

Sedgeberrow



Hampton – Fairfield – Thistledown Eastwick Park – Charity Crescent



Hinton-on-the-Green

# THE HERALD



## **Easter Services**

## Saturday 7 April

8pm – Easter Vigil – All Saints

## **Easter Sunday**

## **Hampton**

8am - Holy Communion

9.30am - Eucharist

### Sedgeberrow

11am - Family Communion

## Hinton

6pm - Holy Communion



## Prayers ... For the Church of Christ and Peace in the World

He is risen, Alleluia! To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul

On Palm Sunday rejoice with the crowds who greeted Jesus on his entry into Jerusalem and pray that the worldwide Church will strive to share that joy with all people. During Holy Week and especially on Good Friday ponder on Jesus' journey to his crucifixion and pray for strength to face our own trials with the same willingness. On Easter Day give thanks for the glorious Resurrection of our Saviour and for the hope that it brings to us all. On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> we celebrate the Festival of Saint George, Patron Saint of England; give thanks for the example of his martyrdom and pray for the well-being of the English people. Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> is the Festival of Saint Mark; give thanks for his Gospel and pray that the people who read it and other Scriptures may find guidance and inspiration. Pray, too, for the Church Urban Fund in its work to relieve the poverty of so many town- and city-dwellers. Ask for God's blessing for the mission of Saint Peter's, Hinton-on -the - Green, the leaders and all the members of the congregation and for their supporters within the village.

Continue to pray for peace in the world, especially in Syria. Pray for people who suffer oppression, for their suffering and for those who seek to bring them relief. Pray, too, for those who are denied political freedom and equality. Bring before God the oppressors that they may come to understand their shared humanity with their victims and to set their people free.

Glory be to God on high and on earth peace, goodwill towards all

## **Contributions for the Herald**

Contributions for the May edition should be received by 8 April 2012, for the June edition by 6 May 2012, and for the July edition by 10 June 2012.

Priest in Charge	The Revd Mark Binney (01386) 446381 mark@hamptonchurch.org.uk		
	The Vicarage, Pershore Road, Evesham WR11 2PQ		
Honorary Assistant	The Revd Leonard Burn (01386) 881160		
Priests	The Revd Bernard Rumbold (01386) 424993		
	The Revd Patrick Wooster Tel: (01386) 45907		
Licensed Lay Minister	Mr John Lynch (01386) 553392		
(Reader)	Mrs Elaine Major (01386) 40722		

#### **Church Wardens**

St Andrew's	Mr Michael Hunter (01386) 41490 michael@hamptonchurch.org.uk
Hampton	Mrs Gabrielle Falkiner (01386) 41302 gabrielle@hamptonchurch.org.uk
St Mary the Virgin,	Mrs Ann Banks (01386) 881623
Sedgeberrow	Mrs Doreen Hayes (01386) 881965
St Peter's,	Mrs Amanda French 07961 935925
Hinton-on-the-Green	Mrs Lisa James 07866 654923

## From Mark Binney, Priest in Charge

A recent report declared that in just 20 years Britain may no longer be a Christian Country. If the trend continues, the number of non-believers will be greater than the number of Christians by 2030. That is, if the Church does nothing to stem this decline.

Church attendance figures also support the conclusion that the Church is in decline. In 2010 there were around 41.1 million Christians in Britain, down 7.6 per cent over the past six years. The number of non-believers was around 13.4 million, up 49 per cent over the same period.



Why has this happened? A variety of answers can be given which will depend upon your point of view. For my own part I feel that many Anglican Churches are not very good at sharing the Christian faith. There is an assumption that people will walk through the Church door and that they will understand the strange practices that are going on! There have also been huge changes in our society which have separated many people from any experience of the Church. If and when they do come into contact with a Church they struggle to know what it is all about.

As we celebrate the joy of Easter we are reminded that Christianity is about faith, our faith in the risen Lord. How effective are we in sharing our faith with those around us? Each of us has a personal story of how we came to Christ. Are we aware of the faith journey of other members of the congregation?

