

# M ST MARY'S MENDLESHAM

www.stmarysmendlesham.org.uk

You are welcome to worship at any of our services.

## **SUNDAYS:**

9.30 a.m. Parish Mass & Address

**JAM (Jesus & Me) 7<sup>th</sup> April & 21<sup>st</sup> April in Old Schoolroom, then to church at 10.00**

## **First Mass of Sunday:**

Saturdays: 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30 pm;

20<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm (Sung: Easter Vigil)

**Daily Mass:** *see calendar on back page & check porch notice & bulletin*

**Daily Morning & Evening Prayer**  
*see porch notice.*

**Baptism (Christening), Weddings,  
Anointing of the Sick & House  
Communion - contact Fr Philip**

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Sat 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>: 6.30pm;

Mon 15<sup>th</sup>: 3.00 pm & 7.00 pm;

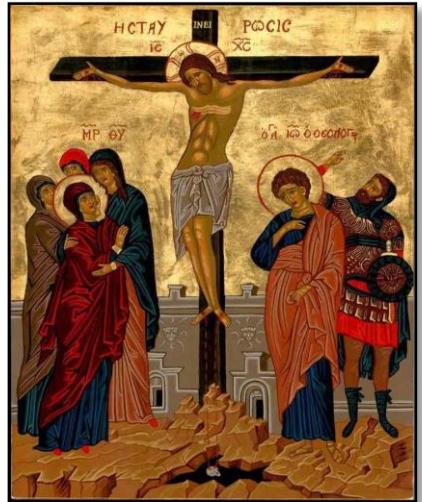
Tue 16<sup>th</sup>: 7.00 pm & 8.30 pm;

Wed 17<sup>th</sup>: 7.00 pm;

Thur 18<sup>th</sup>: 3.00 pm & 6.30 pm;

Fri 19<sup>th</sup>: 1.00 pm & 3.00 pm;

Fri 26<sup>th</sup>: 4.30 pm *or contact Fr Philip*



## **Vicar:**

**Fr Philip T Gray, B.A. S.S.C.**  
**Mendlesham Vicarage**

01449 766359

## **Churchwardens:**

**Hazel Spalding**

01449 768616

**Andrew Fleming**

01449 711065

## WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

**Everyone is welcome at all events listed here**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Apr</b>	6.30 pm: Mass in Church 7.15 pm: shared supper & Bible study in the Old Schoolroom.
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	9.30: Monthly Requiem: April anniversaries
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	9.30: Easter Service for Mendlesham School
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>10.00 -12.00: Welcome morning for newcomers to our parish (longer established residents invited too!) Tour of St Mary's church and armoury. Coffee/tea &amp; cake will be served. No charge on this occasion.</b>
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>Passiontide begins</b> (the last two weeks of Lent before Easter). 9.30: Parish Mass: JAM in the Old Schoolroom. 10.30 (approx.) the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in church. 12.00 noon: PCC lunch and meeting
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	2.00 pm: Silent prayer in presence of the Blessed Sacrament 2.30 pm: Mass, laying-on of hands & anointing (Healing Service) 7.15 pm: shared supper & Bible study in the Old Schoolroom.
<b>12<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	2.30 pm: Mass in Mason Court, followed by refreshments
<b>14<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>PALM SUNDAY:</b> 9.30 Parish Mass begins in N churchyard with blessing of palms and procession into church. 11.30: Stations of the Cross
<b>15<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>FIG MONDAY:</b> 7.30 pm: Stations of the Cross & Benediction
<b>16<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>TEMPLE TUESDAY:</b> 7.30 pm: Stations of the Cross & Benediction
<b>17<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>SPY WEDNESDAY:</b> 12 noon: Mass of the Chrism at Walsingham 7.30 pm: Mass (said) at Mendlesham
<b>18<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY:</b> 7.30 pm: Sung Mass of the Last Supper, blessing of Lent offerings, procession to the Garden of Gethsemane 8.45pm - Midnight: Watch of silent prayer ending with Night Prayer
<b>19<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>GOOD FRIDAY:</b> 2.00 pm – 3.00 pm: The Liturgy (Bible Readings, Prayers, Procession to the Cross & Holy Communion)
<b>20<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>HOLY SATURDAY:</b> Blessing of the New Fire, Easter Candle, Water in the Font, Easter Garden and First Sung Mass of Easter, followed by shared party in church.
<b>21<sup>st</sup> Apr</b>	<b>EASTER DAY:</b> 9.30 Parish Mass; extra JAM in the Old Schoolroom, blessing of candles for the departed & Easter eggs for children.
<b>21<sup>st</sup>– 28<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>EASTER OCTAVE.</b> As no Saints' Days can be observed during this most important week of the Church's year, St George's Day is kept on 30 <sup>th</sup> April

