

**PCC & Ministry News:** The PCC last met on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

Thanks to those who have sat on the PCC this year. We do still have vacancies on the PCC and also for Deanery Synod and Churchwarden, so please do consider standing. Please talk with Jes, David or Anne, should you be curious and want to know more. In our last meeting before the APCM, there were three main topics of discussion:

1. **Finances.** The recent works to the clock, tower and higher elevations of the church cost over £75,000, of which a net £35,600 has just been gratefully received from Amey Community Foundation. This means circa £40,000 was funded from your fantastic fundraising efforts last year and from church coffers, in itself no mean feat! Unsurprisingly, 2018 needs to be a period of consolidation. That said our next big project, giving time for the coffers to replenish, will be the church organ. We have over £13k in the organ fund already and when that reaches £15k, we will be in a position to seek grant funding for around 80% of the estimated cost of £75k. Please pray for the next phase of our refurbishment programme.
2. **Safeguarding.** The Church of England takes safeguarding very seriously and accreditation for church volunteers, PCC members, those dealing with children and vulnerable adults has been introduced and will be a focus for 2018, to protect ourselves and the community we serve. The accreditation can be in the form of an online assessment or face to face workshop; more information will follow as PCC fully understands exactly what is needed.
3. **Layout of pews at rear of church.** As reported previously, the PCC is considering options for use of the space at the rear of church. After discussion, PCC is keen to be guided by your views and an options sheet is included with this newsletter, for you to think thoughtfully and prayerfully about what would serve our community best. Please do fill this out and share your preference in confidence. The slips can be returned at the APCM or to Jes, David or Anne and will be reviewed by PCC at future meetings and any decision discussed with you all.

**Please see the separate notice "May we contact you?" and the enclosed letter about data protection. Under the new rules we will NOT be able to contact you any more unless we receive your written consent.**

**Our chosen Charity for March-April is Little Princess Trust**

<http://www.littleprincesses.org.uk/> The Little Princess Trust provides real hair wigs free of charge to children and young adults up to the age of 24, who have sadly lost their own hair due to cancer treatment and other illnesses

## St Mary's, The Parish Church of Buckden Newsletter : April 2018

Dear Friends,

It is Easter. The high point of the Christian year and the focus of the Christian faith. And so, we start our Easter day service with the acclamation;

**Alleluia, Christ is risen.  
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

To many today, the crucifixion and, particularly the resurrection seem nonsense. St Paul acknowledged this when he told the church in Corinth – if Christ is not raised our faith is useless ... and we are of all people to be pitied. But the alternative explanations are no more credible. And the life and example of millions of people today and throughout the last two millenia testify to the historical fact of the death and resurrection of Jesus which occurred at the time of the Jewish Passover in 32 or 33AD.

The most significant event in world history and one to be celebrated and proclaimed.

**Alleluia, Christ is risen.  
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Yours in Christ,

*Jes*

### PRAYER CORNER

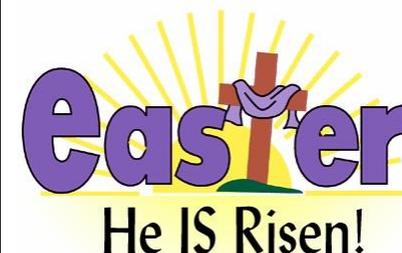
Please pray:-

For the ongoing conflict in Syria, and how we can help.

For those we know who are ill and unwell and for the families of Lottie Milner and Jenny Day as they grieve.

For those offering themselves for confirmation; Amelia and Elana Riley, Tony and Elsie Fell, Gina Bylett and Jo Rix and Lynne Harris from Offord.

That as a church we can have the confidence to live and proclaim the Easter message by how we live and what we say.



**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 6pm - Benefice Open Ministry Meeting**

An opportunity for all to come along and have your say in an informal setting. On the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every month. Following by Night Prayer at 7pm.

