

ST MARGARET'S

Parish Church for Leiston-cum-Sizewell



APRIL 2017

1

£1

CHURCH SERVICES

SUNDAY 2 APRIL

9.00 PARISH EUCHARIST SERVICE

10.30 FAMILY PRAISE & WORSHIP SERVICE

SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY 9 APRIL

10.00 PARISH EUCHARIST SERVICE & J.A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL

Visiting Preacher: Archdeacon Ian Morgan

MAUNDY THURSDAY 13 APRIL

7.00 pm PARISH EUCHARIST SERVICE with the stripping of the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY 14 APRIL

No Service – this year we wish to encourage people to visit other churches which are holding special Good Friday Services

EASTER SUNDAY 16 APRIL

10.00 EASTER EUCHARIST SERVICE

SUNDAY 23 APRIL

10.00 PARISH EUCHARIST SERVICE & J.A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAY 30 APRIL

10.00 PARISH EUCHARIST SERVICE & J.A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL

CONTACT US

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Director of Music: Mr Jonathan Williams: T.01379 388385

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Further Lenten Thoughts and Reflections ***by Reverend Jim Florance***

By the time you read these jottings we will be racing up to the last days of the season of Lent when the emphasis in our worship and in our liturgy will be upon the last days of Jesus' physical earthly life. A tumultuous time when we are reminded of what Jesus went through upon entering Jerusalem, where he met with betrayal, by two of his close and trusted friends, culminating in his crucifixion.

It's hardly surprising then that Lent is viewed as rather a sombre and bleak period. We are starkly reminded of these horrific events in our worship as the stories are recounted in the Gospel writings in the New Testament.

However Lent does not have to be a sombre or bleak time. The name Lent is a lovely old English word meaning 'spring' and refers to the lengthening days when nature begins to stir and plant life awakens. Such is the nature of this time of the year our spirits awaken as well.

As Christians of the 21st century we are familiar with the outcome of Jesus' death and resurrection. We are therefore a post crucifixion people, an Easter people. We know that Jesus has risen from his grave. Whilst we may know it in our heads we do not always fully accept it in our hearts and minds, though. Lent is certainly a time of penitence and forgiveness, but above all it is a time of reflection; a time when we give ourselves a spiritual spring clean. A time when we take stock and rejoice in the good things we experience. To use the cliché of a glass of water it is good to see the glass half full as opposed to being half empty. Hopefully Lent will continue to be a positive experience for you.

Of course I am speaking about the departure of the Reverend Martin Phillips-Last, Kathryn, Grace and Eve, not forgetting their various four legged family who have shared the vicarage with them over these past three years. They will, I'm sure, be missed in the town as well as in our church. We wish them well in their new venture and ministry in Cyprus.

Martin had a unique style and has certainly left his mark in his three years with us. He has prepared and tilled the ground for us thus freeing us up and giving

us permission to explore new ways of doing things and growing our faith. Martin's departure will inevitably be a sadness for many people. So the future may seem sombre and bleak at the moment.

It needn't be so. This interregnum, at the onset of Lent, gives us the opportunity and the time for reflection. A time to listen and hear the movement of the Holy Spirit of God in this place and to ask ourselves what sort of a church does God want St. Margaret's to be? In order to discern God's 'will' we must set aside our prejudices, our preconceptions, our wants, our likes and dislikes. Only then will we become a people of the resurrection, an Easter people.

Before I retired from full time ministry, in the Diocese of Monmouth in South Wales, all parishes were invited to pray the following prayer. It is a reminder to us all that unless we allow God to transform us individually nothing can change collectively.

Lord God, renew your Church and begin with me.
Heal our wounds, give us joy in our faith, draw many
to share your life, and use us all in your service.

For Jesus Christ's sake,
Lord of the Church
make us the Church of the Lord.

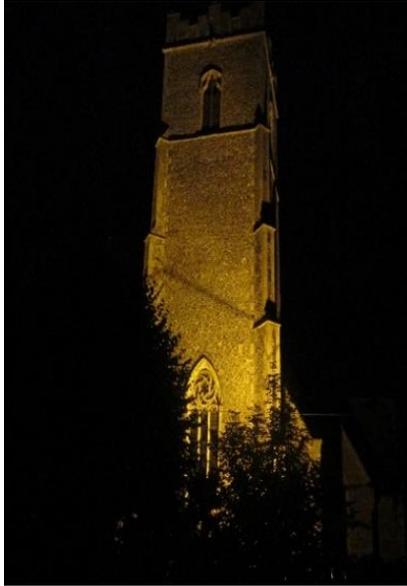
May God bless this Church this town for his greater glory.



