

*For God so loved the world that he
gave his one and only Son, that
whoever believes in him shall not
perish but have eternal life.
John 3:16*



St Mark's Parish Magazine
April 2023



THE PARISH CHURCH OF SAINT MARK, REIGATE

Vicar: The Reverend Martin Colton

Tel: 01737 241161 Email: vicar@stmarksreigate.co.uk

Assistant Curate: The Reverend Reginald Grant

Tel: 07385 832372 Email: curate@stmarksreigate.co.uk

PARISH OFFICE

Monday to Thursday 9.00am to 2.00pm 01737 210785/ 07979 788601
Parish Administrator – Alexia Hartman E-mail: office@stmarksreigate.co.uk

READERS

Mr Ian Archer
Mrs Sarah Cousins
Mrs Susannah Dyde

CHURCHWARDENS

Mrs Louise Wallis
Mr Ben Read

DEPUTY WARDENS

Mrs Jane Artis
Mr Timothy Warren

SACRISTAN

Mr James Tanser

PCC TREASURER

Mrs Mel Crighton

GIFT AID SECRETARY

Mr Nigel Perkins

PCC SECRETARY

Mr Terrence Hancock

ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER

Mr Terrence Hancock

ELECTORAL ROLL

Mr Terrence Hancock (acting)

Visit our website: www.stmarksreigate.co.uk

Donations to cover the cost of this publication are welcome

In this month's issue

Letter from the Vicar	Page 2
Holy Land	Page 3
News from the Church of England	Page 7
An Easter Meditation	Page 8
Coronation Tea and Service	Page 9
Survive or Thrive	Page 10
Who is eating the plastic at sea	Page 11
Community Lunch	Page 11
Calendars	Page 12
Donating to support the work of St Marks	Page 14
Part 3: The corridors of power	Page 15
Have a drink or two	Page 17
Book Review	Page 18
Protecting yourself from fraud	Page 19
The Centre of Study for Existential Risk	Page 20
Crossword	Page 21
Puzzles	Page 22



Your Views & Contributions

Next issue will be available from
6 May 2023

All contributions to the editor by
Friday 21 April 2023

Email: Magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk

Meet the Parish Magazine Team

Editor: Helen Starmer *email: magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk 07525 370320*

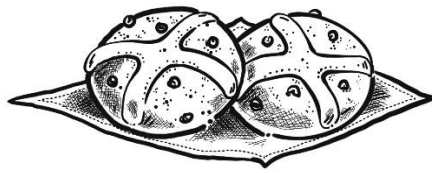
Website Link: Alexia Hartman

Advertising: Jane Artis *email: janeartis@hotmail.com 07831 269866*

Calendar Update: Parish Administrator

Crossword & Sudoku: Terrence Hancock

Proof Readers: Fr. Martin Colton & Terrence Hancock



LETTER FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

I find it interesting that the story of Easter morning takes place in a garden. Early in the morning Mary Magdalene goes to the garden tomb and to her dismay she finds that the tomb is now empty, and she jumps to the conclusion that someone has stolen the body. In her distress she hurries to find Peter and another disciple to tell them what she has found. They run to the tomb to confirm this news, and then return to their homes, leaving Mary standing beside the tomb, crying. But as she looks again into the tomb, she sees two angels who ask why she is weeping. Then, when she turns round, she encounters the Risen Lord. At first she thinks he is the gardener. But when he calls her by name, she realises the wonderful truth that Jesus is indeed alive, and joy fills her heart. All this takes place in the setting of a garden.

In fact, gardens occupy a central place in scriptural thought. The Bible begins with an account of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. It is a scene of harmony and happiness. Then, this idyllic state is shattered when Adam and Eve choose not to listen to God and to go their own way, letting the power of sin get in and take control. The remedy for this occurs in another garden, the Garden of Gethsemane. Here Jesus reverses the dynamics of Adam and Eve's action in the Garden of Eden. He talks with God, but this time he listens; he faces a choice of action and this time he goes God's way, even though it proves to be at great cost to himself, leading to his death on a cross.

The final vindication of Jesus' obedience to God, undoing the effects of Adam and Eve's disobedience, is revealed in the Easter Garden, with the joyful reality of the resurrection.

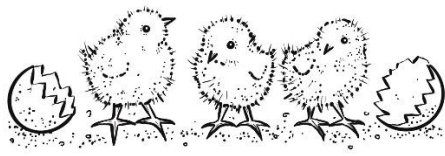
The word garden is mentioned 59 times in the Bible and often used as a metaphor to describe our relationship with God. This is a fruitful image for Christian spirituality in terms of cultivating the garden of our hearts. Beautiful gardens don't just happen. They take a lot of work, pulling up weeds, planting flowers, encouraging growth. So we need to attend to the spiritual dimension of our lives holding on to the promise we find in Scripture, "You shall be like a watered garden." (Isaiah 58.11)

The Easter Garden was a place of encounter between Jesus and Mary. May our hearts also be a place of encounter where we hear God call us by name, that our lives may be transformed by the joy of the resurrection and the continuing presence of Christ with us. Happy Easter!

Every blessing

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Martin".





Holy Land

It was a privilege and a great joy to go on the Ecumenical Pilgrimage to the Holy Land with the Anglican Diocese of Southwark. This was led by our Bishop Christopher Chessun and the Roman Catholic Bishop Paul Hendricks. I knew no one on this trip which started on Monday 27 February 2023. However, I soon made friends with them all. Much of the organisation was by Canon Andrew Nunn and the Catholic Canon Michael Branch. It was superbly organised as there were some 72 of us in two coaches, each of us having our own guide and they both seemed to have far more knowledge of the Bible and the places we were visiting than we could ever do. Also, each of us were provided with a "Whisper" machine to attach to an ear to enable us to always hear what the guide was saying.

