

# ST MARK'S PARISH MAGAZINE



*I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live...*

## April 2019

Donations to cover the cost of this publication are welcome

# **THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARK, REIGATE**

**Vicar: The Reverend Martin Colton**  
**Tel: 01737 241161 Email: vicar@stmarksreigate.co.uk**

## PARISH OFFICE

*Monday to Thursday 9.00am to 1.00pm 01737 210785*  
*Parish Administrator - Shona Prosser E-mail: office@stmarksreigate.co.uk*

## READERS

*Mr Ian Archer, 01737 242842*  
*Mrs Sarah Cousins, 01737 789943*  
*Mrs Susannah Dyde, 01737 221638*

## CHURCHWARDENS

*Mr Kenneth Packer, 01737 222860*  
*Mr Paul Selvadurai, 01737 223077*

## DEPUTY WARDENS

*Mrs Jane Artis, 07831 269866*  
*Mrs Christine Ingram, 01737 217969*

## SACRISTAN

*Mr James Tanser, 01737 767355*

## PCC TREASURER

*Mr Brian Rowbotham, 01737 244860*

## GIFT AID SECRETARY

*Mr Nigel Perkins, 01737 226632*

## PCC SECRETARY

*Mr Terrence Hancock, 01737 761178*

## ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER

*Mr Terrence Hancock, 01737 761178*

## ELECTORAL ROLL

*Mrs Alison Stagg, 01737 243992*

**Visit our website: [www.stmarksreigate.co.uk](http://www.stmarksreigate.co.uk)**

## LETTER FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

Some years ago I visited the aftermath of a forest fire in California. Some months earlier the blaze had caused extensive damage to the once beautiful landscape and at first glance it looked like everything had been destroyed forever. However, the person who acted as my guide was able to show me some extraordinary signs that all was not lost. On closer inspection I noticed new shoots springing up and I was fascinated to learn about the process of renewal that comes after such a fire. After the heat and devastation and amidst the charred remains, new life almost miraculously appears. The landscape, though different, becomes once again something that is lush, life-giving and beautiful to behold.



My mind returns to that scene as I think about what confronted Christ's disciples during the period between his entry into Jerusalem, the last supper, the betrayal, arrest and the horrors of Calvary. Their beloved friend and teacher had been betrayed and handed over to the Romans. He suffered a mockery of a trial, was beaten and flogged and finally executed in one of the most brutal and cruel ways ever invented. The desolation must have been total, not to mention the fear that something similar would then happen to them. It seemed to be the end of things with so much wasted potential. Surely, they thought, he was only just getting started? But of course, that death and what followed was really just the beginning, with the destruction and violence of Good Friday giving way to the scene at the empty garden tomb.

In Mark's gospel it is some women who first discover the joyous news. The stone is rolled away and an angel tells them: "Do not be afraid. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here." We then read that they were indeed afraid as they walked away, and who can blame them? However, something extraordinary then began to happen. As the disciples and others encountered the risen Jesus, new signs of life began to appear. They begin to spread the good news, to speak of all they had seen and shared with Jesus and the church was born. This new life spread to all the areas of the known world through the bold and unashamed proclamation of the disciples, who themselves had been transformed from a pathetic group of terrified and deserting former followers into the founders of Christendom.

The words "Do not be afraid" appear many, many times in the bible, in varied contexts. I think all Christians should take them to heart because I believe there is growing hostility to our faith in sections of the media, the public sector, the judiciary and on social media. All too often we fail to speak up and make a stand for the teachings of Christ because we are indeed afraid.

The life changing message of Christ took hold because his friends and followers spoke up, in the face of harsh persecution. Many lost their lives but, undeterred, more and more came to faith and the Jesus revolution began. That revolution is still changing lives today and there are areas of the world where the church is growing at an extraordinary rate. Perhaps we have become too cautious in the West, but there are nonetheless hopeful signs.

A good starting point would be to remember the angel's words at the tomb: "Do not be afraid". The message of Easter is one of new life after desolation. It is a message which is unchanged through history. The God who reached out to that eclectic group of first followers in the person of Jesus, is still calling out to us, willing us to stop struggling against him and to come home. The teachings of Christ are about love, forgiveness, tolerance and peace. There is nothing to be ashamed of and everyone who calls themselves Christians should speak up and pass on the good news. Christ is risen! What is there to be afraid of in light of that? Happy Easter!

With my best wishes



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## The history of St Mark's in numbers



**7**

The age children can receive communion following confirmation



**1910**

The year the church marked its Jubilee



**£3,700**

The amount raised by SMOAT in its first year

If you'd like to know more about the history of St Mark's Church you can now buy Fr Martin Colton's book: *The Church of St Mark Reigate – A Celebration of the years 1860-2018*, for just £7.50 from the Parish Office.

