

**St Mary the Virgin
Riverhead with Dunton Green**

Sunday 28th March 2021 - Palm Sunday



From the pen of the vicar

This week sees the start of Holy Week and the journey to Easter Day. Our Palm Sunday Service will involve our young people from Sunday Club who will perform a drama on zoom to help us think more about those events of the first Easter. Our code for all our Holy week events is going to be:

Meeting ID: 616 146 1466 Password: HolyWeek

As we begin Holy Week, we also begin our journey back towards services in the church building. Please see our list of services below. I realise that some may feel unable to join us in the building but hope that through live streaming you will be able to feel a part of the worship on Maundy Thursday and Easter Day. Many thanks to those who have worked extremely hard on the technical side of things to enable this to go ahead. Please do keep all the technical aspects in your prayers. At the time of writing there are still places available for Maundy Thursday and Easter Day so please do consider contacting Colin and joining us if you feel able to join us.

For those coming into the building, please remember that there will still be social distancing in place, and you will be required to wear a mask and follow the guidance from those on duty.

Orders of service will be available on our website for Easter Day and Maundy Thursday. In order for people to see the events in church we are not going to be sharing the words during our service. Please either download an order of service or if you would like one delivered to you then please contact Andy on the details below.

Holy Week was a journey for Jesus and those disciples. From the celebration on Palm Sunday, to the angry crowd on Good Friday. To the fear of the disciples after Jesus was arrested to the joy of the news that Jesus had Risen on Easter Day. This week as we walk through Holy Week together I hope we may see again some of the journey that Jesus and his disciples went on. As we come to this week I pray that no matter how we are feeling, we may be drawn into those events of the first Easter and capture again God's amazing love and hope for each one of us. Let us journey again through Holy Week towards the Cross and Easter Day when we will hear those words – "He is not here. He is risen."

With prayers for this Holy Week,

Andy

01732 669454 or revandyfinn@outlook.com

Confirmation - May 23rd at 2pm

A service for confirmation has been arranged in the team for May 23rd at 2pm. If you would like to be confirmed, then please be in touch with Andy. The service will be led by either Bishop James or Bishop Simon. The venue is to be confirmed.

Lenten Reflections -31st March

Just a reminder that this week is the last of Andy's reflection series for those who have been meeting.

Booking to attend Church services in the building – (There are still places, please come and join us.)

For Maundy Thursday:

The Team Communion service on Zoom and in St Mary's Riverhead – the numbers for this service are limited to 8 people only from each of the 3 churches. Please contact Colin Butson on the contact details below from Monday 8th March to book your place. Places are available on a first come, first served basis for each church. If we have more than 8 people we will start a waiting list. If there are still spaces in Holy Week then we will contact those on the waiting list to offer the place to them.

For Easter Day:

There is a limit of 24 people in total. Please contact Colin Butson from Monday 8th March on the details below to book your place.

Colin Butson can be contacted on 01732 458356

APCM – 18th April 2021

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place in Church on Sunday 18th April following the Morning Service (at around 11am). A letter about this should be sent via email this week. We hope to be able to stream the APCM from the building for those who wish to access the event online.

During the APCM there will elections for:

Three representatives from the electoral roll to serve on the Parochial Church Council

Two representatives from the electoral roll to serve on the new Joint Council of the benefice of the West Sevenoaks Team Ministry. You do not have to be a PCC member to join this council but must be on the electoral roll.

If you are interested in finding out more about either the Parochial Church Council or Joint Council then please contact Andy or Ronnie Todd for more information.

Church Electoral Roll

We are going to revise our electoral roll this year from the 21st March until the 31st March. During this time people who are not on their electoral can join. If you are not on the electoral roll then please consider joining. If you wish to find out more about joining the electoral roll then please contact Margaret Nicholas for more details.

Why join the Church Electoral roll?

Joining the Church Electoral Roll is one way of saying that you belong to the church community of St Mary the Virgin Riverhead and Dunton Green. It enables you to vote and have a say at the Annual Church Meeting. It also enables you to be a part of our wider team and church structures. The electoral roll list also helps us as a church community to pray for members of our church community and to stay in touch with one another.

Events this week:

Sunday

9:30 Sunday – Palm Sunday Service

Meeting ID: 616 146 1466 Password: HolyWeek

Please note there is no Team Evening Prayer tonight.

Monday

9:45am Bible Study Group – Please contact Daphne for more information.

8:00pm Compline for Holy Week

Meeting ID: 616 146 1466 Password: HolyWeek

Tuesday

8:00pm Compline for Holy Week – on Zoom

Meeting ID: 616 146 1466 Password: HolyWeek

Wednesday

7:30pm Final Lenten Reflections with Revd. Andy – “Living his story”.