LADIES GROUP

See Page 11 if you want
to know more...

ST MARGARET'S CHURCH TOWER LIGHTS UP



During March the lighting of the Church Tower was sponsored on:

Tuesday 7 March

In loving memory of Paul Snowden – 8 long years

Sunday 12 March

Remembering my mum on her birthday - From Joan Whale

Friday 24 March

For Olive Brundish on her 91st birthday

Saturday 25 March

Today is Paul and Jan Snowden's Golden Wedding Anniversary

If you'd like to mark a special occasion by sponsoring the lighting of the Church Tower for a donation of £5 per day, please write the details in the diary provided in church, then put the completed payment envelope in the wall safe. Many thanks.



THE SHERINGHAM SHANTYMEN



The famous Sheringham Shantymen for their first concert in this area!

St. Margaret's Church, Waterloo Avenue, Leiston

Friday, 7th April, 2017 at 7.30pm

Raising funds for St. Margaret's Church
and to give local people a jolly good concert.
Refreshments will be available.

Tickets cost £10 each and can be obtained from
Margaret's Shop in Sizewell Road, Leiston

or

from Peter and Jenefer Roberts, 01728 603772

PSALM 118 1 – 2, 14 – 24

1. O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures for ever.
2. Let Israel now proclaim, 'His mercy endures for ever'.
14. The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has come to my salvation.
15. Joyful shouts of salvation sound from the tents of the righteous:
16. The right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds; the right hand of the Lord raises up
17. I shall not die, but live and declare the works of the Lord.
18. The Lord has punished me sorely, but he has not given me over to death
19. Open me to the gates of righteousness that I might enter and give thanks to the Lord.
20. This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.
21. I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have come to my salvation.
22. The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
23. This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes
24. This is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Those who read the stories of the Kings of the Old Testament will have a good idea of the problems of Israel. They entered a land which God had given them but it was already occupied by nations that Israel challenged. King David himself took on a giant of a man when he was still a boy, in Goliath a champion of the Philistines. David's victory with a sling and small stones which he used to protect his father's sheep is a very well-known story when he was just a lad. David when he became King had occasions when his tribes did not win; he had other occasions when he did win, for example with the Philistines. He had put down an internal rebellion led by his son Absalom. This psalm seems to be celebrating a great victory over one of the countries that surrounded Israel so the words 'I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have come to my salvation' are very meaningful.

This psalm sung on Easter Day has great significance for Christians. Easter Day for us is the feast when we celebrate the victory of Our Lord over death when he rose from the tomb.

As we listen to the psalm we know that the events in Jerusalem speak of our Christ's cross and that through it, 'His mercy endures for ever' in caring for us in our good times and bad times when we suffer failure . So 'the Lord is my strength and my song, and he has come to my salvation' speak about how we are lifted by God when we feel defeated by aspects of our lives. Read the psalm with the Easter victory of Christ in mind and we will be reminded that on this day we celebrate a victory that comes to us again and again in our lives because of this great feast. Perhaps when we are reminded of the reading of the Wedding in Canaan of Galilee during Lent, we live with endless grace as Christians. The story of the woman at the well in Samaria, show us the living water of Christ, offered to us to drink, when barriers are broken down and our redemption becomes real. The psalm speaks of great victories in the history of Israel, but much more important the victory of the resurrection of Our Lord on Easter Day

Ref: The People's Bible Commentary – Donald Coggan Bible Reading Fellowship
Chris Gonin

APRIL

When I was younger I had a small Box Camera which gave me so much pleasure taking photos, although at that time they were only black and white. The film had to be wound on in the camera making sure the light was kept out, then wound on to the No.1. I think you could take about 10 pictures. The used film was taken to the Chemist and you had to wait about a week for the developed photos, which seemed endless to me as I was excited to see how the photos turned out.