The Parish Office is now able to take card payments – in person.

## Letter from Anna

Dear Friends at St Marks

I just wanted to say a huge "Thank you" from the bottom of my heart for the wonderful send off. I have been overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity shown which highlights the wonderful friendships made in a relatively short time.



It has been such an honour and a privilege to have served as the assistant curate at St Mark's; I have amazing memories, which I will cherish. Thank you for encouraging and supporting me from day 1, for allowing me to grow into my ministry safe in the knowledge 'we were in this together' and for making me ready for the next stage.

The pictures you bought me look wonderful on the staircase; the lawn at the Rectory is freshly mowed, ready for the game of croquet which I hope you will join me in, in the near future!

My sincere thanks once again for all you have done,

See you soon.

God Bless

**Anna**

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## World Environment Day and the Church of England

World Environment Day is on 5 June 2019 and it is the UN's biggest day for encouraging awareness and action to protect the environment worldwide. The Church of England is committed to making a positive impact on the environment. Many churches around the UK are getting involved and making their own pledges. Look out for more on this in future months. If you have any top tips for looking after the environment, let us know at [magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk](mailto:magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk)

*"Reducing the causes of climate change is essential to the life of faith. It is a way to love our neighbour and to steward the gift of creation."*

**Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury**

## Hop to it

With the weather improving, the days getting longer and with the summer holidays in sight, what better time to start getting back into fitness if you've taken some time out. So whether you've been hibernating over winter or you've been putting off exercise for a few years, if you're interested in getting back into it, we asked Pip Skinner, founder of Fit Mummy Club to help.



Keeping fit and active has so many mental and physical health benefits. I run the Fit Mummy club in Reigate specialising in women's fitness, helping mums from pregnancy, postnatal to peri menopause and menopause. Here are my 5 top tips:

### Join a group

I think joining a group of like-minded people is a great way to motivate yourself and also so positive for your mental health. The Fit Mummy club includes mums of completely different fitness levels so there is no need to feel nervous if you haven't exercised for a while, there are always easier options for every exercise in every class. Exercising as part of a group means you are more likely to stick with an exercise regime and enjoy it too!

### Get outside and exercise

Exercising in the fresh air is great for mental wellbeing. All the Fit Mummy club classes are outside and I think getting out of the gym and into the fresh air is inspiring, there are no mirrors to worry about and you benefit from getting some vitamin D and fresh air improves your mood. Most people who start exercising with me outside never want to return to the gym so give it a go!



### Lift weights

Whether it's your own body weight or actual physical weights, lifting weights will increase your bone density, help prevent osteoporosis and also help you get stronger and fitter. Learning how to lift weights correctly engaging your core will also help prevent back injuries and will generally give you better posture. In the Fit Mummy club HIIT classes we exercise with body weight and in my

small groups we use a variety of weights which all help you get stronger. Don't worry you can start small and build it up – it's never too late to start.

### Short sharp exercises

HIIT classes are a great way to exercise as they get your heart rate going and they are also an effective way to get back into exercise as they only last 30 minutes! At the Fit Mummy club I always offer low impact pelvic floor friendly options which will get the heart rate going but within your strength and fitness levels. Of course you can progress on to much more intense options but there are plenty of easier options to get you back to fitness.

### Enjoy yourself!

Exercise shouldn't be a punishment; you should enjoy it! At the Fit Mummy club I like to organise socials from evening walks, to gin tasting to adventure weekends and spa weekends. Keeping fit and active is a lifestyle choice and when you meet friends along the way it's great fun!



**Pip Skinner**  
Fit Mummy Club, Reigate [www.pipskinner.co.uk](http://www.pipskinner.co.uk)



*They could have either a procession of crosses,  
or a donkey. But not both.*

## Easter Food – The history and symbolism behind the traditions

As Lent draws to an end and we begin our Easter celebrations this month, the supermarkets are full of delicious foods which will be served over the bank holiday weekend. However, what is the history behind the traditional Easter food? We look at four customary Easter fare.

### Hot Cross Buns

The cross on the bun references the crucifixion and the spices in the bun, the embalming of Christ at his burial. The hot cross buns origins are not completely clear but supposedly they originated in the 14<sup>th</sup> Century by a monk in St Albans, who made and distributed the 'Alban Bun' to the poor on Good Friday.



### Roast Lamb



Its origins began in the Old Testament, a tradition set by the Jews to mark Passover. It was carried into Christianity as Jews converted. The bible also refers to Jesus, the Lamb of God, so as Easter is about Jesus Christ's death and resurrection, then Roast Lamb makes a fitting traditional Easter Sunday meal.

