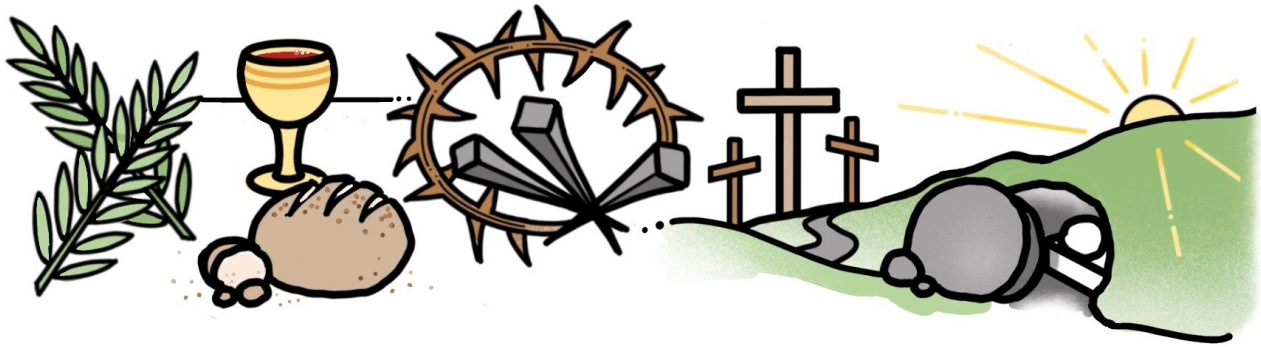


Benefice of Christ Church and St Mary's, Frome

Diocese of Bath and Wells



April 2022



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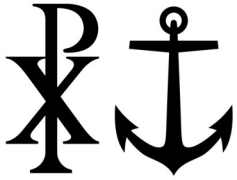
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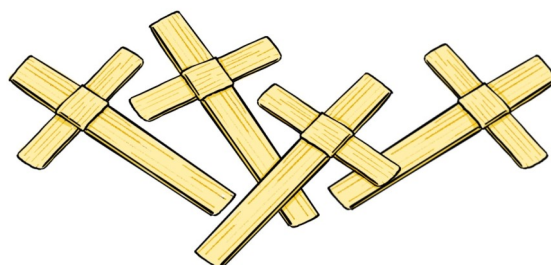


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The front cover shows the Magnolia in full flower on the lawn at the Bishop's Palace in Wells with the Cathedral beyond. Churches worldwide have been praying for Ukraine and for peace and many in our Diocese of Bath and Wells are open for those who wish to have a quiet moment of prayer or to light a candle, others have been holding prayer vigils. Locally, church communities are working closely with aid agencies to raise money and support those in need in Ukraine and refugees from the conflict. Bath Abbey showed a very visible sign of support, lighting up in blue and yellow.



Pastoral Letter

Rev'd Liz Dudley

Writing this at the end of March, when war is still raging in Ukraine, I wonder what will have changed by the time you read it. The prayer, of course, is for peace: for a cessation of the terrible shelling and bombardment of towns and cities; for the laying down of weapons and a retreat from places of occupation. But peace is much more than the cessation of war. Without doubt, the wounds inflicted on the people and the nation of Ukraine will be deep and may never heal completely and, even if they do, the scars will be significant.

During this month, we celebrate Easter—the victory of God's love over sin and death. I have at times struggled with some of the triumphant hymns of Easter, partly because the sin and death, just like the devil in Luke's account of Jesus in the wilderness, don't disappear completely. The battle continues and at times the damage is great and the casualties many.

Lately, I have found strength in the image of the women, risking everything to visit the garden in the darkness, still traumatised, numb, grieving, yet doing what little they can. And in doing this, they became the first witnesses of the resurrection, a rumour, a whisper, that begins while the darkness is still there. The dawn of possibility breaks gently and cannot be stopped.

May you find peace in the promise of God's saving love this Easter.

Christ Church APCM

The 2022 APCM has had to be rescheduled for Saturday 23 April due to the accounts not being returned from the auditors in time. Please note the change of date in your diaries and come along to Christ Church Hall for a 10am meeting on 23 April 2022.

On Sunday 20 March 2022, St Mary's held their APCM. Thanks were given for all who have worked tirelessly in the last year as we have emerged from the Covid pandemic and begun to think about the direction of travel in the months ahead. Thanks especially to Diane and Alex, who have been churchwardens. The meeting was pleased that Diane Ellis and Len Taylor are the churchwardens for the next year. Thanks too to Sue Pothitos and Laura Waterhouse whose time on the PCC has come to an end. The vacancies on the PCC remain unfilled.

We are still awaiting planning permission to complete upgrading the courtyard and installing a better sound system. This is really frustrating, but cannot be helped. However, the year ahead looks to be exciting with plenty to challenge and inspire us as we journey on together.

Bereavement Journey

The next Bereavement Journey begins on Tuesday 24 May at 6.30pm in St. Mary's Hall with five sessions, and an optional sixth, looking at the experience of and the feelings around loss and bereavement. The evening starts with a simple meal, followed by a facilitated session using film and discussion in small groups. This course is suitable for anyone who has been bereaved and for those with any or no faith. If you would like more details, speak to Revd Liz or visit:

www.bereavementjourney.org

Easter Services

Easter 2021 was when we finally began to resume regular public worship on a Sunday and thankfully we haven't had to stop since. As the year unfolded, we were able to sing once more and to have refreshments after the service. However, there is still a way to go and at times the path still seems a little risky and uncertain. This Easter seems to be another good moment to reintroduce two things.

The choir at St. Mary's have been faithfully, and tunefully, leading the singing from their seats in the congregation and now it is time to take up their positions again in the choir stalls.

The second change from Easter will be the resuming of the common cup during communion. When we first came back to church, we adopted the thinking that people received the sacrament in full in just the bread. This has meant that during the pandemic, when only the priest received the wine, the people nevertheless received the fullness of Communion.

The using of individual cups is, at present, not permitted by the Church of England. So we are offering the cup to those who choose to receive it. During the pandemic we have become used to receiving communion standing and this will continue in both churches. There will be wine for those who wish to partake, and it is acceptable for those who choose not to. The intincting of wafers by individuals is also not permitted. Please speak to Rev'd Liz if you want to know more.