I was looking at old photos recently and came across many which brought back happy memories. At one time we had several family weddings and I was there with my camera. I didn't realise, but my camera was getting old and had developed a squeak. I had to wind the wheel to get from No.1 to No.2 then click between each number. Sometime later I was told how the family all waited for me and my camera and the squeak which made them laugh. It is often talked about now; but if you can make someone laugh or smile it makes you feel good and in today's world we need more things to make us laugh. With all the modern day photos and selfies youngsters would certainly laugh about my Box Camera.

Margaret Clarke

Pondering Prayer

In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus urges his disciples to be compassionate, just as our Father in heaven is compassionate (Luke 6:36). My hunch is that Jesus wanted to highlight the difference between the restrictive codes of the Pharisees and his purpose for those who follow him. Many leaders of the Jewish faith were constantly picking holes in the faith and attitudes of others, to enhance their own. Jesus points out the danger of judging others, in case that highlights our own failings and issues the warning that if we condemn others, our very condemnation of them is likely to come back to haunt us.

The Lord Jesus wanted a different community and so his followers are called to what is sometimes described as a counter-cultural community. This different community to which we are called, requires of us that we forgive others as part of being compassionate. That means I have to check myself every time I'm tempted to judge or condemn someone. For me at least, my only hope of heading in that direction is by praying for God's insight and ability or grace. This is not a Lenten restriction but an all-time requirement of those who rejoice in the resurrection.

In the scenes on TV showing the horrific condition of tiny children in Yemen, South Sudan, Nigeria and South Somalia our hearts cry out for someone to do something. We can *pray* that the right people with the right medical and other skills reach these needy areas. We can *pray* for wisdom to be given to people at the food distribution centres. We can also *pray* that the Holy Spirit will touch the hearts of people across the world to bring about change through new farming methods and for other help to be offered to enable people to produce and conserve their resources.

The Lord Jesus said "Give and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full – pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back" Luke 6:38. Some people of course will be called upon to give by actually going, whereas others will be called upon to contribute to the funding so that others might go to help.

There is of course another kind of hunger and thirst, which is spiritual. We need first of all to *pray* people will become aware of their hunger and thirst and secondly to *pray* that they will be put in touch with sources of satisfaction.

Sometimes that will mean God will put it upon our hearts to personally say something which will make them aware there is more on offer than they have yet discovered. That kind of giving may require of us time to *pray* for them and time to show we care about them by being compassionate. Do they need a listening ear? - or something else? Can we take up the challenge of being a compassionate church? Let's *pray* that the Lord will create in us a greater desire to give as we are encouraged to do in Luke 6:38 and to be compassionate like our Heavenly Father.

A Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you that you are. Please give me a heart akin to yours. Show me what I can give to those around me as well as to those far away so that they experience a little bit of heaven on earth as a result of my walk with you. This I ask in Jesus' name. Amen

Revd. Pauline Florance

EASTER FAIR – SATURDAY 8th APRIL – 2PM to 4PM

Plans are well underway for our EASTER FAIR but your help is needed to make it a really egg-cellent event!

Donations are needed for all the usual stalls – cakes, plants, books and toys – raffle and tombola prizes and also bottles for the bottle stall. These can be given to me beforehand, taken into Margaret's Shop or brought along on the day. Also please let me know if you would like to help on the day and if there is any particular stall/activity that you would like to be allocated to. Any egg-citing ideas, with an Easter theme, would be most welcome.

Many thanks, in advance, for all your donations, help and support.

Sandra Harle (Tel: 833578)

Joan Audrey Mower

I write to thank members of the congregation of Saint Margaret's Church for their support at the time of my mother's funeral. It was gratifying to know so many people cared about her and wanted to be part of her funeral service; she would have been overwhelmed by such an expression of kindness.

The funeral service was perfect since it was personal yet dignified, warm and with a sense of humour. It was a special celebration of her life and all she meant to so many people. She was exactly where she would have chosen to be, surrounded by her friends and family.

I offer my thanks to Sue Hawkes for the wonderful flowers so beautifully arranged and presented, her personal expression of care. Thank you to Betty Harland and the special team of caterers for their hard work in creating 'The Ritz' in church. Well done. Thank you, also, to the choir and the team of ringers who all helped make such a memorable occasion.

