

ST. MARGARET'S

PARISH CHURCH FOR LEISTON-WITH-SIZEWELL



MARCH 2015



CHURCH SERVICES

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

9.00 Holy COMMUNION SERVICE

A Traditional Service using Common Worship

10.30 Family PRAISE & WORSHIP SERVICE

An all-age Informal Service for the whole Family.
Praising the Lord through Drama, Readings & Music

SECOND & FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

10.00 Parish EUCHARIST SERVICE

THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

10.00 'WELCOME TO THE TABLE' FAMILY COMMUNION

A new simple Family Communion Service
where all are welcome to the table

FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

10.00 Parish EUCHARIST SERVICE

6.30 COMMUNITY HEALING SERVICE

Listen to the healing word of God through Prayer
Service will not be held during March - Resumes Sunday 26th April

WEDNESDAY MID-WEEK HOLY COMMUNION

10.00 Holy COMMUNION SERVICE

Service will not be held during March - Resumes Wednesday 22nd April

CONTACT US

Priest in Charge: Reverend Martin Phillips-Last:

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Reader: Mr Bernard Smith: 3 Daneway Gardens. T. 830105

Church Warden: Mrs Shirley Newman: 3 Red House Lane. T. 832446

Church Warden: Mrs Pat Carter: 42 Haylings Road. T. 831852

PCC Treasurer: Miss Betty Harland: 6 Eastward Ho. T. 832115

PCC Secretary: Mrs Pat Carter: 42 Haylings Road. T. 831852

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THE REVEREND'S RAMBLINGS

A LIGHT THAT OVERCOMES THE DARKNESS



For me, Lent is summed up beautifully by the words of a phrase my granddad used to use whenever we found ourselves in trouble: 'Cheer up, there's light at the end of the tunnel.' The 'darkness' of the tunnel helps to convey a seemingly hopeless situation. But, as my Granddad would have it, even in the darkness, we may encourage ourselves with the knowledge that the trial will eventually end and we will step into the light.

For the followers of Jesus, the shocking events of their leader's torture, crucifixion and burial would have plunged them into a dark tunnel, from which there would have seemed no hope of a positive end. It would at first have seemed that their Lord and Saviour, their light who had freed them from the powers of darkness was dead and defeated, and that the evil deeds and forces of the people had triumphed. Perhaps now that Jesus was no longer alive, they believed that they would find themselves gripped and imprisoned in the darkest of tunnels forever. However, of course there was something much deeper happening here.

Just as popular books and films such as Harry Potter or Narnia have the forces of goodness and light triumphing in battle over the forces of evil and darkness, Lent is a dark tunnel through which we also journey with Jesus to the cruel and violent suffering of the cross, via betrayal and rejection. As we journey through Lent, we will once again come face to face with ourselves and our own battle with the darkness of sin. But even in the dark tunnel of Lent we can encourage ourselves with the knowledge that Jesus is the true light that darkness cannot overcome. The true light that gives light to everyone.

Unlike the followers of Jesus back then, today as we journey through the dark tunnel of Lent with our own crosses to the cross with Jesus we can be aware and assured of a momentous light awaiting us at the end of the tunnel. As well as a light with us in the tunnel.

The long tyranny of darkness is over; Jesus the light of the world has triumphed. So whatever dark tunnels you face this Lent, whenever the light of God's presence seems to grow dim, may you take hold of the promise Jesus made to all those who trust in him; 'Remember, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.' May his light be a lamp to your feet and a light on your path to direct your steps, and together we will step into the light of Easter, see you there!

Blessed adventures,

Martin

The Reverend Martin Phillips-Last

Sky

There go the geese off to feed,
Over by the river they have all they need,
Watch the goats as they eat everything in sight,
Nibble, nibble, nibble with all their might,
Then there's the little mole pushing up the earth,
A sniffing the air for all it's worth,
In the far distance a steam train whistles,
There runs a porcupine with it's sharp bristles,
Don't you think the countryside is a beautiful place,
Where no animal ever falls from grace,
Just sit under a tree and listen to the day,
Sit forever and never stray,
Look at the tree tops that form into a nave,
Watching God's creatures and see how they behave,
So don't you think they are an example to us,
Getting on and living their lives without fuss.

Original Poem by: Val Allchin



THANK YOU

Just to say a really big thank you to all my church family for all their kind wishes, messages, cards and prayers, I really appreciate all your thoughts and prayers.