Apart from a three-hour delay standing in the airport for the Jews to interview every one of us, the four hour flight went well and we were taken by coach to the Golden Walls Hotel in Jerusalem, and although it was then late evening we were provided with a salad each and shown to our rooms. I was to share a room with Jeremy Baker who was from Dulwich which was fine for the first night, but the next day we were told we could have separate rooms as another one became available.

The pattern of the day was to rise at 6.00am, breakfast at 7.00am and into coaches at 8.00am. We were provided with lunch at pre-booked restaurants wherever we were at that time, self-service dinner at 6.30pm to 7.00pm and a meeting to review the past day at 8.00pm. We were able to chat and drink together around these times.

What was remarkable was that every service we took part in was shared with Roman Catholics and Anglicans, only separating into queues to receive Communion, as that was what the Pope would require. We had within our number one young man who was Muslim but he would not join in our prayers. In most cases, happily, we did not know which denomination the friend we were talking to belonged to, as we worshipped the same God.

Jeremy and I were given seats in the bus just behind the leaders who enjoyed the front places, so it was easy for us to know what was going on.

On the Tuesday we were driven to the Mount of Olives which gave us a panoramic view of the walled city of Jerusalem. I was truly amazed at the size of it all looking across the Kidron Valley. We were to walk down the steep hill to the Garden of Gethsemane but I was persuaded, with about 5 others, not to do so, as they said it was so steep. We were driven there by coach where we met up with the rest of the

party. The garden had many olive trees which were being trimmed by a gardener, and we then entered the beautiful Church of All Nations where a large choir of women was singing a lovely anthem.

We were driven on to Ein Karem to visit the church of John the Baptist and had lunch in the eaves of the Convent of the Sisters of Zion. We ended the day's trip by a visit to Abu Gosh (one of the possible sites of Emmaus) where we celebrated Eucharist. We were told we could descend to see the crypt which I attempted, only to find the bottom step missing. I could have had a serious fall but I was so lucky to thrust out my hand and grab a rope to my right which saved me after all. I think God was looking after me!

Wednesday was a challenge for me as we were on our feet all day, walking round the old city – no coach rides. Happily, I had a splendid walking stick with a rubber claw at the end, but what was so wonderful, was the help everyone gave to me, possibly because I was the oldest member of the group. I could manage steps when there was a banister, but when there wasn't one, always my nearest neighbour was there to lend me an arm.

We entered the Old City by St Stephen's Gate and went to the church of St. Anne by the pool of Bethesda. We followed the Via Dolorosa, all the time three of us carrying a large cross and at each station prayers were said and as we walked we would be singing, too. Ultimately we reached the church of the Holy Sepulchre where Jesus was believed to be crucified. This was very crowded at that time. We then went to the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer where we celebrated Eucharist. We had lunch at an Armenian Restaurant and in the afternoon visited what was thought to be the Upper Room for the Last Supper. We walked through the Jewish Quarter and ultimately descended down a long flight of steps to visit the Western Wall, wrongly described by others as the 'Wailing Wall'. I said a prayer there but did not fancy the long climb up again so with three or four others shared a taxi back to the hotel, it being the end of our day's walk. We who had taken that easy way back decided to have a gin and tonic in the roof garden at the top of our hotel.

It was then that we heard an amazing story from the lovely lady sitting next to me at that table. She said she was from Trinidad and was brought up as a Muslim. At the age of 16, through a mutual friend, she met a boy she fell in love with, but he was a Hindu. Against the wishes of both their parents they married, she being a nurse working often at night and he working in the daytime. They were a very happy married couple and had two sons. Sadly, her husband eventually became terminally ill but they had been in touch with their local church. So they decided to go to Lourdes several times to seek a cure but to no avail. He longed to go to Russia, and she took him there for a visit. Sadly, he died, but by then their sons had been baptised but not this lovely lady. Could she be baptised during our pilgrimage? Her vicar, who was with us, said she would put the idea to our Bishop, Christopher Chessun.

I woke early on Thursday as it was possible to go again to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre before breakfast, when there would be fewer people but as a leg hurt a bit I just watched the sun rise from the roof top. On joining the coach, we were driven into Palestinian territory where we were shown a home for aged Christian ladies who had no relatives. It was there we had a talk by George, a Christian driver of those ladies, who told us how his car had been fired upon by the Jewish police. He was with his wife and two daughters. They were all hit by the bullets and one of his two daughters was killed. They were thought to be "terrorists" although that area should have been peaceful. He said, as a Christian he had forgiven them but that must have been very difficult for him to do. We were driven on to the Shepherd's Fields where we celebrated the Eucharist with flowering fields around us and a young lad was there dressed as a shepherd with a very small lamb in his arms. Lunch at the Shepherd's Valley Restaurant and in the afternoon we went to Manger Square, and the Basilica and the Grotto of the Nativity and St. Jerome's Caves. It was difficult getting down the steps there but with help I managed to do so.

On Friday I did get up early to walk the extra mile to Holy Sepulchre, but it was still quite crowded. However I was able to see the rock where Jesus had been crucified. Happily, a kind man escorted me back to the hotel so I didn't stumble on the way. We had to repack our bags to move to the next hotel and board the coach to get to Jesus' Baptismal site on the river Jordan. Then on to the desert oasis of Jericho, the lowest city on earth where we could see the mountain on which Jesus suffered his temptations. After lunch we were driven to Tiberias to stay in the Ron Beach Hotel for three nights by the Sea of Galilee. We arrived about 4.00pm and about six of us, including our Bishop, donned their costumes to swim in the sea. I tried to but my feet slipped on the last step down, so I sat with a bump into the water and decided instead to swim in the swimming pool which was nearby. I had lent "My Story" to two ladies who wanted to read it and when Bishop Christopher heard about it he asked to have a copy.