The sum raised by the collection in church and subsequent donations amounted to £503 which will be donated to Lavenham Ward at Ipswich Hospital. In due course, I hope to be able to let you know how your donations were spent. With sincere thanks and warm good wishes to you all,

Richard Mower

LADIES GROUP

On Thursday 23 March, 11 members of our group enjoyed a superb lunch at The Weavers Tea Room in Peasenhall. There was plenty of laughter, reminiscing, stories told and people remembered. The Photo on Page 4 shows some of our group outside The Weavers following our meal.

Our next meeting is Monday 10 April at St Margaret's Church at 2.15pm, where we will be tackling Easter Crafts! All welcome to join us.

Marian Peskett

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH FAMILY

INTERCESSION PRAYERS FOR APRIL 2017

Dear Friends

April's magazine continues to focus on monthly prayer time, with the St Margaret's Church family group for this month as shown below. There are three family groups with each one appearing in the magazine every three months. However, you remain in our thoughts and prayers always.

If you would like to be included in our family monthly prayers, or have any queries please email stmargaretsleiston@gmail.com. If you feel you would prefer to be remembered in a particular month then please let us know. Also, if you have a specific need for additional prayer time then please let us know and we will add you to our 'special prayers' section.

In our Church Family Prayers

Richard & Sandra Ellis
Kevin, Jess & Oliver Ellis
Christopher, Anna and Ada Ellis
Michael, Anika, Darcey & Jack Ellis
James Ellis & Kristi Brennan
Chris & Elspeth Gonin
Basil & Jean Jenkyns
Jill Mower
Sue Watt
John & June Geater
Sue Geater
Ron & Diana Geater
Doreen Bardwell
Sandra, Philip, Ellie & Laura Harle
Daphne & Terri Roper
Pam Bloomfield
Grahame, Sylvia, Linda & Susan Hawes
Olive Wilson
Anne Woods

Mary, Simon, Archie & Edward Reading
Valerie and Maurice Allchin
Betty Harland
Judy Foster
Charlmaine, Lee, Luke & Liam Wright
Doreen Thomas
Vaughan & Jenny Windle
Liz Mills
Jean Crowter
Colin & Penny Tipple
Barbara Moss
Tom & Nona Wadsell-Campbell
Joan Fowler
Stephen & Claire Miles
Emily & Rob Oxborrow
Eileen Griffiths
David & Lynn Bailey
Kirsty, Shane, Ceylon, AJ & Logan Stone

DATES FROM HISTORY

The date of April 9th was highlighted on my new church rota.

This was the date one hundred years ago in 1917 when my grandfather was killed during the first day of the Battle of Arras. My grandfather's 'memorial' was always a focus each November on Remembrance Day. This year it will be particularly poignant.

I have been very conscious, as we continue to recall 100th anniversaries, of the part my grandfather played in the 'war to end wars' and alongside this listen to news of continuing world conflicts.

My grandfather first saw action on July 1st 1916 on the first day of fighting of the Battle of the Somme and having read several accounts of the next few months of fighting and hardship leading up to Easter of 1917 I find it impossible to imagine the horrors that he must have seen, sustained only by the belief that he was doing his 'bit' to defeat evil. He left behind his wife and my father, born September 1916. How sad it is today that so many lessons seem forgotten and so many sacrifices wasted.

Vaughan Windle



LEISTON ST MARGARET'S CHURCH CHOIR

How many can you name?

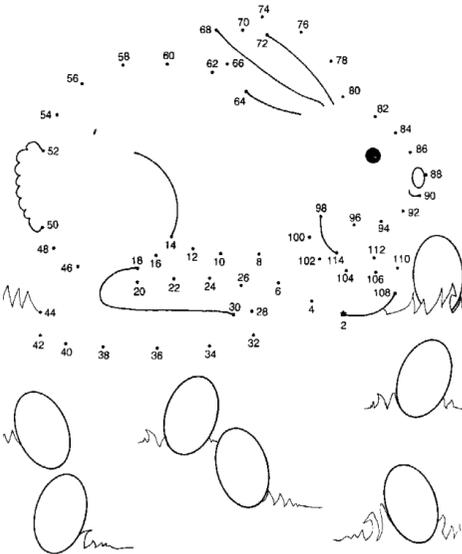
The names will be in next month's magazine.