The Easter faith is to be shared with those around us. God makes 'his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ' (2 Corinthians 4.6). God enables us to recognize that Jesus is God. He makes it possible by his Holy Spirit for a person to see who Jesus is. When Paul is on the Damascus road he asks "Who are you, Lord?" and is told "I am Jesus" (Acts 9.5). This is the moment of Paul's conversion when he recognises for the first time who Jesus is.

People need to hear the Gospel to be able to respond to God's invitation to enable his light to shine in our hearts. There are many things in this world which blind us to faith. We can chase after the things of the world which are passing away, such as material possessions. They can take the place of God for many people. 'The God of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers' (2 Corinthians 4.4). The eternal is completely obscured by the here and now.

Easter is the time to draw people to Jesus to encourage as many as possible to make a decision to follow him. We are all called to share our faith and bring others to faith. God will do his part and we must do ours to keep Britain Christian.

# **Christianity Explored**

What do Christians believe? Who is Jesus Christ? Did he really exist? Is He really God? If He did exist and He is God, what did He say



while He was here on earth? Does He really tell us what the point of life is? Christianity Explored allows people to explore the person at the heart of the Christian faith - Jesus Christ.

At St Andrew's we want to give people an opportunity to hear the message of Jesus Christ explained, to ask questions and to think through the big issues of life. Christianity Explored is a seven week course that aims to achieve all of these things in a relaxed setting and is open to all – whether you'd call yourself a 'beginner' with very little or no knowledge of Christianity or whether you're a believer who'd like to brush up on the basics. There's no commitment to attend every week, although you'll find it most help if you do. There's no pressure, praying or singing, and no previous knowledge of the Bible or Christianity is assumed.

# Hampton Mothers' Union Knitted Blankets

Some of the Hampton MU ladies have knitted 10x10cm (4"x4") squares out of double knitting wool (cheap bargains) and sewed them together to make blankets. The sizes range from 4x5 squares for a doll's pram blanket, 9x14 for a smaller lap or 10x15 for a larger lap blanket for the elderly or immobile in our community.



In keeping with MU tradition two such blankets were dedicated/blessed by our vicar, Mark, in our morning service in church on 19 February. One has already been given to a lady on our sick list, and one is waiting to be given. There are enough squares to be made up for about another two blankets, so if you know of anybody who feels the cold and would like one, please contact our branch leader, Ida Roberts on 421632. If you have any double knitting wool and would like to donate it to be knitted up, please also drop it into one of our MU meetings. Thank you.

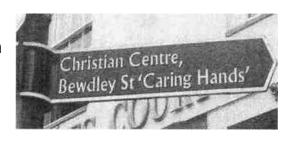
Rhoda Arora

# **Sedgeberrow**

The date of the April Bingo has changed to April 21st at 8pm. There will a Coffee Morning on April 26<sup>th</sup> in the Church. We will be celebrating the **Queen's Diamond Jubilee** on Sunday June 3rd by holding a Village Fête in Glebe Meadow.

# **Caring Hands in the Vale**

The first of our Lent Talks was given by Rev. John King who has just retired from the Vale of Evesham Christian Centre. He highlighted the work of Caring Hands which is "Making a Difference in our local community"



Caring Hands is an organisation within the Evesham Christian Centre that seeks to help relieve poverty and need in the Vale of Evesham. Those referred may receive food parcels, toiletry packs, bedding, clothing, sleeping bags and blankets free of charge depending on their circumstances. People can also receive a free hot meal twice a week at the Caring Hands Diner. Referrals include people on low incomes, in severe debt and with benefit issues, single parent families, and ex-offenders, families of offenders, homeless/rough sleepers, and people with addiction and mental health problems; also those in crisis situations such as illness, injury, relationship breakdown and bereavement. Caring Hands operates networks with many community organisations.

The Caring Hands Diner provides meals on Mondays and Wednesdays between 12.00noon and 2.00p.m, free of charge to anyone who is referred to them.

There are various ways in which people can get involved in Caring Hands.

## How can you help?

#### **Donate**

Caring Hands distributes hundreds of food parcels in the course of a year, therefore the food cupboard constantly needs restocking with essential items. You could donate items such as: Bread, UHT Milk, Margarine, Canned and Dried Goods, Jars, Frozen foods, Toiletries (no sprays), Flannels, Hand Towels, Toilet Rolls, Washing Tablets, Blankets, Sleeping Bags, Good Quality Clothing, Backpacks (good size).