On Saturday we were taken to places associated with Jesus' life around Galilee. We were taken to the convent of the Beatitudes commemorating the Sermon on the Mount. Then to Tabgha to visit the Church of the loaves and fishes and celebrated Eucharist in an open chapel with just a roof but flowering fields nearby, and just a short way from the Sea. We saw where Jesus might have appeared to his disciples after his resurrection. We visited Capernaum, Jesus' Galilean base and then were driven to the Golan Heights for lunch. In the afternoon we went to Caesarea Philippi to a source of the Jordan where, all 72 of us sitting in a semi-circle, renewed our Baptismal Vows. It was here that our Bishop, in all his robes, Baptised Isha, that lovely lady, with water from the source of the Jordan, all of us, Catholics and Anglicans, holding candles to provide her with a good send off in her Christian faith. This was a really high point in our pilgrimage.

Sunday we were driven to Nazareth, a much busier town than I had imagined. We attended the Anglican Christ Church, the Catholics attending their church. Our service was lovely but very long as the vicar gave us his sermon in Arabic as well as English,

neither of which I could hear very well. We had lunch in a local restaurant, and I missed a visit to the Basilica of the Annunciation as I was “hijacked” to have a coffee with others.

However after this I came to another very high spot in our pilgrimage, as we were driven to Kibbutz Nof Ginosar where they had the remains of a boat used in Jesus’ time and where we were able to all board a large open boat for a “voyage” on the Sea of Galilee. The sun shone but the sea was dead calm and, once some way from land, the engines were turned off, and with all of us remaining silent for perhaps 10 minutes we just had lovely sea gulls flying round us. Perfect peace!

Back at the hotel we had to pack for home and Monday, that last day, we were taken to Caesarea Maritana to see a Roman theatre and arena, and the remains of a Roman aqueduct on the Mediterranean beach. Here we enjoyed an excellent packed lunch and received a blessing in oils by our bishops. The airport was tiring, having to queue for again for some three hours but otherwise the journey home went well and, happily for me, I was met by my son, Andrew and on getting home we shared a glass of wine together.

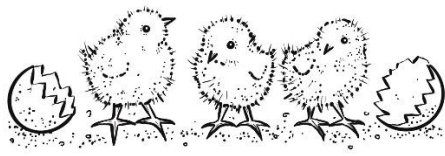
My vicar, before I left for this pilgrimage, told me I would come back a different man. Of course he was right, as visiting these marvellous sites in the company of so many lovely people, can’t leave one unchanged. At this short time after it all, I feel it was an oasis in my life that I will remember as long as I live.

Ian Archer

In January 2024, Fr Martin and Revd Chris are leading a Pilgrimage very similar to this one (organised by the same tour company) to the Holy Land. As Ian says, the experience will change you. Please contact Fr Martin (or the Parish Office) for details. With rising prices, we cannot guarantee that the price in the brochure will not increase the nearer you leave a booking to the departure date (those already booked are booked at the price applicable at time of booking).

VACANCY

Would you be willing to be part of an editorial team that has responsibility for editing the content of this magazine? If so, please speak to Fr Martin or to Helen Starmer, the current editor.



News from the Church of England

Book of prayer for the coronation of King Charles III published

The Church of England is calling for a period of prayer leading up to the Coronation and has released a book of Daily Prayers for the Coronation of King Charles III.

Running from Easter Day (9 April) for 28 days, up to the day of the Coronation on 6 May, the book provides daily themes, reflections and prayers for use by individuals, churches or groups.



The booklet is designed to help people pray for The King, The Queen Consort and the Royal Family and their calling to a life of public service; to pray for our nation and the world at this special time; to learn about the spiritual significance of the Coronation Service and contemplate the person of Jesus – the servant King.

Commending the book of Prayers, the Archbishop of Canterbury and Archbishop of York said: "We are delighted to offer this book to everyone who wishes to join us in praying for The King, The Queen Consort and the Royal Family as they prepare for the Coronation.

"Looking ahead to this historic moment in the life of our nation, we give thanks for His Majesty The King's example of lifelong public service to others.

"The Coronation will be a time to celebrate community, faith and service – values that are reflected in these prayers.

"Please set aside some time each day between Easter and the Coronation to pray with us for Their Majesties, the Royal family and our nation."

The book of prayers combines themed daily readings and shares features of the Coronation Ceremony, exploring the Christian symbolism behind it.

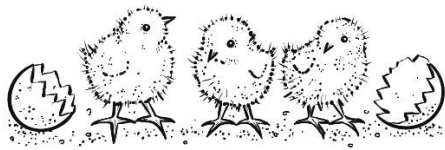
The readings also reflect the value that King Charles III places on charitable work, environmentalism, volunteering and community life.

The design of the Daily Prayers book carries a pattern derived from the spoon that The Archbishop of Canterbury will use in the Coronation service to anoint King

Charles. The spoon is first recorded in 1349 as preserved among St Edward's Regalia in Westminster Abbey.

Throughout history, the anointing is the most sacred part of the coronation ceremony and takes place before the investiture and crowning. The archbishop pours holy oil from the Ampulla (or vessel) into the spoon and anoints the sovereign on the hands, breast and head. The tradition goes back to the Old Testament where the anointing of Solomon by Zadok the Priest and Nathan the Prophet is described.

Full article available on the Church of England website.



An Easter Meditation

In the New Testament the resurrection of Jesus is presented as a simple historical fact. He did rise from the grave on that first Easter morning.

The four evangelists, and Paul, carefully lay out the evidence. They record for us the details of the empty tomb, the names of those who visited it, the various appearances of the risen Jesus and how he was seen by more than five hundred witnesses. But the New Testament tells us more than that.

It tells us, not only of the power of God that raised Jesus from the grave (eg. Romans 1.4) but also of that same power being invested in the Church. Christians are new people! We are 'made alive' in our Risen Head (Ephesians 1.1). His victory has become our victory! As Jesus promised: 'Because I live, you will also live' (John 14.19).

Until our Lord returns again one day, Christians will die physically, but their victory over death is already guaranteed. As Paul demonstrates in 1 Corinthians 15, death is 'swallowed up in victory'! Death's sting is abolished! And so Paul proclaims our victory anthem. 'Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ' (vv.55-57)!