Ukrainian Refugee Response

Firstly, thank you so much to everyone who gave so generously to our retiring collections at the beginning of March. We were able to give £850 to our twin town of Rabka-Zdrój in Poland.

It seems very likely that we will be hosting refugees in Frome in the not too distant future. There are lots of ways to get involved, either via the Frome town Council website or the Bath and Wells website: (bathwells.anglican.org). As a church we may well find that we can help best by supporting other groups in the town and certainly by praying together.

Service of music and readings

The service of music and readings on Easter Sunday will be the last of our regular offerings. Many thanks to all who have taken part in these very special acts of worship in the last two years.

Sunday	Christ Church	St. Marys
Sunday 3 April	8.30am Parish Eucharist 6pm Choral Evensong	10am Parish Eucharist
Sunday 10 April (Palm Sunday)	10am Parish Eucharist	8.30am Parish Eucharist
Sunday 17 April (Easter Day)	6am Dawn Eucharist 8am Holy Communion (BCP) 9am Mossy Church 10am Festival Eucharist 6pm Service of music and Readings	10am Festival Eucharist
Sunday 24 April	10am Parish Eucharist	8.30am Parish Eucharist
Sunday 1 May	8.30am Parish Eucharist 6pm Choral Evensong	10.30am Parish Eucharist



The metal paling fence along the boundary of the churchyard established in 1930 is ideal for climbers to provide shelter and nectar for many wildlife species. In April both Avanti Park School and Christ Church will plant Clematis, Honeysuckle, a fruit tree and indigenous hedgerow bushes. The spring sunshine has been a gift to gardeners and the spring bulbs on the bank, along with plants for pollinators, are flourishing. In April, wildflower seeds started to germinate.

Services during Holy Week

	Service	Where	What
Palm Sunday	Parish Eucharist	St Mary's 8.30 Christ Church 10.00	Traditional service with blessings of palms and reading of the Passion Gospel
Monday	Morning Prayer Compline	8.30 on Zoom	Common Worship Daily Prayers The ancient office of Compline using Common Worship. The words will be shared on screen
Tuesday	Morning Prayer Compline	8.30 on Zoom 9pm on Zoom	
Wednesday	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Compline	8.30 on Zoom St Mary's 10.00 9pm on Zoom	The weekly contemplative service
Maundy Thursday	Morning Prayer Eucharist with foot washing and vigil	8.30 on Zoom Christ Church 7.30pm	A quiet and intimate service with the opportunity to participate in symbolic foot washing. There is also an invitation to spend time in silent contemplation and witness in the Garden of Repose
Good Friday	Morning Prayer The Last Hour The Cross of Christ	8.30 on Zoom 2pm at St Mary's 7.30pm Christ Church	An hour of music, readings and silence A devotional service of hymns, anthems, readings and prayers.

Zoom Codes: Morning Prayer: Meeting ID: 829 8222 0566. Passcode: 581172; Compline: Meeting ID: 972 9723 2736. Passcode: 333368

St Mary's duty rota April 2022

	03/04/22	10/04/22	15/04/22	17/04/22	24/04/22
	Passion Sunday	Palm Sunday	Good Friday	Easter Day	Easter 2
	10.00am Parish Eucharist	8.30am Parish Eucharist	3.00pm The Last Hour	10.00am Parish Eucharist	8.30am Parish Eucharist
	Isaiah 43.16-21 Psalm 126 Philippians 3.4b-14 John 12.1-8	Liturgy of the Palms: Luke 19.28-40 Liturgy of the Pas- sion: Luke 22.14 - 23.56	Isaiah 52.13 - 53.12 Psalm 22* Hebrews 10.16-25 or Hebrews 4.14-16; 5.7- 9 John 18.1 - 19.42	Acts 10.34-43 or Isaiah 65.17-25 Psalm 118.1-2,14-24* 1 Corinthians 15.19-26 or Acts 10.34-43 John 20.1-18 or Luke 24.1-12	Acts 5.27-32 Psalm 118. 14-29 or Psalm 150 Revelation 1.4-8 John 20.19-31
	Reader Maggie Read	*****	*****	Reader Sue Pothitos	Reader Gordon Mitchell
	Prayers Jane Mitchell	Prayers Jane Mitchell	*****	Prayers Andrew Saunders	Prayers Alison Penn
	Sides Jenny Schild	Sides Rob Lee	Sides Diane Ellis	Sides Jane Mitchell	Sides Jenny Schild
	Music Glen Schild	Music Len Taylor	*****	Music Pauline Burgess	Music Glen Schild
	Sacristan Barbara Peto	Sacristan Carol Dunsby	*****	Sacristan Tina Williams	Sacristan Pauline Burgess
	Coffee Marilyn Burrows	Coffee Pam & Sue T	*****	Coffee Pauline & Penny	Coffee Marilyn & Jenny
	*****	*****	*****	Chalice Diane Ellis	Chalice Judy Harris

Celebrating spring with a cake sale

There was a marvellous cake sale outside Avanti Park School on Thursday 24 March and £302 was raised for the joint purchase of climbers and indigenous plants that will support wildlife species, birds as well as insects, in both schoolyard and churchyard.

Sincere thanks to Avanti Park staff, parents and children, as well as all those from Christ Church and our friends who so generously supported this fund raiser. We will be pleased to see Honeysuckle, Hydrangea and Clematis soon covering the fence between school and the top churchyard with flowers.

It was a great pleasure to watch Avanti's team of volunteers set up a long line of tables and lay out a record number of cup-cakes, scones, muffins and biscuits. There were home-baked cakes of all varieties, shapes and sizes, sold whole or in slices. It was also great fun to see many happy families enjoying the treats on a sunny spring afternoon!



A uniting faith

Andrew Avramenko, a curate at St Stephen's and St Mary's, Bath, reflects on the importance of hope in challenging times.



What's the Ukrainian connection?

My father is Ukrainian and my grandparents survived the *Holodomor*, which was a famine in the 1930s forced by Stalin that aimed to wipe out Ukrainian identity. More than 7 million people died. They escaped from Stalin's forces and from the Nazis when my father was a young child. They travelled across Europe on foot before being welcomed as refugees into the UK. I also have connections with both the Anglican and Orthodox Ukrainian churches.

Is faith important to Ukrainians?

