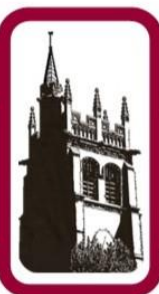


ALL SAINTS'



ALIVE

All Saints' Welcomes Everyone

Services for Passiontide and Holy Week

All Saints Welcomes Everyone



PASSIONTIDE AND EASTER

PASSION SUNDAY 26 MARCH 2023		GOOD FRIDAY 7 APRIL 2023	
Parish Communion	10.00am	Family Service	9.30am
Evening Service	6.30pm	Town Centre Witness Walk	10.30am
PALM SUNDAY 2 APRIL 2023		Hour at the Foot of the Cross	2.00pm
Holy Communion with Gospel and Passion Reading	10.00am	EASTER SUNDAY 9 APRIL 2023	
Meditation for Palm Sunday	6.30pm	Holy Communion	8.00am
MAUNDY THURSDAY 6 APRIL 2023		Family Eucharist	10.00am
Holy Communion	11.00am	Evensong (Said)	6.30pm
Choral Communion and Stripping of the Altars	8.00pm	Low Sunday 16 APRIL 2023	
		Holy Communion	10.00am



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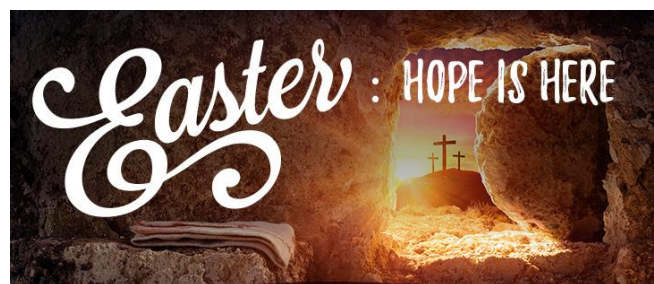
Hope

As I was thinking about writing this message I looked out of the window and thought how Springlike everything looked. Flowers in bloom, birds flying around and singing lustily, blue sky and sun, everything showing promise and hope. Of course now that I have sat down to begin to write the sky has clouded over and the rain is falling.

How quickly things change. Of course this is true of life in general and why we can never afford to take anything for granted. I am not a great fan of making plans because so often over the years we have had to change them at the last minute. Sometimes this had proved to be challenging but at other times it has opened up new and interesting opportunities.

During this season of Lent I often think of Mary and how her life was constantly changing. As a young virgin she faced a momentous change when she found that she was to give birth to the son of God. Presumably then for some years she was a wife and mother, supporting her carpenter husband and bringing up her family. All this changed radically when Jesus started his ministry. She knew that he was special. At the wedding in Cana she told the stewards to do exactly what Jesus told them when the wine ran out. She had faith in him and knew that he would help. However, at the presentation in the Temple when Jesus was still a small baby being blessed by the elderly Simeon Mary had been warned:

"Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵ (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."



Surely this warning would have remained in her heart and she would have come to understand what it meant when Jesus was arrested, so cruelly flogged and then crucified. What mother would have not felt her soul being pierced by a sword at such a time. Mary, however, was not just any mother she was the one chosen to bring forth God into the world. She knew how different and how special Jesus was but also knew that God was in control. No matter how awful it must have been for her to witness Jesus dying in such a cruel manner I would like to think that Jesus' ministry had given her Hope.

Hope is something we all need and which sometimes we find particularly difficult. As we work our way through the dark days of Lent,

surely we receive strength from the sure and certain hope of the resurrection. Many people these days shy away from religious funerals preferring instead to have a "celebration" or even perhaps a "simple cremation" with no mourners present. I have witnessed a number of these "celebrations" and come away feeling so sad because there was no hope of better things to come, no sense of the deceased having gone on to a better place-just gone forever.

Jesus promised us that we would have life and have it in abundance. Surely that means we will have good times and bad times, so many different experiences. Just as the changing seasons of nature bring about a constant circle of life and death, good and bad even abundance and famine, so our own lives are constantly changing. This needs to be celebrated, whilst we are still alive not just once someone has died.