With love,

Shirley

Shirley Newman

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

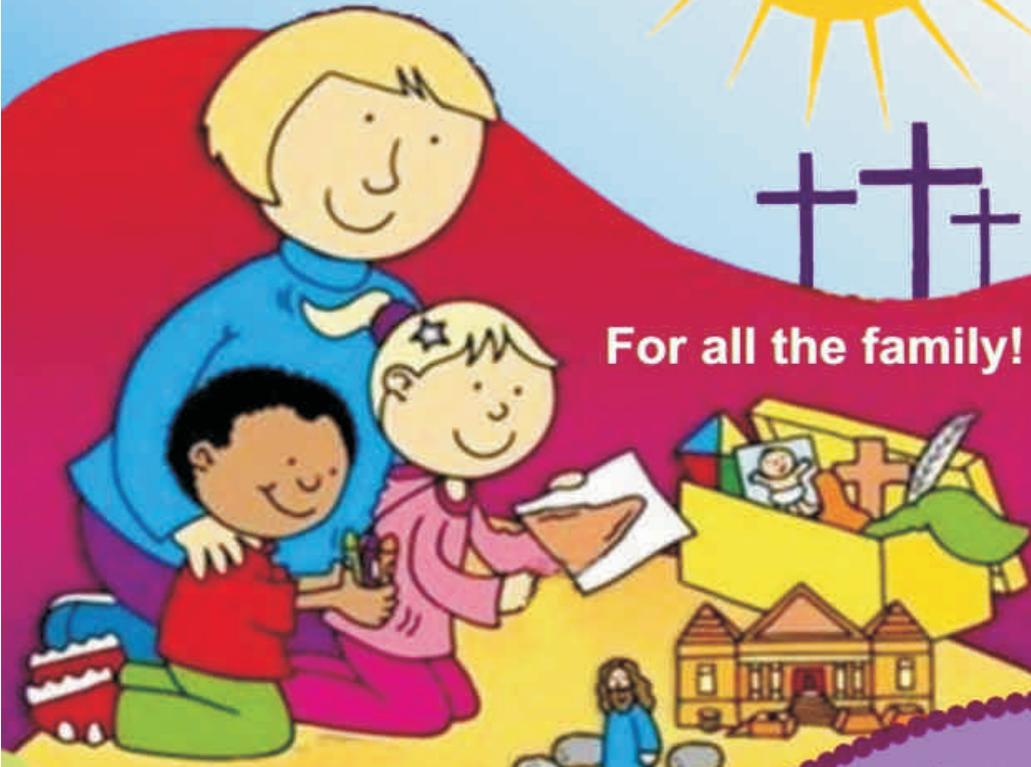
CHURCH Rd, LEISTON



Lent
Godly
Play



For all the family!



15th March: 3pm - 4pm

22nd March: 3pm - 4pm

29th March: 3pm - 4pm

Everyone Welcome!

Join us
this Lent and
lets journey to
the cross together,
through the world
of Godly Play!

VALENTINE'S CAKE BAKE

A big 'Thank You' to everyone who supported our VALENTINE'S BAKE SALE on Sunday 15th February. As always, there was a wonderful array of cakes, biscuits and buns on the table and lots of people keen to buy them! With your help, we raised £94 for church funds. Many thanks.

Sandra Harle

LEISTON WI

Hello another month has gone by, and it doesn't seem so long ago it was Christmas, the next thing will be Easter. The Leiston WI had a very lively meeting on the 10th February.

If you fancy meeting new friends over a cup of tea & a natter, then why not come along to one of our meetings at the Leiston WI. **We meet every 2nd Tuesday in the month at 7.30pm, WI Hall, John Street, Leiston.** We have a selection of speakers throughout the year, as well as organising trips out, lunches, afternoon teas and competitions. There's always much fun and laughter and we are all young at heart! We'd love to see you there!

50-50 SALE - SATURDAY 21ST MARCH

We are having a 50-50 Sale on 21st of March. So, if you are changing your clothes or footwear in your wardrobe bring it along to the sale and get money back to buy some new ones. Household items such as curtains, bedding, kitchen or anything that is not required any more, as well as children's toys and garden items would be very welcome. There will also be refreshments and a draw. We look forward to seeing you there!

The Wi Hall will be open on 14th March from 10am to 4pm, also the day before the sale on the 20th of March 10am to 4pm, and on the day of the sale in the hall will be 10am to 4pm.

Judy Geater - Leiston WI President

phone: 01728 831628

e-mail: jgeater@uwclub.net

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



Could you go without safe water for 40 days?

No one should go without safe, clean water. This year, will you donate the money you save by giving something up for Lent to help bring safe, clean water to communities around the world?

Try swapping tea, coffee or soft drinks for the clean tap water we have in the UK. Collect the money you save throughout Lent (Wed 18th Feb - Thurs 2nd April) in a jar and then send it in the form of a cheque, postal order or charity voucher to WaterAid at:

Freepost RRRZ-YRRB-ELKE, WaterAid Lent Appeal, 2a Halifax Road, MELKSHAM, SN12 6YY

For further details:

website: www.wateraid.org/uk/lent email: lent@wateraid.org

or call us on: 020 7793 4594

Support Jars of Change this Lent and turn your small change into safe water



Lent appeal 2015

WaterAid

Cooking with the Bible

The 15th march marks the fourth Sunday in Lent for 2015. It is also affectionately known as Mothering Sunday, along with Refreshment Sunday, Sunday of the Five Loaves, Simnel Sunday, and also Leatare Sunday in the Catholic religion. It marks a mid-point in Lent and has traditionally been viewed as a day of celebration, on which the austerity of Lent is briefly lessened.

There are many explanations as to why the fourth Sunday in Lent is often referred to as Mothering Sunday: One reason given is because of the Epistle reading that speaks of how, those who come to Christ, regardless of their ancestry, are the inheritors of Abraham's promise. The old practice of visiting the cathedral, or 'mother church' of the diocese where one was baptised is another explanation for the name.

Here in England, mothers are often honoured on this day with the traditional a gift of spring flowers, and sometimes also with a Simnel cake - A light fruit cake with a layer of marzipan baked into the middle and covered with a layer of marzipan on the top. This is then decorated with 11 or 12 marzipan balls, each representing the 11 disciples (minus Judas), and sometimes Jesus Christ. Simnel cakes have been known since at least Medieval times; however, the meaning of the word Simnel remains unclear. There is a 1226 reference to '*bread made into a Simnel*', which is understood to mean finest white bread, from the Latin '*Simila*', meaning fine flour. One popular legend attributes its creation to Lambert Simnel who worked in Henry VII's kitchen around the year 1500. However there are references made to the cake being recorded 200 years before his birth.

Whatever its beginnings; this is a lovely cake to enjoy at 'tea-time' with a refreshing cup of tea. It is a great way to celebrate Mothering Sunday and enjoy a break, in what is for some, otherwise a penitential season - a time for making more space for God; thinking about the sacrifices Jesus made for us and through our own personal sacrifices, however small, bringing us closer to Him.

