of town and make them look like conference centres. It seems that year by year people have fewer resources to think about death and to cope with grieving.

Our faith in the crucified and risen Christ is meant to give us hope for eternal life but I wonder how many of us fear death? This Passiontide might be a good time to reflect again on our own mortality and how secure we feel in our hopes for eternal life. I find it helpful as well as painful to try to accompany Jesus through the last days of his life. We can learn so much from his integrity – his acceptance of his suffering and his refusal to get angry or to blame or accuse.

The Crucifixion does not, will not, cannot change our own personal suffering, but it can change us in how we deal with it. Christ's physical and mental anguish in the events of Holy Week show that God knows our suffering from the inside and is with us in it, and Jesus' outstretched arms on the cross embrace and forgive all humanity. The cross is the symbol of divine opposition to the pendulum swing we see so much of in society – of attack and revenge.

Whatever our personal and national circumstances I think our task as Christians is to walk as closely with Christ as we can and to resist pessimism and fear. It may seem as if we are entering a period of exile – but we must not let fear have the last word. God’s love shown through Jesus is stronger than our fear.

I believe that there is a judgment at the end of our lives, but we will be judged not on how successful or wealthy we have been or what we have accumulated but on how we have loved God and each other - and a key part of that judgement will be God asking us if we have enjoyed his gift of creation and life.

I think that seeing our life as a gift rather than a right helps us to be more willing to let it go without fear when the time comes to die. As we reflect of Jesus’ death, Passiontide can be a time to prepare for our own death and perhaps even plan our funeral service – choosing hymns and readings which sum up our lives?

But to help us reflect on our Lord’s passion we can, I think do no better than meditate on the hymn ‘My Song is Love unknown’ written by Samuel Crossman, in 1664.

Why is the love ‘unknown’? Perhaps because it is unimaginable or because it is ignored, or simply because it is a love which is known to God but unknown to us.

My song is love unknown, my Saviour’s love to me;
Love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be.

O who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?

He came from His blest throne, salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know:
But O, my Friend, my Friend indeed, who at my need his life did spend.



Sunday 7th April - The Bible: Revelation/

5th Sunday of Lent

8.00am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion

A traditional communion service using the 1662 order of service

President: Paul Chamberlain Assistant: David Fordham

Preacher: Paul Chamberlain Collect: Page 138

9.30am Parish Eucharist with the Christening of Sophie Bullen

A formal choral service of Holy Communion

President: Paul Chamberlain Deacon: Mary Kells

Preacher: Paul Chamberlain Intercessions: Gillian Sinclair

Epistle: Revelation 1:1-3; 21:1-7 Trevor Dawson

Gospel Reading: Matthew 3: 13-17 Emma Bullen

Chalice: Cliff Rook, Richard Buckland, Sue Castle and Bill Delicate

Hymns: *Hymns are on the screen and in the Order of Service.*

Chant: Calm me Lord Page 31

Processional: Morning has broken Page 31

Psalm: Springs of water, O bless the Lord! Page 32

Offertory: Restore, O Lord, Page 32

Anthem: Gaelic Blessing J Rutter

Communion: Make me a channel of your peace Page 33

Closing Hymn: One more step along the world I go Page 34

11.00am Sundays@11 with Holy Communion

Leader: Paul Chamberlain

Songs: Come, Now is the time; My lighthouse; There is a redeemer; Who paints the skies.

1.00pm Christening of Orla Bone

6.00pm Evening Prayer

A traditional reflective service with music and a sermon

Officiant: Ian Hamilton

Opening Hymn: 70 Lord Jesus think on me

Psalm: 35

First reading: 2 Chronicles 35:1-6,10-16 Alison King

Second reading: Luke 22:1-13 Alison King

Homily: Ian Hamilton

Hymn: Red 31 Make me a channel of your peace

Intercessions: Frank Cochrane

Hymn: 434 Oft in danger, oft in woe

For your prayers during the next week

Collect for 5th Sunday of Lent

Most merciful God,

who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world:

grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross

we may triumph in the power of his victory;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. Amen

Those to be christened: Sophie Bullen, Orla Bone and Noah Mooney

Those who are unwell: Martin Over, Sue Harrap, Vicki Edwards, Angela Whitbread, Margaret Parker, George Fisher and David Almond

Those who have died: Peter Wright

Anniversaries of Death: John Reading and Gen Pearce (7th); Alfred Edwards (9th); William Portman and Sarah Smith (10th); Steven Prout (12th); John McMillan, Jacky Finch and Dorothy McDonald (13th).