Down through 2,000 years Christ's people have lived in that glorious victory. One example was Donald Cargill (1619-1681). Cargill was a Presbyterian minister and a Covenanter in the years known in Scotland's history as 'the killing times.' The Covenanters opposed all attempts by the English parliament to impose Episcopacy on

Scotland. With other Covenanters, Cargill strongly denounced the immorality and irreligion of the court of King Charles II. Hundreds of Covenanters were imprisoned at this time, and many were executed, both men and women.

Cargill's fearless itinerant preaching made him a marked man. He moved from place to place, preaching in cottages, fields, and town squares, protected by loyal friends. Then in July 1681 he was arrested and imprisoned. The outcome of his trial was never in question. The government of the day was determined to silence this influential 'rebel.' He was sentenced for execution on July 27th of that year.

On the scaffold in Edinburgh, Cargill spoke to the large crowd that had come to support him. "I climb this ladder," he declared, "with less fear than ever I entered a pulpit to preach." Then, raising his eyes to a blue July sky over his beloved Scotland, he cried out: "I have gotten me Christ and Christ has gotten me the victory." The blade fell and the brave soul of Donald Cargill joined the martyrs who lived and died in the victory of the Risen Christ.

Thanks be to God indeed! That glorious victory is not only for all the brave martyrs, but for all of us who belong to Christ. Death is defeated. The grave is conquered. Christ lives for ever in the power of an endless life. And we live in Him! We can all say: *'I have gotten me Christ and Christ has gotten me the victory.'*

King's Coronation Tea and Service

On Sunday 7 May 2023 St Mark's Church will be holding an Afternoon Tea and an All-age Service to mark and celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III. This is a time for thanksgiving to God and for local as well as national celebrations.



3.00pm Afternoon Tea in the Hall and Garden

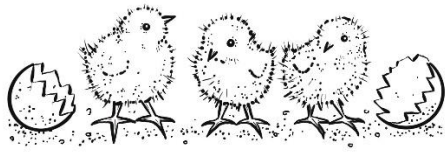
4.30pm All-age Celebration and Thanksgiving Service in the Church

All are welcome at the Service which will be suitable for all ages as we come together as one church family.

Tickets for the Afternoon Tea should be ordered in advance from the Parish Office:

Single Ticket: £3.00

Family Ticket £7.50



Survive or Thrive

All of us must suffer from serious situations in which we don't know which way to turn. Sometimes all we seem to be able to do is to survive, and to thrive thereafter seems impossible. However, if only we can have the courage and energy to realise that it might give us the incentive to rise above our tragedy, or potential tragedy, the world need not then seem the disastrous place it seems to be.

Apart from the obvious need for the help of God, as he can be with us wherever we stumble, what else do we need?

When I am suffering from an emergency I can walk past a beautiful bed of flowers and not notice them. Not like my older friend who had travelled the world who walked with me to the Plough Inn in Earlswood from his care home. He took such delight in counting how many roses he could see over the fence in a neighbour's garden.

An essential help is surely a sense of gratitude – "Things could be worse!" It might not seem to be like that, but we need somehow to thank God for past blessings, and any present blessings we can still be thankful for.

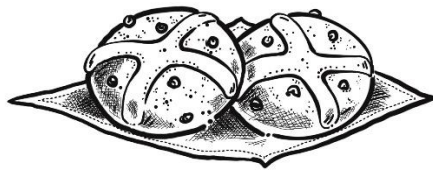
Hopefully we have relatives and friends who might help us, and although we like to be offering help rather than receiving it, we have, in emergencies, to be grateful for any help offered.

If only we can keep our sense of humour, that would help, although it is easier to laugh at the misfortunes of others than ourselves, we need to try. Although with some disasters and emergencies we can't see a positive way forward, if we can think positive, perhaps we don't just Survive but will Thrive after all.

As we approach Easter things could not have seemed worse for Jesus and his friends but what joy there was for all at his Resurrection. This was the ultimate time of not just Surviving but of Thriving for evermore.

Let us pray for all those who are struggling to Survive and, maybe, be of help to them, to Thrive after all.

Ian Archer



Who is eating the plastic at sea?

Scientists believe they may have discovered what happens to a great deal of the plastic that is dumped in the ocean.

The mystery has been that while about 14 million tonnes end up in marine environments each year, only about one per cent of that is ever found in sampling surveys.

While much of the plastic may have sunk to the deep bottom of the sea, now scientists believe that the answer may also be partially because bacteria are eating it.

A recent study by the Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ) has found that the widespread bug bacterium *Rhodococcus ruber* can actually digest plastic, turning it into carbon dioxide and other harmless substances.

One scientist explained that while “this is certainly not a solution to the problem of the plastic soup in our oceans,” it does help explain “where all the ‘missing plastic’ in the oceans has gone.”

Rhodococcus ruber is found across the globe, and is abundant in soil, water and marine environments. The species is known to transform a number of harmful pollutants, including industrial chemicals and pesticides, into harmless molecules.

The research was published in the Marine Pollution Bulletin.

Community Lunch Restarts

We will be holding our first Community Lunch since we stopped because of the Pandemic, on **Sunday 14th May at 1.00pm**. Initially there will be no lifts available to and from the Hall so you will have to make your own transport arrangements. If you wish to attend, you must register in advance with either Paul Selvadurai, the Lunch Coordinator, or with the Parish Office (tel: 01737 210785). Lunches will then be held on the 2nd Sunday of the month (except August).