#### **Financial Support**

Caring Hands wouldn't be possible without generous financial support. Any money received goes towards the daily running of Caring Hands. Supermarket gift vouchers are also welcomed. Cheques payable to 'Caring Hands in the Vale'

#### Volunteer your time

The Caring Hands team is made up of many wonderful volunteers. If you have some spare time and would like to help, please contact Diane Bennett.

#### **Prayer Support**

If you'd like to know more contact Diane Bennett on 01386 765946 or <a href="mailto:diane@eveshamchristiancentre.co.uk">diane@eveshamchristiancentre.co.uk</a>

# What's the Big Idea?

## An Introduction to the Books of the New Testament: 2 Corinthians

'For anyone operating under the naïve presumption that joining a Christian church is a good way to meet all the best people and cultivate smooth social relations, a reading of Paul's Corinthian correspondence is the prescribed cure' (Eugene Peterson).

The apostle Paul is undoubtedly the author of 2 Corinthians. Paul wrote the letter from Macedonia around A.D. 55, a year or so after 1 Corinthians.

Paul had a number of reasons for writing the letter:

- To express the comfort and joy he felt because the Corinthians had responded favourably to his painful letter (1 Corinthians)
- To let them know about the trouble he went through in the province of Asia and explain why he changed his travel plans.
- To ask them to forgive those who offended him.
- To warn them not to be "yoked together with unbelievers".
- To explain the true nature and calling of Christian ministry.
- To teach them about the grace of giving and to ensure that they completed the collection for the Christians at Jerusalem.
- To deal with the opposition in the church and prepare for his coming visit.

It is the most personal of all Paul's letters, as he defends his leadership against his opponents. They accused him of inconsistencies, questioned his motives and challenged his credentials. A major theme of the letter concerns the relationship between suffering and the power of the Spirit in Paul's life and ministry. His sufferings embody the death of Christ, while his endurance demonstrates resurrection power and is a means by which God reveals his glory, 'But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.' (2 Cor 12:9).

# Prayers ... for our local community

Pray for the people who work in the businesses situated in your locality, that they may do well in this time of difficulty, that they may continue to provide employment and that the people who work there may find enjoyment in their work. Pray for the fellowship to be found in the Women's Institutes of our Benefice and for the Friendship Club, that the lives of the members of all these gatherings may be enriched.

## Hinton-on-the-Green

The PCC secretary Liz Davies organised a successful parish footpath walkabout on 19th Feb and hopes to hold another when the fields are a little less muddy. Volunteers continued with the churchyard winter tidy-up in March, and by the time you read this, they should have finished pollarding the whole



avenue of trees. Many thanks go to everyone who helped.

Five parishioners have just started to learn the ancient art of bell ringing, by visiting Worcester cathedral's excellent ringing simulator on Monday evenings. They should be ready to be let loose on Hinton's bells in a month or so, and hopefully will be capable of ringing the bells to mark the Jubilee and St. Peter's Day celebrations later in the year.

St. Peter's church's east window is mentioned in Wikipedia's new article about Victorian stained glass artist, Christopher Whall.

The Wychavon Youth Bus will visit in March / April. Details will be put on the church and village notice boards when available. The Bus will be in Station Road, and young people aged 8-18 will be welcome.

On Easter Sunday the 6pm service will be preceded, at 5pm, by special activities for children, e.g. An Easter egg "Scavenger Hunt". Following the service there will be light refreshments for all. All welcome.

Starting in March the pattern of services has changed. There will be a **11am Family Service** on the **4th Sunday** of the month and either a **Songs of Praise** or a **Holy Communion** on the **2nd Sunday** at 4pm in winter and 6pm in the summer.

