

The Church Easter Card is now ready at the crossing. **Parish Link Supporters** please collect and distribute to your Parish Links as soon as possible so that they can all be distributed by Palm Sunday, 28th March.

Easter Lilies: If you would like to donate money towards the Easter flower arrangements in memory of someone, please put cash or cheque in an envelope - if you are a tax payer please use one of the gift aid envelopes. Write the name of the person to be remembered on the outside of the envelope, and hand to Dilys Manoy. Cheques should be made payable to St Mary's Flowers.

Children's Society Collection 10-24th April 2010. There are still a number of roads in the parish where a collector is needed in order to help support the Society's important work. If you feel able to give a little time to call on houses and collect please contact Audrey Taylor on 01707 325678.

Spring's Ladies' Lunch - Saturday 17th April at 12 noon - 'War and Peace - not Tolstoy's' We are delighted to welcome Madeleine Phillips as our next guest speaker. Madeleine has been a member of St Mary's congregation for many many years. She will tell us about her life in German occupied Belgium during WW2 and also about early married life in peacetime Britain in the late 1940's. Please join us for this interesting talk - we hope to see as many of you as usual. We are keeping the price of tickets at £8.00 and these will be on sale on Sunday 21st March and again on 28th March after the 9.30 service from NCH. When all tickets will be sold, we will, as usual, have a waiting list for ladies who would like to listen to the talk only in return for a small donation. Our profits are shared between church funds and a charity of the speaker's choice. In view of the fact that the Wellington may well have reopened by then, could we please ask you not to use their car park. We would also like to draw your attention to the fact that there will also be a wedding taking place at 3pm that afternoon so the talk will exceptionally start at 12 noon and lunch will end at 2.30pm. Could everyone please use NCH only both for entrance and exit and keep noise to a minimum from 2.30 onwards in room 1 of NCH. Many thanks for your understanding. Once again, could we appeal to all those who have not helped previously and feel they're able to offer help on this occasion tell us at the time of purchasing their ticket - your efforts will be much appreciated. We look forward to seeing many of you on the day.

If you remember the Broom family you may be interested to know that David Broom is running the London Marathon this year and raising money for Christian Aid. If you would like to sponsor him he would be very grateful; it would make those 26 miles feel worthwhile! You can give online via his Virgin Money Giving site: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/davidbroom> and you can also see how his training is going via his blog: <http://daveslmblog.blogspot.com/>, which also has a link to the sponsorship site. For further details please see Stephen Jupp.

For details of weekday services please see the notice in the porch.

✠ For your Prayers ✠

The Residents of: Prospect Place; Wendover Court; Wendover Lodge

The Sick: Muriel Taylor; Yim Lon Chong; Connie Udale; Dawn Tilley; Bryan Tipping; Peter Brooks; Penny Wakefield; Ann Gurney; Brian Evers; Anne Humphreys

Those who have died recently: Kit Trevena; Edna Challis and please pray also for their families and friends

This week please pray for:

Our Clergy, Coralie, Diane & Stephen
Our readers Colin, Usha, Catherine & Mick
Our Lent Groups and their Leaders
The licensing of Revd Jenny Fennell (Payer)
The Carer's Lunch
The appointment of a new Team Rector
All the churches of our Team Ministry during this period of a vacancy

Next week's readings: Isaiah 43: 16-21; Philomen 3: 4b-14; John 12: 1-8

St Mary's Church Office:
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e-mail secretary@welwyn.org.uk
Parish Web site www.welwyn.org.uk

St Mary the Virgin, Welwyn

Sunday 14th March
The Fourth Sunday of Lent
Mothering Sunday

We warmly welcome all our visitors to this Service of **Family Communion** and hope you will stay behind afterwards for a cup of coffee.

For those with a hearing aid an induction loop is fitted in this church for your use. There are also large print versions of the service and the hymn books available. Please ask one of the sidespersons.