## Fr Philip Writes...

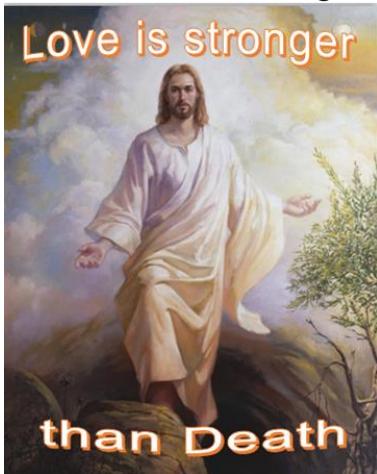
**Easter is about what happened to Jesus, and yet, as we read the Gospels, it is about what happened to Jesus' disciples.** Mary

Magdalene, the other women, John, Peter, the others and finally Thomas. They believed something had happened to them. They saw the empty tomb, they later ate with him and were willing to live their belief and die for their faith in the Risen Jesus.

The Paschal (Easter) Candle is a symbol of the Risen Christ. We are invited to share the same faith as Peter, John and Mary Magdalene. The Resurrection is far more than a memory, for at every Mass we say: "CHRIST IS RISEN!" meaning it is not just historical but present. We are unable to witness to the events surrounding the empty tomb in the same way as the women and apostles and we do have to rely on someone's testimony, but like them we need to receive it and make it our own.



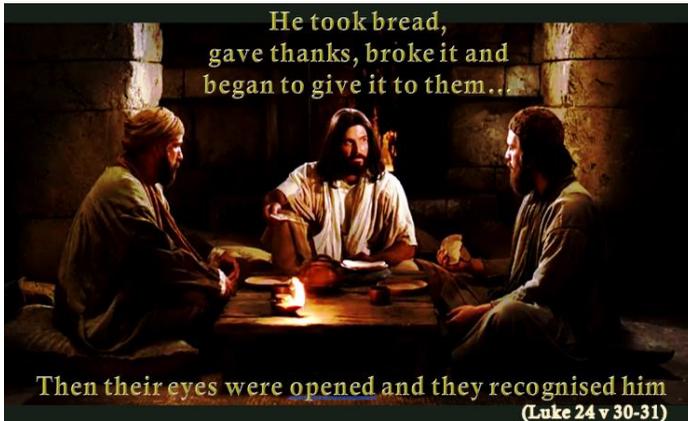
The Paschal Candle speaks of everlasting life. The tomb is a symbol of the womb – a place for new life. The child in the womb must 'die' to its old life to experience a new life in this world. Similarly, when our time in the 'womb' of this earthly life has reached full term, we shake off this mortal coil to begin another new life – everlasting life:



***"In him, who rose from the dead, our hope of resurrection dawns. The sadness of death gives way to the bright promise of immortality. Lord, for your faithful people, life is changed, not ended. When the body of our earthly dwelling lies in death, we gain an everlasting dwelling place in heaven."*** That is why the Paschal Candle is placed by the coffin at a funeral – when our earthly journey has ended – and by the Font, where we begin our Christian journey.

Easter calls us to pass on our faith in the Risen Christ to others, rather like a baton is passed from one runner to the next in a relay race.

**Second:** our Christian faith in the resurrection should show in the way we treat each other. Mother Teresa of Calcutta said to a helper, "When you treat the poor, touch them in the way you would touch Jesus himself." We all need to see people through the eyes of faith.



**Third:** we need to learn to know Jesus like the early Christians did – in the Scriptures and in the Breaking of Bread (i.e. the Mass) They were changed by their worship.

**Fourth:** We should pray regularly for the departed, that they may partake fully in Christ's resurrection.

Happy Eastertide!



### LOOKING AHEAD

Fr Philip is leading a day pilgrimage to Walsingham on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May. Details on table in church near porch.

### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

**Holy Baptism** (Conditional)

**2<sup>nd</sup> March:** Alan John Lawson

**Funerals:** Fr Philip officiated at:

- West Suffolk Crematorium on 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan for the funeral of **Monica Hamilton** from Mason Court &
- St Mary's Mendlesham on 1<sup>st</sup> Feb for the funeral of **Eric Munson**, whose cremated remains were laid to rest at St Peter's Claydon on 12<sup>th</sup> March.
- The Revd Anthony Smith, a family friend, officiated at St Mary's Mendlesham on 9<sup>th</sup> March for the funeral of **Ralph Fox**, whose cremated remains were laid to rest at Mendlesham Green.

**May they rest in the peace of Christ and rise in glory!**