

Sunday 25th March – Palm Sunday

WELCOME TO THE UNITED BENEFICE OF ST NICHOLAS GODSTONE,
ST STEPHEN SOUTH GODSTONE AND ST JOHN BLINDLEY HEATH



Rector: Revd Peter O'Connell 01883 741945 rector@godstone.net

Assistant Priest: Revd Evelyn Randall 07590 099326 evelynrandall@uwclub.net

Church Wardens: St Nicholas: Louise Case 01883 740182, St Stephen: Jane Moss 01342 892502,

*A warm welcome to all who are with us today, especially to those joining us for the first time.
Children's Church is available. Please stay for refreshment after the service to meet with us.*

Services for Sunday 25th March 2018 – **PALM SUNDAY**

8.00 am St Nicholas HC, BCP
9.00 am St Stephens HC, CW
10.30 am St Johns HC, CW
10.30 am St Nicholas HC, CW
Readings: Philippians 2.5-11, Mark 15.1-39

Communion on Wednesday 28th March

10.00 am St Mary's Chapel HC, BCP

Services for Sunday 1st April – **EASTER DAY**

6.30 am Dawn Service at Windy Gap
8.00 am St Nicholas HC, BCP
9.00 am St Stephens HC, CW
10.30 am St Johns – Family Communion CW
10.30 am St Nicholas HC, CW

Readings: Acts 10.34-43, Mark 16.1-8

Communion on Wednesday 4th April

10.00 am ?

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **Monday 26th March – Compline with reflection at St Nicholas Church – 7 pm.**
- **Tuesday 27th March – Compline with reflection at St John's Church - 7 pm.**
- **Wednesday 28th March – Compline with reflection at St Stephen's Church – 7 pm.**
- **Thursday 29th March – Holy Communion CW with foot washing St Stephen's Church – 7pm**
- **Friday 30th March – Good Friday – 10.30 am Baptist Church – Family Worship with procession to the Green.**
- **Friday 30th March – Good Friday – 2 pm "The Final Hour" at St John's Church. All welcome.**
- **Saturday 31st March – Build@Church at St Stephen's Church – 3 pm.**
- **Sunday 1st April – EASTER DAY – Dawn Service at Windy Gap, Godstone – 6.30 am.**
- **Wednesday 4th April – Farnborough (Kent) Bellringers at St Nicholas Church – noon – 12.50 pm.**
- **Saturday 7th April – Café Connect at St Nicholas Youth Centre, Godstone – raising money for the Bay Pond Toddler Group – 10.30 am – 12.30 pm.**

NOTICES

PCC MEETING – the main business of the next PCC meeting is approving the accounts in advance of the Annual Meeting. Janet has requested that it is put back until **Thursday 5th April** to allow time for her to complete the accounts.

FLOWERS FOR EASTER – ST JOHN'S CHURCH – If anybody would like to give donations for flowers to help decorate the church, in memory of those who have died, please hand your contributions to **Pauline 01342 833638** preferably by Palm Sunday. Many thanks.

All enquiries concerning Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Home Visits and Home Communion to:

Revd Peter O'Connell (contact details above)

Items for this news sheet to Philippa March [email benefice@godstone.net](mailto:benefice@godstone.net)

www.godstoneunitedbenefice.org.uk



St Nicholas Church, Godstone

COLLECT - Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever.

PHILIPPIANS 2.5-11 -Paul has just urged the Christians at Philippi, through “encouragement in Christ”, and moved by God’s love for them, to “be of the same mind(set), having the same love, being in full accord....” They are to “regard others as better than.....(themselves)” freely adopting a lowly, unassertive stance before others, replacing self-interest with concern for others.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father,

MARK 15.1-39 - It is the time of Passover. Jesus has shared the Last Supper with his disciples. He has very humanly asked the Father to allow him simply to die, but has decided to be obedient to the Father’s will, God’s plan. Judas has betrayed him to the religious authorities, and Jesus has been arrested, been tried by the Sanhedrin, and been found “deserving death” by blasphemy.

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, ‘Are you the King of the Jews?’ He answered him, ‘You say so.’ Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, ‘Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.’ But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, ‘Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?’ For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, ‘Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call King of the Jews?’ They shouted back, ‘Crucify him!’ Pilate asked them, ‘Why, what evil has he done?’ But they shouted all the more, ‘Crucify him!’ So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released

Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, ‘Hail, King of the Jews!’ They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in o’clockhomage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o’clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, ‘The King of the Jews.’ And with him they crucified two bandits, one of his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, ‘Aha! You who would destroy the temple and built it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!’ In the same way with chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, ‘He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.’ Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o’clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, ‘Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?’ which means, ‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’ When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, ‘Listen, he is calling for Elijah.’ And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, ‘Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.’ Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, ‘Truly this man was God’s Son!’

POST COMMUNION – Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation: give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King, to the glory of God the Father

PRAYER LIST

St Nicholas – Caroline Pope, Archie Butler, Christian Schumacher, Daphne Hughes, David Collins. **St Stephens** - Mona Watkins, Claire McFetridge, Elaine Childs, Ron Harradine, David Snell, Jennifer & Gerry Marks, Barry Slade Daphne Hodge **St Johns** – Hugh Hunter, Julie & Jo Charlton, Daphne & Peter Reed, Janice Reed, Tim Mundy. **The Benefice link with Rutendo in Zimbabwe.**

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS, THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Douglas Clapp

Joy McGuiness

