

NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 26 MARCH

*NB: Clocks go forward,
British Summer Time
begins.*

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

PASSION SUNDAY - FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St John's
10.00am	Parish Eucharist	St John's
10.00am	Sung Mass	St Francis'
11.30am	Morning Worship	St Stephen's
12.30pm	St John's Lunch Club	St John's
7.30pm	Holy Communion	St John's
8.00pm	Lent Course Wk 5 – Christ: Risen from the Dead	St John's
9.30am	Tiny Tots – Stay & Play & Service	St John's Hall & Church
11.00-4.00pm	Warm Hub – Open and warm church	St John's
10.00am	BCP Holy Communion followed by coffee	St John's
5.00pm	Evening Prayer	St Francis'
9.30am	Holy Communion	St Stephen's
10.00am	Lent Course Wk 5 – Christ: Risen from the Dead	St Stephen's
4.00pm	Burial of ashes – Jennifer Sears	St John's
5.30pm	Junior Choir	St John's Hall
7.00pm	Choir Rehearsal	St John's Hall
3.00pm	Aeolian Singers Spring Concert	St Francis'

SUNDAY 2 APRIL

PALM SUNDAY

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St John's
10.00am	Blessing of Palms, Procession and Parish Eucharist	St John's
	<i>Service begins in Boxmoor Playhouse and processes to St John's</i>	
10.00am	Sung Mass and Procession	St Francis'
11.30am	Holy Communion with Hymns	St Stephen's
1.00pm	Burial of Ashes – Janet Huggins	St John's
6.30pm	Solemn Evensong and Benediction	St Francis'

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

the peoples of Ukraine – those defending their land; those made refugees; those in positions of leadership

those who are ill: Isabel Abbot, Lynsey Abbott, Delia Aylott, Andrew, Becky, Matt Blake, Brenda, Catherine, Jean Dawkins, Michele Finch, Ruth Goatly, Annetta Gray, Dave Harvey, Angie Jackson, Janice, Kevin, Paul Kessell-Holland, Alan Kirtley, Lizzie, Anne Lyne, Paul McCormick, Elizabeth McDonald, Sue McMorran, Pamela, Jane Rombout, Stanley Rose, Guy Wyatt;

those with ongoing needs: Anthony, John Bery, Richard Berry, Peter Clayton, Val Darvill, Peter Davis, Gill Dow, Pam French, Derek Frost, Josie Gower, Andrew Gunning, Margaret Gunning, Matt, Sharon & family, Jean Harries, Pam Hart, Anne Hosier, Elizabeth Jones, Sheila Lewis, Samuel & James Lockyer, Rev'd Rex Merry, Ruth Merry, Gladys Mimer, Steve Randall, Marion Roff, Beryl Taylor, Jayne Taylor, Jim Taylor, Christine Wilson, John Wilson, Mike Winch;

If you wish to be remembered at Morning and Evening Prayer only, please contact the Vicar.

Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead:

St Paul's Church, Highfield, their Rector, PCC and other Lay-leaders, and congregation;

those who have died recently and we pray for their families and friends:

Brian Laidlaw, Bob Reiss – priest, Gillian Strange, Eileen Pemberton, Anna Matthews – priest;

Godfrey Rock funeral: Monday 27 March, 12noon, St John's Church

Eva Woodgate funeral: Tuesday 28 March, 2.20pm, West Herts Crem

those whose Years mind is this week: 26 March – 1 April:

Ann Nash (26.03.19), Michael West (27.03.18), Caroline Walker (29.03.20), Gary Walker (29.03.20), Katie Walker (29.03.20), Herbert Lee Chung Sung (29.03.19), Violet Parkinson (29.03.18), Pauline Lane (29.03.18), Anne Higham (01.04.20), Peter Ewart-Brookes (01.04.18).

PARISH NOTICES

REMINDER: Clocks go forward an hour on Saturday night making Sunday – Passion Sunday – feel an hour earlier.