Simnel Cake

100g / 4oz glacé cherries

225g / 8oz butter, softened

225g / 8oz light muscovado sugar

4 large eggs

225g / 8oz self-raising flour

225g / 8oz sultanas

100g / 4oz currants

50g / 2oz chopped candied peel

2 lemons, grated zest only

2 tsp ground mixed spice

For the Filling & Topping

450g / 1lb marzipan

1-2 tbsp apricot jam, warmed

Method:

Preheat the oven to 150°C / 280°F / Gas 2. Grease and line a 20cm / 8in cake tin.

Cut the cherries into quarters, put in a sieve and rinse under running water. Drain well then dry thoroughly on kitchen paper.

Place the cherries in a bowl with the butter, sugar, eggs, self-raising flour, sultanas, currants, candied peel, lemon zest and mixed spice and beat well until thoroughly mixed. Pour half the mixture into the prepared tin.

Take one-third of the marzipan and roll it out to a circle the size of the tin and then place on top of the cake mixture. Spoon the remaining cake mixture on top and level the surface.

Bake in the pre-heated oven for about 2½ hours, or until well risen, evenly brown and firm to the touch. Cover with aluminium foil after one hour if the top is browning too quickly. Leave to cool in the tin for 10 minutes then turn out, peel off the parchment and finish cooling on a wire rack.

When the cake is cool, brush the top with a little warmed apricot jam and roll out half the remaining marzipan to fit the top. Press firmly on the top and crimp the edges to decorate. Mark a criss-cross pattern on the marzipan with a sharp knife. Form the remaining marzipan into 11 balls.

Brush the marzipan with beaten egg and arrange the marzipan balls around the edge of the cake. Brush the tops of the balls with beaten egg and then carefully place the cake under a hot grill until the top is lightly toasted.



CENTENARY COOKBOOK

2014 was a very special year for the Diocese of St. Edmundsbury & Ipswich of which St. Margaret's is a part, as it is the diocese's centenary year. To help celebrate this momentous year we at St. Margaret's Church have created a cookbook full of tasty recipes for you to try.

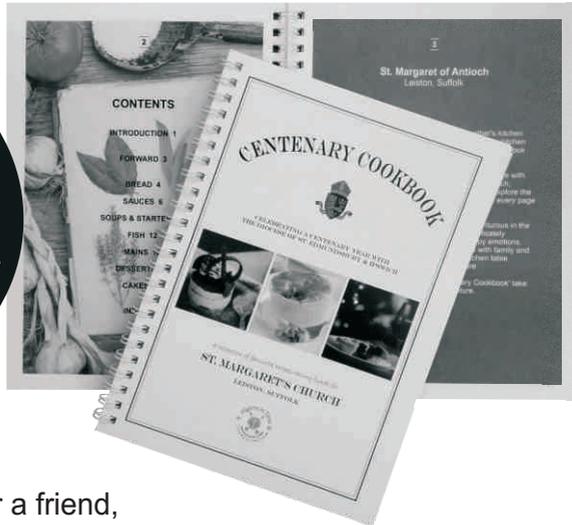
Help us celebrate this special year & also raise funds for St. Margaret's Church. Pick up your copy of the cookbook now!

IDEAL GIFT!

Only £5.00

Over 50 tasty recipes for you to try!

DELICIOUS RECIPES!



Makes an ideal gift for a friend, loved one, or simply why not treat yourself!

Helping to support your local Church and the important work it does.

Available after each Sunday's Service or Pop along and pick up your copy from Margaret's Church Shop, here in the heart of Leiston

ST. MARGARET'S FAMILY SERVICE - LOVE

Love was in the air at St Margaret's Church Family Service on Sunday the 1st February. Together with the help of the Bible and a heart puppet in ball and chains, we discovered that right from the very beginning of creation with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, through to the people of today, our hearts can often become weighed down with the heavy chains of sin. But it was through the love of God, revealed to the world through his Son Jesus Christ, that we discovered how following the loving actions of Jesus, we find the keys of love, peace, patience and compassion which then free our hearts from the chains of things such as selfishness, anger and misunderstanding.

It was as we celebrated the fact that even the smallest keys, our smallest actions of love towards one-another can bring peace. We also celebrated the greatest act of love shown to us all by God, through his Son Jesus; whose life, death and resurrection became the 'key' that opened our hearts to his love. Thus, so our own hearts could be free to love, and through that love achieve the most wonderful of things.

Reverend Martin Phillips-Last



Come along & join us EVERY 1st Sunday of the Month at 10.30am
Next Services: Sunday 1st March & Easter Sunday 5th April

THE MESSAGE: MARK 10 Vs. 13 - 16

One of my Bible translations is called the Message, which I would like to share with you: Mark 10 Vs 13-16.



The people brought children to Jesus, hoping He might bless them. The disciples shooed them off. But Jesus was irate and let them know it: *“Don’t push these children away. Don’t ever get between them and me. These children are at the very centre of life in the Kingdom. Mark this: Unless you accept God’s Kingdom in the simplicity of a child, you’ll never get in”*. Then, gathering the children up in His arms, He laid His hands of blessing on them.

Jan Snowden

ARTHUR BACKHOUSE BRIDGES - INJURED AT NEUVE CHAPELLE

I first became aware of Arthur when we bought our first home, 11 Mafeking Place, in Leiston. It was an old unmodernised house on an unmadeup road off the High Street. It had been lived in for many years by a one-legged man, then deceased, and was desperately in need of some loving care and attention. My husband Fred was a carpenter and joiner and had many contacts in the local building trade. We submitted plans to give the house a kitchen and bathroom with central heating.

