

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 years. She will tell us about her life in German occupied Belgium during WW2 and about early married life in peacetime Britain in the late 1940's. Please join us for this interesting talk. The price of tickets is £8.00 and these will be on sale this Sunday and on 28th March after the 9.30am service from NCH. When all tickets will be sold, we will have a waiting list for ladies who would like to listen to the talk only in return for a small donation. There will also be a wedding taking place at 3pm that afternoon so the talk will 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 of NCH. Could ladies who feel able to help 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.

The next **Men's Breakfast** will be on Saturday 24th April in New Church House. Tickets and details about the speaker will be available nearer the time.

The History Boys at Milton Keynes: This is the next theatre outing planned by coach from Welwyn for an evening performance on 19th May. Details from Vernonne Allan 01438 716732 vernonne@allandesign.co.uk

We are looking for volunteers to join our willing band in helping with refreshments in New Church House after funerals and, occasionally, weddings. Please do consider if you could offer your time occasionally in this way and let Philippa know on 840964.

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

✠ For your Prayers ✠

The Residents of: Gwnfa Close; Oak Piece; Oak Piece Court

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; Alice Dea 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
The Community Café
The Lenten 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: **Liturgy of the Palms:** Luke 19: 28-40; **Liturgy of the Passion:** Isaiah 50: 4-9a; Philippians 2: 5-11; Luke 22: 14 - Luke 23: 49

St Mary's Church Office:
open weekdays 10am-12noon Tel: 01438 840964
e-mail secretary@welwyn.org.uk
Parish Web site www.welwyn.org.uk

St Mary the Virgin, Welwyn

Sunday 21st March
The Fifth Sunday of Lent
Passion Sunday

We warmly welcome all our visitors to this Service of **Parish 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.

*Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your
Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that, by faith in him who suffered on
the cross,
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen*

Opening Hymn: 79 'The royal banners forward go'

First Reading: Isaiah 43: 16-21
(Read by Philip Mawer)

Second Reading: Philippians 3: 4b-14
(Read by Ann Mawer)

Gradual Hymn: 379 'In the cross of Christ I glory'

Gospel: John 12: 1-8

Offertory Hymn: 418 'O happy band of pilgrims'
(During this hymn a collection will be taken)

During Communion the Choir will sing 'God so loved the world' - Stainer's Crucifixion.

Communion Hymn: 94

'We sing the praise of him who died'

Final Hymn: 439 'Praise to the holiest in the height'

Notices

There will be a service of *Holy Communion* this evening 6.30pm in St Peter's, Tewin led by Stephen Fielding.

Welwyn Community Café

every Tuesday from 9am-12noon
in St Mary's New Church House

This is a joint venture between the Parish Council and St Mary's and aims to provide a weekly congenial meeting place for everyone in the local area.

Tea/coffee/biscuits/cakes available

A quiet reflective service of

Prayer and Meditation

Wednesday 24th March

8pm

in New Church House

led by Coralie McCluskey

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.

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. It would be helpful if you would contact Jane Bacon on 820782 or Sue Keach on 716657 to let them know you are coming.

Snowdrop Planting in the Churchyard: We think it likely that we shall not get all the snowdrops planted this weekend, even if the weather is OK, and we will almost certainly need to have another session **next Saturday 27th March**, from 10.30 - 12.30. **If you can help** will you please let Etain Petty (01438 714211) or Mary Gregory (01707 323854) know so that we can confirm arrangements with you. Thanks to all who have donated and, in some cases, already planted, snowdrops. We should have a wonderful show next Spring.

Next Sunday, 28th March, is Palm Sunday. Coralie McCluskey will preside at Holy Communion at 8.00am. Parish Communion will begin at The Plain, end of School Lane, at 9.30am with the blessing of the palms and the procession to St Mary's for the dramatic reading of the Passion Gospel. Coralie McCluskey will preside. There will be Evensong at 6.30pm led by Mick Simmons.

Maundy Thursday: The 'Washing of Feet' will take place during the Eucharist of the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday evening at 8.00pm. Twelve people from the congregation have one foot gently washed (in warm water!) and dried by one of the Clergy. Participants sit at the end of the pews nearest to the centre aisle and need to be able to easily remove footwear from one foot. If you would like to take part in this ceremony, or you would like more information, please speak to me after the service or contact me by phone on 01438 715086. Eunice Reddish.

Maundy Thursday Eucharist – St. Mary's 8.00pm. You may like to know that during the foot washing part of this service the choir will be singing a new Ubi Caritas by Richard Allain. It is traditional for these words (Where charity and love are, there God is) to be sung at this point but this new version, composed in 2004 by the Music Director of Mill Hill School, is already a firm favourite on Classic FM.

Elections for new members of the PCC will take place at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Wednesday, 21 April. If you are interested in serving your church in this way, please speak to a Churchwarden or me for further information. Barbara Pavyer (PCC Secretary).

Revision of St Mary's Electoral Roll 2010: This year's revision of the Electoral Roll commences on Sunday 28th March. If you are already on the Roll there is no need for you to do anything, unless you have moved house, in which case please advise your new address or email address. If you are over the age of 16, baptised and an habitual worshipper at St Mary's and would like your name to appear on the Roll, please fill in a form, available in the rack by the bookstall, and give it to Jane Carr, Electoral Roll Officer. Remember you cannot hold any office or vote at the APCM unless you are included on St Mary's Electoral Roll. The last date for enrolment this year is Sunday 4th April. After this date no names can be added until after the APCM on 21st April.

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 11pm

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