CALENDAR FOR APRIL 2023

Sunday 2nd April

Palm Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church
10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online
4.00pm Family Service – in the Hall

Monday 3rd April

8.00pm Stations of the Cross and Compline

Tuesday 4th April

8.00pm Stations of the Cross and Compline

Wednesday 5th April

8.00pm Stations of the Cross and Compline

Thursday 6th April

Maundy Thursday

8.00pm Sung Eucharist and Watch (until 10.30pm)
in Church and Online

Friday 7th April

Good Friday

10.00am Messy Church
1.30pm Liturgy for Good Friday – in Church and online

Saturday 8th April

Holy Saturday

8.00pm Easter Vigil and First Communion of Easter

Sunday 9th April

Easter Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church
10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

Thursday 13th April

12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Saturday 15th April

8.00pm Social Ballroom and Latin Dance in the Hall

Sunday 16th April

2nd Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church
10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

Thursday 20th April

12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Sunday 23rd April

St Mark the Evangelist – Patronal Festival

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church
10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online
with Junior Church
6.00pm Taizé Prayer

Wednesday 26th April

3.25pm T-Time Tales

Thursday 27th April

12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Sunday 30th April

4th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church
10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online
with Junior Church

Please remember that planned services are subject to change at short notice so please check the details on our website or with the Parish Office.

CALENDAR FOR MAY 2023

Monday 1st May

Wednesday 3rd May

Thursday 4th May

Saturday 6th May

St Philip and St James

3.25pm T-Time Tales

12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Coronation of King Charles III

Sunday 7th May

5th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church

10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

3.00pm Afternoon Tea for the Coronation

4.30pm All-age Coronation Service – in Church

Wednesday 10th May

Thursday 11th May

3.25pm T-Time Tales

12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Sunday 14th May

6th Sunday of Easter (*Rogation Sunday*)

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church

10.00am Sung Eucharist with APCM –
in Church and Online with Junior Church

1.00pm Community Lunch in the Hall

2.00pm Rogation Sunday 'Beating the Bounds'

Monday 15th May

Wednesday 17th May

Thursday 18th May

Saturday 20th May

St Matthias

3.25pm T-Time Tales

Ascension Day

12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

8.00pm Social Ballroom and Latin Dance in the Hall

Sunday 21st May

7th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church

10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online

4.00pm Messy Church

Wednesday 24th May

Thursday 25th May

3.25pm T-Time Tales

12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Sunday 28th May

Day of Pentecost

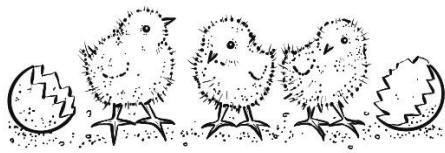
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church

10.00am Sung Eucharist – in Church and Online
with Junior Church

6.00pm Taizé Prayer

Wednesday 31st May

Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth



Donating to support the work of St Marks

Regular Giving



Regular donations are so important to our church to enable us to carry out our ministry and to run and maintain our buildings in the knowledge that the funds will be available when required. To make regular giving easier we have joined the Parish Giving Scheme (or PGS for short) which is a national scheme supported by the Diocese.

The PGS is a Direct Debit service, which enables you to give on a monthly, quarterly, or annual basis. We receive 100% of your donation and Gift Aid is automatically claimed for us, which means reduced administration and less work for our Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary (though you do not have to be eligible for Gift Aid yourself to join the scheme)

If you would like to know more you can watch [this video](#) to see how PGS works.

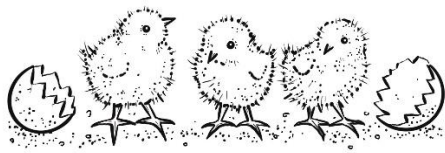
If you already donate regularly by standing order we are hoping that you will make the switch and if you are new to regular giving we encourage you to donate via PGS.

Please use the following link to join:

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/reigate-st-mark-reigate/>

If you would prefer to join by telephone or post then please contact Mel Crighton for details.

Thank you.



Part 3: The Corridors of Power

So, the unexceptional child who had drifted through the whole educational process to find himself not simply a cog in the Revenue machine but virtually in charge of the recruitment of its staff. However, he had then found that, for circumstance outside his remit, the whole process had gummed up. It fell to him to mount a substantial rescue operation in difficult circumstances which involved taking on the Civil Service Commissioners' Department and operating in the corridors of power.

So Fred set off to visit the large office which amongst other things wrote out for references, sifted out clearly unsatisfactory candidates and processed candidates' applications through to the Preliminary Boards and then to PSRB.

On the hour train journey to the office where applications were processed, Fred had plenty of time to think. Disconnected thoughts flew round his head in no order. What would he find? How should he go about what was really an inspection for which he had no authority? The summer was approaching and if the applications were not referred to PSRB soon it would be too late to save this year's competition. Obviously he had to report to his boss but which one? Finlay was in-charge of PSRB so any problem had to be referred to him. His immediate Revenue superior, Lloyd, was on leave but would inevitably report to Percy so that was where a copy of his report would have to go. What would be Percy's response? Probably a bomb up his backside and a reference up to the Chief Inspector with an onward complaint to the Head of PSRB, if not higher. What would all that achieve? Certainly it would be too slow to save that year's competition.

At the huge office he was met by the Top Man's personal secretary. They were delighted to receive a visit from PSRB. Was there any special reason? Did he like his new job? As she walked him to the department dealing with applications, she said the Top Man had invited him to lunch. "Thank you." He pondered that. Perhaps that courtesy was to obtain his views before he reported to Finlay.

The local departmental manager was very pleasant but nevertheless reserved and wanted to know who had sent Fred. He got no answer to that but he seemed unconcerned by the mention of Lord Fulton's Report. Fred asked to see the Revenue's applications waiting sift.

That work was done by a young lady who combined a nervousness with a direct manner. Fred tried to reassure her: "I am not here to look at your own performance but to understand why there is this back log." The immediate answer was unexpected. "Because I have been told to help those dealing with the Admin

competition when I was having to work hard trying on my own to do the work of three to keep up to date with the high flow of Revenue cases” was her reply.