A favourite Bible reading for funerals is John 14.1-6

Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God ; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

This is the message of Hope and the message of Easter, the Resurrection promise. The Hope we all need and the promise that will not be broken.

Happy Easter to you all!

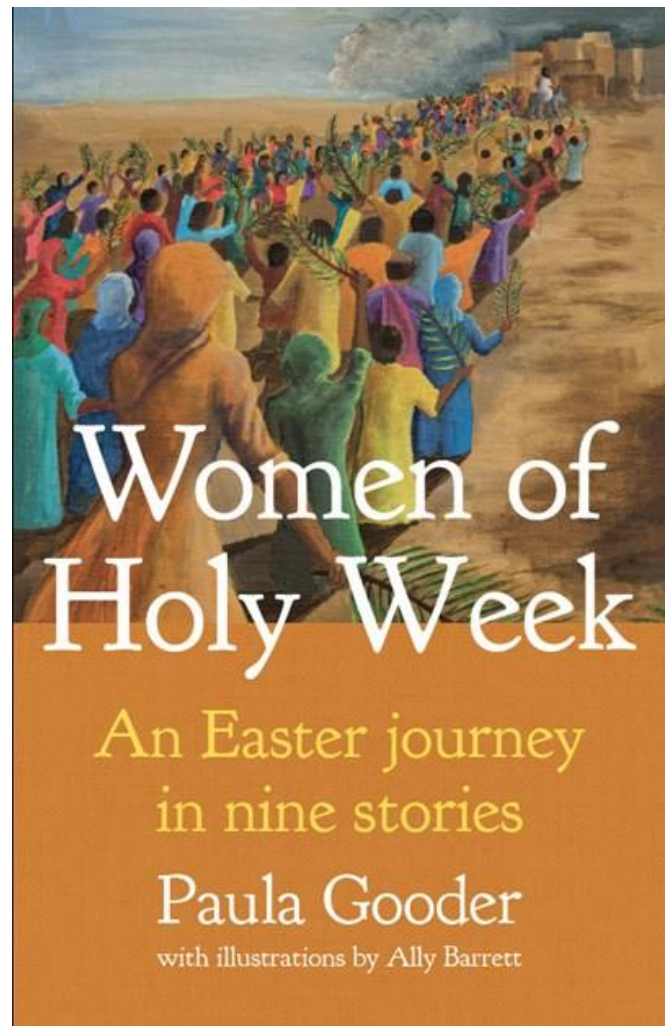
With love
Janet

Women of Holy Week

Women of Holy Week is a series of nine stories about nine different, but interlinked, women written by Paula Gooder, originally as Holy Week, Easter and Ascension Day reflections for Southwark Cathedral in 2021.

Starting with Palm Sunday and finishing with Ascension Day, these nine stories imagine what it might have been like to accompany

Jesus in this final week of his life from the perspective of nine women.



Some of them we know with certainty were there because the Gospels tell us they were there: the widow with two coins, the woman with the ointment of pure nard, Mary wife of Clopas, Mary Magdalene, Mary mother of Jesus.

Some are not mentioned at all, but someone like them was probably present: a woman journeying to Jerusalem for the Passover, the wife of a scribe, and a female disciple at the Last Supper.

The stories also aim to travel from the outside in: from people who had the most fleeting encounters with Jesus at the start of the week to his most devoted followers at the end.

More information and links to additional materials at

<https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/what-we-believe/lent-holy-week-and-easter/women-holy-week>

Good Friday Walk of Witness

7th April



This will start at the Methodist Church, Ware Road at 10.00 am. We will walk to the Quaker Meeting House in Railway Street, through the town, ending up at the URC in Cowbridge.

At each stopping place there will be a meditation and a hymn. There will be a welcome seat, cuppa and Hot Cross Bun at the URC. Feel to join/leave at any stage.

Daily Prayers for King Charles III

The Coronation of King Charles III will take place on Saturday 6 May 2023 at Westminster Abbey, in a service steeped in centuries of tradition and rich in Christian symbols and values. To mark this important moment in our nation's life, the Church of England has compiled a series of Daily Prayers.