### Simnel Cake

Originally made for the middle Sunday of Lent, when the self-denial would be slightly relaxed, it is now enjoyed throughout the Easter period. Its origins are unclear but it has been known since medieval times, although the recipe has changed over time. The cake is decorated with a layer of marzipan on top and 11 round marzipan balls which represent the apostles minus Judas.



### Easter Eggs



Used to symbolise the empty tomb of Jesus and his resurrection, in ancient times they were decorated chicken eggs. More recently, the chocolate egg has taken over in popularity. Decorating eggs has been associated with fertility and new life long before it was adopted by Christianity.

Whatever will be on your dinner table this month, have a very happy Easter.



# Are you looking for a place to party? St Mark's Church Hall - Children's Party Package!

Hire includes exclusive use of:  
Large main hall – with tables and chairs



Use of new kitchen, well equipped with serving hatch - ideal dining area next to kitchen



Outside garden area



Great location; minutes from Reigate train station & parking  
The facilities include disabled access

**Available Saturdays and some Sundays**  
**3 hours (includes ½ hour set up & ½ hour clearing)**  
**Only £90 (additional hours charged at £25ph)**

This offer applies to bookings for under 11's parties only

Further details on hiring the hall available from our website:

[www.stmarksreigate.co.uk](http://www.stmarksreigate.co.uk)

For bookings please contact: [office@stmarksreigate.co.uk](mailto:office@stmarksreigate.co.uk)

**Have a HAPPY BIRTHDAY Party with us!**

## Local School Update:

### Spring Term Holmesdale Infant School

We have had a very busy term so far. We always want to try and make learning as fun as possible and we have had two special themed weeks so far this term. We started with a Story Telling week in January. A bell would ring at different times during the day and then everything would stop and stories would be read to the children. Stories were read by different staff members, visitors, parents and grandparents. Stories were also read in the various different languages that the children speak at home. We also celebrated World Book Day. Children and teachers came into school in night attire, all ready for bedtime stories!



We are also a Fairtrade school and so we have been involved celebrating Fairtrade fortnight. The children have been learning about the importance of giving farmers a fair wage for their produce and they now have a really good understanding of this, I think it is because they understand the word fair! The children cooked with Fairtrade ingredients and also had a Fairtrade challenge to do, looking out for Fairtrade products in Reigate. With the help of our PSA (Parent Staff Association) we also held a very successful coffee morning where the things that the children had made were sold to parents.



**Sarah Beasley**  
Head teacher

## St Mark's Pull-Out Guide

### REGULAR SERVICES AND EVENTS AT ST MARK'S

#### SUNDAYS

8.00am	Each Sunday	Holy Communion (said) Book of Common Prayer
10.00am	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	Parish Eucharist (with Junior Church)
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	Sung Eucharist (with Junior Church)
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	Sung Eucharist (with Story Telling)
	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Sung Eucharist (with Junior Church)
	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Sung Eucharist (with Junior Church)
1.00pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	Community Lunch
4.00pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	Family Service
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	Messy Church
6.00pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	Evening Prayer (said)
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	Taizé Prayer
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	Evening Prayer (said)
	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Evening Prayer (said)
	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Evening Prayer (said)

#### MONDAY TO THURSDAY

9.15am Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel (30 minutes)

#### MONDAY (during school term-time)

9.30am St Mark's Toddler Group in the hall (term-time only)

#### TUESDAY

10.00am 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday St Mark's Buffers – in the church

#### WEDNESDAY

3.25pm 'T' Time Tales (during school term-time)

#### THURSDAY

12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) - followed by tea or coffee

2.00pm 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday SMART

#### SATURDAY

8.00pm 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday St Mark's Social Dance

**A Handy Pull-Out Guide to 'What's On' at St Mark's**

**CALENDAR FOR APRIL 2019**

Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	8.00pm	Lent Course Session 3
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	9.45am	Lent Course Session 3
	12.45pm	Holy Communion (Iona)
	2.00pm	SMART
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent - Passiontide begins</b>	
	4.00pm	Family Service
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	7.30pm	Licensing of Revd Anna at St Michael's Betchworth
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	12.45pm	Holy Communion (Iona)
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b>	
	1.00pm	Community Lunch
	6.00pm	Taizé Prayer
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	8.00pm	Stations of the Cross and Compline
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	9.30am	EASTER CLUB
	10.00am	St Mark's Buffers – 'buffing the silver'
	8.00pm	Stations of the Cross and Compline
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	9.30am	EASTER CLUB
	8.00pm	Stations of the Cross and Compline
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	
		No Lunchtime Holy Communion (Iona)
	8.00pm	Solemn Sung Eucharist, Washing of Feet, Stripping of the Altars and Watch (until 10.30pm)
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>	
	10.00am	Family Service
	12noon	Devotional Addresses and Hymns
	1.30pm	Good Friday Liturgy
<b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Holy Saturday</b>	
	8.00pm	Easter Vigil and Sung Eucharist
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April</b>	<b>Easter Sunday</b>	
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	12.45pm	Holy Communion (Iona)
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	10.00am	Annual Gift Day
	8.00pm	St Mark's Social Dance
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Patronal Festival</b>	
	10.00am	Sung Eucharist and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