Pat Carter

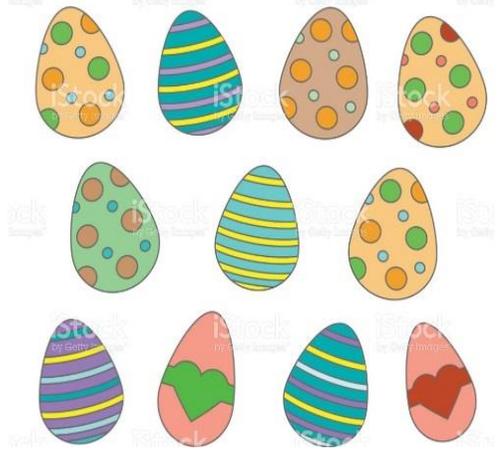
Welcome to 'your page'
Full of fun, activities to enjoy



Connect the dots. Count by 2's



Find the same





Some of JAM's work from Sunday 12 March

Linda Hawes



Want to hear more about Jesus? Come along to our 'JAM' sessions. Kids of all ages welcome!
Sunday 9, 23 and 30 April – At 10.00 am

In our Special Prayers

Jill Mower's niece Lynn in USA

Penny Batho

Pam's Grandson Joshua

Joan Fowler

Funerals

Monday 6 March

Sheila May Kemp

Wednesday 8 March

John Alan Morley

Thursday 16 March

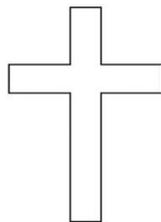
Adrian Mark Messenger

Tuesday 21 March

Michelle Lambert

Friday 31 March

Penelope Jane Perrett



Are you able to Gift Aid your donations to St. Margaret's?

April brings not only the season of Easter but the end of one tax year and the beginning of another. It also means a new series of Gift Aid Envelopes, which will begin on Sunday 9th April.

If donations are Gift Aided, they are worth an extra 25% to our church. In 2016 we were able to reclaim £3034.63 against the £12,138.50 worth of Gift Aided donations made either by weekly envelopes or by direct payments into our bank account. The amount reclaimed almost covers our annual church insurance premium so, as you can see, is very beneficial to St. Margaret's and is something that we must encourage.

I have just taken delivery of 40 packs of GA envelopes (the minimum we can purchase) for the next financial year. Unfortunately, only 20 packs are currently being used.

If you do not Gift Aid your weekly donations and would like to start doing so, please see me in church or contact me at home on 833578 so that I can issue you with a year's supply of envelopes and ask you to sign a GA declaration, i.e. you must pay enough income tax/capital gains tax each year to cover the amount of Gift Aid claimed on your donations. Please make cheques payable to 'Leiston PCC'.

Envelopes are mainly used for Gift Aid purposes but are also used by a few members of our congregation who cannot GA their donations but still like to use a weekly envelope. You are most welcome to do the same if you would like to.

Alternatively, if you would like to donate by Standing Order, then please see me for bank account details and a Gift Aid declaration form.

With ever increasing costs, our church urgently needs your financial support and, by claiming Gift Aid, we can make your generous contributions to St. Margaret's even more valuable!

Sandra Harle (Church Treasurer)

PS: We have received the following letter from The Venerable Ian Morgan, Chairman of the Diocesan Board of Finance, concerning last year's Parish Share:

'2016 has been a very challenging year for all in the diocese. Much has taken place to help us all focus on mission and ministry. So it is with a grateful heart that, on behalf of the Bishop's Council and DBF, I write to thank you for being generous and contributing towards the Centenary Share which enables the diocesan family to support mission and ministry in every community.

When writing to the church in Corinth, St. Paul urged them 'to excel in the grace of giving' and that is certainly my hope and prayer for all our congregations across the diocese, that we might seek to emulate their example'.



MEMORIES OF ALDEBURGH

The Annual General Meeting of the Alde Valley Suffolk Family History Group will be held on Monday 24 April at 7.30pm at Leiston United Church, High Street, Leiston, IP16 4EL. Following the short formal meeting, Charlotte Newson will give a presentation of a project she will be working on this summer with the Red House, Aldeburgh.

The project will involve two elements - one: audio about local people's knowledge, stories and memories of Aldeburgh; the other part would involve getting people to come to workshops to make a costume/headress/something to enter the carnival.