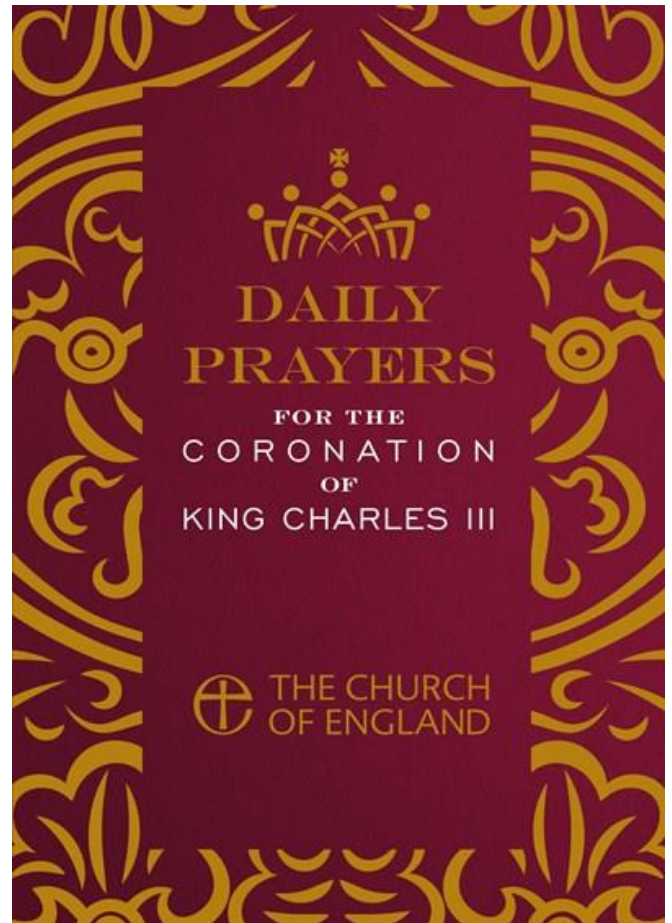
From Easter Day (9 April) to Coronation Day (6 May), this booklet provides a daily theme, reading, reflection and prayer for use by individuals, churches or groups who wish to use these days to:

- * pray for The King, our nation and the world
- * explore the symbolism of the Coronation service
- * reflect on Jesus, the Servant King.

It also includes prayers for The King and the Royal Family for use in years to come.

Print versions will be available at the end of March and digital versions will be available

via the Church of England's website and social media channels.



<https://www.churchofengland.org/coronation>

Easter Flowers



very

Flowers in church at Easter in memory of loved ones have always been special. Your donations are always appreciated and are a great help in making our church look its best on Easter morning.

If you would like to make a donation this year Dorothy Toyn or the Churchwardens would be pleased to receive your gift by Sunday April 2nd.



The XMAS TREE CROSS will be decorated on Easter Day.

Please remember to bring a flower on Easter Day, Sunday 9th April

Dorothy Toyn

01992 589781 dorothy.toyn@ntlworld.com

Afternoon Tea & Quiz

All Saints Welcomes Everyone



**Afternoon Tea
...AND
QUIZ**

**SATURDAY 15 APRIL 2023
at 2.30pm In the Church**

PLEASE SIGN UP AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH
or Contact Janet Bird on 01992 587544
or at janet_l_bird@hotmail.com
Donations towards the cost will be appreciated

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introducing several significant changes, to bring new life and in response to the current context we live in.



The need across the world for the transforming power and mercy of God is more stark than ever. How can we partner with God, in prayer and mission, to see more people encounter the love of Christ this year?

Firstly, we have introduced new daily themes for our resources. These themes focus on the character of God - 'Our Father in Heaven' - the One to whom we are petitioning and inviting people to know, to love and to serve. To find out more about these themes click the button below.

Secondly, this year we're introducing a new sub-theme 'Living the Kingdom'. Whilst Thy Kingdom Come will always have its focus as a call to prayer for evangelisation we want to invite participants to go one step further.

