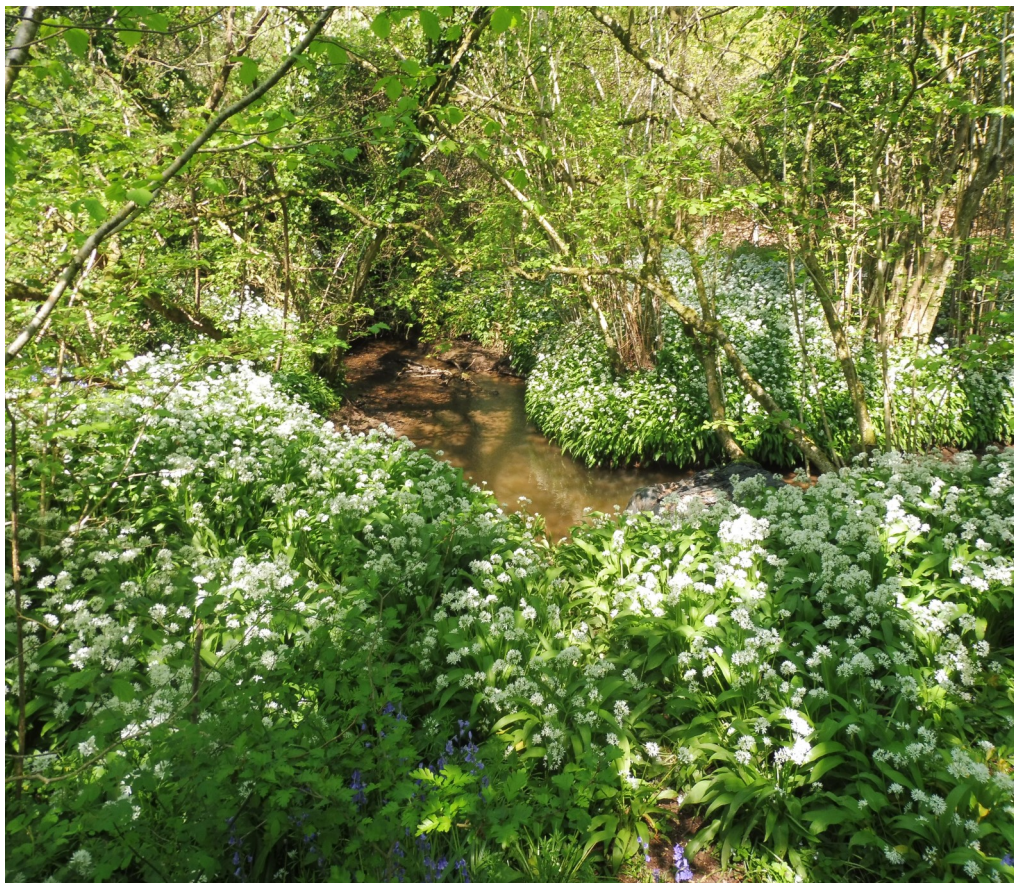


CHURCH ALIVE

April 2024



St. John the Baptist
Midsomer Norton
Price 50p

THE PARISH OF MIDSOMER NORTON WITH CLANDOWN

Vicar

The Revd: Guy Scott

The Vicarage, 42 Priory Close
Midsomer Norton, BA3 2HZ

Tel: 412904

Email: vicarmsnstjohns@gmail.com

Associate Priest

Revd: Philip Hopper

Tel: 07596 759 584

Email: frphiliphopper@gmail.com

Parish Administrator

Liz Casson

Tel: 411216

Email: msnparishoffice@gmail.com

Churchwardens

Mrs Pat Clynes Tel:

37 Staddlestones
Midsomer Norton, BA3 2PP

Tel: 412928

Email: patclynes@hotmail.co.uk

Mrs Hilary Denning
87 Nelson Ward Drive
Radstock, BA3 3FS

Tel: 07828 550006

Email: hilaryjohn87@gmail.com

SERVICES

SUNDAY

8am Said Eucharist

10 a.m. Parish Eucharist

WEEKDAYS

The Eucharist is celebrated on a Tuesday at 12 noon.

Baptisms, Weddings etc. by arrangement with the Vicar.

Communion at home for those unable to attend church it is easily arranged with the Vicar.

Safeguarding

Who should you talk to if you observe or are told about Safeguarding concerns?