8:00pm Compline for Holy Week – on zoom

Meeting ID: 616 146 1466 Password: HolyWeek

Thursday

7:30pm Team Maundy Thursday Service – On Zoom and in Church.

There are spaces still available - please contact Colin Butson to book your place.

Meeting ID: 616 146 1466 Password: HolyWeek

Good Friday

9:30am All Age Service for Good Friday – Zoom only

Meeting ID: 616 146 1466 Password: HolyWeek

2:00pm Hour at the Cross – A service of reflection and contemplation - Zoom only.

Meeting ID: 616 146 1466 Password: HolyWeek

Easter Sunday

8:00am BCP Holy Communion – in church only.

9:30am All Age Easter Service – on Zoom and in church

There are spaces still available please contact Colin Butson to book your place.

Meeting ID: 616 146 1466 Password: HolyWeek

Message from Karen Forster-Pearce

“Please can you pass on my grateful thanks for donations given towards Rochester Diocese Mothers' Union Rochester Prison appeal. I was able to pass on two black sacks with rucksacks, Easter Eggs and, cards to one of the Rochester Diocese Mothers' Union Trustee - Jenny, yesterday.

I can still collect the items except for the Easter Eggs.”

Karen.

Your prayers are asked for: Cheryl Davies and, Judy Borrowman,

In Memoriam Please remember the friends and family of Sarah Suewing who sadly died last week after a very long illness

Loaves and Fishes Margaret Holman would like to thank everyone for the massive support which they have been giving to this worthy cause Sadly there is probably an even greater need for this service during these very difficult times for us all. If you are shopping for food etc if you can pop something extra into your basket I am sure it would be greatly appreciated. Margaret Holman at 2 Cranmer Road has a basket in her porch into which goods can be placed and she will undertake to deliver them to St John's Items particularly requested at present are:- Chicken in White Sauce, Tuna, Tinned Ham, Custard, and Tinned Fruit

Note from Anne Blakeley

Dear All

I will be walking 100Km to raise money for Traidcraft Exchange in April. (EVEN BETTER THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE DOUBLING ALL DONATIONS) There is a fundraising page on Facebook via this link:

[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=892371708230894&substory_index=0&id=100023742186560)

[story_fbid=892371708230894&substory_index=0&id=100023742186560](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=892371708230894&substory_index=0&id=100023742186560)

Or sponsorship commitments can be emailed to me anne@straight.eclipse.co.uk

Or put through my door

Thanks

Anne

From Reverend Anne Bourne:

BBC Radio 4 Sunday Worship, March 21, 2021, Passion Sunday, 8.10am to 8.50am on 'The Lost Years.' (Available to listen again on the BBC website afterwards)

As the nation is about to mark the anniversary of the first lockdown, Debbie Thrower - broadcaster and founder of Anna Chaplaincy which promotes the spiritual welfare of older people - marks the loss of more than one hundred and twenty-five thousand lives to the pandemic. Many of those who died were in their later years - some living in care homes.

There are currently 160 or so Anna Chaplains (and others in equivalent roles) in the national network ministering to older people across the UK.

Named after the widow, Anna, in Luke's gospel, the chaplains help older men and women reflect on the narrative of their lives, to seek meaning and purpose and to foster hope and resilience in old age. The Anna name reinforces the fact that much of the work is with those who have suffered loss and bereavement.

Yet it is a hope-filled ministry, highlighting the tradition of older people having prophetic voices. It recognises that many in retirement have wisdom to impart to younger generations and key life lessons to share when it comes to spiritual formation. Appropriately, for a ministry that is a gracious offering from church to the community, the name Anna means 'gift' or 'grace'.

Preacher: The Very Revd Catherine Ogle, Dean of Winchester, and with a Moment of Remembrance led by the Archbishop of York. Reading by Canon Richard Fisher, Chief Executive of The Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF): Luke 7:11-17; Producer: Philip Billson

Easter Flowers

Despite lots of things being different at the moment, one thing remains – Jesus' love for us all.

This Easter, we are holding both in church and on Zoom services to celebrate Jesus' sacrifice for us all and his resurrection. We are going to decorate the church with small flower arrangements.

If you would like to give towards the flowers in memory of a loved one, please use the link or the QR code below and then send the names of your loved ones to Rachel Wigley by 31st March on Rachel.Wigley@outlook.com.

The flowers and the names of your loved ones will be displayed in church, and on Zoom before and after the 9.30am Easter Sunday service.

Any donations left over will go towards church funds.

To donate:

<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/16150>



The Diocese of Rochester gratefully acknowledges and thanks the congregation of

Riverhead: St Mary

for their financial contribution in 2020 towards mission and ministry in the parish and in the communities of the Church throughout the diocese, in an extremely challenging year for everyone with the COVID-19 pandemic, which amounts to

£48,878

James

Bishop of Rochester

NHym

Chairman – Diocesan Board of Finance