Faith is very much part of the Ukrainian identity and their way of living. On social media you can see people praying and holding services in underground shelters, in underpasses and even in front of a church while warning sirens sound. Ukrainians are asking for prayers, not just for themselves, but also for Russians. They have been deeply touched and encouraged by prayer.

Is faith a support in challenging times?

Faith is a very active thing that strengthens us, unites us and calls us to a better way, a peaceful way, out of this. It helps us to see people as human rather than a label, even our enemies. It unites us with people around the world, bringing us together in such a way that we couldn't do in many other ways.

How does conflict affect your faith?

If anything, conflict strengthens my faith. I came to faith in part due to the last war in Europe, in Yugoslavia, and took aid to refugees. Although we may feel powerless, we do have the power to act; just as we have the power to do evil, we have the chance to do good and replace hate with love.

Read the full interview at: bathandwells.org.uk/a-uniting-faith

Platinum celebration—an invitation from HOPE

From 2 to 5 June this year we will celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. **HOPE Together** is working with others to help churches mark the occasion and, in particular, to celebrate The Queen's 70 years of faith and service. A range of ideas and resources are available for communities, schools, churches and youth organisations. A website celebrating the Queen's faith and service focuses on six ways to mark the occasion; celebrate, sing, gift, learn, service and invite. Find out more at theplatinumjubilee.com

My Favourite Hymn **Andrew Saunders**

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

When I was a choirboy, this was one of our staple hymns for the Administration of Holy Communion. It took me some time to realise that it is, in fact, a Christmas Carol!

The whole setting is the amazing act of God in the Incarnation. 'Christ our God to earth descendeth.....King of Kings yet born of Mary.' Jesus came from the glory and splendour of Heaven to enter fully into human life here on Earth, 'In the body and the blood.' He gave himself for us and for our salvation and continues to do so whenever we share in his body and blood at Holy Communion, hence its use as a Communion hymn more often than as a carol. To this end we are called to: 'Ponder nothing earthly minded', responding to St Paul's exhortation to 'fix your minds on things that are above rather than on things on the earth'.

We are given a vision of the Heavenly Host. Scarcely daring to look on the splendour of God, we are able only to cry one word: Alleluia! How are we to respond? 'Let all mortal flesh keep silence and with fear and trembling stand!' Pure silence, speechless with awe at all that God in Christ has done for us. Perhaps the only modern hymn that takes up that theme is: 'Be still, for the presence of the Lord is shining all around,' another of my favourites!

This hymn is one of the earliest Christian hymns still in common usage. Its roots go back at least to the 4th century. It is based on a Greek text 'The Cherubic Hymn' chanted at the Offertory as part of the Litany of St James and it is still used in the Syrian Orthodox Church.

An early translation was paraphrased by Gerard Moultrie. The son of a vicar, he was born in Rugby Rectory in 1829 and educated at Rugby School and Oxford University. He was a master and also Chaplain at Shrewsbury School and later a chaplain, curate and vicar in various locations, including Barrow Gurney. He died in Southleigh in 1885.

Gerard Moultrie translated hymns from Greek, Latin and German, as well as composing many of his own and publishing several hymn collections.

The tune very often used for this hymn, 'Picardy', was suggested and arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams in 1906. Whilst nowhere near as old as the original words, it is perhaps fitting that it, too, has early roots, being based on an old French carol melody, probably dating back to the 17th century.

Christ Church duties in April 2022

03/04/22	10/04/22	14/4/2022	15/04/22	17/04/22	17/04/22	17/04/22	24/04/22
Passion Sunday	Palm Sunday	Maundy Thursday	Good Friday	Easter Day	Easter Day	Easter Day	Easter 2
8.30am Parish Eucharist	10.00am Parish Eucharist	7.30pm Tenebrae	7.30pm "The Cross of Christ"	6.00am Dawn Service	8.00am BCP Holy Communion	6.00pm Evensong	10.00am Parish Eucharist
Isaiah 43.16-21 Psalm 126 Philippians 3.4b-14 John 12.1-8	Liturgy of the Palms: Luke 19.28-40 Liturgy of the Passion: Luke 22.14 - 23.56	Exodus 12.1-4[5-10], 11-14 Psalm 116.1,10-17* 1 Corinthians 11.23-26 John 13.1-17,31b-35	Isaiah 52.13 - 53.12 Psalm 22* Hebrews 10.16-25 or Hebrews 4.14-16; 5.7-9 John 18.1 - 19.42	Acts 10.34-43 or Isaiah 65.17-25 Psalm 118.1-2,14-24* 1 Corinthians 15.19-26 or Acts 10.34-43 John 20.1-18 or Luke 24.1-12	Acts 10.34-43 or Isaiah 65.17-25 Psalm 118.1-2,14-24* 1 Corinthians 15.19-26 or Acts 10.34-43 John 20.1-18 or Luke 24.1-12	Welcome David and Mary Gatliffe	Acts 5.27-32 Psalm 118.14-29 or Psalm 150 Revelation 1.4-8 John 20.19-31
Welcome Rob Lee	Welcome Barbara Bullock	Welcome Mary Gatliffe	Welcome Mary Gatliffe	Welcome Rob Lee	Welcome Barbara Bullock	Welcome David and Mary Gatliffe	Welcome Penny Legg
Reader Penny Legg	Reader John Price	Reader Rob Lee	***** *	Reader Caroline Thornycroft	Reader Judy Matthews	***** *	Reader Jan Charlesworth
Intercessor Ann Burgess	Intercessor Peter John	Intercessor David Gatliffe	*****	Intercessor Rob Lee	Intercessor Alan Burgess	***** *	Intercessor Malcolm Parr
	Coffee Barbara and Jan						Coffee Christine and Tricia



Music at Christ Church



Trio Paradis

**Monthly lunchtime concerts at Christchurch Frome
on the first Thursday of every month at 1.45pm.**

Free entry with retiring collection;

Programmes: <http://www.trioparadis.com>

7 April *What's in a Name?*

5 May *Music in May*

2 June *Birds & Beasts*

Homemade cakes, tea and coffee from 1.15pm.

All welcome!

Choral Evensong Sunday 3 April 6pm: Responses and canticles by a friend of William Shakespeare, Tudor composer Thomas Morley (1557-1602), and a beautiful anthem 'When David heard' by Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656).