*God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

Opening Hymn:
'He's got the whole world in his hand'

He's got the whole world in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got you and me, brother, in his hand.
He's got you and me, brother, in his hand.
He's got you and me, brother, in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got you and me, sister, in his hand.
He's got you and me, sister, in his hand.
He's got you and me, sister, in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got the little tiny baby in his hand.
He's got the little tiny baby in his hand.
He's got the little tiny baby in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got ev'rybody here in his hand.
He's got ev'rybody here in his hand.
He's got ev'rybody here in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

First Reading: Joshua 5: 9-12
(Read by Kirsty Wainwright)

Gradual Hymn: 161 'For Mary Mother of the Lord'

Gospel: Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-end

Offertory Hymn: 186 'Tell out my soul'
(During this hymn a collection will be taken)

During Communion the Choir will sing 'The Lord
bless you and keep you' - John Rutter.

Communion Hymn:
'Make me a channel of your peace'

Final Hymn: 413 'Now thank we all our God'

 Notices 

There will be *Evensong* this evening at 6.30pm led by Stephen Fielding.

14+'s showing of "The Age of Stupid" will start after Evensong (c.19:30) this evening in New Church House, so why not, as a Mother's Day treat, come to Evensong and stay on to watch this much discussed film on climate change? There will be a collection in aid of our charity this year, the Haitian appeal.

A quiet reflective service of
Prayer and Meditation
Wednesday 10th March
8pm
in New Church House
led by Coralie McCluskey

Children's Society Boxes -Please bring your boxes to the Community Café coffee morning in New Church House on Tuesday 16th March when Diane Petty will be there to receive them.

Revd Jenny Femell (Payer) will be licensed as Priest in Charge of St. Francis, Welwyn Garden City on Wednesday March 17th at 8.00pm by the Bishop of Hertford. Everyone is very welcome to attend this service which will be followed by refreshments.

The next **Pram Service** will be on Wednesday 17th March at 2pm in St Mary's. All pre-school children, their parents and carers welcome at this relaxed informal service.

The Carers' Group

will meet in St Mary's New Church House on Thursday 18th March at 12 noon.

After lunch Roger Aubrey will give a talk on special pictures of the Annunciation from Florence, with slides

All carers welcome

Next Sunday, 21st March, is the 5th Sunday of Lent, Passion Sunday. Diane Whittaker will preside at Holy Communion at 8.00am. There will be Parish Communion at 9.30pm. Diane Whittaker will preside and preach. There will be a service of Holy Communion at 6.30pm in St Peter's, Tewin led by Stephen Fielding.

Snowdrop Planting in the Churchyard next Saturday 20th March 10.30 - 12.30 Can you help plant snowdrops that morning? We are short of effort, it isn't difficult and there will be help available. (See articles in this magazine and the last). **Please let us know** if you are available and if you have snowdrops you can spare from your garden. Small clumps can be split up and will spread over the years. **Should it be too wet** on 20th March we will hope to do the planting on the following Saturday, 27th March. With thanks. Etain Petty (714211) or Mary Gregory (01707 323854).

The Mothers' Union Deanery Lady Day Service is on Thursday, 25th March, at 8.00 pm at St Michael's Church, Woolmer Green. The service will be led by Revd Diane Whittaker and is **open to all**, not only MU members. The service will be followed by refreshments. Our **Coffee Morning** on 8th March raised nearly £120.00 and some of this money is being spent on making "Cheer Up Bags" for children in hospital. Many thanks to all who supported this in any way. Chris Allday 716859

Join our **Lenten Lunch** in aid of Christian Aid on Friday 26th March from 12.30-2.00pm in St Mary's New Church House. Drop in for soup and a roll and donate your usual 'dinner money' on this one day for those who go hungry every day. Contact Jane Bacon or Sue Keach.

Services for Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday 28th March

8.00am - Holy Communion with distribution of palms

9.30am - Parish Communion begins at The Plain (end of School Lane) with the blessing of the palms and procession to St Mary's. The service will include the reading of the Passion Gospel in dramatic form.

Monday 29th March - 8.00pm Taizé Service

Tuesday 30th March - 8.00pm Eucharist with Prayers for healing

Wednesday 31st March 8.00pm - Service of Prayer and Meditation

Maundy Thursday 1st April 8.00pm - Sung Eucharist of the Last Supper followed by The Watch until 11 pm

Good Friday 2nd April 12.00 - 3.00pm - The Three Hour Devotion led by Revd Andrew Coleby

Easter Day, Sunday 4th April

6.15am Sunrise Service - *Bragbury Lane, Datchworth* followed by refreshments in the Church Hall

8.00am - Holy Communion

9.30am - Family Communion

6.30pm *St Peter's, Tewin* - Evensong