Ann Munton, Parish Safeguarding Officer Tel: 07895038871

Email: midsomernortonsafeguarding@gmail.com

Diocesan safeguarding manager: Ben Goodhind, Tel: 01749 588917

Email: <https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/reporting-concerns-or-abuse>



Church Alive
The Parish Magazine of
Midsomer Norton with Clandown
Volume 808 Number 4

CAN YOU HELP?

Help is needed for more people to join the Church Cleaning Rota.

At present it is a commitment of cleaning the church once a week on a monthly basis, 3 or 4 times a year.



If you are able to help or would like more information, please speak with Pat Clynes one of our Church Wardens.

Thank you

RADSTOCK & MIDSOMER NORTON LIONS CLUB
 Presents a
 Charity concert, in aid of
 Children's Hospice, South West

Swing Band and Guitar Group
 St John's Church, Midsomer Norton
 On Saturday 13th April at 7pm

No charge, but Donations please.
 Please support this very special Hospice.
 Thank you.



children's hospice
SOUTH WEST

Reflections from the Ministry Team

Alleluia. Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia.



Dear Friends,

You will read this just days after the wonderful celebration of Resurrection life, hope and love.

So may I wish you all a very happy Easter.

The events of Holy Week reflect the story of our human history in microcosm. Holy Week reveals failure, separation, struggle, exhaustion, betrayal, darkness and death matched by the faithful love of our creator, the self-giving grace of his Son, and the final victory of light and love. As Christians, when we travel with Christ through these events, we should find ourselves overwhelmed by Resurrection joy and hope on Easter Day.

Reading the accounts of these events in the Gospels, and in particular in Matthew, Mark and Luke, we find at the heart of the story of the resurrection these words, 'He is not here.' The tomb is empty, 'He is not here,' the sorrowing women are told as they come to anoint a corpse. How must they have felt at that moment, their hopes shattered, stricken with grief and totally exhausted, confused and muddled, even angry – perhaps someone had taken Jesus' body, friend or foe. It was all just too much to bear. Then an angel addresses them 'Do not be alarmed; He is not here. He is risen,' and so they go, bewildered and excited, to tell the disciples.

'He is not here. He is risen.' There, in seven words, is the heart of the Easter faith, for what was true of Jesus is true for all those whose faith is in the risen Lord. Death is not the end, Resurrection opens the way to be with Christ. That is our hope, our joy and God's Good News.

Christianity is an Easter faith, and Christians are an Easter people. If this is true, then we should all be full of Easter joy, hope and good news because we are celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Through our Lord's Resurrection the old order of sin and death has been overcome and our relationship with God restored.

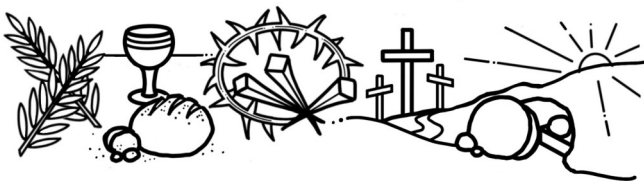
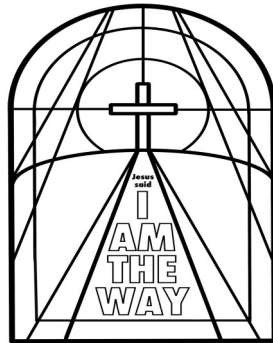
The abundant unconditional generosity of God's love for us is shown supremely in the Crucifixion and Resurrection of His only Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour. 'God **so** loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.'

The great Easter acclamation, "Alleluia. Christ is risen." "He is risen indeed. Alleluia" echoes the words of the angel to the first witnesses on the first Easter morning 'He is not here. He is risen.'

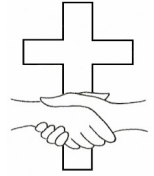
As witnesses to the Resurrection in our day, as Easter people, we cry with joy, '**He is not here. He is risen.**'

So go – and tell !

With Easter joy and blessings,
Guy.



Ladies Group March Meeting



Our March meeting was a coffee evening at Lynn Powell's house. There was plenty of conversation to go with the Drinks and biscuits.

Margaret Small brought along some of her folders from the City & Guilds course on sugar craft she completed some years ago. It was fascinating to see her research and designs. Many thanks to Lynn for hosting this event.