She took Fred through the procedures and showed him the stacks of work on hand. “This delay will mean that most good applicants will find other jobs and withdraw before they can be sent to PSRB” she said. Fred asked his questions and built up a good appreciation of the dire position, but also a good rapport with the clerk. “How much assistance would you need to get this lot up to date?” was his question. “A lot, and none will be forth coming. The Admin Grade comes first. There will also be delay by applicants and university references because third year applicants will soon be taking Finals and also making other job applications.” She obviously knew her stuff. She had heard of Fulton and his remarks about recruitment to the Inspectorate. She gave Fred a knowing smile.

Fred reviewed the applications on his own. A number were from Oxford and Cambridge undergraduates in their Finals’ year. Lunchtime was approaching. Fred phoned the secretary who had met him. “Give my apologies. I shall not have time for lunch, but I am leaving a note for your Boss suggesting he move more staff onto Revenue Applications tomorrow and give them priority. No doubt he will receive a copy of my report to the Head of PSRB in good time, but a quick start now may save his bacon.” Then he packed his bag, gave words of thanks to the clerk who had helped him and suggested she get out a plan for an attack on the arrears and how many assistants she would require. “Put that number on the high side, and, oh, you may tell him I was not best pleased and that I seemed to think Lord Fulton would be interested to know the result of his report,” he suggested.

On the train back to London he thought out what he should do. He decided his report should not centre on the mess up. That would carry weight when the whole report was read and the chaos emerged more slowly. Better to leave others to find out the obvious mess. Rather he would concentrate on the solution which was to set up a large number of PSRB Boards as soon as possible, stressing the urgency if the whole year’s Competition was to be saved. His visit and the detailed circumstances could be set out as an appendix. He would leave it for the top shop to decide where to put the boot in!

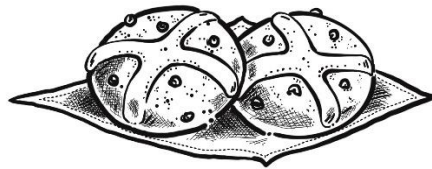
Back at PSRB he went straight into the afternoon tea break and pigeon holed Finlay. They repaired to the Director’s room and he went through the detail and his proposed solution. The Admin competition could not be reduced, the applicants had already been invited. “In the summer,” Fred said, “the “shop could stay open and the Competition recovered.” They went to see ‘The KING’ as Jones, the Office Manager was known. ‘The King’ was adamant. “We can’t do that. The staff always take their leave in the summer break and that is arranged; we can’t get the assessors at short notice and the controlling committee will be away. NO, it takes at least two months to train staff: here is a volume of their instructions.” (Fred tucked it under his arms). “No, no one else can use their desks. No, I will be away. No boards are held without my presence.” Then taking a breath: “The building requires ‘messengers’ and

cleaners to open it. No, it's all unthinkable. The reputation of PSRB is at stake. I shall not be here." The Director had nothing to add.

To all this Fred nodded wisely. "I see all that, but the Chief Inspector will never understand how this state of affairs could be allowed to come about. He may ask why it has been left to me to find this appalling state of affairs? Those at the top of the Commission will feel responsible and let down perhaps with unfortunate consequences for all those under them. Possibly there may be a service wide review of the implementation of Lord Fulton's other recommendations. This will resound through the Service. PSRB's status could be trashed. The papers will have a field day. There was a pause in his monologue; then slowly, as if he had only just thought of it: "Maybe the Revenue can find an answer. Shall I enquire?"

"Please do," said Finlay.

Harry Ingram



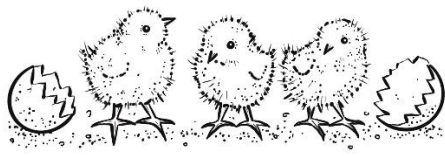
Have a drink, or two

Drinking is really good for you. Drinking water, that is. Recent research has found that people who drink a good amount of water are less likely to develop chronic conditions, or to show signs of advanced ageing.

The key seems to be in your serum sodium levels, which go up when your fluid intake goes down. Adults with high serum sodium levels are more likely to develop chronic illness, and also more likely to die younger.

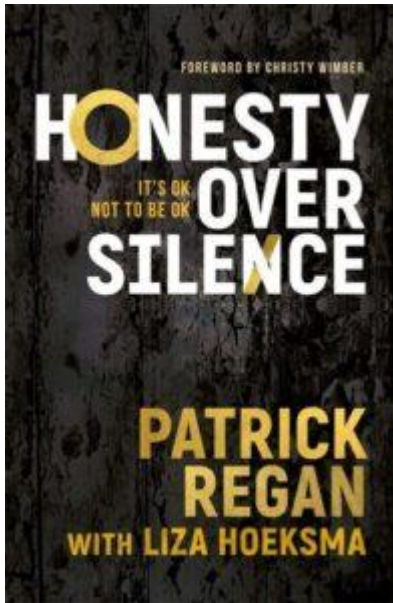
"The results suggest that proper hydration may slow down ageing and prolong a disease-free life," said one scientist.

The study was published in a recent issue of the eBioMedicine journal. According to NHS England, people should have six to eight drinks a day, which can include water, lower-fat milks, tea and coffee.



Book Review

This month we review: Honesty Over Silence – it's OK not to be OK

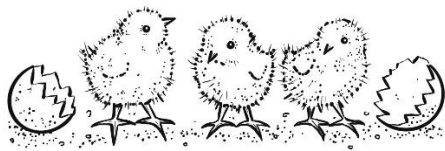


This book tackles topics that many find to be difficult, such as trusting God when life is painful, dealing with anxiety and depression, learning to look after ourselves, developing our character, and living with thankful hearts even in tough seasons.

It examines our strength in letting go of our need to be in control, as well as looking at how we can stop comparing ourselves to others, and instead live authentically and honestly as we grow into the people God has created us to be.

Have you recently read a good book? Tell us about it. Email magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk with your book review.





Protecting yourself from fraud

I have recently been contacted by a couple of members of the congregation to ask if I had been sending them photos. I quickly let them know that it wasn't me and to delete the email.