At the back of the property there was an attached brick shed and we broke into this to create the bathroom. When we cleared the shed we found a framed WW1 commemorative scroll in the name of Arthur Backhouse Bridges. We put in to one side (thank goodness we didn't dump it). After four years we moved to our next house taking the scroll with us. We then had two children and didn't think about the scroll for many years.

With both two children went off to university we started visiting France and Belgium for a short break each year with friends, going to various WW1 battlefields and cemeteries. I remembered the scroll and write to Taff Gillingham, someone I'd heard of who had an interest in the Suffolk Regiment. I thought that if we could find out where he was buried, we could visit his grave and put a commemorative cross on it next time we went abroad. To our surprise we found out his grave was in fact much nearer, namely at Aldringham, a village within two miles of Leiston. We went to the churchyard and found the grave (see opposite).

I next hear about Arthur when I had a telephone call from Taff to say someone else, a Mr Buck, had contacted him for details of Arthur and he had remembered my interest. Mr Buck wanted to talk to me on behalf of his relation who was the son of Arthur. This very elderly gentleman came to visit Leiston once a year with Mr Buck. We arranged that the next time they came to Leiston they would call on us and we would hand over the scroll. This we duly did. Mr Buck had Arthur's war diary and was intending to get it typed up, he also had a copy of an article about the funeral of Arthur, with the service at Leiston St Margaret's Church, followed by a procession of about 200 people to Aldringham for the burial.



GRAVE OF ARTHUR BACKHOUSE-BRIDGES

When I visited the Suffolk Records Office at Bury St Edmunds last year to look at the Suffolk Regiment records held there I was amazed to find there the actual war diary of Arthur and a typed copy, also a copy of the newspaper article about his funeral.

When I looked in the Regiment register I also found this entry:

217 L Sgt Bridges A To be Sergeant 18.02.15
 Adm(itted) No 26 Field Amb(ulance) 11.03.15 To No 6
 Cas(ualty) Cl(earing) St(ation) 12.03.15 A36/08637.
 Adm(itted) No 2 Stat Hosp(ital) 14.03.15.
 GSW(Gun Shot Wound) Back to England HS(Hospital
 Ship) Valdina 14.03.15 W3034/0.01 Died at Military
 Hospital Ashton-under-Lyne 15.04.15 GSW Thigh.

Before Arthur enlisted in H Company, 4th Battalion, Suffolk Regiment, he was employed at Richard Garrett and Sons Engineering Works at Leiston, now the site of the Long Shop Museum. Before his marriage he had lived with his parents at the Lodge to Aldringham House, his father being a gardener for the Garretts who lived there then.

This year is the centenary of the Battle of Neuve Chapelle where about 70 local people were either killed or wounded. There is to be a parade followed by a civic ecumenical service at Leiston St Margaret's Church on Sunday 8th March 2015. The parade leaves the Cadet Centre, Victory Road at 2.10 pm and the service starts at 2.30 pm. The World War 1 exhibition at the Museum will be open from 12 noon until 2 pm on that day and then from Monday to Friday of the following week from 10 am to 4 pm.

On a visit to the French battlefields and cemeteries last spring we visited Neuve Chapelle and also visited the grave of Captain Stephen Garrett at Estaires Communal Cemetery who was killed in the same battle. In the same cemetery Percy Brightwell, born at Sizewell, and previously employed at Richard Garretts and killed in the same battle, is buried.



GRAVE OF CAPTAIN S. GARRETT



GRAVE OF PRIVATE P. BRIGHTWELL

Pat Carter

The Walk

Although the weather has been cold and frosty, its been nice when the sun came out. This particular day we decided to have a walk. We parked the car near Sizewell Hall and walked the path between the Caravan Park on to the beach. It was like a Summer's day, the sea was so calm and everywhere so quiet and peaceful. Standing out among the caravans was Cliff House with so much history connected to it over the years, further up was Sizewell Hall dating back to the Ogilvie family, then a Private School, and now a Christian Conference Centre. Coming back on the cliff top we reached the Touring Park for caravans filled with holiday makers in the Summer with lovely smells coming from their BBQ's.

People might say “*not much to do at Sizewell for a holiday*”, but there is such a choice, with lovely walks to Thorpness or along the beach to Eastbridge and Minsmere, stopping for a coffee or lunch at the Beach Café. A lovely stroll on a Summer's evening to the Vulcan for a meal. There is also Aldeburgh, Snape, and Southwold all within easy reach. We have Leiston Cinema with all the latest films; matinees in the afternoons are ideal to go to if it's a wet day. There's Easton Farm Park which caters for children with play areas. Or just swimming and playing on the beach, as a lot of children are not near the sea like we are. I think we are lucky to have this all the time, Summer or Winter.

Margaret Clarke

St. Margaret's Church Choir



Singing together is not only an uplifting and joyful experience,
it's also good for you and great fun!

Is it time for you to rediscover your musical talent, or to try something new in service to our Lord Jesus Christ? Do you feel that you could offer your vocal gift to enhance the worship at St. Margaret's by joining the Choir?



As someone who is passionate about building upon our strong musical tradition, I would love to hear from you. We are a friendly, welcoming and enthusiastic choir who rejoice in serving our church and its wider community through the power of music.

Rehearsal each Thursday in Church: 6pm - 7pm

We look forward to welcoming you there!