In April we will be meeting at Sally Curtis' house for a 'Room 101' evening. 'Room 101' is a fictional invention by George Orwell from his dystopian novel '1984'. In the novel Room 101 is a torture chamber containing the worst thing in the world. More recently Room 101 has been a television programme where celebrity guests talk about their pet peeves which are then consigned to Room 101 never to be seen again.

Ladies Group always welcomes new members. If you would like more information about Ladies Group please pick up a programme from the back of church or speak to a committee member.

Friendship Group

For our March meeting, we took 'a walk from Lent to Easter', with prayers, bible readings from the book of John, interspersed with hymns, generously played for us by David Moore.

We finished the meeting with Hot Cross buns and a cup of tea.

At our April meeting, Tuesday 9th, 2:30 until 4pm, we look forward to welcoming Fr Philip Hopper, who is speaking to us about St Francis and his own Franciscan journey.

We have been blessed lately, with new members and would like to extend that welcome to any lady who would like to come along and share Philip's talk with us all.

CHARITY COLLECTION FOR UKRAINE

On Saturday 13th April, I am holding a collection of Men's, Ladies and Children's clothes and clean shoes, knitted or crocheted blankets, bedding and Candles (new or part used) and clean toys (All ages).

My cousin, has a contact who takes all she is given and passes it on to someone who takes a journey to deliver a van full of goods into Ukraine, which is an incredible gift, every three weeks.

We will be ready to take any needed goods you have between 10am and 12 noon in the Church Hall. Tea & Coffee will be available for all. Please make sure that all clothes are wearable, thank you.

Any problems, please contact me.

The people in Ukraine are living in terrible conditions. Let us pray for them and give them a little of our love and support by making this collection an absolute success for them all

Thank you

Heather Hill 07882734507

ITALIAN EVENING

Friday 12th April

At 18:00



The Social Committee have arranged an Italian Evening
Where they will serve a typical Italian Supper

Tickets will be £10 per person.

Available from the Social Committee

All welcome for a fun evening

News in brief from Bath & Wells Diocesan Manna Mailing

Bishop Michael to visit Zambia

Bishop Michael will be making his first visit to Zambia as Bishop of Bath and Wells this month, having previously spent time there during his career as an epidemiologist.

Commenting on his visit, which takes place from 22 April to 5 May 2024, Bishop Michael says, "I am really looking forward to be going back to Zambia. It takes the whole world to know Christ and I'm so excited at the thought of all I will learn from our Zambian brothers and sisters. I am also looking forward to the opportunity to explore how we can potentially work together on a joint environmental project involving our schools."

Cathedral admission changes

Wells Cathedral has announced changes to its admission guidelines from 22 April. Free passes are available to local people and to parishioners in the Diocese of Bath and Wells, with a new entry charge for tourists.

You can obtain a [Wells Cathedral Parish Pass](#) if you are on the electoral roll of a parish church in the Diocese of Bath and Wells.

If you would like to apply for a Parish Pass, please complete the form downloaded from the website with your churchwarden and take it to the Welcome Desk in Wells Cathedral between 9am and 4.30pm (11am to 3pm Sundays) in order to collect your pass.

It will remain free to enter for worship, prayer, and to light a candle. The monies raised by the £14 tourist admission charge will go towards the care of the cathedral building and its mission.

Information about the Parish Pass and how to apply for it is available from the [Wells Cathedral website](#).

NOTICE OF THE REVISION OF THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

The Church Electoral Roll will be revised by the Parochial Church Council, beginning on Sunday the 24th March 2024 and ending on Saturday 6th April 2024

After the revision, a copy of the Roll will be published by the Parochial Church Council at the back of the Church, for at least 14 days.

If you are not on the Electoral Roll application forms can be found at the back of Church or speak with Linda Broadhurst.

MEETING FOR THE ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS

followed by

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)

will take place in Church on

Sunday 21 April 2024 at 11-15

The meeting to elect two churchwardens will be held immediately before the APCM.

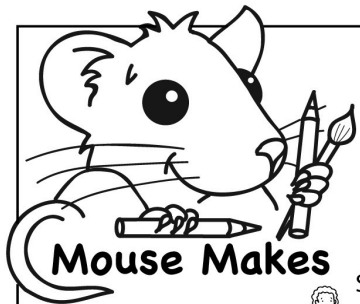
The APCM is a chance for all church members to receive the Annual Report and Accounts for 2023 and an opportunity for anyone to raise questions and to comment on what the Officers and PCC have done during the year.