Mission always comes from the place of prayer, so how can we in this time go the extra mile, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to love and serve those we are praying for or others who are in need? This is about living the Kingdom - individually and corporately - in our context.

Finally, returning to the early days of TKC, we are sensing a call for Christians to gather together (in-person where possible) and collaborate ecumenically locally, regionally and nationally - being a truly united witness to the world.

Ukraine

Tina Banks has just come back from her latest visit to Ukraine, taking another 20 palette loads of humanitarian aid raised from around Hertford. The purpose of her visits (this was



This year's Annual Meetings will be held in Church on Sunday 23rd April.

All welcome to hear/contribute to our plans for the coming year.

Thy Kingdom Come

The team are so excited to be back and well under way with planning for Thy Kingdom Come 2023, with some new changes ahead!

Through prayer and discernment, as Thy Kingdom Come goes into its 8th year, we are

her third) is to see areas needing, and not getting, aid. Last week her Ukrainian contacts took her to the small town of Chernihiv, quite near the border with Belarus, so pretty much on the front line.

Chernihiv has recently been flattened by bombs, rockets and tanks. It has been devastated. The bridge was blown up. The school was targeted, and a hundred or so children were killed. (Some food was being cooked for the soldiers in the school kitchen, and it is suspected that an informer passed word to the Russians and so they targeted the school).



The surviving inhabitants of Chernihiv now live in what were 'weekend chalets' – like allotment summerhouses – without running water or electricity. Others live in 'shipping containers' – windowless metal boxes, with four bunk beds crammed in each, with an extreme condensation problem from lack of ventilation and the cold. With air raid sirens sounding regularly, children live in underground bunkers, in the dark – they are terrified.

Food is desperately scarce and expensive if you can find any, similarly, any aid. The aid

coming in from Poland, Italy and France seems to have dried up.

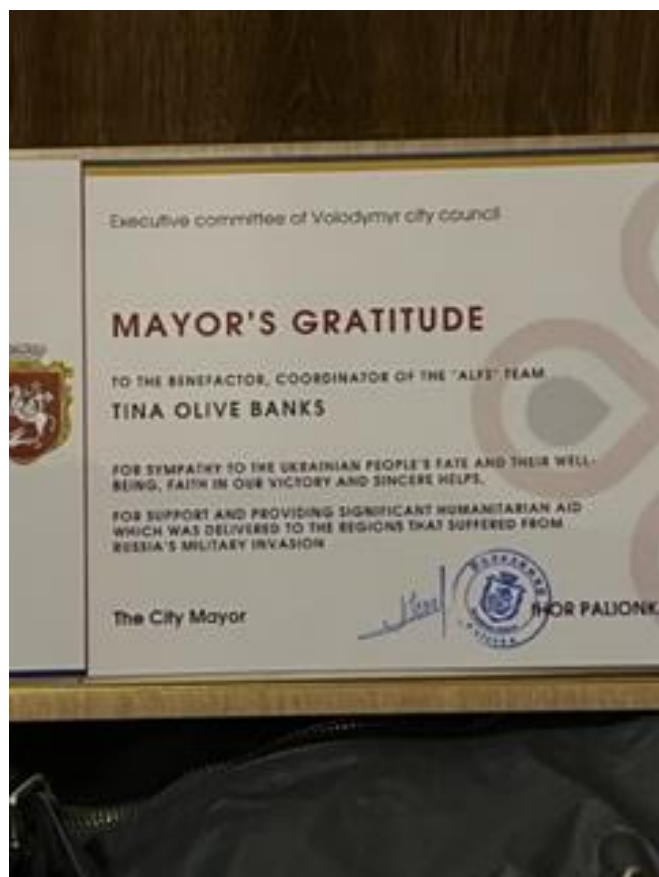
Tina is sending the next load at the end of the month (hopefully there will be monthly loads going into the future if she can get sufficient sponsorship for them) and she says there is a desperate need for FOOD, MEDICAL ITEMS, ADULT NAPPIES. A more detailed list follows. She is also hoping to send a load of Easter eggs/Easter bunnies to cheer the children! Please drop off to 13A Queens' Road, Hertford, SG13 8AY. 07714 999581 info@alfsherts.com

Meanwhile the Produce Stall at All Saints Church is in aid of this urgent work. Proceeds have already paid for an electric generator, so a big thank-you to all supporters.