Jonathan S. Williams
Director of Music

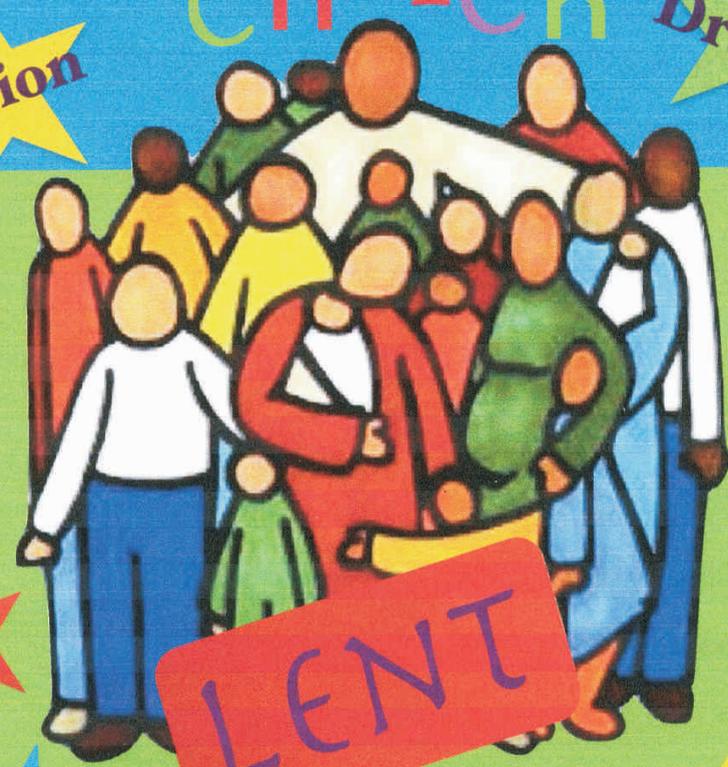
Sunday
1st March

At
10:30am

ST MARGARETS Church

Drama

Action



LENT

Music

FAMILY SERVICE

Fun

Wrestling With Lent

Kids Zone

Welcome to
'your page'
full of fun
activities to enjoy!

WHAT IS LENT?

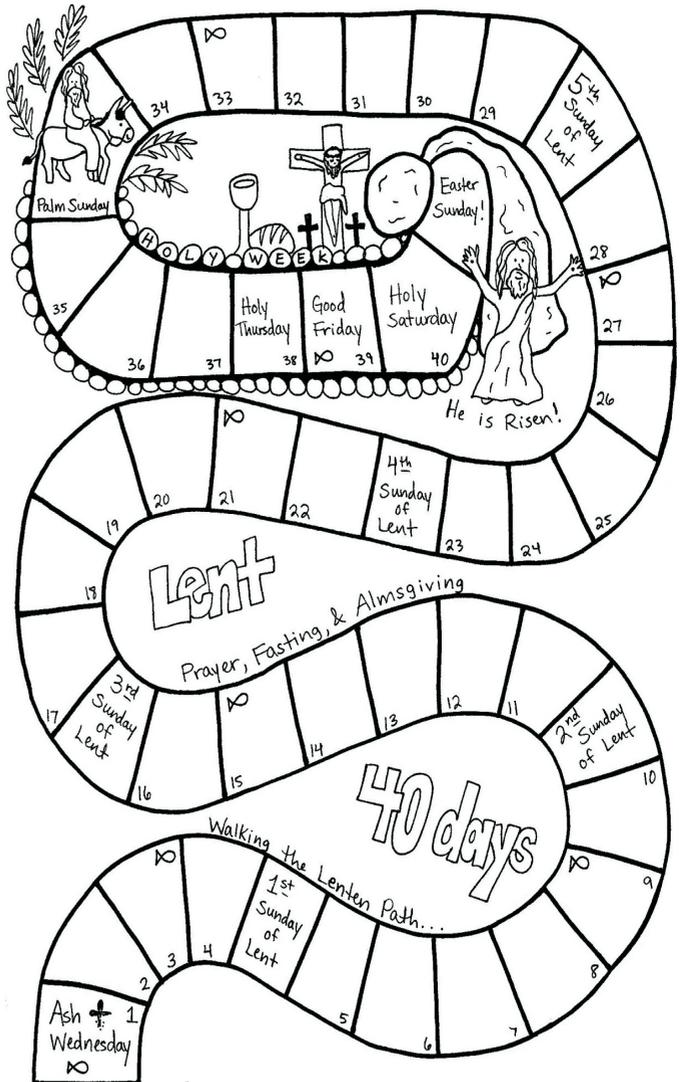
Lent is the season of preparation for Easter; the most important religious feast of the Christian year, celebrating the re-birth of Jesus. It starts on Ash Wednesday and ends at Easter, lasting 40 days (not counting Sundays).

You can follow the forty days on the Lenten Path (shown opposite) by colouring in each day of the path to Easter.

Lent is a time to make more space in our lives for God, and bring us closer to Him. Some people prepare for Easter by fasting or by giving up something important to them for the 40 days of Lent. This is to think about the sacrifices Jesus made for us.

It is important for us all to learn how to sacrifice or give up things we like.

It is a great way of learning unselfishness in our own lives.



On the Road to Easter



- Lent
- Ash
- Wednesday
- Sacrifice
- Almsgiving
- Prayer
- Fasting
- Holy Week
- Holy Thursday
- Good Friday
- Holy Saturday
- Easter
- Palm Sunday
- Purple

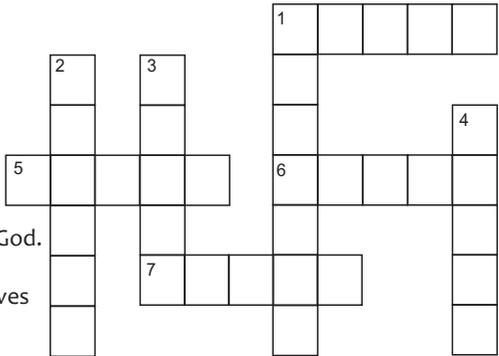
- Palm Branch
- Forty Days
- Jesus
- Passover
- Foot Washing
- Resurrection
- Love



'Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted'. Matthew 4:1 (NIV)

Across

1. The entire Earth & all the places & things on it.
5. A heavenly being, often shown as a human figure with a halo & wings.
6. A small rock.
7. The evil ruler of Hell, and enemy of God.