Churchwardens are elected annually to serve for one year. The current churchwardens are both willing to stand for re-election.

PCC representatives are elected to serve a three year term of office. Three people need to be elected to serve from 2024 to 2027. Two members, whose term of office comes to an end at the APCM, are willing to be re-elected. One person is needed to fill the vacancy arising from the retirement of the third representative

Please speak to Father Guy, the churchwardens or the PCC Secretary if you are interested in taking up one of these positions.

Nomination forms are available on request from the PCC Secretary.



Some time after Jesus had risen a few of His disciples met together to go fishing. They fished all night but caught nothing. As the sun rose a man on the shore asked; "Have you caught anything?" "Not a thing" they answered. He said to them "Throw your net out onto the right side of the boat and you will catch some." So they did and they and they caught so many fish they could not pull in the net. Then John recognised the man, "It is the Lord!"



READ

the story in **John 21**



How many times had the risen Jesus revealed himself to the disciples before this?

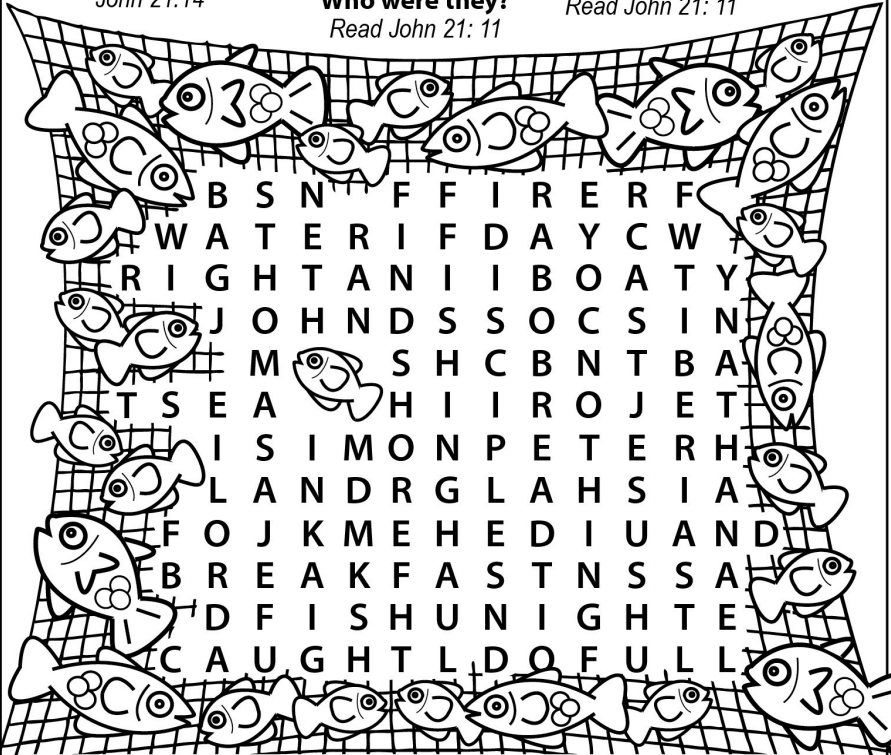
Read John 21:14



How many disciples were there? Who were they?

Read John 21: 11

How many fish did they catch? Read John 21: 11



DISCIPLES • TIBERIAS • SEA • SIMON PETER • THOMAS • NATHANAEL • JOHN • DAY FISHING • BOAT • NIGHT • CAUGHT • NOTHING • WATER • SHORE • FISH • CAST • NET RIGHT • FIND • HAUL • LORD • FULL • LAND • FIRE • BREAD • BREAKFAST • JESUS

Colour in all the fish

Apr24© deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk

ST GEORGES DAY 23RD APRIL

Who was St George? Here are some facts that may surprise you about England's patron saint...



1. **By George, he's not even English!**

St George was actually born in Cappadocia, Turkey, around 270AD.

2. **But he was a soldier...**

St George was a high-ranking officer in the Roman army who protested against the Romans' torture of Christians. Roman emperor Diocletian ordered his death for failing to recant his faith. And that's how he became a Christian martyr.

3. **Two Kings helped him become England's patron saint**

Edward I was a crusader and reigned from 1272-1307. He was fond of St George. His troops wore the St George's cross to fight the Welsh. In 1300, he also raised the St George's flag over Caerlaverock Castle in Scotland.