## CALENDAR FOR MAY 2019

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	3.25pm	T Time Tales (first of term)
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	12.45pm	Holy Communion (Iona)
	2.00pm	SMART
<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>	
	4.00pm	Family Service
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	12.45pm	Holy Communion (Iona)
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>	
	1.00pm	Community Lunch
	6.00pm	Taizé Prayer
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	12.45pm	Holy Communion (Iona)
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>	
	4.00pm	Messy Church with Puppetry
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	10.00am	St Mark's Buffers – 'buffing the silver'
	8.00pm	PCC Meeting
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	12.45pm	Holy Communion (Iona)
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	8.00pm	St Mark's Social Dance
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (Rogation Sunday)</b>	
	2.00pm	'Beating the Bounds'
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> May		No T Time Tales (half term)
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Ascension Day</b>	
	12.45pm	Holy Communion (Iona)
	7.30pm	Ascension Day Service on Reigate Hill

### **New Parish Administrator Lucy Perryman**

We are delighted to welcome Lucy to St Mark's as our new Parish Administrator. Lucy will be stepping into the role in a few weeks, you'll hear more about Lucy in the May magazine. Shona will be taking her annual leave from 11 April; officially leaving on the 30 April.

# **PARISH ACTIVITIES, EVENTS, GROUPS & CONTACTS**

## **CHURCH FLOWER ROTA**

*Contact: Mrs Valerie Jones 01737 246538*

## **CHOIR PRACTICE**

*Each Thursday in church - all parts at 7.00pm - other practices as notified*

## **DATA REQUESTS**

*Contact: Parish Office – 01737 210785*

## **HOME GROUP**

*Contact : Mrs Susannah Dyde – 01737 221638*

## **IONA COMMUNION – LUNCHTIME SERVICE**

*Every Thursday 12.45-1.15pm followed by Coffee/Tea*

## **PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP**

*Contact: Louise Wallis 01737 242129*

## **PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS**

*Mrs Rosemary Absalom 01737 240351 & Mrs Kate Lovegrove 01737 226776*

## **SMART - St Mark's Afternoon Retirement Team**

*Meetings on the first Thursday of the month*

*Contacts: Mrs Sarah Cousins 01737 789943 or Mrs Louise Wallis 01737 242129*

## **ST MARK'S BUFFERS**

*Meeting in church on the third Tuesday of the month from 10am-12 noon*

## **ST MARK'S COMMUNITY LUNCH**

*Contacts: Mrs Angela Daniels 01737 247162 & Mrs Alison Stagg 01737 243992*

## **ST MARK'S CHURCH HALL**

*Regular Lettings Secretary: Mrs Jean Hatton 01737 765759*

*Party Bookings & Church Bookings via Parish Office 01737 210785*

## **ST MARK'S OVERSEAS AID TRUST - SMOAT**

*Chairman: Mrs Barbara Perkins, 01737 226632*

## **ST MARK'S PARISH MAGAZINE**

*Editor (2019): Mrs Helen Starmar, email: [magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk](mailto:magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk)*

*Advertising: Mrs Jane Artis, email: [janeartis@hotmail.com](mailto:janeartis@hotmail.com) 07831 269866*

## **ST MARK'S SINGERS**

*Rehearsals Monday 7.30pm in the church – all welcome*

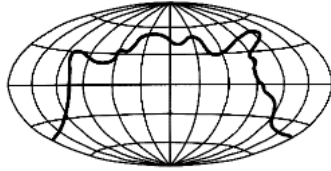
*Contact: Toby Garrood 01737 241979*

## **WEBSITE & FACEBOOK**

*Contact: Ben Read Email: [benread@hotmail.com](mailto:benread@hotmail.com)*

## **YOUTH WORK**

*Junior Church: Mrs Leonora Corden, [l.corden@btinternet.com](mailto:l.corden@btinternet.com) 01737224534*



S · M · O · A · T

ST MARK'S OVERSEAS AID TRUST

## **SMOAT Evening Jazz**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> March, we welcomed Angie Barton and her band, who played fabulous music to us all evening. There was a magnificent cheeseboard and the wine flowed. People danced the night away and all reports have indicated that everyone had an amazing evening. We welcomed over 120 people to the event and it proved so popular that we had to turn people away! A large proportion of the attendees were not from St Mark's and it was pleasing from our point of view that, not only were we holding a fabulous event and raising money for a truly worthwhile organisation, we were also introducing new people to our church.