The meeting will be open to all, free of charge, although only paid up members may vote. So, if you have memories of Aldeburgh in days gone by, or want to get involved in the carnival, why don't you come along?

Entrance is not at the front of the church, but on the left hand side as you face the building. Parking is free in the Co-op/Solar car park which adjoins it, but **you must sign your vehicle in** at the tills in the supermarket or face a charge of £100.

Maggie Strutt

SLIPPING ON A BANANA SKIN

A banana is usually part of my breakfast menu. I duly eat the fruit and then place the skin on my tray in anticipation of depositing it in the 'brown bin' at the bottom of the garden...except this particular morning I looked at the limp yellow shape and thought "I'll do it later..."

For a fleeting moment I almost did just that ... but then that little voice inside asked the question "Why?"

I know in the past I have left 'things for later' and somehow the 'later' has never arrived. It is something I resolved to try to avoid... and alongside many other resolutions I have probably not kept to it.

This was one of the many thoughts that were running through my head, as I sat in church this morning.

And so my thoughts moved on. They passed to our interregnum and what we all hope to gain from it. I have to admit to feeling very sad that we no longer have Martin, with his infectious enthusiasm and bright smile, to lead us, but what is done is done. We must look to the future, a bright future.

And like the banana skin it is something that is not going to wait for 'later' we must seize this opportunity and make sure it works for us. I do feel an excitement for what lies before us. We have seen changes in the last three years that we could have hardly imagined. There are so many positives that can be taken forward and built on. Each of us has a talent that can be used. This is not a time to say I'll leave it till later.

Vaughan Windle

THANK YOU

St. Margaret's Shop would like to thank Mark Hawes and his brother Andrew for clearing scrubland at back of shop to help with staff parking if needed.

Maureen Fox

NOTES FROM PCC MEETING - 15 MARCH 2017

The meeting opened with prayer at 7 pm, with Peter in the chair, 10 members present. Wardens have an appointment with Archdeacon, Rural Dean and Lay Chairman Deanery Synod on 30.03.17 to discuss vacancy.

Sandra presented financial report – copy issued to those present and attached to minutes. Payment made to 2016 Parish Share was £25,000, this year £4,000 paid so far. 2017 Share is £55,561. Share Action Plan for next four years proposed by Diocesan Head of Stewardship and Generous Giving. Agreed this be accepted. Valentine Bake Sale raised £68 25. Second boiler needed replacing – invoice awaited. Enquiry had been made about changing quota of B&W and colour copies – to be revisited after next quarter. Deanery Legacy Pack has been received. Agreed we would become a Bike and Bake Church on SHCT Cycle Ride day, 9 September. Any money received for cake/biscuit sales would come to St Margaret's.

Leiston Christians Together short ecumenical service being held on third Friday of each month lead by each church in turn. Sunday School area at back of church to be tidied. Children would be asked to come forward before the final blessing for a show and tell of their work.

Margaret's shop slow since Christmas but all charity shops were reporting the same. Opening of The Original Factory Shop in part of the Co-op Store seems to having an effect.

Forthcoming events include a concert by the Sheringham Shantymen in church on Friday 7 April 2017 at 7 30 pm, tickets available from Margaret's Shop. Easter Fair to be held on Saturday 8 April, 2 pm to 4 pm.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on Sunday 23 April following morning service. Reports will be available in advance as usual. Nomination forms for Churchwarden, PCC members and Deanery Synod members will be available in church.

PCC is looking for storage for two lawn mowers owned by the church.

Pat Carter, Secretary to the PCC

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2017

This year we were delighted to hold the Women's World Day of Prayer service at All Saints' Catholic Church on Friday 3 March at 2 pm. It is several years since the service has been held at this venue and we received a warm welcome from the people of this church. Father Tony Rogers had a meeting to attend but he took time to call in to wish us all the best and to compliment us on the display on our central table (see photograph).



The service was written by Christian women in The Philippines. The theme 'Am I Being Unfair to You?' was taken from St Matthew's Gospel, chapter 10 Verses 1 – 16. This was the focus of the service and a reminder that God provides the materials necessary to live a productive life. These provisions are for everyone to enjoy – no one is excluded. During the service Pauline lead us in a very thoughtful reflection on this theme.