His grandson, Edward III reigned from 1327 to 1377. He heard stories from returning crusaders of St George's bravery. By the 14th century, St George was seen as a special protector of the English. So when Edward founded England's Knights of the Garter, there was only one choice for patron. Later in 1415, George was named official patron saint of England.

4. **He is not just England's patron saint**

He is also patron saint of countries like Ethiopia, Georgia and Portugal. George was seen as an especially powerful intercessor, using prayer on behalf of others.

5. **Shakespeare and St George share something in common**

It is not the fact that they are both 'English' heroes. The answer is that both died on 23rd April. This date is also believed to be Shakespeare's birthday.

Bishop's letter – Worship is key
From Michael Langrish,
Assistant Bishop for Bath and Wells



In January I was back in my old Diocese of Exeter, marking the death of Sabine Baring Gould 100 years before. What an extraordinary person he was, with an incredible range and roundedness of learning and interests, in an equally full and fulfilled life. He was a great traveller and prolific writer of biographies, folklore, travel books, theology, novels and hymns, including some, such as 'Onward Christian soldiers' that remain popular today. He was a linguist and translator; and, as an archaeologist on Dartmoor, very much a pioneer in the field.

For many, his greatest achievement was his collecting the old folk songs of Devon and Cornwall, providing inspiration for such composers as Elgar, Vaughan Williams and Holst. He was also the Squire of Lewtrenchard and, being ordained, he appointed himself as parish priest as well!

This he saw as his true vocation. His responsibility, and that of the local church, was the cure of souls from cradle to grave. This meant a care for the spiritual wellbeing of all in the community and for their bodily and social welfare too. Striving for good health and housing must go hand in hand with growth in faith and prayer. All should be encouraged to full humanity, to holy discipleship, to the recognition and use, of whatever gifts anyone possessed for the common good.

But, underlying all of this, one other aspect of this great man's life speaks very strongly to me now. That is how he understood worship and its relationship to the whole of life. 'To worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, to feed the mind with the truth of God, to purge the imagination by the beauty of God, to open the heart to the love of God, to devote the will to the purpose of God'.

The current edition of Manna (see below) it contains encouraging stories of New Christian Worshipping Communities in Bath and Wells. Worshipping is key. I am reminded of the later words of Archbishop William Temple: 'It is sometimes said that conduct is supremely important, and worship helps it. The truth is that worship is supremely important, and conduct tests it.'

Bishop Michael

Growing together

Spring is a time that we celebrate the signs of new growth, making it the perfect time to come together to share stories of growing church. The second Greenhouse gathering took place in March. Those who attended were able to share the progress on their projects to grow their churches, learn from each other and get creative together.

Megan Jones-Dellaportas is part of the team planning to start a new church on the new Orchard Grove housing estate in Trull. She says, "It's great to have the opportunity to get together with others going through something similar. I didn't know what to expect at our first gathering, but I came away inspired and with lots of ideas to share with my team. It also gives you an important time to reflect. When you are busy doing what you are doing it's easy not to realise what you have achieved, but today I've been able to reflect on the last six months as I share my news with others."

Sally Mottram and Barbara Taylor from Ilchester were also able to share their good news. They started a new church gathering in September 2023, in a school at the other end of the village from the church. They said, "We wanted to offer a way to access worship for those who aren't drawn to worship in a church building and we've already got a core group of families who come every month. Even when it poured with rain the other Sunday and we thought no one would turn up, they did, which is a very encouraging sign for the future."

Find out more about Greenhouse and how it can help you nurture new Christian worshipping communities: bathwells.org.uk/greenhouse.

From The Registers

Christian Funeral **“May they rest in peace”**

12th March Rachel Winsley



Smile Lines from the Parish Pump

Who is he?

A musical concert was about to be performed in a prison. The Governor was talking to a titled lady guest, explaining that the orchestra was made up of murderers, embezzlers and other hardened criminals. The lady then pointed to a man in the corner, holding a trombone. “He looks a tough customer,” she whispered. “Whatever has HE done?”

The Governor paused and smiled. “Ah, actually, he is the chaplain.”

**

Do it

Here’s a sure-fire way to cross off every item on your To-Do list: Do the chores first, then write them down and *then* cross them off!

**

What am I?