We were raising money for an organisation called Freedom from Fistula. Fistula is something that we knew nothing about, as in the Western World we have the resources to help women through their pregnancies and therefore do not hear around it. However, an estimated two million women in Africa suffer from obstetric fistula due to prolonged, obstructed childbirth and lack of access to maternity care. It is a debilitating condition

and can be fatal. More than 500,000 women in Africa each year die during childbirth and 80% of those deaths are avoidable. Freedom from Fistula provides free surgery to heal existing fistulas and free maternity care to prevent them in the future and ensure safe childbirth.

Women suffering from obstructed labour often struggle until their babies die. During this agonising process, loss of circulation causes tissue to die, leaving large gaps between the birth canal and bladder or rectum, causing incontinence. Most women and girls suffering with obstetric fistula are ostracised by their families and communities as they smell and are constantly wet, leaving them to live as outcasts. Fistula is all but eradicated in the developed world. In contrast, it occurs to thousands of women and girls in Africa every day and they have no-one to help.

The project we supported with the Jazz Evening is based in Sierra Leone. The Aberdeen Women's Centre provides the only comprehensive fistula repair service in a country with a population of nearly 8 million people and has the capacity to perform 300 fistula operations each year. It also offers maternal healthcare, a safe environment for childbirth and an outpatient clinic for children.

We raised almost £2,000 at the Jazz Evening, a phenomenal amount, and with that money FFF will be able to help women affected by fistulas. It will also help to prevent the condition going forward by providing a safe environment in which babies are born. Childbirth is one of the most natural things in the world and we can help to make it the joyous event it should be.

Thank you for your support.

**Barbara Perkins,  
Chair of SMOAT**

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## **Community Lunches 2019**

On the second Sunday of the month we provide a Community Lunch at St Mark's...



A lovely Sunday roast with all the trimmings followed by a traditional dessert provided by our wonderful team of volunteers for the senior members of the community, who would otherwise be on their own.

Members should RSVP by the 26 April to join us on the 12 May, this will enable us to reallocate any spaces.

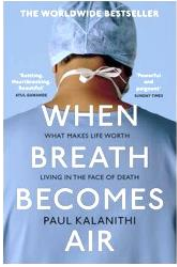
We need more volunteers to enable us to host more guests!

For more information or to volunteer as a driver or helper please contact:  
Robert Cramp on: **07887 600 190** or Alison Stagg on: **01737 243992**



## Book Review

This month we review *When breath becomes air*



This book is a memoir of a man called Paul Kalanithi, a 36 year old neurosurgeon who shortly before fully qualifying finds out that he has terminal lung cancer. The book is a very intimate and personal account of his life leading up to and following his diagnosis.

Very quickly this book draws you into a connection with the author, his openness and conversational tone really gives you a sense of his life and makes it easy to empathise with his situation. Although, his profession as a doctor means he uses a lot of medical jargon which can interrupt the flow of the prose.

The author also holds a degree in English Literature and uses quotes and references to many writers to make his point where he cannot find his own words. It is also incredibly well written, intellectual and challenging.

Throughout the book the author grapples with what makes a meaningful life, he explores this theme and tries to evaluate what is important to him, what fills his soul, what gives him joy and hope. Furthermore, he discusses his beliefs regarding God and how as a scientist he once believed in the possibility of a '*material conception of reality*' however, over time he is drawn back to Christianity but struggles with his own reconciliation of God.

The second half of this book deals with his illness and what it is like to live with terminal cancer. It is a poignant and difficult read. It details Paul's treatment plan and the range of emotions he experiences, from being completely lost, to having hope and then losing hope and acceptance. The author remains very dignified in spite of the tragedy he is facing.

The Epilogue is written by the author's wife as sadly the author died before fully completing the book he wanted to write. This is arguably the most difficult part of the book to read, incredibly emotional and another perspective on the man whom you have gotten to know over the past 200 pages. It is more harrowing when you understand how much this man was loved and the impact his death has had on this wife and family.

The book invites you to consider your own mortality and empathise how you might feel in the same situation; it is an uncomfortable and difficult look at the most inevitable thing in humanity.

Have you read this book? Got a suggestion for a book review? We would love to hear your thoughts. Please get in touch at [magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk](mailto:magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk).