This got me thinking about fraud and the tricks fraudsters play in order to part people with their money. I have worked in the financial services for 18 years and during that time the threats have increased and become more sophisticated. Every year I receive training on how to spot fraud so I wanted to share some tips with you.

Phishing and smishing

This is when a fraudster sends you a text message or an email, pretending to be someone else in order to try and get you to send money. For example, you might get a text message from an unknown number saying, "Hi Mum/Dad, this is my new number" – you might think this is harmless and start messaging back and in part of the conversation there is a request for money.

With an email, the fraudster may create an email address which looks similar to someone you know. This happened to me last year. I received an email from who I thought was the vicar. I started to reply and I only became suspicious following a request for money.

If you get a request like this, stop and contact the person who you think is asking for money another way, such as with another telephone number to confirm the details are correct.

Advanced fee scam

You might receive an email or a telephone call to say you've won a competition and in order to claim your prize you must pay a small fee up front. There is usually a time pressure to 'secure' your prize. The scammers will try and hurry you to make the transaction. In this situation, never pay anything up front. It is usually a scam as a real competition wouldn't ask you to do this. There are different examples of this; it might not be a competition but instead it could be fees on an unexpected parcel or unexpected inheritance. If someone asks you for money up front, this should ring alarm bells.

Malware

When reading your emails, be very careful when opening attachments and clicking on links, especially if you don't know who the sender is. It is possible the attachments or links contain malware or spyware, which will be downloaded onto your computer and allow fraudsters to have full visibility of your computer, including your internet banking details. A good anti-virus should help stop this but being vigilant against emails will also help.

There is a website with more information, help and support on preventing fraud. Go to [Take Five - To Stop Fraud | To Stop Fraud \(takefive-stopfraud.org.uk\)](http://Take Five - To Stop Fraud | To Stop Fraud (takefive-stopfraud.org.uk))



The Centre for the Study of Existential Risk

"The Centre for the Study of Existential Risk" is an inter-disciplinary organisation centred on The University of Cambridge. It studies those areas of human activity which may give rise to the possibility of the end of mankind. It's a serious organisation.

The Centre identifies new and largely unstudied areas associated with emergent technology and other human activity which might give rise to serious widespread risks. It was set up by dons such as the co-founder Sir Martin Rees, Astronomer Royal and is staffed by mature PhD researchers who are experts in their fields. It also supports other dons engaged in similar fields so as to pool their insights. Its output of specialist papers is shared with policy makers, industry, governments and the UN. It has been consulted by governments in Europe, Asia, and America. Its main areas to date are biological weapons and dangerous biological developments, nuclear weapons, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and climate change.

Its activity now extends beyond writing reports to strategies to get the findings more widespread and hopefully more influential to governments and the international community. On AI, for instance, it organised the Puerto Rico Conference which gave rise to concerns by thousands of researchers and led in 2016 to the setting up of a ten-year Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence which is now in partnership with The Centre. Its expert on nuclear weapons frequently appears on television.

Becoming aware of this organisation brings some hope. It demonstrates that there are pockets of men and women who understand the dangers the world faces today and have the commitment to do something about it on the basis of expert knowledge.

It is a tragedy that elected governments so often ignore the work of such expert institutions and one wonders why. Part at least of the answer is that governments are occupied with the here and now and find it hard to look forward even though, in the case of climate change for example, we are very late in the day and most consider it an emergency. Climate change is a very good example of short-term neglect becoming long-term policy. Another reason may be the emphasis on party politics and the seeking of power is apparently sometimes of more importance than the problems they should be dealing with. A further reason may lie with electorates which exercise their votes on the basis of doubtful slogans without much concern for the actual issues, finding it easier to stay a member of their chosen tribe and follow the slogans than spend time to understand problems.

Readers may take some hope from the fact that such organisations exist and the best brains are engaged with these vital areas. There is always the possibility that practical solutions and governmental actions may emerge.

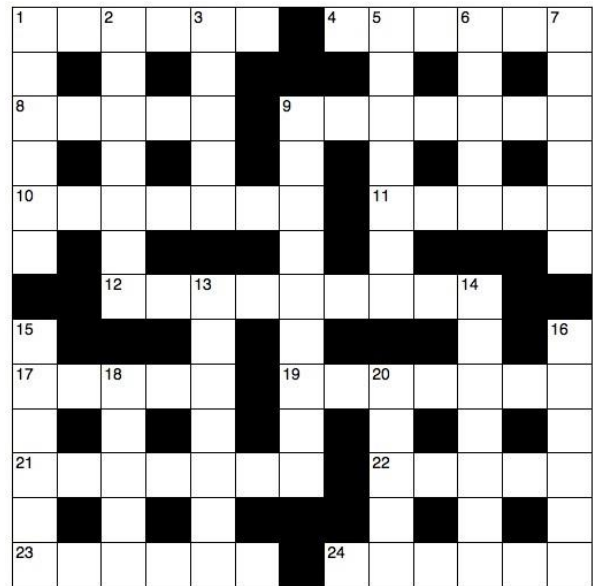
Harry Ingram

April Crossword

Biblical references are from the New International Version

Across

- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
- 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
- 8 'Unless I see the nail marks — — hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3)
- 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)
- 10 Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry — (7)
- 11 'Look, here is — . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5)
- 12 Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)
- 17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3–4) (5)
- 19 'Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had spoken with the Lord' (Exodus 34:29) (7)
- 21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7)
- 22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)
- 23 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the — apostles' (Acts 1:26) (6)
- 24 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in — and you came to visit me' (Matthew 25:36) (6)



Down

- 1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)
- 2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)
- 3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)
- 5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)
- 6 11 Across is certainly this (5)
- 7 He reps (anag.) (6)
- 9 Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)
- 13 Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)
- 14 They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)
- 15 The human mind or soul (6)
- 16 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is — ' (Graham Kendrick) (6)
- 18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not — ' (Matthew 11:17) (5)
- 20 Bared (anag.) (5)