Wednesday 6 April 1pm Lunchtime concert by the Solis Trio: (Eliza Talman—trumpet, Hannah Williams—French horn, Meggie Murphy— Trombone) who have recently won the Ensemble Competition at the Royal Academy of Music! Music by Poulenc, Reicha and 'Autumn Leaves' arranged by Pete Middleton. Tickets £10 (concessions £5 for under 18s). Refreshments will be available in aid of church funds.

Friday 8 April at 4.30pm A short, informal 'Work-in-progress' Concert by Scallop Shells Junior Choir, to show some of the songs we've been learning! Free admission. Donations. Refreshments.

Saturday 9 April at 7.30pm SLAV SPIRIT

Save the date for a heart-warming concert celebrating the music of Eastern Europe and raising funds for Ukrainian refugees. Featuring gems by Dvorak, Chopin and Ukrainian composers for piano, piano duet, violin and song with soprano Maria Danishvar, violin Matthew Taylor, piano Stephen Marquiss and Liz Kozlowski.

Tickets £15 at the door, or in advance from OWL Gallery, Frome, and online at www.artsandmusic.uk/ukraine Doors open at 7pm.

Pre-concert and interval refreshments available.

All proceeds to go to Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC), Voices of Children (Ukrainian charity for children suffering the psychological trauma of war) and Polish Humanitarian Action (currently working with Ukrainian refugees in Poland).

April Readings

Date	Day	am	pm
1	Friday	Psalm 102 Exodus 6 v 2-13 Hebrews 10 v 26-end	Psalm 16 Jeremiah 19 v 14 – 20 v 6 John 11 v 1-16
2	Saturday	Psalm 32 Exodus 7 v 8-end Hebrews 11 v 1-16	Psalm 140 Jeremiah 20 v 7-end John 11 v 17-27
3	Sunday	Psalm 111 Isaiah 35 Romans 7 v 21-8 v 4	Psalm 35 2 Chronicles 35 v 1-6 10-16 Luke 22 v 1-13
4	Monday	Psalm 73 Exodus 8 v 1-19 Hebrews 11 v 17-31	Psalm 26 Jeremiah 21 v 1-10 John 11 v 28-44
5	Tuesday	Psalm 35 Exodus 8 v 8-end Hebrews 11 v 32-12 v 2	Psalm 61 Jeremiah 22 v 1-5 13-19 John 11 v 45-end
6	Wednesday	Psalm 55 Exodus 9 v 1-12 Hebrews 12 v 3-13	Psalm 62 Jeremiah 22 v 20 – 23 v 8 John 12 v 1-11
7	Thursday	Psalm 40 Exodus 9 v 13-end Hebrews 12 v 14-end	Psalm 43 Jeremiah 23 v 9-32 John 12 v 12-19
8	Friday	Psalm 22 Exodus 10 Hebrews 13 v 1-16	Psalm 31 Jeremiah 24 John 12 v 20-36a
9	Saturday	Psalm 23 Exodus 11 Hebrews 13 v 17-end	Psalm 128 Jeremiah 25 v 1-14 John 12 v 36b-end
10	Sunday	Psalm 61 Zechariah 9 v 9-12 I Corinthians 2 v 1-12	Psalm 69 v 1-20 Isaiah 5 v 1-7 Luke 20 v 9-19
11	Monday	Psalm 41 Lamentations 1 v 1-12a Luke 22 v 1-23	Psalm 25 Lamentations 2 v 8-19 Colossians 1 v 18-23
12	Tuesday	Psalm 27 Lamentations 3 v 1-18 Luke 22 v 39-53	Psalm 55 v 13-24 Lamentations 3 v 40-51 Galatians 6 v 11-end
13	Wednesday	Psalm 102 Jeremiah 11 v 18-20 Luke 22 v 54-end	Psalm 88 Isaiah 63 v 1-9 Revelations 14 v 18 – 15 v 4
14	Thursday	Psalm 42 Leviticus 16 v 2-24 Luke 23 v 1-25	Psalm 39 Exodus 11 Ephesians 2v 11-18
15	Friday	Psalm 69 Genesis 22 v 1-18 Hebrews 10 v 1-10	Psalm 130 Lamentations 5 v 15-end John 19 v 38-end
16	Saturday	Psalm 142 Hosea 6 v 1-6 John 2 v 18-22	Psalm 116 Job 19 v 21-27 1 John 5 v 5-12

15			
17	Sunday	Psalm 114 Ezekiel 47 v 1-12 John 2 v 13-23	Psalm 66 v 1-11 Isaiah 43 v 1-21 John 20 v 19-23
18	Monday	Psalm 111 Exodus 12 v 1-14 1 Corinthians 15 v 1-11	Psalm 135 Song of Solomon 1 v 9-2 v 7 Mark 16 v 1-8
19	Tuesday	Psalm 112 Exodus 12 v 14-36 1 Corinthians 15 v 12-19	Psalm 136 Song of Solomon 2 v 8-end Luke 24 v 1-12
20	Wednesday	Psalm 113 Exodus 12 v 37-end 1 Corinthians 15 v 20-28	Psalm 105 Song of Solomon 3 Matthew 28 v 16-end
21	Thursday	Psalm 114 Exodus 13 v 1-16 1 Corinthians 15 v 29-34	Psalm 106 Song of Solomon 5 v 2- 6 v 3 Luke 7 v 11-17
22	Friday	Psalm 115 Exodus 13 v 17- 14 v 14 1 Corinthians 15 v 35-50	Psalm 107 Song of Solomon 7 v 10 - 8 v 4 Luke 8 v 41-end
23	Saturday	Psalm 116 Exodus 14 v 15-end 1 Corinthians 15 v 51-end	Psalm 107 Song of Solomon 8 v 5-7 John 11 v 17-44
24	Sunday	Psalm 136 v 1-16 Exodus 12 v 1-13 1 Peter 1 v 3-12	Psalm 16 Isaiah 52 v 13- 53 v 12 Luke 24 v 13-15
25	Monday	Psalm 37 v 23 -end Isaiah 62 v 6-10 Acts 12 v 25 - 13 v 13	Psalm 45 Ezekiel 1 v 4-14 2 Timothy 4 v 1-11
26	Tuesday	Psalm 5 Joshua 1 v 1-9 Ephesians 6 v 10-20	Psalm 3 Isaiah 43 v 1-7 John 15 v 1-8
27	Wednesday	Psalm 30 Exodus 16 v 11-end Colossians 2 v 1-15	Psalm 33 Deuteronomy 3 v 18-end John 20 v 19-end
28	Thursday	Psalm 28 Exodus 17 Colossians 2 v 16 - 3 v 11	Psalm 34 Deuteronomy 4 v 1-14 John 21 v 1-14
29	Friday	Psalm 61 Exodus 18 v 1-12 Colossians 3 v 12 - 4 v 1	Psalm 118 Deuteronomy 4 v 15-31 John 21 v 15-19
30	Saturday	Psalm 84 Exodus 18 v 13-end Colossians 4 v 2-end	Psalm 66 Deuteronomy 4 v 32-40 John 21 v 20-end



Why Easter will never go away

How do you make sense of the Resurrection? Dead men don't rise, so why believe that this particular dead man *did* rise?