## Local Spotlight



This month we put the spotlight on Reigate Architects, based just a stone's throw away on Holmesdale Road. A young company of experienced professionals, they were established in 2007. They have grown organically and now employ seven staff. They are a general architecture practice with experience of a wide range of building types including housing, retail, schools, healthcare, leisure, industrial and historic buildings.

Reigate Architects have worked on projects large and small around the UK and aim to design buildings that make the most of the brief and budget. They see every commission as an opportunity to improve the quality of the built environment. A portfolio of completed projects can be viewed on their website at [www.reigatearchitects.co.uk](http://www.reigatearchitects.co.uk).



You can contact them on [info@reigatearchitects.co.uk](mailto:info@reigatearchitects.co.uk) for a free consultation.



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## What are online Easter Eggs?

When you think of an Easter Egg you probably think of the chocolate variety. However, the name is also given to an online hidden message, joke or image, placed around the internet, inside a video game or DVD menu screen. The term was coined by Atari but here are a couple to give you a giggle:

Google these words:

Askew

Anagram

Recursion

Do a barrel roll

Snake – you can play the old school game of Snake.

## Marley & Easter

*Written by Shona Prosser and illustrated by Roger Lloyd*



Marley is an old cat, a wise cat, a thoughtful cat, a comforter and a friend. Marley has travelled many miles, explored the world and made many friends along the way; he longed for a home, a place to settle, and reflect on the life he has lived. Almost a year ago, in the early summer while resting curled up on the church wall, Marley had met Candlemouse, a very bold and friendly mouse with kind eyes and big heart, who welcomed him into St Mark's. As Marley had followed his new friend through the glass door and into our beautiful church, he thought, 'I could be happy here', and he was.

Marley could smell spring was in the air, as he sat on the church wall gazing across the bright yellow daffodils, a thrush sang overhead, perched high in the yew tree. The sun was shining, sunbeams making Marley's rich auburn and white coat glow and although the breeze was chilly, Marley loved this time of year; everything seemed to be waiting, poised and excited at the prospect of the changes ahead! Marley thought 'I feel ready for a change myself,' as he jumped gracefully down from the wall and made his way into the church.

Marley was a curious cat and loved to learn new things. This is why he enjoyed the Vicar's courses and sermons so much. Easter, he had learnt was a very special time. He had listened with interest as Fr. Martin had explained about Lent and the Stations of the Cross that were part of the Holy Week services. On Maundy Thursday, members of the congregation have their feet washed by the clergy, just as Jesus had washed the feet of his disciples. He listened to how the church was 'stripped' of its finery and the lights were switched off at the end of the service, the vicar moving to the candlelit Lady Chapel, would sing an invitation to 'watch with me, stay with me'. There would then be a silent vigil over the next few hours to mark the last evening Jesus spent with his disciples. Good Friday is marked with a service and the liturgy of the Cross and recalls Jesus' crucifixion. This is a sad time but is also filled with the anticipation of the light to come.

Marley was especially looking forward to the Easter Eve service, when a fire would be made and blessed in the church hall and the Paschal candle would be lit, from which the light would spread and be carried in a candlelit procession into the church. Everyone would find the flowers and the church finery had returned as the darkness retreated; light and joy would again fill the church. With the wonderful Easter Sunday services filled with excited children with their Easter eggs, families exchanging bright cards and warm greetings, he thought it is a wonderful time to be with friends.

Marley was puzzled. Why was everyone so busy? As the sunshine entered the church it made the brass lectern gleam; the 'Buffers' were hard at work polishing all the silver and brass until it sparkled. Piles of papers and odd things were being turned out of the office and the air was filled with sounds of the vacuum cleaner droning away. Marley asked Candlemouse as he scurried by, 'what is happening? Has Easter arrived already?' Candlemouse smiled, 'No it is time to Spring clean! A time when we all tidy our nests, open our windows to let the fresh air and light in.' Marley wondered what he could clean, as he didn't have a nest; just a cushion, 2 bowls and a cat carrier .....so he visited his friend in the office to see if he could help.

The Parish Office was a very busy place and today Shona, the Parish Administrator, was chatting with the phone tucked on her shoulder, while checking dates on her computer and trying to write on a piece of paper. As usual her coffee was already cold and forgotten in her mug, lost among the papers on her desk. 'Hello Marley' Shona said cheerfully as she finished the call. 'Would you like some breakfast?' Reaching into her magical cupboard, where a seemingly never-ending supply of delicious cat food came and placing a wonderful meal into Marley's bowl. Marley was delighted and purred his thanks; it was lovely to never be hungry and to have such lovely friends.