March answers

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



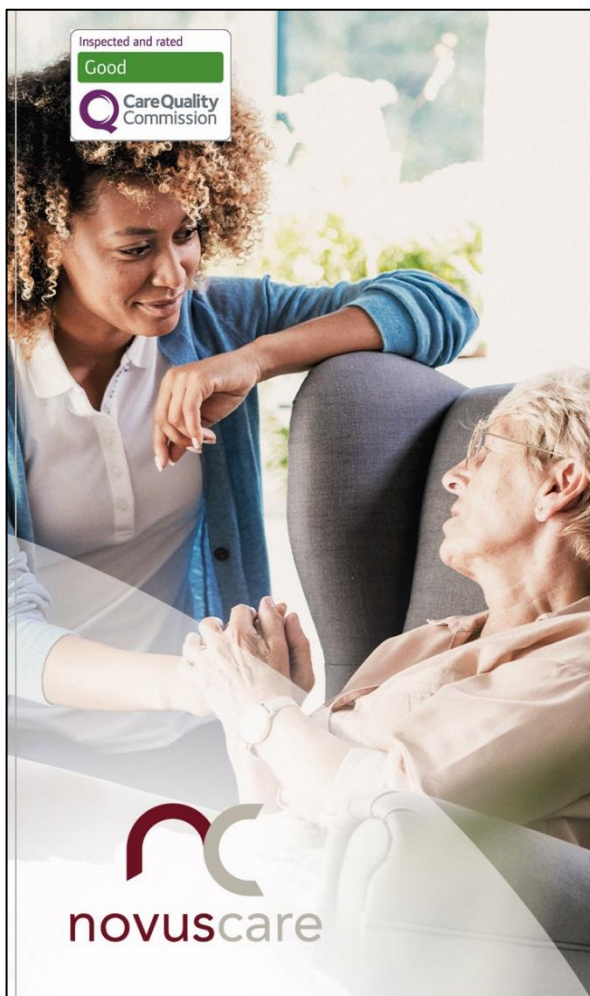
Puzzles

April Sudoku Puzzle

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

March Solution

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



Care in the heart of your own home

Are you or an elderly loved one looking for extra care and support at home in **Reigate** or the surrounding areas? Then our local carers are here to help.

Novus Care is regulated by the Care Quality Commission and can provide a qualified carer to support your loved one in their own home from just **a visit per week to around the clock live-in care.**

For more information or to arrange a FREE care assessment please call: 01483 494132 or email: hello@novus-care.com

www.novus-care.com



A HOME WITH A HEART
RESIDENTIAL ♦ RESPITE ♦ DAYCARE

We offer people in their retirement the opportunity to live in comfortable surroundings, in a relaxed and secure family environment, with the degree of care necessary to enhance their quality of life.

- ♦ Good wholesome, home-cooked meals
- ♦ Weekly hairdresser & regular chiropodist
- ♦ Large garden with patio, summerhouse & pergola
 - ♦ In-house entertainment
 - ♦ Social activities & outings arranged

88 Doods Road, Reigate, Surrey RH2 0NR
admin@ridgegatehome.org.uk

01737 242926

www.ridgegatehome.org.uk

Abbeyfield House at 34 Somers Road, Reigate is a friendly, happy place.

In our affordable family style house we provide a careful combination of independence with support, privacy with companionship.

Residents have their own rooms, furnished by themselves, with meals provided by our House Manager. We are part of the nationwide Abbeyfield movement but the Reigate House is managed independently by local volunteers to provide sheltered accommodation for active independent senior citizens at very reasonable all-inclusive rates.





Looking for a care home for your loved one? Look no further!

The Reigate Beaumont is a home oozing charm and character, offering first-class 24-hour nursing and residential care in Surrey. Reigate Beaumont is proud of its beautifully maintained and nurtured award-winning gardens which both residents and visitors to the home can enjoy all year around.

The Reigate Beaumont has en-suite fully furnished bedrooms which can be personalised, beautiful lounge areas with stunning views as well as elegant dining rooms in a relaxed atmosphere. Our team of highly-qualified and attentive staff really focus on the individual needs of our residents with a bespoke care plan for each person. Our dedication to personalised care can be seen across the board - in our cooking, hospitality and organising activities for our residents.

For more information do take a look at our website
www.barchester.com/home/reigate-beaumont-care-home, send an email
to **Reigate.Reception@Barchester.com** or give us a call on **01737 225544**
Please call the House Manager (01737 247928) for more information.

Bullimores



ESTABLISHED
1928

Accountants for Life

- Tax
- Accounts
- Probate
- Inheritance Tax
& Executorship

Bullimores LLP licensed to carry out the reserved legal activity
of non-contentious probate in England & Wales by the ICAEW



For advice, call us on: 01306 880880 | Email: partners@bullimores.co.uk | Web: www.bullimores.co.uk

Graham Williams Decorating

20+ YEARS EXPERIENCE / NVQ QUALIFIED / INSURED

Tel: 01737 646028

Mobile: 07985 940083

grahamw777@hotmail.co.uk

Interior and Exterior work

Free estimates



Stoneman Funeral Service

Head Office and Funeral Home
Doran Court
Reigate Road, Redhill
Tel: 01737 763456



An Independent Family Business
Est: 1865

PREPAID FUNERAL PLANS

ALSO AT

49 Bell Street Reigate
Tel: 01737 243164

ANTIQUE FURNITURE RESTORATION

ALL ASPECTS OF
FURNITURE REPAIRS
AND
POLISHING
UNDERTAKEN
INCLUDING MODERN
FURNITURE
30 YEAR'S EXPERIENCE
FREE ADVICE AND
ESTIMATES GIVEN
CALL

STEVE PEACOCK
01883 743879

Advertise Here

If you would like to advertise
your business or event in the
St Mark's Parish Magazine
please contact Jane Artis to
find out more.

07831269866

We offer quarter, half and
full page adverts, at great
rates in black and white or
colour.