## Sausage Risotto

250g/8oz Smoked Sausage

1 tbsp oil

125g/4oz rice

1 onion (chopped)

1 clove of garlic (crushed)

125g/4oz mushrooms (sliced)

50g/2oz frozen peas

1 small red pepper (chopped)

1 small can of red Kidney Beans

(drained)

¾pt boiling water

1 chicken stock cube

1 tsp turmeric

salt and pepper

1 tsp chopped parsley to garnish

#### Method

Heat the oil in a large pan, and when hot, add the chopped onion and cook gently until soft. Add the crushed garlic and cook for a further minute.

Add the rice, and cook for two minutes, stirring to prevent sticking.

Dissolve the stock cube in the boiling water, then stir in the turmeric. Pour over the rice mixture and bring up to the boil. Turn down the heat, add the peppers and mushrooms, then simmer for about 10 minutes, or until the rice is tender and the water absorbed.

Add the peas and drained kidney beans, with the sliced sausage.

Stir well, and cook gently for a further 2 minutes, then place in a shallow serving dish, garnished with chopped parsley.

# **Sedgeberrow CE First School**

Our Eco-committee have been very busy this term. They evaluated the school environmental review and produced a detailed action plan for achievement before Easter. We have all been working on reducing our electricity usage by making sure doors are shut and lights turned off where possible. The graph on the eco-board shows that these measures are proving successful. The committee are also trying to reduce our water usage by installing 'hippos' in the toilets and monitoring taps around school which are left on unnecessarily. They have requested replacement push taps in the mobile classrooms to save water. This has been agreed so the committee has written to our handyman to ask if he will undertake this work for us.



An Eco-week is being planned before Easter which will have a focus on Design Technology. Each class will make something different like bird boxes and animal habitats to be put around the school to encourage a greater range of wildlife to visit us.

The creatures seen in each area in our grounds will be recorded to establish whether we can make a difference. Another ongoing project is turning the pond into a wildlife area. Year 5 began the work using

their forest school expertise and now each class in turn spends an hour on a Friday afternoon tidying and maintaining the area so it doesn't get overgrown.



Lots of other environmental work has been going on too. Year Two's topic this half term is The Great Outdoors. They started off with a Science week looking at different plants and animals that live around our school. They went on an animal hunt. They found ladybirds in a lot of different places but only saw a frog in the pond area. Year Two were very lucky to have found a newt which Ronan found underneath a log in the forest area.

We hope to be able to gain 'Green Flag' status for the school later this year. www.sedgeberrowfirstschool.ik.org

# Prayers ... for everyone in education

At this time when so many students of all ages are preparing for important examinations, pray that they will enjoy that work and do themselves justice. Pray for teachers and lecturers at all levels that they may inspire the students in their charge, remembering especially Sedgeberrow and Hampton First Schools. Pray, too, for the group that cares for the playground in Sedgeberrow.

## St Andrew's CE First School

We have had a very successful run up to the Easter holidays which saw St. Andrew's raise over £850 at our Book Fair and receive a £2300 donation from Rooftop Housing towards replacing the sound and lighting system in our hall with a state-of-the-art system.



We celebrated the end of term with a moving Easter Service, during which the Easter Story was performed by children with the 'Open the Book' team. We also began our Confirmation classes for Year 5 children, which are due to run through until May.

The first half of April is taken up with a much deserved holiday, but we look forward to a 'Mad Science' assembly to celebrate the launch of our Science Club upon our return. (It promises to be very loud, very messy and tremendous fun!).

Our parent supporter group SASSA are holding their very popular Chocolate Bingo evening on the 27<sup>th</sup> April, following a successful school Disco in March to raise funds for Phonics resources and contributing to Educational Visits.

Emma Beech, our Family Support Worker is running some parent information workshops to support issues such as Positive Behaviour, Sleeping and Family Routines and Healthy Eating. These will begin on April 18<sup>th</sup> and run fortnightly for four sessions.

We also have a boys football tournament running for year 5 this month, which we are excited about as the team have been training hard since January. We didn't win the Evesham League, but we're looking forward to doing our best to win against the same teams on April 27<sup>th</sup>.

We are delighted to be involved with the opening of the new Bellway Homes development. St Andrew's pupils and staff opened the first Showhome on 17<sup>th</sup> March and our pupils are involved in developing the open play spaces planned for the future.

