

St Mary's April 2019 Events and News

If you want to include any information in the monthly Events & News then please contact Dennis on dennishooton@talktalk.net or 01773-852158

Welcome to Rev Ian, our new our new Priest-in-charge, and Christine and daughter Amy,

April Events:

- Wednesday 3rd April 1.30pm – **Lent Course on John** – Glebe
Thursday 4th April 7.45pm – **Lent Course on Ephesians 6** - Glebe
Friday 5th April 7.30pm – Choir Practice
Friday 5th April 6.00pm Licensing Rehearsal – St Mary's
Saturday 6th April 9.00am – Prayer for new vicar, 22 Cromford Rd
Sunday 7th April 8.00am – Communion
10.15am – **All Age Service**
6.30pm – Celtic Communion

Monday 8th April 7.00pm – Licensing of our new Priest-in-Charge Rev Ian Whitehead followed by refreshments at The Tramway. All welcome.

- Wednesday 10th April 8.30am – Fritchley School in St Mary's
Wednesday 10th April 1.30pm – **Lent Course on John** – Glebe
Thursday 11th April 2.15pm - Mothers' Union (Mary Wallen) - Glebe
Thursday 11th April 7.45pm – **Lent Course on Ephesians 6** - Glebe
Friday 12th April 8.30am – Crich Carr Easter Service in St Mary's
Friday 12th April 2.00pm – Crich Infant School in St Mary's
Friday 12th April 7.00pm – Choir interim meeting and Practice
Saturday 13th April 9.00am – Corporate Prayer - 22 Cromford Rd

Palm Sunday 14th April 8.00am – Palm Sunday Communion
9.15am – Communion with Rev Ian
6.30pm – **Refreshments** before –
7.00pm – **Interviewing of Rev Ian**

Thursday 18th April 7.00pm – Maundy Service

Friday 19th April 10.00am – Good Friday Activities in St Mary's
11.15am – All-age Service

Saturday 20 th April	9.00am – Corporate Prayer 22 Cromford Rd
Easter Day 21st April	8.00am – Communion at Crich Stand 10.15am – Easter Communion 6.30pm – Easter Praise Service
Thursday 25 th April	12.30pm - Bell Ringers
Thursday 25 th April	7.30pm – Annual Church Meeting
Friday 26 th April	7.30pm - Choir Practice
Saturday 27 th April	9.00am - Corporate Prayer, 22 Cromford Rd
Saturday 27 th April	9.45am – All Age Services Meeting, Offords
Sunday 28th April	8.00am – Morning Praise Communion 10.15am – Communion 6.30pm – Celtic Evening Service

Lent courses

1. 'Journey with Jesus through John's Gospel.' Weekly from Wednesday 13th March 1.30 – 3.30pm **at The Glebe led by Anette and Di.**

2. Ephesians 6 Weekly from Thursday March 14th – April 11th, 7:45 for 8pm start **at the Glebe, led by Lynn Penson and Deirdre Offord**

Our news is full of the division, anger, fear, despondency and insecurity that our country faces at this time. Added to this, there are times when we face personal battles – with our family, our friends or even with ourselves. So often we try to sort difficulties out in our own strength, forgetting that God's intention was not to leave us to face difficulties alone but to stand secure and strong in Him.

These studies in Ephesians 6 will help us to discover and explore how as Christians and as a church we can hold on to hope and bring reconciliation and a sense of peace to ourselves and to our communities.

Date for your diary

Celebrate spring at the choir Coffee Morning Saturday May 4 (10 till 12) in church.

Delicious cakes and preserves for sale. Do come and join us.

The Armour of God – Living in His Strength – Ephesians 6:10-18

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

It is important to put this passage in the context of the letter as a whole. Writing to the Ephesians, Paul starts by reminding them of what God has given them through Christ. His writing is packed with wonderful words that seem to tumble over each other as Paul paints the picture of what it means to be 'in Christ' – blessed, chosen predestined, adopted, redeemed and forgiven.

As the letter unfolds, Paul's readers are reminded of the need to exhibit unity within the body of Christ and to live as children of light, impacting on their personal morality and relationships.

While writing these words Paul was chained to a Roman soldier who would be wearing such armour as described. Paul's readers are warned of forces far greater than those that simply inflict physical wounds. These are truly dark forces; they are powerful and represent all that is evil, often in subtle ways.

What he wrote to those early Christians applies every bit as powerfully to us today. We see evil all around us. How are we to respond? Our part is to stand firm in the strength of Christ's victory. This picture of the armour can be taken both personally and corporately. The passage in Ephesians was addressed to the Church. God's intention was always for us to trust Him as part of a wider community. Not only do we put on the full armour as individuals, but we do so as a body.

From Cover to Cover Bible Study 'The Armour of God' by Lynn Penson, published by CWR.

Psalm 1 'Blessed is the man'

Rev Ian has especially chosen this beautiful and challenging anthem by Michael Baughen, based on Psalm 1, to be sung by the choir at his licensing. (NB 'Man' means any person)

Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the ungodly
Blessed is that man.

He who rejects the way of sin and who turns away from scoffing;
Blessed is that man.

He is like a tree that flourishes, being planted by the water. He will bring forth fruit – his leaf will wither not; for in all he does he prospers.

Blessed be that man.

For his delight, by day and night, is in the law of God Almighty.

The ungodly are not so – for they are like the chaff which the wind blows clean away;

The ungodly will not stand up on the judgement day nor belong to God's own people.

But God knows the way of righteous men, and ungodly ways will perish.

Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the ungodly.

Blessed is that man.

Sunrise Service on Easter Day

8am Communion Service (about half an hour) at Crich Stand, lead by Revd. Anette Love.

Bacon butties afterwards cooked by the scouts.

If wet it will be at St Mary's

Some seats available, but a collapsible chair may be useful.

This is always a delightful way to begin Easter Day!

Healing Prayer April 16th

Every 3rd Tuesday at Crich Wesley at 3pm a group meet for prayer and mutual support. All are welcome to come to pray, and be prayed for, no matter how serious the complaint.

Contact: Jim Gray (01773 857921)