Down

1. To show a strong feeling of love & respect for God.
2. To feel a need or desire for food.
3. A food made of flour & water, shaped into loaves then baked.
4. To try to get someone to do wrong.

Hungry Bread Worship Devil Stone Temp† Angel World



WILDERNESS
 TEMPTED
 DEVIL
 FORTY
 STONE
 BREAD
 ALONE
 GLORY
 WORSHIP
 PARAPET
 ANGELS
 EXHAUSTED

March 15

St Margaret's
Mothering Church
Sunday

10am

A New Family Communion Service

Where All are
Welcome To The Table

PCC MEETING NOTES - 14th JAN 2015

The meeting opened with prayers at 7pm. 11 members present, Richard was attending installation of the Revd Mandy Reynolds at the Alde Valley Benefice, 2 other apologies received. Martin has arranged for a Local Giving Advisors to attend the next PCC Meeting and a Sunday service.

£32,000 has been paid for the parish share with £15,307 to be paid shortly giving full payment. £1,500 has been received from Margaret's Shop giving a total payment of £9,000. Donations in memory of the late Freddie Moss amounted to £526.40. Christingle Service raised £252.40 for Children's Society, Lights to Remember £116 for Marie Curie Cancer Care. Cycle ride raised £236 and Crib Service £202.59 for the church.

Our architect, Tim Bauxbaum, has made some progress with the tower and feels the problem may be caused by bell frame timber being in contact with the flint walls. More investigation required. Meeting will be held in church to look at improving microphone system. Twice yearly maintenance has been completed – no problems found. Some remedial work required to organ – Bishops would be asked to carry this out.

Leiston Christian Together – Flyers had been distributed giving details of Christmas services in town.

Martin has been in Leiston almost one year. He and his family have felt wonderfully welcomed as part of the St Margaret's community. Good contact with the Primary School and Alde Valley High School – Wonderful Christingle Service in church for the whole Primary School. Banners and graveyard survey will be developed with Alde Valley. Good attendances at all Christmas services.

Trial would be made to move chairs more “into the round” to free up space at back of church for social activities and Sunday School. Beach Sunrise Service being planned for Easter morning.

Martin will have a meeting shortly to discuss a team ministry for the Sunday school. More user friendly storage is to be obtained to replace the music chest, also storage for Choir Music books. Shop volunteers now have mobile phone to use in case of emergencies.

Forthcoming events

15th February Valentine Bake Sale after service

6th March Women's World Day of Prayer at United Church

21st March Church Spring Clean – everyone invited to participate

18th May Archdeacon's Visitation to be held at St Margaret's

Date of next PCC meeting - Wednesday 11th March 2015 at 19.00 hrs

Pat Carter, Secretary to the PCC

WOMENS GROUP

On Wednesday 21st January the Group met at the Wentworth Hotel for their post-Christmas meal. In a break with tradition we had decided to have lunch rather than an evening meal and also on a change in venue. Various groups travelled by car and we all met up in the lounge of the hotel where we were pleased to find seating set aside for us to gather. We had pre-ordered our meal so were soon seated in the delightful conservatory enjoying the view over the beach.

All agreed the meal was excellent with ample sized portions and superb service from the young waiting staff. After our delicious desserts we were served tea, coffee and chocolate mints with time to chat amongst ourselves. A letter of thanks has been sent to the Manager on behalf of the Group.



Our next meeting took place on Monday 16th February when we met at the Church for a Craft Afternoon. Because it was half-term we were joined by some grandsons and the photographs show them busy at work. Sandra Ellis had brought us photograph frames to decorate with glass paints. After talking us through the method we all had a go – what fun!

Our meeting in April will be a flower arranging demonstration in the Church. Exact details will be announced later.

Our future programme includes a Treasure Hunt, a Charity event, fish and chips with a walk and afternoon tea.



There is no annual fee to join in the Group activities. Each event is paid for by individuals who take part. The move to afternoon meetings seems to be to members liking so this will continue for the time being.

Why not come along and see what it's all about? You do not need to be a Church goer although the Group does support Church events.

Pat Carter

THE NEW LIFE OF SPRING

When rugged winter has run its course,
We welcome spring to take its place,
To continue the cycle of life once more,
With the reality of fresh challenges to face.

Nature never stands still and as momentum grows,
The pulses quicken and new shoots appear.
All life awakens to the new bright dawn
And wildlife emerges from far and near.

From crocus and snowdrops the colour explodes
To produce a panoply fit for a king.
And then the young lambs jump with delight
And birds leave their nests to cheerfully sing.

With such a display of natural grandeur
We should feel renewed with a sense of purpose,
To spread our love to those who need it
And it will be returned tenfold to inspire us.

David Lindsley
Sent in by: Hilda Woodhead

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2015

This year the service, written by the women of The Bahamas will be held at the **Leiston United Church at 2pm on Friday 6 March 2015**. We look forward to seeing you there to join us in a service taking place all around the world on that day.

Pat Carter

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

LEISTON BRANCH (ALDEBURGH SUB-BRANCH)

The Battle of Neuve Chapelle – 10-13 March 1915

The following events are taking place to remember those who lost their lives and those who returned home to make Leiston a place for us to live:

Sunday 8th March 12.00 - 2.00pm

World War One Exhibition at Leiston, Long Shop open

Civic Parade and Service of Remembrance

2.00pm The Parade will muster at the Cadet Centre, Victory Road

2.10pm The Parade marches off

2.30pm Service of Remembrance at St Margaret's Church

Standards and a wreath of the Suffolk Regiment will be carried in the Parade for laying at the altar.