Members of the various churches in Leiston took part in the service. During the service each person present was given a little bag of rice as a symbol of the fruits of the harvest. The offering at the service - £128 90p – has been forwarded to the Women's World Day of Prayer Headquarters to help to fund work in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and projects run by Christian charities around the world.

After the service everyone joined in a time of fellowship with tea, coffee and delicious mini muffins.

Next year the service will be on Friday 2 March at Leiston Baptist Church and will be written by the women of Suriname Theme – All God's Creation is Very Good!

Pat Carter

WHAT WE USED TO DO IN THE OLDEN DAYS

Years ago when TV and telephone hadn't even been thought of we used to have an Autograph Book, in which all your friends could write a small poem etc. Following are two items I remember:-

The wind, the wind, the naughty wind
It blows the skirt up high.
But God is just and blows the dust
Into the bad man's eye

Maybe a boy could enter this in his girlfriend's book at Valentines.

Roses are red,
Violets are blue
But honey is sweet
And so are you.

Contributed by Jill Mower

We too had Autograph Books and one that used to be written on the last page was

By hook or by crook
I'll be the last in this book.

And someone else would write under this

Don't be too sure
There's room for one more.

Another favourite was:

Two in a hammock attempting to kiss
When all of a sudden they end up

Like this

Remembered by Pat Carter

FROM ENGLAND TO CYPRUS

Below is part of Churchwarden Peter Roberts' speech at the final service with Martin on Sunday 26 February before the family set off for their new home in Cyprus.

"When Martin told us a few weeks ago that he was leaving, my first reaction was to feel very sorry. But then I thought no, that's not right, because I wasn't feeling sorry for Martin, I was feeling sorry for us, and for myself. What I should have been was glad – glad for two reasons. Firstly that Martin was being called away to something even more important than St Margaret's at Leiston, and secondly that this great man should have spent three inspiring years among us.

I started coming to this wonderful Church, and meeting its wonderful people, shortly before Martin arrived. In Martin I had my own charismatic leader in Leiston. I found him truly inspiring, and I could hardly believe our good fortune that at the head of our congregation was a figurehead who made worship come to life more than I had ever experienced. And as if that wasn't enough, he shared with us his super family, Kathryn and the girls, who have done so much for the Church and brightened all our services and events.

But you know, I always realised (and maybe you did) that we wouldn't be able to keep Martin for ever, that we were not destined to grow old together. St Margaret's was a stepping-stone, and he was bound to move onward and upward. And so it has proved.

Martin, thank you for being the bright star in our personal firmament. You have taught us a lot, and we will try to be worthy of you in the years to come."



A cheque was presented to Martin and after the service a beautifully decorated cake was enjoyed by everyone along with their tea and coffee.



St. Margaret's Church

Church Road, Leiston

Easter Fair

Saturday 8th April

2.00pm - 4.00pm



FREE EASTER EGG HUNT (weather permitting)

Plus a Grand Draw, Refreshments... and much more!!!!

Come along, fun for ALL the Family
We look forward to seeing you there





St. Margaret's Church Flower Festival

Bank Holiday Weekend

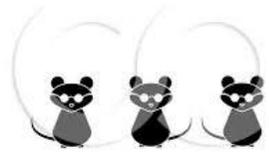
Saturday 29 April, 10am - 4pm

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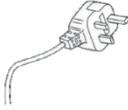
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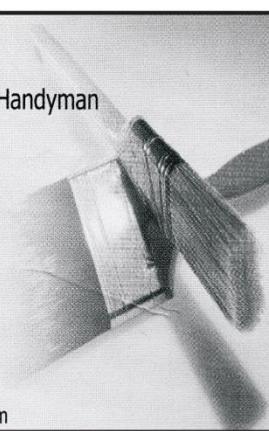
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Assistant Priest – Reverend Richard Ellis

NOTICE: Items for May's magazine

Please note that all articles, adverts etc. will need to be submitted to Marian Peskett by 18 April for inclusion in the May Magazine. Thank you.

Email: t.peskett@sky.com

The Parish Magazine is available from St Margaret's Church or Margaret's Shop. Delivery can be arranged.

Keep up to date with all Church Events

By visiting our own website

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