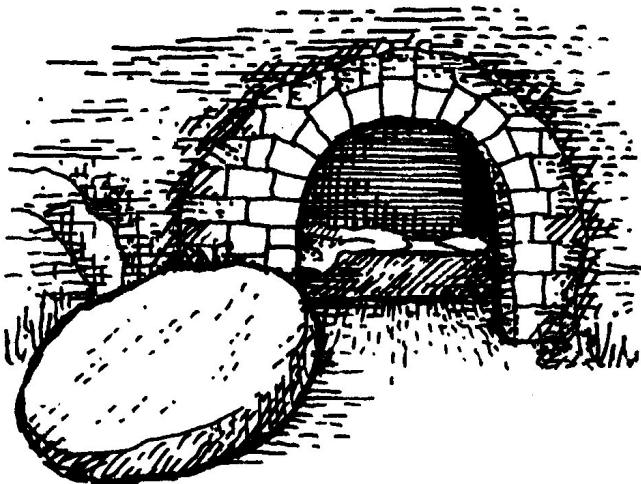
At the end of St Luke's gospel we read that: "they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement" (Luke 24:4). This is highly significant. The Gospels do not show us a group of disciples who were in a receptive frame of mind. After the crucifixion, they were in hiding, frightened and scattered. Then suddenly, they came out of hiding and were totally different; excited, joyful. By Pentecost they were confident, with one firm message: 'You crucified Jesus, but God raised Him up!'

How did they know this? Because of direct personal experience. Some of them had visited the tomb of Jesus: it was empty. Others claimed to have seen and touched the risen Lord. Were they hallucinating? People can hallucinate in groups—when taking drugs, for example. However, everyone will see a different hallucination, but the disciples all saw the same thing. Or rather, the same person, Jesus.

Were they lying? Jesus had died a humiliating death as a criminal. Perhaps they wanted to rescue His good name. So, did they pretend they had seen Him?

This theory has a big problem. Their preaching led them into trouble with the authorities. They were beaten and imprisoned and some of them killed. People will die for ideas and causes which they believe in passionately, but probably not for things they have made up. We might suffer for our convictions, but we will not suffer for our inventions.

What about the 'swoon' theory? That Jesus didn't die on the cross, despite terrible wounds? That He recovered in the tomb, and then escaped? That the disciples nursed Him back to health? The Roman soldiers knew when a man was dead; and there was the guard on the tomb. Also, the events which followed simply don't fit. If the disciples had been hiding Jesus all along, they would have kept very low-key, and out of the way, so that the authorities did not come after Him again.



Besides, to preach that God had raised Jesus from the dead, which is exactly what they did preach, would have been a lie. Beatings and threat of death would soon have loosened their tongues. Inventions crumble under pressure; convictions hold fast.

Another reason for believing in the Resurrection is this: Jesus' continuing impact. Thousands and soon millions of people in every generation since have shared an inescapable sense of being 'accompanied' through life. Though unseen, they identify this presence as the Risen Lord.

Sometimes this experience of meeting Jesus is gentle and fitful, and sometimes it is dramatic and life changing. This reminds us that the resurrection of Jesus is not just an interesting historical puzzle. It is a vital, present day reality. It brings wonderful comfort, assuring us of the central Christian truths: death is dead; Jesus is alive; God is love.

This central notion was captured, most movingly, by the great Albert Schweitzer: 'He came to those men who knew Him not. He speaks to us the same word: "Follow thou me," and sets us to the tasks which He has to fulfil for our time. He commands. And to those who obey Him, whether they be wise or simple, He will reveal Himself in the toils, the conflicts, the suffering which they shall pass through in His fellowship, and, as ineffable mystery, they shall learn in their own experience who He is.'

Have a joyful—and a challenging—Easter.



Crossword clues April

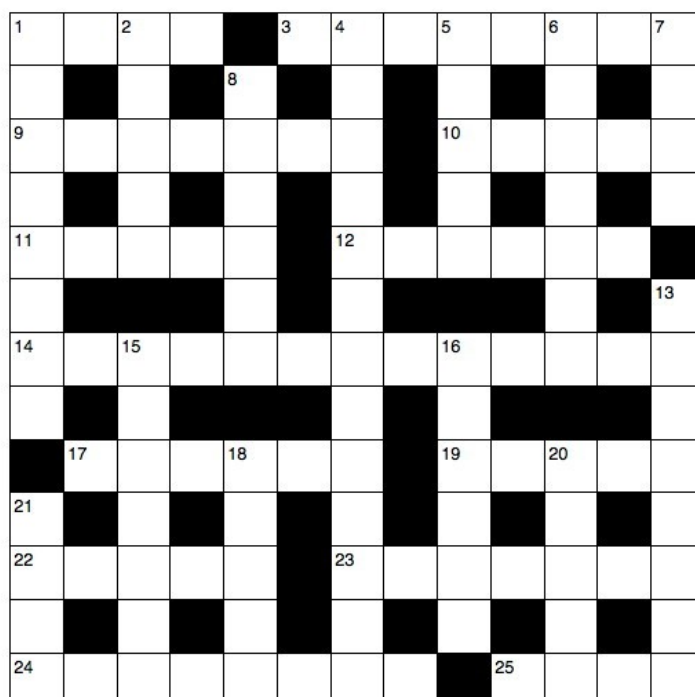
Across

- 1 Arouse (Song of Songs 2:7) (6)
 4 Extinguish (Isaiah 1:31) (6)
 8 "They — — , " you will say, "but I'm not hurt!" (Proverbs 23:35) (3,2)
 9 Unhappiness (Nehemiah 2:2) (7)
 10 Jewish (7)
 11 Dirge (anag.) (5)
 12 'A truthful witness gives honest — , but a false witness tells lies' (Proverbs 12:17) (9)
 17 Paul quoted from the second one in his address in the synagogue at Pisidian Antioch (Acts 13:33) (5)
 19 'Do not use your freedom to — the sinful nature' (Galatians 5:13) (7)
 21 'As you can see, he has done nothing to — death' (Luke 23:15) (7)
 22 Name applied by Isaiah to Jerusalem (Isaiah 29:1) (5)
 23 'All the people — — one man, saying, "None of us will go home"' (Judges 20:8) (4,2)
 24 Lazarus, who was carried by angels to Abraham's side when he died, was one (Luke 16:20) (6)