The Parade will return to the Cadet Centre following the Service.
The Ex-Service Club will be open for drinks including tea and coffee.

Monday 9th to Friday 13th March 10.00am - 4.00pm

World War One Exhibition, Long Shop Museum

Thursday 12th March 7.00 for 7.30 pm

Talk on the Battle of Neuve Chapelle by Military Historian, Taff Gillingham

To be held at The Long Shop Museum.

Trevor Peskett

Leiston in the Great War Group



NEVER FORGET - HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL SERVICE

From 6pm on Sunday 1st February, St Margaret's Church created a space to remember the 6 million victims of the holocaust. For an hour we gathered around 6 candles, taking a moment to reflect, to pray, to question, to listen and to just be still. With Jewish music playing softly in the background, we lit candles, held stones and prayed that as we never forget what had happened to so many people then, we would also commit ourselves to working for peace, justice & understanding for all people, both today and in the future.

Reverend Martin Phillips-Last



St. Margaret's Church Leiston-with-Sizewell Community Healing Service

Every Fourth Sunday of the Month at 6.30pm
Service not in March, resumes on Sunday 26th April

Come along and listen to the healing word of God, to rest in his presence in worship and be enfolded in his arms of healing through prayer.

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH FAMILY

INTERCESSION PRAYERS FOR MARCH 2015

Dear Friends,

March's magazine continues to focus on monthly prayer time. Below is the St. Margaret's church family group for this month. Please remember each family group appears in the Magazine every three months. This is not to say you are not in our thoughts, you remain in our church family's prayers always, however this will allow for our growing church family, and also for us all to focus our thoughts and prayers specifically on those listed for that particular month.

If you would like to be included in our family monthly prayers, or have any queries please contact Revd. Chris Gonin on 01728 635549. 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'll add you to our 'special prayers' section.

In our Church Family Prayers

Martin, Kathryn, Grace & Eve Phillips-Last

Simon, Sheena, Hannah, Tom & Matt Merrett

Sheila Mckinnon, David & Midge Mckinnon

Ann Essex

Vi Matthews

Stephanie Luckhurst

Terry Ferguson

Sue, Dale, Ewan & Cameron Threadkell

Jo Tozer

Joan Whale

Paul Espindola

Jonathan, Kathryn & Joshua Williams

Mary Murphy

Mike & Lesley Cassie

Charles & Pauline Stride

Steve, Christine & Nathan James

Derek & Sheila Stiff

Don Bridges

Bruce & Phyllis Songer

David & Cindy Fittsell

Zara & Emma Fittsell

Paul, Charlene, Alexander, Aidan & Amy Fittsell

Stephen & Gail Southgate

Naomi Kerans

Helen Thackeray

June & Fred Shanley

John & Sue Last

Helen Rivett

Judith & Mike Stigwood

Alan, Maureen & Jason Fox

Wayne, Ben & Niamh Fox

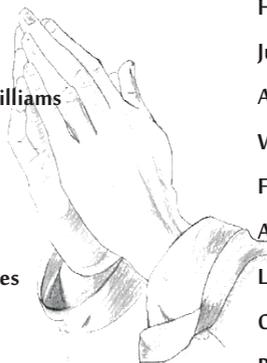
Fi Long

Allison King

Luke, Asha & Jai Mewett

Clare & Kane Hambridge

Peter & Jennifer Roberts



In our Special Prayers



Shirley Newman
Leah Crudgington

Sally Hitchcock
Kane
Jean Cracknell



Funerals - February 2015

Hilda Mary Norman 4th February
Stephen Fryer 5th February
Stephen Smith 9th February
David Coull 12th February
Dean Craig Wright 19th February



Service of Thanksgiving - February 2015

Elizabeth Lapwood 18th February

'Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand'.

Isaiah 41:10

God, My Saviour

I am not skilled to understand
what God hath willed,
what God hath planned;
I only know at His right hand
stands One who is my Saviour.
I take Him at His word and deed;
'Christ died for sinners', this I read;
and in my heart I find I need
of Him to be my Saviour.

Dorothy Greenwell - Sent in by Vi Matthews

PONDERING PRAYER

“The Lord appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre, while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent.” (Genesis chapter eighteen, verse one) That's where Abraham was, 'at home'. The exact spot changed from time to time because Abraham led a nomadic life-style.

However, wherever he happened to be, God, the faithful God, who keeps his covenant of love to one generation after another met with him at the door of his tent, comforted him and promised to be his shield and his very great reward.

In Matthew chapter five the Lord Jesus encourages us to go into our room and spend time alone with him. He promises that the God who sees what is done in secret, in the private inner space of our hearts, will reward us or cause us to reap the benefits and blessing from this quiet place of private prayer. As we move toward Easter, let's focus our attention on the Lord Jesus who faithfully set his face like a flint to go to Jerusalem where he was willing to die, that we may be forgiven. Much has changed since Abraham's day, yet a song written by a twentieth century Christian expresses gratitude for God's faithfulness in our generation. Do these words help you to meet the Lord as you spend time alone with him?

" Faithful One, so unchanging,
ageless One, you're my rock of peace.
Lord of all, I depend on you.
I call out to you, again and again.
You are my rock in times of trouble;
You lift me up when I fall down.
All through the storm your love is the anchor.
My hope is in you alone."

*Lyrics-Brian Doegksen
Vineyard Music*

PSALM 51 - A COMMENTARY

The greatest King in the history of the Jewish people was King David. For all his wisdom, leadership and military skill he was capable of terrible sins. He took a fancy to Bathsheba, the wife of an officer in his army and arranged for the soldier to be betrayed and killed in battle (2 Samuel 11). He then married Bathsheba. It is thought that the words of the psalm were written by David when Nathan the prophet confronted him with this terrible sin. He writes 'wash me from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin'. These are the words of a man filled with guilt.