Website: <a href="http://www.st-andrews.worcs.sch.uk/">http://www.st-andrews.worcs.sch.uk/</a>

## **Regular Events**

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Mothers' Union	St Andrew's Prayer Group		
2nd Tuesday of the month - 2pm	3rd Tuesday of the month – 6.45pm		
Hampton Vicarage	St Andrew's Church		
St Andrew's Church Open Morning	Benefice Youth Group		
2nd Saturday of the month	Thursdays in term-time - 7pm		
10am–noon	Hampton Parish Room		
St Andrew's Tots			
Tuesdays in term time - 9-10.30am - Scout & Guide Community Hall			

# **Events Update - April 2012**

Amendments and additions in **bold**. Unconfirmed and provisional in *italics*.

		•	
Church Open Morning	Sat	14 Apr 10-12	Hampton
St Andrew's Tots	Tues	17 Apr 9-10.30am	Scout and Guide Hall
Bingo	Sat	21 Apr 8pm	Sedgeberrow Village Hall
Annual Church Meeting	Sun	22 Apr 10am	Hampton
St Andrew's Tots	Tues	24 Apr 9-10.30am	Scout and Guide Hall
Coffee Morning	Thu	26 Apr 10am	Sedgeberrow
Church Open Morning	Sat	12 May 10-12	Hampton
Christian Aid Week	13 – 19	9 May	
Coffee Morning	Thu	24 May 10am	Sedgeberrow
Diamond Jubilee 'Big Lunch'	Sun	3 June	Vicarage Garden
Sedgeberrow Diamond Jubilee	Sun	3 June	Glebe Meadow
Fête			
Hinton Diamond Jubilee Party	tbc	June date tbc	Hinton Playing Field
<b>Confirmation Service</b>	Sun	10 June 10am	Hampton
Vale Local Food Festival	Sun	17 June	All Saints Churchyard
John Martin Commemoration	Sun	24 June 6.30pm	Hampton
Benefice Party	Sun	1 July 12noon	Vicarage Garden
St Peter's Day Celebration	Sun	1 July pm	Hinton on the Green
St Andrew's School Fête	Fri	6 July 6pm	St Andrew's School
St Andrew's Summer Fête	Sat	14 July 2pm	Vicarage Lawn
St Andrew's Harvest Festival	Sun	7 Oct 11am	Hampton
St Andrew's Harvest Supper	Sat	13 Oct 7.30pm	Scout & Guide Hall

# **Hampton WI**

Our speaker at our April meeting was David Withey, who had worked for Worcestershire County Council for over 30 years, before retiring. The title of his talk was 'The Lighter Side of Local Government', and he regaled us with many amusing anecdotes about council matters,



both from his own and from others' experience. Particularly amusing were the letters sent to the Housing Department by some of their tenants.

During 2012, we are looking forward to outings to Elgar's Birthplace and Kew Gardens, our own Jubilee version of 'Tea at the Ritz', and a Summer Lunch at King's Court Hotel,

On 12 April, Sonia Turner will be talking about 'The Training and Working of Dogs for Film and TV', our meeting on 10 May will be our Resolutions Meeting, and on 14 June the topic will be 'By Steam Train to Darjeeling' by David Barrie.

Our meetings are held at the Hampton Guide and Scout Community Hall on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm. Visitors and prospective new members are always welcome. Please contact Joyce Davey on 01386 443755 for more information.

# **Bible Readings - April 2012**

Sunday 1st Palm Sunday	Mark 11.1-11 or John 12.12-16 Isaiah 50.4-9a Philippians 2.5-11	Sunday 15th 2nd Sunday of Easter	Acts 4.32-35 1 John 1.1-22 John 20.19-31
Sunday 8th Easter Sunday	Acts 10.34-43 or Isaiah 25.6-9 1 Corinthians 15.1-11 or Acts 10.34-43 Mark 16.1-8 or John 20.1-18	Sunday 22nd 3rd Sunday of Easter	Acts 3.12-19 1 John 3.1-7 Luke 24.36-48
		Sunday 29th 4th Sunday of Easter	Acts 4.5-12 1 John 3.16-24 John 10.11-18