Down

- 1 Appalled (Job 26:11) (6)
 2 'In an — to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea' (Acts 27:30) (7)
 3 Expel (Acts 18:16) (5)
 5 'But I have a baptism to — , and how distressed I am until it is completed!' (Luke 12:50) (7)
 6 'Of the increase of his government and peace there will be — — ' (Isaiah 9:7) (2,3)
 7 Hurry (Psalm 119:60) (6)
 9 'For I desire mercy, not — , and acknowledgement of God rather than burnt offerings' (Hosea 6:6) (9)
 13 One of its towns was Sychar, where Jesus met a woman at Jacob's well (John 4:5) (7)
 14 Shouting (Acts 7:57) (7)
 15 Arachnid (Isaiah 59:5) (6)
 16 One of Paul's first converts in Philippi was Lydia, a — in purple cloth (Acts 16:14) (6)
 18 Donkeys (5)
 20 Raked (anag.) (5)



Wordsearch April 2022

The last Passover:

On the night before He died, Jesus ate His last Passover meal with His disciples. He then transformed the Passover into the Lord's Supper, saying of the bread and wine, 'This is my body' and 'This is my blood'. Jesus, the Lamb of God, was preparing to die for the sins of the whole world. John's gospel makes it clear that the Last Supper took place the evening BEFORE the regular Passover meal, and that later Jesus died *at the same time* that the Passover lambs were killed.

Passover	Lord	blood	world	washing
ate	Supper	Lamb	John	
last	bread	God	gospel	
disciples	wine	die	killed	
transformed	body	sins	feet	

F	B	P	N	O	L	A	M	N	O	D	W
E	E	L	H	W	S	S	V	N	C	A	P
E	V	G	O	S	P	E	L	O	R	L	N
T	O	R	J	O	U	L	R	G	S	P	F
D	L	A	E	L	D	P	Y	V	V	D	E
D	M	C	S	V	D	I	P	W	I	E	D
D	N	A	M	M	O	C	A	E	A	C	R
D	E	M	R	O	F	S	N	A	R	T	E
A	L	L	L	S	H	I	S	L	S	L	B
E	T	A	L	I	W	D	I	A	R	O	O
R	M	S	N	I	S	P	L	R	P	R	D
B	C	G	R	R	K	M	A	U	N	D	Y

ACROSS: 1, Awaken. 4, Quench. 8, Hit me. 9, Sadness. 10, Semitic. 11, Ridge. 12, Testimony. 17, Psalm. 19, Indulge. 21, Deserve. 22, Ariel. 23, Rose as. 24, Beggar. **DOWN:** 1, Aghast. 2, Attempt. 3, Eject. 5, Undergo. 6, Dealer. 18, Asses. 20, Drake.

Anselm, the man who proved there is a God



Anselm is a good saint to remember next time someone asks you to prove that there is a God. His brilliant and original *Proslogion*, written 1077/8, sets out the 'ontological' proof for God's existence. Nearly ten centuries later, it is still studied by theological students as one of the great philosophical 'proofs' of God's existence. He was born at Aosta in 1033, the son of a spendthrift Lombard nobleman, whom Anselm did not admire.

In time he decided to become a Benedictine monk, and so joined Lanfranc's famous monastery at Bec (c. 1060). He became prior, then abbot. He was loved by his monks, appreciated for his sensitivity and intuitiveness. He remained friends also with Lanfranc, who had gone on to be Archbishop of Canterbury. After Lanfranc's death, Anselm agreed to accept the job, albeit with some reluctance.

Archbishops did not have press officers in those days, but Anselm made his views on Church-versus-King known all the same, and they did not please the king. William Rufus exiled him in 1097 and King Henry I exiled him in 1103. Anselm was utterly committed to what he saw as the cause of God and the Church and, therefore, had no time for temporal politics. Peace between archbishop and monarch was not achieved until 1106, a date nobody who has studied English history ever forgets!

Anselm spent the rest of his life in England. His theological stance of 'Faith seeking understanding' and 'the mind at faith's service' were the keys to his life and teaching.

Aldhelm, the man who founded Frome

The Anglo-Saxon abbot, Saint Aldhelm (c 639-709), founder of Frome and Bishop of Sherborne, lived a thousand years earlier. He has been described as the first great English scholar. A popular teacher, Latin poet and song writer, he also built churches and monasteries.

Aldhelm was related to the king of the West Saxons, from which derives the name Wessex, formerly the name of the kingdom of the West Saxons and still the popular name of the region covered by the English counties of Somerset, Dorset and Wiltshire.

His father was said by John Aubrey to have been a weaver and his early education was under the Irish monk, Maeldubh, at Malmesbury Abbey, which was founded in the 7th century. William of Malmesbury was also a monk of the abbey.

It's a hot potato—favourite fillings!

Something easy this week as it is not a proper recipe! When turning the pages of the very battered and well used Mitchell recipe book, I came across suggestions for baked potatoes toppings. I had forgotten all about it, but remember making many of them, particularly when the girls were young, and it had to be 'quick tea' before Brownies etc.



I put the potatoes in the oven before collecting the children from school. On our return, I made the topping and a hot meal was ready, especially welcoming in the cold weather.

I will presume you all have your own way of doing jacket potatoes. We favour half the time in the microwave and half in a hot oven as it cuts down on time and fuel and still gives that crunchy skin. We didn't have a microwave until given one for Christmas. I think my Mum thought I had better get into the new century and I must say it makes life easier when there are people needing different meal times, much safer and easier than keeping food warm over a pan of simmering water!