LIVE STREAMING – THIS WEEK: The Parish Eucharist at 10.00am will be live streamed this week. This can be joined at: www.stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk/live-streamed-services - we apologise in advance if our internet connection fails! A recording will be uploaded as soon as possible if this happens. Thank you for your understanding.

LENT COURSE: Images of Christ: The story of Jesus in the Arts: The final session of the Lent course will be held this week (St John's on Monday evening and St Stephen's on Thursday morning). Thank you to all who have joined the course. All are welcome for the final session.

EASTER SERVICES CARDS: Our Easter publicity is available for distribution at the back of St John's. PLEASE help with this important task in sharing with our community ways in which they can join us to mark Holy Week and celebrate the joy of Christ's resurrection this Easter. Please sign the list of distribution routes so that we know who is doing which route. Please can they be delivered by 31 March at the latest. Thank you.

PALM SUNDAY:

- **Morning:** Our Parish Eucharist begins at Boxmoor Playhouse at 10.00am. We will then process to St John's – mirroring Jesus's procession into Jerusalem on a donkey – waving our palms. This is a great opportunity to witness to our faith. The Eucharist then proceeds as normal.
- **Evening:** To re-enforce the beginning of Holy Week there will be a special service of Solemn Evensong & Benediction at 6.30pm at St Francis, Hammerfield. Everyone is welcome.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES: Please see our poster/Easter Cards for details of all our services. It is a very moving week and you are warmly invited to come to all our services. Particular highlights include the **Maundy Thursday Eucharist and Watch, Good Friday's Hour at the Cross, Holy Saturday's Vigil, and Easter Sunday**

YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU: As we approach Holy Week and Easter we will need help with some of our services. For instance, we need **12 people to volunteer their feet for washing** during the Maundy Thursday Eucharist. We also need **readers for Passion Gospel on Palm Sunday**, and lots of people to steward our many services. Please see the Vicar if you are willing to help or he'll just start picking on people!

PASSIONTIDE ARRAY: In union with the Church universal our crosses, statues, and artwork have been veiled for the final two weeks of Lent. This deprivation is intended to encourage us to think about Christ's atoning sacrifice on the cross more deeply.

ENVELOPE GIVING: A new supply of Numbered Weekly Giving Envelopes, starting with the week 9 April 2023, is now available at the back of St John's for collection by participants in the Envelope Giving Scheme. Please contact Garth Bridgwood or Chris Angell if you wish to join the Scheme, are unable to collect your envelopes, or can't find them.

HARDSHIP FUND: The church has a hardship fund. Should anyone be struggling with fuel bills the parish may be able to help. Please speak to the vicar.

CHURCHWARDEN'S APPEAL: The Churchwarden's Appeal this year will be to replace the chairs in the hall. There will be more details to follow shortly.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING: The APCM this year is being held on Sunday 23 April at 11.30am in St John's Church, after refreshments, following the 10.00am Combined Parish Eucharist. The agenda, papers and nomination forms will be available on the parish website (<https://stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk/>) and at the back of church from early April. Do please attend – this is your chance to have a say in the running of your parish.

ELECTORAL ROLL UPDATE REMINDER: If you wish to be able to vote at the forthcoming APCM on Sunday 23 April and are not already included on this Parish's Electoral Roll, please complete an application form and place it in the box located at the main doors of our three churches. If you have any queries or difficulties please contact Ian Packe on 214126 or electoralroll@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk.

COVID GUIDANCE:

- Receiving communion in both kinds is not compulsory (as our recent practice has shown). If you would like to receive the chalice the offer is there. If you would prefer not to receive from the common cup then simply receive the host and walk back to your places. It is an entirely personal decision.
- Intincting/dipping your wafer into the wine is not permitted.
- Mandatory Social Distancing has ceased, however, please be mindful when choosing somewhere to sit as some may still prefer to keep at a respectable distance and/or wear a face covering.

Parish Office: 01442 260299 office@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk <https://www.stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk>
The core office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays 10.30am-1.30pm.