**The Closing Date for the May Newsletter is Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April  
Items by hand to Phil Mowat or to [secretary@stmarysbuckden.org.uk](mailto:secretary@stmarysbuckden.org.uk) .**

## DIARY Services and events in April 2018

*all events & services take place in St Mary's unless otherwise indicated.*

### Every Week

Mondays	2.15pm	The Daily Office (daily prayers)
Tuesdays	1.30pm	The Daily Office (daily prayers)
Wednesdays	9.30am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Cup of tea & chat
	10.30am	Going Deeper - a look at Sunday's readings
Thursdays	1.00pm	The Daily Office (daily prayers)
Fridays	9.15am	The Daily Office (daily prayers)
Saturdays	10.30am	Coffee & Cakes til noon

<b>Sun 1</b>		<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>
	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	11:00am	Family Communion
	6.00pm	BCP Holy Communion
<b>Sun 8</b>	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	11:00am	Morning Service
	12.15am	<b>Meeting of Parishoners / APCM</b>
<b>Tues 10</b>	1:30pm	Funeral of Jenny Day
<b>Weds 11</b>	2.30pm	Friends in Deed Drop-in Cafe
	7.30pm	M & Ms (quiz night at the vicarage)
<b>Fri 13</b>	6.45pm	Angel Voices (LSR)
<b>Sun 15</b>	11:00am	Family Communion
	6.00pm	Evensong
<b>Fri 20</b>	6.45pm	Angel Voices (LSR)
<b>Sun 22</b>	8:00am	BCP Holy Communion
	11:00am	All-age Family Communion
	6:00pm	Open ministry meeting – all welcome
	7:00pm	Night Prayer
<b>Weds 25</b>	7.30pm	PCC Meeting (vicarage)
<b>Sun 29</b>	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	11:00am	Family Communion
	6pm	Deanery Confirmation Service
<b>Mon 30</b>	1:30pm	Monthly Bible Study (LSR)

All are very welcome to come to any of our services and events.  
There is also a 9.30am service each Sunday at our sister church, All Saints', in Offord Cluny.

## St Mary's Church Buckden: contact information The Vicarage, Church St, Buckden, St Neots, PE19 5TL

Rev Jes Salt 819377 [priestincharge@stmarysbuckden.org.uk](mailto:priestincharge@stmarysbuckden.org.uk)  
**Churchwardens** Anne Carter 812789 [anne.carter@stmarysbuckden.org.uk](mailto:anne.carter@stmarysbuckden.org.uk)  
 David Riley 810718 [david.riley@stmarysbuckden.org.uk](mailto:david.riley@stmarysbuckden.org.uk)

**Website** [www.stmarysbuckden.org.uk](http://www.stmarysbuckden.org.uk)

**Facebook:** St Mary's Buckden

**Twitter:** @A1ChurchBuckden

**Bookings** [enquiries@stmarysbuckden.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@stmarysbuckden.org.uk)

**Pastoral Care:** Marilyn Rolin 07719 087215 [pastoralcare@stmarysbuckden.org.uk](mailto:pastoralcare@stmarysbuckden.org.uk)

### APRIL EVENTS

**Friends in Deed: DROP-IN CAFE**  
**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April**  
 2.30pm – 4pm Tea/coffee/cakes & chat

**M&Ms ladies' group**  
**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm**  
 quiz night - at the vicarage

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April – Springtime**  
**Smorgasbord 1pm at Spicelands (£10)**  
 look out for details & sign-up in church

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April 6pm**  
**Deanery Confirmation Service**  
 at St Mary's

### ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING & ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2018 at 12.15am following by BRING & SHARE LUNCH.

All are welcome to attend the meetings and the lunch. Those on the church or civic electoral roll may vote in the election of churchwardens. Those on the church electoral roll may vote in the PCC elections. If you wish to get more involved at St Mary's, there are lists for the various volunteer roles and forms for electoral roll applications and PCC, churchwarden and Deanery Synod nominations at the back of church.

### GROUPS – please ask for more info

Bell-ringers – practice Monday evenings  
 Going Deeper – bible study Wednesdays  
 Jamworkx – kids' afterschool club  
 M&Ms – monthly ladies' group  
 Men's Breakfast – monthly men's group  
 Monthly Bible Study – Monday  
 Ground Floor Group – Thursday evening  
 Angel Voices – informal all-age choir  
 Getting Active – walks & bike rides

### MAY WE CONTACT YOU?

There is new data protection legislation (GDPR) from May 2018. We will need to have your written consent to store your details and to contact you. Pick up a form in church or download one from [www.stmarysbuckden.org.uk](http://www.stmarysbuckden.org.uk) to remain on, or to join, any of our mailing lists or to have details stored by Rev Jes and/or St Mary's PCC.