1. Top with roasted vegetables and grated cheese
2. Combine cooked prawns with diced cucumber, chopped spring onions and mayonnaise
3. Serve with crisp bacon, slices of avocado and sun ripened tomatoes. Leave out tomatoes or avocado if you wish!
4. Slices of left-over roast beef or gammon, dressed with yoghurt mixed with horseradish sauce or Dijon mustard
5. Either hot or cold left-over Coronation Chicken.
6. Veggie topping mix of grated cheese, red cabbage, onion and a few pea nuts or sultanas, moistened with a little mayonnaise or crème fraiche
7. A tin of mixed beans in a mild chilli sauce served with guacamole and grated cheddar cheese
8. As an alternative to fish pie, add cooked, flaked fish to a tub of four-cheese sauce and heat through
9. For a colourful topping, mix sweet corn, drained tuna, deseeded and finely chopped red pepper with some mayonnaise and natural yoghurt
10. Heat through any left-over spag bol. sauce and pour over the potato and serve with sprinkles of grated cheese

I will look for a proper recipe next month and not get side-tracked by finding interesting looking pieces of paper I had forgotten about!

A VISIT TO WELLS



THE RT REV'D RUTH WORSLEY

Where will we be as we enter Holy week and approach Easter?

What might be the outcome for Ukraine, Russia, ourselves?

And yet that is the very heart of faith. We do not know what the future holds but we do know the One who holds us.

The fact is that God so loved the world that when He sees us in our greatest need, at our most threatened and fragile, He comes to be with us; to share the pain and give Himself fully, even to the point of death. And the story of Easter tells us that death is not the end, but that life is found through the death of the Saviour.



The 17th Century Coat of Arms was made for Bishop William Piers who held the See from 1632-1670. The longest-serving Bishop of Bath and Wells, he lived to the age of 94. The oak shield shows a version of the diocesan arms with the cross of St Andrew (Wells) and keys and sword of St Peter and St Paul (Bath).



THE WEIGHT OF OUR SINS

Children in the sculpture by Josefina de Vasconcellos at the side of the Bishop's Palace in Wells symbolise AIDS, drugs, genocide, abuse, landmines, homelessness, infant mortality and lack of education, all crimes against children.

Josefina de Vasconcellos (1904-2005) lived in Cumbria. She had a great heart and cared acutely about the needs of disadvantaged children. She helped them in many practical ways and remains an inspiration, especially in 2022 as millions of Ukrainians desperately seek sanctuary from the war imposed on them.

Days and events to remember

The Queen's Green Canopy

The Archbishop of Canterbury has planted a fig tree in the garden at Lambeth Palace as part of The Queen's Green Canopy to celebrate Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. He said: "The beauty of trees reminds us of our responsibility to care for God's creation, for each other and for generations to come. It's a fitting tribute to Her Majesty The Queen's seven decades of service, and the trees we plant this year will be a sign of our gratitude and celebration of this remarkable occasion for many decades to come. I encourage everyone to get involved in The Queen's Green Canopy, and plant a tree to celebrate Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee."

17 April: Easter faith in atheist Russia

Three years after the Russian Revolution of 1917, a great anti-God rally was arranged in Kiev. The powerful orator Bukharin was sent from Moscow, and for an hour he tried to demolish the Christian faith with argument, abuse and ridicule. At the end there was silence.

Then a priest of the Russian Orthodox Church went and stood next to Bukharin. Facing the people, he raised his arms and spoke just three triumphant words: 'Christ is risen!' At once the entire assembly rose to their feet and gave the joyful response, 'He is risen indeed!' The atheist politician had no answer to give. You cannot convince people that God does not exist when they have already encountered Him.

In 2022, many Russians are dismayed by the expansionist politics of the current leader and the intensely brutal and deeply consequential invasion of Ukraine. The war has caused roughly three million of Ukraine's 44 million residents to flee—an exodus that is unprecedented in recent history. The invasion has also left many Russians in despair as Vladimir Putin has closed off the last vestiges of freedom of expression and turned Russia into an international pariah.

Jesus' appearances after His Resurrection

Mary Magdalene	Mark 16:9-11; John 20:10-18
Other women at the tomb	Matthew 28:8-10
Peter in Jerusalem	Luke 24:34; 1 Corinthians 15:5
The two travellers on the road	Mark 16:12,13
10 disciples behind closed doors	Mark 16:14; Luke 24: John 20
11 disciples WITH Thomas	John 20:26-31; 1 Corinthians 15:5
7 disciples while fishing	John 21:1-14
11 disciples on the mountain	Matthew 28:16-20
A crowd of 500	1 Corinthians 15:6
Jesus' brother – James	1 Corinthians 15:7
Those who saw the Ascension	Luke 24:44-49; Acts 1:3-8

Prayer diary for April 2022

- 1 Our vicar Liz and her family / *Wisdom over the development of Frome* / The situation in Ukraine
- 2 Clergy who assist in the Benefice / *Other churches in Frome* / Migrants and refugees
- 3 Churchwardens and PCC / *Lent Groups* / Issues surrounding 'Black Lives Matter'
- 4 Choir and Organists / *The Farming Community* / All those adversely affected by Coronavirus
- 5 Sacristans and Servers / *Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY)* / The situation in Yemen
- 6 Readers and Intercessors / *Caroline Walker (Area Dean)* / Archbishops of Canterbury and York
- 7 Sides Persons and Chalice Bearers / *All who use Frome Community College.* / The NHS and Key Workers
- 8 "Living in Love and Faith" / *Inner Wheel* / The Armed Forces stationed abroad and their families
- 9 Christ Church School and Nursery / *The people of Rabka-Zdroj* / Prisoners of conscience and belief.
- 10 Faithful observance of Holy Week / *Frome Care Village* / Our Government and Parliament
- 11 All who worship at Christ Church and St Mary's / *Farleigh College* / Zambia Link
- 12 All those recently married / *Youth work in Frome* / Afghanistan and Syria
- 13 Mothers' Union / *Frome Medical Practices* / Goodwill Children's Homes (India)
- 14 Those who organise social activities / *Dorothy House* / Papyrus (Prevention of Young Suicide)
- 15 Church Outreach / *The Diocese of Bath & Wells and all Bishops* / Remembrance of Christ's Passion and Death
- 16 Pastoral Workers / *Wyvern Nursery* / Those who have died recently
- 17 All those recently baptised / *HOPEFrome* / Thanksgiving for Christ's Resurrection
- 18 Those who are ill or infirm / *Rest for clergy following Easter* / Victims of oppression and violence
- 19 Needleworkers / *Mayor and Local Council* / Humanitarian crises especially in Africa
- 20 Flower Arrangers / *The homeless and those living on the streets* / 'Mind'
- 21 St Mary's Rainbows/*Frome Community Hospital staff and patients* / The Queen and the Royal Family
- 22 All who visit Christ Church and St Mary's / *Our local MP* /