Marley had finished his meal and was just settling down for a snooze in the inner vestry when Shona came in with another lady, she was very tall with a warm smile and kind eyes, 'Marley, this is Lucy. She'll be taking over from me as the new Parish Administrator in a few weeks' time. I am going to show her where we keep everything, how we prepare the service books and look after the vicar.' Marley thought Lucy looked very kind and would settle into life at St Mark's very quickly, as he got up to greet her with his best purr.

That evening as Marley settled down on his cushion, he couldn't wait to tell Candlemouse about all he had learnt about Easter and his meeting with Lucy, the new Parish Administrator. Marley had also been asked if he would like to go on an adventure with the old Parish Administrator – so Marley had lots to think about and discuss with his friend, but first there was Easter to look forward to!



# Candlemouse Creates

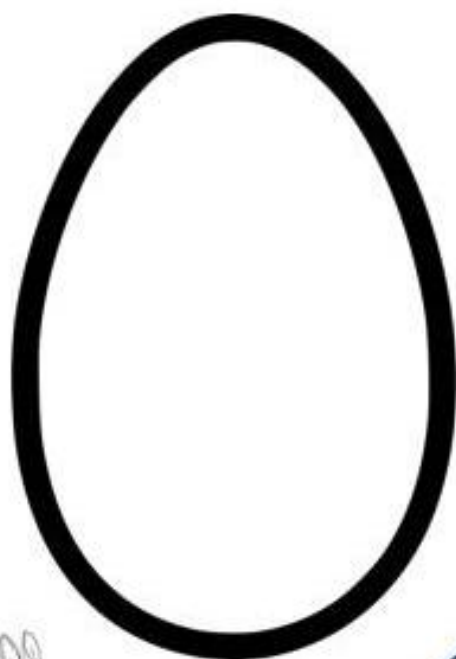


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- Easter
- Egg
- Crucifixion
- Lent
- Supper
- Communion
- Passion



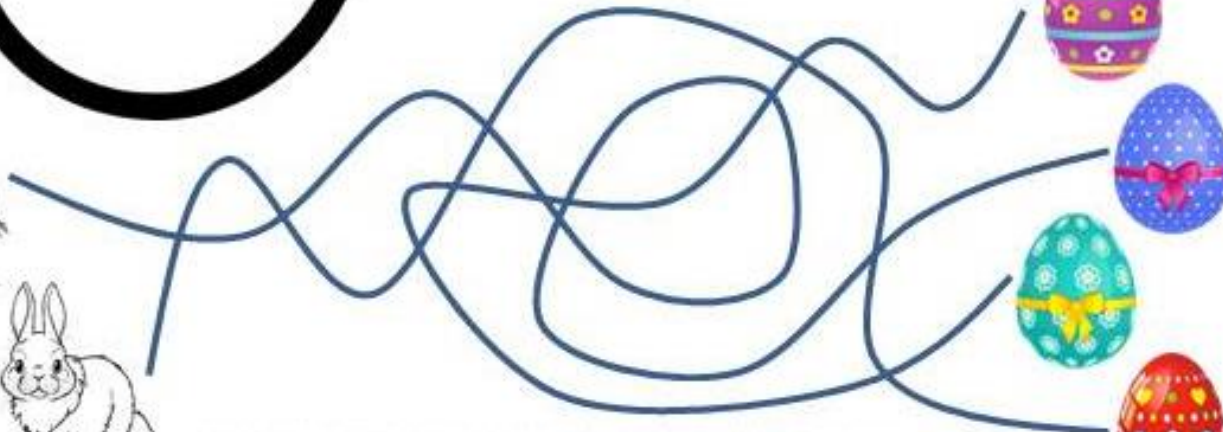
Design an Easter egg. Colour in the egg outline below:



Decipher the code to read this little Easter prayer:

Gl9ry and prais3 79 y9u, Ris3n  
Savi9ur, f9r y9u bring ligh7 79  
9ur darkn3ss, j9y 79 9ur s9rr9w  
and fulln3ss of l9v3 t9 9ur  
reluc7an7 hear7.