Lord our God and our Father, we thank you for giving us the Holy Spirit, who binds us to you. Give us continually afresh something of this Spirit so that we can go forward with light shining on the paths we must follow on earth. Grant us your Spirit, grant that light may break into our whole life and we can rejoice because we experience so much of what you are doing. For through the power of your Spirit you can help us toward your future and all that is to come, that we may live not only in time but in eternity. Amen.



Quiz with a Fish & Chip Supper thanks

Thank you to the Friends of St Faith's for organising last Saturday's Quiz with a Fish and Chip Supper. Special mention must go to Peter and Sally Appleton for their hard work in devising the fiendish questions for the Quiz, and Frankie Gunns and Jan McCready for organising the food.

*Thank
you!*

St Faith's Vision: Our vision is to be a welcoming progressive Christian community of all ages and all stages of faith, nurturing spiritual growth, and representing God's living presence in our town.

In the Church and Parish Centre 7th-14th April

| | Church | Bulson Hall | Lowry Room |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun 7th April | 8.00 Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Eucharist with Christening of Sophie Bullen 11.00 Sundays@11 1.00pm Christening of Orla Bone 6.00pm Evening Prayer | Refreshments Traidcraft Stall 11.30 Christening Party of Sophie Bullen.  | 9.00am Choir  |
| Mon 8th Apr | 8.00 Silent Prayer 8.30 Morning Prayer 5.00pm Evening Prayer  | 9.30-12.30pm Luncheon Club 2.00-4.00pm St Faith's Flower Group 5.15-5.45pm Zumba Gold 6.15-7.15pm Yoga | 10.00-11.00 Pilates 1.30-2.30pm Clinical Pilates 6.15-7.15pm Zumba |
| Tue 9th Apr | 8.00 Silent Prayer 8.30 Morning Prayer 5.00pm Evening Prayer | 1.30-2.30 & 2.45-3.45pm Pilates 4.15-5.15 Zumba Gold 6.15-7.15pm Yoga | 9.30-10.30 Zumba |
| Wed 10th Apr | 8.00 Silent Prayer 8.30 Morning Prayer 5.00pm Evening Prayer | 10.00-12.00 Civil Service Pensioners' Alliance 1.00-3.00pm Weight Watchers | 9.30-12.00 Lee Bridge Group 1.00-2.00pm Falls Prevention Class 7.30-8.30 Zumba |
| Thu 11th Apr | 8.00 Silent Prayer 8.30 Morning Prayer 11.30 Eucharist 5.00pm Evening Prayer | 9.30-10.30 Yoga 5.30-7.45pm Yoga and Pilates | 10.00-1.00pm Lowry Art Group |
| Fri 12th Apr | 8.00 Silent Prayer 8.30 Morning Prayer 5.00pm Evening Prayer | 1.00-2.00pm Zumba Gold | 10.00-11.00 Jiggy Wrigglers 2.00-4.00pm Knit & Natter 6.30-9.00pm Choir Practices |
| Sat 13th Apr | <i>Want a venue for a concert? Then please ring 023 9255 6445</i> | 9.30-10.30 Zumba | <i>Want a venue for a party or meeting? Then please ring 023 9255 6445</i> |
| Sun 14th Apr | 8.00 Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Eucharist 11.00 Sundays@11 6.00pm Evening Prayer | Refreshments Traidcraft Stall 11.15 Sundays@11 | 9.00am Choir 11.15 Sundays@11 |

Church & Parish Centre Contact Details

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Church Office

Church Administrator: Andrew Munro

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The Church Office is from 10.00am-12.30pm each weekday.

For Church enquiries: churchadmin@stfaithslee.org.uk

For Parish Centre enquiries: centreadmin@stfaithsparishcentre.org.uk



St Faith's Church & Parish Centre

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