In Chernihiv, as they finished distributing the first load of aid, a woman ran up, out of breath, distressed. When she heard that all the aid was distributed she burst into tears. She had nothing at all but what she stood up in. Maxim, a soldier helping, explained more aid should arrive next morning, and that she should come early. Tina's photo shows her delight. She actually did better by waiting a day, you can see her sleeping bag and the food and toiletries she was given.



A Latvian lady arrived here yesterday, to help in the garden for ten days (a Wwoofer). It is very sobering to hear from her of the fear in her country, Latvia, also Estonia, Lithuania and Poland, of what is happening in Ukraine, and what will happen next.....



LIST OF REQUESTS FROM UKRAINE

Clothes – men's, women's, children's, babies. Boots and trainers if nearly new. Sleeping bags, good quality blankets. Rucksacks if full size.

Food – packet soups, tinned meat, fish, pasta, rice, couscous, bulgar wheat, pasta sauce, tea, coffee, biscuits, porridge, pot noodles, baby food, instant anything foodwise.

Adult and baby nappies, sanitary products. Toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shower gel.

Power bank, generators, camping stoves and gas, torches, batteries, head torches, knee pads, tactical gloves, tourniquets. Cough medicine, nasal sprays, cough and cold remedies, throat lozenges, paracetamol, all and any medicines, dressings etc. (NB Unused, unfinished prescription medicines are given to doctors to administer appropriately).

Peregrine Falcons

A pair of Peregrine falcons seem to be taking up residence on our Tower Roof using the existing nest box.

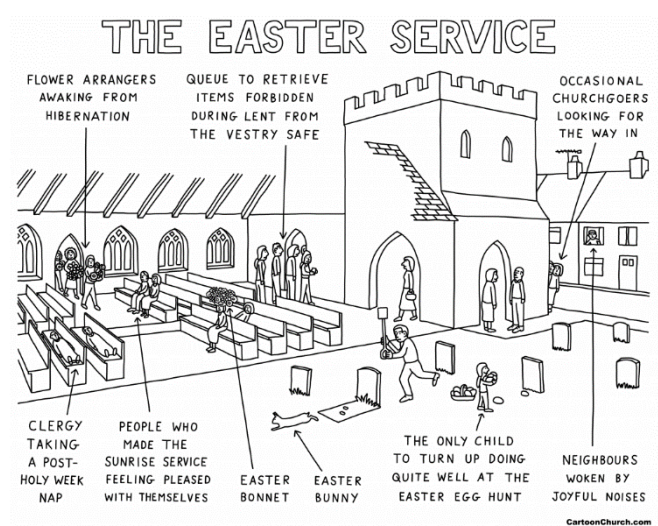
They have been visiting occasionally since Friday 10th March – often only one, but on occasions two – with one watching whilst the other 'works' – housekeeping duties – removal of moss and re-arranging the gravel to create a depression.



The two peregrines are actively developing/customising their nest site on the All Saints' church tower roof. It seems that the female is a mature female – and if all things being equal – there may be an egg of two in the next couple of weeks.



You can follow progress – and access some video footage on our dedicated web page at <https://www.allsaintshertford.org/perefalcs.php>



Local Elections

The UK government has introduced a requirement for voters to show photo ID when voting at a polling station at elections. This new requirement will apply for the first time in England at the local elections on Thursday 4 May 2023.

Which forms of ID can I use to vote?

You can use any of the following:

- Passport
- Driving licence (including provisional license)
- Certain concessionary travel cards (**this does not include Young Persons Rail or Bus Passes or Student ID**)

- Identity card with PASS mark (Proof of Age Standards Scheme)
- Biometric immigration document
- Defence identity card
- Certain national identity cards

Please note: If you have a form of accepted ID that is out of date, you can still use it to vote at a polling station if it still looks like you.