3 = e, 9 = o, 7 = t



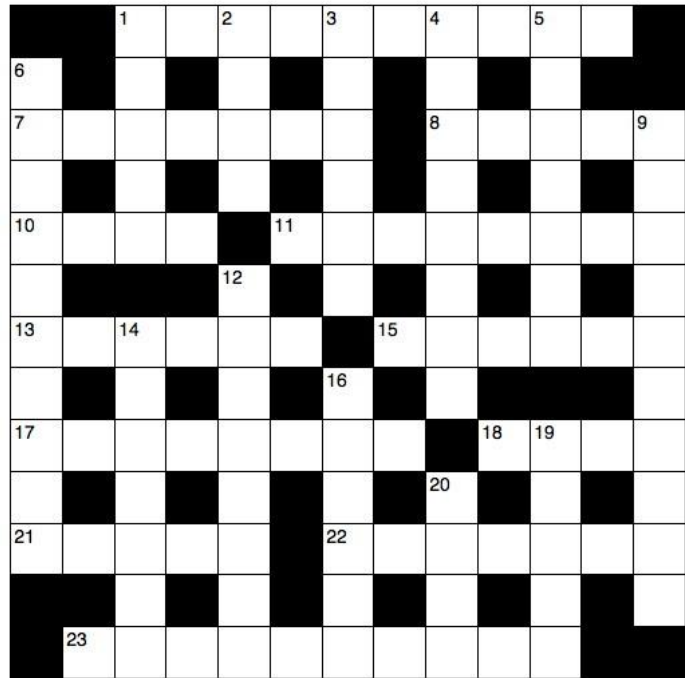
Help the Easter bunnies find their eggs

## APRIL'S CROSSWORD CHALLENGE

(Bible references are from the New International version)

### Across

- 1 'You are a chosen people, a royal — ' (1 Peter 2:9) (10)  
 7 Exact copy (Joshua 22:28) (7)  
 8 Jesus' first words to Jairus's daughter, 'My child, — — ' (Luke 8:54) (3,2)  
 10 Idol made by the Israelites while Moses was on Mount Sinai (Exodus 32:4) (4)  
 11 Role allotted to Joseph in Egypt (Genesis 42:6) (8)  
 13 'Lord, when did we — — hungry and feed you?' (Matthew 25:37) (3,3)  
 15 'Though seeing, they do — —; though hearing, they do not hear or understand' (Matthew 13:13) (3,3)  
 17 Happening (1 Kings 21:1) (8)  
 18 'Whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the — of Christ' (Philippians 3:7) (4)  
 21 National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (1,1,1,1,1)  
 22 Stamp on (Amos 2:7) (7)  
 23 Liable to rot (1 Corinthians 15:42) (10)



### Down

- 1 Of the pope (5)  
 2 'The earth is the Lord's, and everything — — ' (Psalm 24:1) (2,2)  
 3 Hebrew word for the kind of peace that Jesus promised (6)  
 4 Member of a 16th-century Protestant reform movement in France (8)  
 5 Sing out (anag.) (7)  
 6 Ceremonial column of people on the move (1 Samuel 10:5) (10)  
 9 One of the things love always does (1 Corinthians 13:7) (10)  
 12 Esther's cousin who foiled a plot to assassinate King Xerxes (Esther 2:7, 22) (8)  
 14 See cape (anag.) (7)  
 16 'No one can — them out of my hand' (John 10:28) (6)  
 19 Often mistakenly identified as the fruit that led to the first sin (Joel 1:12) (5)  
 20 'He was led like a — to the slaughter' (Isaiah 53:7) (4)

## SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S CROSSWORD

**ACROSS:** 1 Corinthians 9 Abandon 10 Eglon 11 Spa 13 Deem 16 Hi-fi 17 Abijah 18 Ohad 20 Myth 21 Now see 22 Knit 23 Tide 25 Arm 28 Nahor 29 All done 30 Kind-hearted

**DOWN:** 2 Of age 3 ISDN 4 Tens 5 Idea 6 Nullify 7 Hardworking 8 Enlightened 12 Praise 14 Mad 15 Vigour 19 Abishai 20 Met 24 Is one 25 Arid 26 Male 27 Slur

## April Sudoku Challenge

	7			4		6		
				1	7	4	8	
	9	5	6	3			2	
1	8		3	2		5		
2								9
		9		5	4		7	2
	1			9	6	3	5	
	4	2	1	7				
		6		8			1	

## March Sudoku Challenge

2	5	3	6	7	8	9	1	4
9	4	6	5	2	1	8	7	3
8	7	1	9	4	3	6	2	5
1	6	5	3	8	7	2	4	9
3	8	4	2	9	5	7	6	1
7	9	2	1	6	4	3	5	8
4	3	8	7	5	2	1	9	6
5	2	9	8	1	6	4	3	7
6	1	7	4	3	9	5	8	2

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## Meet the Parish Magazine Team

**Editor:** Helen Starmer

**Website Link:** Ben Read

**Advertising:** Jane Artis

**Calendar Update:** Parish Administrator

**Crossword & Sudoku:** Terrence Hancock

**Proof Readers:** Fr. Martin Colton, Terrence Hancock & Malcolm Toye

**British Library Distribution:** Jenny Toye



## Your Views & Contributions

**Next Issue will be available from Sunday 5 May 2019**  
**All Contributions to the Editor by Wednesday 17 April 2019**

**Email:** [magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk](mailto:magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk)

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## Keep up –to-date with St Mark’s



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