He knows that no sacrifice on his part can relieve him of his pain and with the words 'Make me a clean heart, O God and renew a right spirit within me' he confronts himself and God with his honest penitence.

He is freed from his guilt, the psalmist goes on to say 'O give me the comfort of thy help again and establish me with thy free spirit'. This a psalm for Lent when we all take stock of our own sins and failures and bring them to Our Lord, knowing that when we go to him trusting in his sacrifice for us all, we will be forgiven. We make a fresh start.

Rev. Chris Gonin

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH TOWER LIGHTS UP

During February the lighting of the tower was been sponsored on:

Tuesday 10th February by Shirley Newman, to mark the birthday of her late husband and their wedding anniversary.

Sunday 15th & Monday 16th February by Betty Harland to mark the 55th anniversary of her mother's death.

During March the lighting of the tower has been sponsored on:

Friday 6th March - Monday 9th March in memory of Paul Snowden.

Sunday 8th March to mark the 80th birthday of Helen Thackeray

Saturday 21st March by Maureen, to mark Niamh's birthday

Sunday 29th March by Hilary Slaughter, to mark their wedding anniversary

If you would like to mark your own special occasion by sponsoring the lighting of St Margaret's Church Tower for a donation of £5 and see the details of your special occasion appear in the Church Magazine please contact Martin on 01728 561149

Shoebbox Appeal - Update

A BIG 'THANK YOU' FROM OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

We are pleased to tell you that your Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes were some of 181,409 that were delivered from the UK to children in **BELARUS**.

Through these shoebox gifts we have been able to show children around the world, living in difficult situations, that they are loved and not forgotten. Many of these children will never have received a gift in their life before.

A mother whose children received shoeboxes told us this story:

“There are four children in my family - two daughters and two sons. My husband was tragically killed in a car accident in 2000. Ever since the children smiled very seldom, and the shoeboxes caused so much joy and many smiles that it made me cry because of joy and happiness that filled my heart. There were so many useful things in those shoeboxes for our family and children, for example, toys, sweets, soap, toothpaste and brushes, stationery, and so forth, for which please receive my thanks and appreciation on my behalf and my children's. Thank you very much for their smiles and joy - to you and to the Lord.”

We thank God for your contribution to Operation Christmas Child in 2014 and for helping us to share God's love with children at Christmas.

Sandra Harle

Grace, Grace and Ursula



Photos showing Children from St. Margaret's Church helping to make shoeboxes for the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal



Grace, Charlie and Ellie

LEISTON - A FAIRTRADE TOWN

Following on from last month's article in the February edition of the St. Margaret's Parish Magazine, I would like to take this opportunity to let everyone know that Fairtrade is alive and well in Leiston. We have a fully functioning Fair Trade committee comprising of supportive organisations and which is supported by our Town Council. This committee try to spread the word that producers in this country and world wide are entitled to a fair return for the goods they produce and that their workers should also share in this support.

The Leiston Fair Trade Committee make efforts to publicise and encourage the use and purchase of Fairtrade products our work over recent years has resulted in our town achieving 'Leiston-A-Fairtrade Town' status and this is recognised on the nameplates on the approach to Leiston.

Our committee has stalls at most of our town events and constantly reviews its requests to employers and organisations to use Fairtrade products in their catering. To celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight we held a Coffee Morning in the United Reform Church on the 25th of February.

We would also like to take this opportunity to invite you all to a concert given by the Training Band of Leiston's Royal British Legion Band on the evening of March 4th to celebrate Fairtrade.

The committee would welcome any interested organisations as members of our committee.

Bill Howard

St. Margaret's Church

Church Road, Leiston

Join us for a mid-week
**Holy Communion
Service**

10am every Wednesday

Service not during March
Resumes on 22nd April



'Come and let us celebrate together, The Lord's Supper'

A big thank you to everyone who is currently advertising in the magazine. Your advert is helping to support your local church & its work in the community.

If interested in advertising in this magazine & would like further details please email: stmargaretsleiston@gmail.com

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Notice: Items for April's Magazine:

Please note that all articles, adverts etc. will need to be submitted to Kathryn Williams by the **18th March** for inclusion in April's Magazine. Thank you.



Keep up to date with all Church Events
by visiting our own website:



www.stmargaretschurchleiston.onesuffolk.net

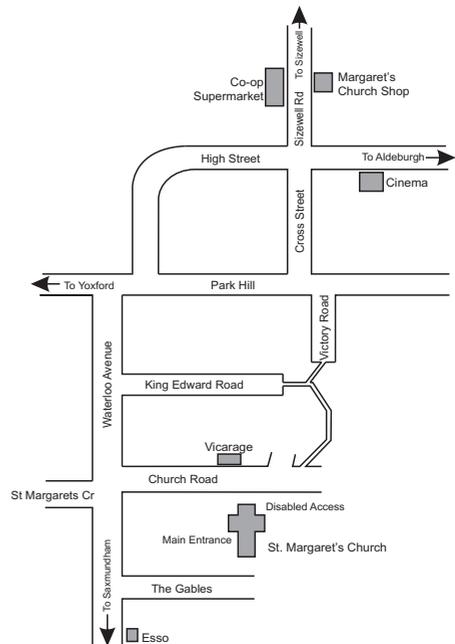
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and meet new friends and enjoy some
Christian fellowship.



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St. Margaret's Church or Margaret's Church Shop on Sizewell Rd, plus various other local shops.
Alternatively, delivery can also be arranged.



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