# From the Registers - February 2012

Baptisms	12 February	Violet Winnifred May	/ Webster	Hampton
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<b>Funerals</b>	6 February	Cynthia Thacker	Hampton
	10 February	Benjamin Wintle	Hampton

## Prayers ... for those who are ill and those who have passed away

Bring before God anyone you know who is in poor health, together with the patients of our local hospitals and the people who care for them and their friends and families who are anxious for them. Please include in your prayers Maggie Bailey, Pat Bayliss, David Brasher, David Canning, Brenda Clarke, Ray Clarke, Pamela Collins, Pam Eustace, Monica Garston, Ella Hampton, Sue Jones, Clifford Lewis, Beryl Lord, Elaine Major, Brian Palmer, Rosie Rencher, Alan Roberts, Phillippa Shepherd, Celia Sheward, Joan Simpson, Pat Smith, Doug Thompson and Clive Thomson.

Please pray for Benjamin John Wintle and Margaret Thomas who have passed away, and anyone you wish to remember, and those in mourning.

The Herald is published monthly on the last Sunday of the month prior to the publication date. Items for inclusion should be received by 1st Sunday of the month prior to the publication date. Articles are submitted on the understanding that they may be edited to fit the available space. The Herald is edited by Michael Hunter.

Articles can be submitted by email to: editor@hamptonchurch.org.uk or sent to The Editor at 8 Chestnut Close, Evesham WR11 2PA or left for The Editor in St Andrew's Church.

Large Print editions of the magazine are available on request.

Service	es for April 2012			
1st	Sunday 1	8am	Holy Communion	Hampton
	Palm Sunday	9am	Holy Communion	Sedgeberrow
		11am	Family Palm Service	Hampton
		6.30pm	Palm Sunday Service	Bengeworth
	Monday 2	7.30pm	Reflection and Compline	Hampton
	Tuesday 3	7.30pm	Reflection and Compline	Hampton
	Wednesday 4	10am	Holy Communion	Hampton
		7.30pm	Reflection and Compline	Hampton
	Thursday 5	7.30pm	Maundy Service	Bengeworth
	Good Friday 6	10am	Stations of the Cross	Hampton
		10.30am	Walk of Witness	Hampton
		11am	Procession of Witness	Evesham
		2pm	Good Friday Liturgy	Hampton
		2pm	Good Friday Liturgy	Sedgeberrow
		6pm	Good Friday Liturgy	Hinton
	Saturday 7	1.30pm	Wedding	Hampton
		8pm	Easter Vigil	All Saints
2nd	Sunday 8	8am	Holy Communion	Hampton
	<b>Easter Sunday</b>	9.30am	Eucharist	Hampton
		11am	Family Communion	Sedgeberrow
		6pm	Holy Communion	Hinton
	Wednesday 11	10am	Holy Communion	Hampton
3rd	Sunday 15	8am	Holy Communion	Hampton
		9am	Holy Communion	Sedgeberrow
		11am	Welcome Service	Hampton
	Wednesday 18	10am	Holy Communion	Hampton
4th	Sunday 22	8am	Holy Communion	Hampton
		9.30am	Eucharist	Hampton
		11am	Holy Communion	Sedgeberrow
		11am	Family Service	Hinton
		1pm	Baptism	Sedgeberrow
		2pm	Baptism	Hampton
	Wednesday 25	10am	Holy Communion	Hampton
4th	Sunday 29	8am	Holy Communion	Hampton
		10am	Benefice Eucharist	Hampton
	C N 0040	2pm	Baptism	Hampton
Service	s for May2012			
	Wednesday 2	10am	Holy Communion	Hampton
1st	Sunday 6	8am	Holy Communion	Hampton
		9am	Holy Communion	Sedgeberrow
		11am	Family Service	Hampton
		6.30pm	Holy Communion with prayers for healing	Hampton
	Wednesday 9	10am	Holy Communion	Hampton
2nd	Sunday13	8am	Holy Communion	Hampton
		9.30am	Eucharist	Hampton
		11am	Family Communion	Sedgeberrow
		2pm	Baptism	Hampton
		6pm	Songs of Praise	Hinton