If you don't already have an accepted form of photo ID, or you're not sure whether your photo ID still looks like you, you can apply for a free voter ID document, known as a Voter Authority Certificate.

You can apply for this at **Voter Authority Certificate Application.**

The Electoral Commission

Voter ID: A summary

On **Thursday 4 May 2023**, local elections are taking place across East Hertfordshire.

At these elections, you will need to bring photo ID to be able to vote at a polling station. A wide range of photo ID will be accepted, including passports, driving licences and cards with a PASS Mark.

If you don't have an accepted form of photo ID, you can apply for a free voter ID document known as a Voter Authority Certificate.

Visit electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID, call **0800 328 0280**, or scan the QR code below to find out more, including:

- The full list of accepted forms of photo ID
- How to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate (if you need one)
- What will happen at the polling station

Alternatively, you can complete a paper application form and send this to the electoral services team at East Herts Council.

If you want to request an application form, contact the electoral services team on 01279 655 261.

Parish Diary April 2023

Sunday 2nd Palm Sunday

- 10.00 am** Special Service with Dramatic Reading of Gospel of the Passion
6.30 pm Meditation for Palm Sunday

Wednesday 5th (Wednesday of Holy Week)

- 9.00 am** Organ Tuning

Maundy Thursday 6th

- 11.00 am** Holy Communion
8.00 pm Choral Communion with washing of feet and stripping of altars

Good Friday 7th

- 9.30 am** Family Service for Good Friday
10.00 am Walk of Witness from Ware Rd Methodist to URC Cowbridge
2.00 pm An Hour at the Foot of the Cross

Sunday 9th Easter Day

- 10.00 am** Parish Communion
6.30 pm Said Evensong

Thursday 13th (Thursday of Easter Week)

- 11.00 am** Holy Communion

Saturday 15th (Saturday of Easter Week)

- 9.00 am** Work Party
2.30 pm Afternoon Tea & Quiz

Sunday 16th 2nd Sunday of Easter

- 10.00 am** Family Eucharist
6.30 pm Evensong (Said)

Thursday 20th

- 11.00 am** Holy Communion
7.30 pm All Saints Art

Friday 21st (Anselm)

- 5.30 pm** Choir Practices in Church

Sunday 23rd 3rd Sunday of Easter

- 10.00 am** Parish Communion
11.30 am Annual Meetings
6.30 pm Choral Evensong

Thursday 27th (Christina Rossetti)

- 11.00 am** Holy Communion
7.30 pm All Saints Art

Friday 28th (Peter Chana)

- 5.30 pm** Choir Practices in Church

Sunday 30th 4th Sunday of Easter

- 10.00 am** Parish Communion
6.30 pm Special service for the season

MAY Wednesday 3rd

- 12.00 for 1.00 pm** Soundbites
Krassimira Jeliaskova – Violin
Pavel Timofeyevsk – Piano

ALL SAINTS HERTFORD

ALL SAINTS' WELCOMES EVERYONE

Soundbites

A Term-Time Series of Concerts on Wednesday Lunch-Times
(Light Lunches served from 12noon for Concerts at 1.00pm)

New Season Starts Wednesday 3 May 2023



Krassimira Jeliaskova (Violin)
Pavel Timofeyevsk (Piano)

Franz Schubert - Fantasy for Violin and Piano C Major
Sergey Rachmaninov - Romance
Gershwin/Heifetz - Two pieces from the opera "Porgy and Bess"
Pancho Vladigerov - Concert Chimmy

Free Admission with Retiring Collection in Aid of All Saints' Church

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Thursday 4th (English Saints and Martyrs)

- 11.00 am** Holy Communion
1.30 pm Abel Smith Rehearsal
7.30 pm All Saints Art

Friday 5th

- 2.00 pm** Abel Smith School Service
5.30 pm Choir Practices in Church

Sunday 7th 5th Sunday of Easter

- 10.00 am** Civic Service to mark the Coronation of HM King Charles III
6.30 pm Said Evensong

Contact information

www.allsaintshertford.org    AllSaintsHertf

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Full list of contacts

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