All those affected by natural disasters

23 Our work with young people / *Deanery Synod* /

The Church and People of England

24 The Garden Nursery / *Christian healing ministry in Frome* /

Food crises, specially in Africa

25 The elderly and housebound / *Those using and working in Food Banks* / Thanksgiving for Mark and his Gospel

26 All who tend the church buildings and grounds / *Frome Talking Newspaper* / Zambia Link.

27 The Magazine Team / *Those struggling with debt and long-term unemployment.* / Religious Orders in Britain

28 Those recently bereaved / *North Hill House School* / Aid and Relief Workers

29 Those in administrative roles / *Alzheimer's sufferers* / The Children's Society

30 Church Hall Users / *Funeral Directors* / Those unknown to us who need prayers

A Morning Prayer

May I arise this morning
feeling your warmth
embracing me,
conscious of your love
forgiving me,
knowing your peace
within me,
feeling your Spirit
strengthen me,
hearing your whisper
encouraging me.
In all I do
and in all I say
may my life this day
and all days reflect
the beauty of my Lord.

John Birch

An Evening Prayer

Send your peace into my heart,
O Lord,
That I may be contented with the
mercies of this day

and confident of your protection for
this night;

And having forgiven others,
even as you forgive me,
may I go to rest in tranquility
and trust;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, the resurrection of Your Son
has given us new life and renewed
hope.

Help us to live as new people
in pursuit of the Christian ideal.
Grant us wisdom to know what we
must do, the will to want to do it,
the courage to undertake it,
the perseverance to continue to do
it, and the strength to complete it.



*New Saint Joseph
People's Prayer Book*

You Matter: The Human Solution **by Delia Smith**

Delia Smith needs little introduction and the book she has recently had published sounds as well worth reading as her cookery books. She gave it the title '*You Matter: The Human Solution*' and it is about what she calls 'the examined life, which refers to Plato's dictum that the unexamined life is not worth living. She draws on the inspirational writings of the 19th century Jesuit priest, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, and Victor Frankl, who survived the Holocaust, as well as Abraham Maslow an Austrian neurologist.

Delia says, "Inspired by the uncertain, troubled times we live in, the central theme is that it is time we start to believe in ourselves by examining our lives in close-up and come to terms with the awesomeness of who we are and why we are here." Raised a Catholic, she says the book is for everyone as spirituality is a natural part of human life, within us all.

"You need to be still and silent...you will begin to understand your own depth, which so often gets cancelled out by busyness." She calls love that connects people 'social adhesive' and believes we must be part of a united world to be able to cope with what we are facing, not least Covid and climate change.



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There's one machine in each church and the money goes into our separate bank accounts a few days after your donation. We get charged 23p for every £5 donation and we can claim Gift Aid on the net amount.

Thank You.



Wordsearch and Crossword solutions

a	l	i	v	e	j	e	s	u	s	v	j
s	p	i	c	e	s	u	n	d	a	y	o
o	j	q	d	l	w	s	p	t	p	y	h
y	u	g	n	i	o	r	t	o	m	b	n
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e	m	p	t	y	o	c	h	p	f	l	d
s	a	e	a	c	m	i	i	s	p	i	b
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E	T	E	R	N	I	T	Y			D	E	F	Y

Spire repairs underway

Work is underway to repair the spire of St Thomas', Wells. Two and a half metres of the church spire and its weathervane of the same length came down during Storm Eunice.

Rev'd Claire Towns saw the whole thing. She said, "We were really shocked this happened, but equally feel very thankful that nobody was hurt."

A director from Strachey Historic Conservation, James Preston, is confident it can be fully restored. Local residents filmed the dramatic event as tonnes of stone crashed down. Repairs are well underway!



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Established Over 35 Years

14 April: What about Maundy Money?

Every year the Queen distributes silver coins at a special service on Maundy Thursday. It is part of a tradition dating back many centuries, when the Royal Family took part in ceremonies washing the feet of poor people and giving gifts.

The Royal Maundy Service itself began in 1662, when Charles II gave out coins. The ones that the Queen gives out each year bear the portrait of Her Majesty designed for her coronation in 1953, even though the image on ordinary circulating coinage has since been changed four times.

According to the royal.uk website, the Queen decided early on in her reign that Maundy Money should not just be distributed to the people of London. And so, for many years she has visited various cathedrals or abbeys to give gifts to local people. Recipients of Maundy Money are nominated by their local dioceses in recognition of contributions to their local church and community.

During the service, the Queen distributes gifts according to the number of years she has lived: for example, when she turned 80 she distributed 80 pence worth of Maundy money to 80 men and 80 women in recognition for their contribution to community and to the church.

Last year, in 2021, the service was cancelled because of Covid and instead, the Maundy money was blessed at the Chapel Royal, St James's Palace, before being posted to recipients with a letter from The Queen.

Forget-me-not Café

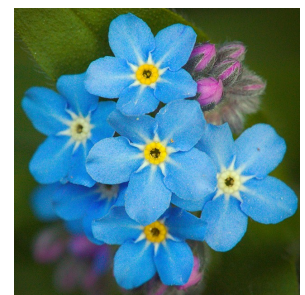
When? The second Monday every month
11am—12.30pm

Where? St Philip and St James Church
Norton St Philip

What? Tea/coffee and friendly people to chat with. Some of us may have memory challenges. We have a great café team who are all Dementia Friends.

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**For more information, contact Jo Robinson:
321jorobinson@gmail.com or 01373 831381**





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A close-up photograph of a brown rat's face, looking directly at the camera. The rat's fur is a mix of brown and grey, and its whiskers are prominent. The background is dark and out of focus.

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