

## WEEKLY MESSAGE FROM OUR VICAR, ALEX – 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023

Dear Church Family,

Hoping you're all well.

There are so many lovely things happening in our parish at the moment.

I had huge the privilege of joining in with the Nork Residents Association AGM yesterday evening - and it was good to see some members of both of our churches there. I have recently joined the committee - and have even become the minutes secretary 😊 This is a wonderful group of people who are doing all they can to make our local area better for all who live in it, and I feel so fortunate they have welcomed me in joining them. I am looking forward to revitalising links with our Burgh Heath Residents Association in the coming months too.

Alpha and the Lent course are going well, led by David & Andrew and David, respectively. Little Roots (our Parish Toddler Group) led by Michael and supported by Michelle is growing week by week. We are amazed and grateful to God every time, for the way He is working through this wonderful group of 50ish people. I am also visiting several of our parish schools in the run up to Easter (as I often do week by week) - and David Wright and I are looking forward to leading our usual monthly services in the Nursing homes, with a special Easter focus this time around. It's a lovely time of year!

These Sundays are included in the dates below, but just a reminder that this weekend (26th March) we will be worshipping altogether at St. Paul's at 10 am for Safeguarding Sunday and the following weekend (2nd April) we will be worshipping altogether at 10 am at St. Mary's for Palm Sunday. Both will be communion services.

The rest of this email contains the key dates & activities in our parish for the next few weeks:

1. Refresh@10 - Saturday (25th March) at 10 am at St. Mary's
2. Safeguarding Sunday - Sunday (26th March) at 10 am at St. Paul's
3. Food Bank Collection - Wednesday 29th March, from 2-4 pm, outside St. Paul's (or just inside the porch if it's wet)
4. Our Easter Services, from Palm Sunday on 2nd April, through to Easter Day on Sunday 9th April

Looking forward to seeing you at as many of these lovely occasions as you can manage!

Love and prayers,  
Alex

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### 1. Refresh@10 - Saturday (25th March) at 10 am at St. Mary's

This Saturday (25th March) at 10 am, it is our next 'Refresh@10' Coffee morning. Please do come and join in if you can. This is a lovely opportunity to share in fellowship together over a cuppa and something tasty to eat.

**2. Safeguarding Sunday - Sunday (26th March) at 10 am at St. Paul's**

This Sunday (26th March) we will be having a whole parish communion service at St. Paul's at 10 am. The theme will be Safeguarding Sunday and we will be hearing from Karen Davies about her important work in our parish as our Parish Safeguarding Officer.

**3. Food Bank Collection - Wednesday 29th March, from 2-4 pm, outside St. Paul's (or just inside the porch if it's wet)**

Wednesday next week (29th March) is our next food bank collection, from 2-4 pm outside St. Paul's.

This time around the Epsom & Ewell Food Bank are particularly requesting the following items:

Pulses  
Long life fruit juice  
Noodles  
Longlife Sponge Puddings  
Cooking sauces  
Shaving foam/ gel  
Shampoo  
Adult toothpaste

**4. Our Easter Services**

We have a number of Easter Services and events occurring in the week beginning the Sunday 2nd April. They are as follows:

Sunday 2nd April: PALM SUNDAY - 10 am Whole Parish Communion Service at St. Mary's

Thursday 6th April: MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE - 7.30 pm Service at St. Paul's

Friday 7th April: MESSY EASTER - 11 am at St. Mary's

Friday 7th April: GOOD FRIDAY REFLECTIONS - 3 pm at St. Paul's

Saturday 8th April: EASTER EGG HUNT (for children) - 2 pm at St. Paul's

Saturday 8th April: JANET BENNETT'S CONFIRMATION - 6.30 pm at Guildford Cathedral

Sunday 9th April: EASTER COMMUNITY ALIVE & INFORMAL COMMUNION - 9 am at St. Paul's

Sunday 9th April: EASTER COMMUNION - 11 am at St. Mary's

Love and prayers  
Alex

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