I’m not old. I woke up, I lifted my arms, I moved my knees, I turned my neck. Everything made the same noise:

Crrrrraaaaaacccccckkkk! So I’ve come to the conclusion that I’m not old, I’m crispy!

Date	Reader/ <i>Intercessions</i>	Sides person
7th April	John Shears <i>Carol Moore</i>	A Fitch, L Hurst
14th April	Margaret Small <i>Ann Munton</i>	K Gay, L Powell
21st April	Linda Broadhurst <i>Linda Broadhurst</i>	J Shears, E Densley
28th April	Robert Broughton <i>Jim Ballistone-Thicke</i>	D Winter, J Winter
<p>If you have to swap or cannot do any of the dates, please can you let Pat or Hilary know. Thank you</p>		



**St John the Baptist, Midsomer Norton
Hire of Church Hall**

The hall can be hired for £12per hour for regular or one-off bookings
There is disabled access and toilet facilities, along with a baby changing area. A fully fitted kitchen, table & chairs and will fit a 15x15 bouncy castle for children's parties

Please contact: Carolyn Wroe on 07591 557578

This month's front cover is Wild Garlic at Snail's Bottom

Magazine deadline for copy is the 14th of the month

To: Mrs Linda Broadhurst, 43 Furlong Close, Midsomer Norton, BA3 2PR
Telephone: 01761 415562 Email: stjohnsmagazine@aol.com

Parish Directory

		Telephone
Bible Reading Fellowship	Mrs Angela Fitch	413636
Choir Leader	Mr Geoff Miles	
Church Cleaning	Mrs Pat Clynes	412928
Church Hall Bookings	Mrs Carolyn Wroe	07591 557578
Coffee Rota	Mrs Margaret Small	411474
Electoral Roll Secretary	Mrs Linda Broadhurst	415562
Flower Rota	Mrs Carol Moore	412226
Gift Aid Secretary	Mrs Kay Harvey	416050
Head Server	Mr Matthew Livsey	07971231363
St John's School	Mrs Danielle West-Gaul	412019
Ladies Group Leader	Mrs Kay Harvey	416050
Magazine Editor	Mrs Linda Broadhurst	415562
Magazine Distribution	Mrs Linda Broadhurst	07941 204179
Organist	Mrs Margaret Whatley	418072
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Mrs Ann Munton	07895038871
PCC Secretary	Mrs Margaret Marshall	413895
PCC Treasurer	Mrs Kay Harvey	416050
PCC Vice Chairperson	Mrs Hilary Denning	07828 550006
Tower Secretary	Mrs Margaret Marshall	413895

Church Organisations

The Choir practise on Fridays from 6:30 pm until 7:50 pm.

The Friendship Group: meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

The Ladies Group meets on the second Thursday of the month

The Society of Our Lady of Walsingham meets every 3rd Friday of the month at 11am for Said Mass and the Angelus. The Cell takes an annual Pilgrimage to Walsingham in September. A warm welcome is extended to all who would like to attend the service or join us on Pilgrimage.

Further details can be obtained from a member of the Clergy.

**You can stay in touch with us on our website: www.stjohnschurchmsn.org.uk
Twitter: [@StJohnMSN](https://twitter.com/StJohnMSN), on Facebook: [@StJohnMSN](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnMSN)
and on YouTube: [St John's MSN channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...).**



April 2024

Tuesday 2nd	10:30 - 11:45	Coffee in Church
Friday 5th	12:30	Trio Paradis Concert
Sunday 7th	2nd Sunday of Easter	
Tuesday 9th	10:30 - 11:45	Coffee in Church
	14:30	Friendship Group
Thursday 11th	19:30	Ladies Group
Friday 12th	10 – 12 noon	Gardening Group
	18:00	Italian Evening
Saturday 13th	19:00	Lions Concert for CHSW
Sunday 14th	3rd Sunday of Easter	
		<i>Magazine Copy Date</i>
Tuesday 16th	10:30 - 11:45	Coffee in Church
Friday 19th	11:00	St Johns cell of Our Lady Of Walsingham - Eucharist
Sunday 21st	4th Sunday of Easter	
	11:15`	APCM
Tuesday 23rd	10:30 - 11:45	Coffee in Church
Friday 26th	10 – 12 noon	Gardening Group
Sunday 28th	5th Sunday of Easter	
Tuesday 30th	10:30 - 11:45	Coffee in Church