

M ST MARY'S MENDLESHAM

www.stmarysmendlesham.org.uk

You are welcome to any of our services.

SUNDAYS:

9.30 a.m. Parish Mass & Address

First Mass of Sunday:

Saturdays 4th, 11th & 18th April 7.30 pm.

No 1st Mass on 25th April due to Pilgrimage to Walsingham

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

Daily Morning & Evening Prayer
see porch notice.

Baptism (Christening), Marriage, Anointing of the Sick & Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament - contact Fr Philip

Sacrament of Reconciliation

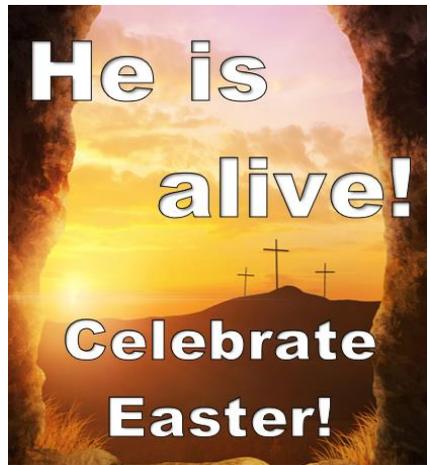
Saturdays 6.30 pm. Except on 25th April.

Before Easter:

6th April: 6.30 pm; 7th April: 6.30 pm; 8th

April; 8.15 pm; 9th April: 3.00 pm & 6.30

pm; 10th April: 1.00 pm *or contact Fr Philip*



Vicar:

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

01449 766359

Churchwardens:

Andrew Fleming

01449 711065

Chris Elstone

07530 769676

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

✳️ **Coronavirus/COVID-19 prevention. Some events may have to be cancelled or altered at short notice to comply with Government and Archbishops' advice. Please check website** ✳️

3rd April	2.30 pm: Mass at Mason Court, followed by refreshments.
5th April	<u>PALM SUNDAY</u> 9.30: Blessing of palms in churchyard; procession into church & Sung Mass 11.30: Stations of the Cross and Benediction
6th April	<u>FIG MONDAY:</u> 9.30 Mass 7.30 pm: Stations of the Cross and Benediction
7th April	<u>TEMPLE TUESDAY:</u> 9.30 Mass 7.30 pm: Stations of the Cross and Benediction
8th April	<u>SPY WEDNESDAY</u> 12.00 noon: Solemn Mass of the Chrism at Walsingham. 7.30 pm: Mass (said) at Mendlesham
9th April	<u>MAUNDY THURSDAY:</u> 7.30 pm: Mass of the Last Supper 8.45pm – 11.45 pm: Silent prayer in 'Garden of Gethsemane' 11.45pm: Night Prayer
10th April	<u>GOOD FRIDAY:</u> 2.00 pm: Good Friday Liturgy
11th April	<u>HOLY SATURDAY</u> 7.30 pm: Blessing of new fire & water of Baptism, renewal of Baptismal promises, & First Mass of Easter. Shared party after
12th April	<u>EASTER DAY</u> 9.30: Parish Mass, blessing of candles for the departed & eggs for children
13th April	<u>EASTER MONDAY:</u> 9.30 Mass
14th April	<u>EASTER TUESDAY:</u> 2.00– 2.30 pm: Silent prayer before Blessed Sacrament 2.30 pm: Mass and prayer for healing
15th April	<u>EASTER WEDNESDAY:</u> 8.00 am : Mass
17th April	<u>EASTER FRIDAY:</u> 9.30 am: Mass
19th April	<u>2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER.</u> 9.30: Parish Mass 2.00 pm: Meet at Rushford for 1 st Summer tour of Norfolk Churches, then to Brettenham, Bridgham & East Harling
23rd April	<u>ST GEORGE, PATRON OF ENGLAND</u> 9.30: Mass (said)
24th April	2.30 pm: Mass at Mason Court, followed by refreshments
27th April	9.30: Requiem Mass – April anniversaries

"We have eaten and drunk with Him after His Resurrection... He has ordered us to proclaim this to His people and to tell them...." (Acts 10 v 41&42)

*Goosey, Goosey Gander,
Whither shall I wander?
Upstairs and downstairs
And in my Lady's chamber.
There I met an old man
Who wouldn't say his prayers.
So I took him by the left leg
And threw him down the stairs.*

Many people have become like 'Goosey Gander' in their religious convictions. They believe Christianity is a 'DO IT YOURSELF KIT' e.g.

- ❖ Lead a decent life;
- ❖ Don't harm anyone;
- ❖ Say your prayers;
- ❖ Read the Bible ... and all will be well.

Such a man-centred religion will inevitably tend to despise those who do not come up to those standards. The Jewish religion had fallen into similar snares and Jesus clashed with it and was crucified.

So what is different about the Christian religion?

The essence of Christianity lies in total commitment to Jesus, who will make us new creatures through his risen life. Peter and the 'Beloved Disciple' (John) emerged from the empty tomb as changed men – not just because of the physical evidence of Christ's resurrection but because their minds were opened by the power of God in Christ. The religion of the early apostles was God-centred; it was one of new life in Jesus and not revenge and punishment.



Today we are called to proclaim Jesus is alive and promises that same power to his Church. We all want an effective church but all too often it is man-centred: dominated by money, 'keeping the show on the road' instead of outreach and mission. We can give the impression that it is important to look terribly busy, to be seen to be doing something which brings the approval of other people. The

Apostles were filled with the power of the Risen Lord and proclaimed His kingdom by word and sign. This is how St Mark's Gospel ends: "The disciples went and preached everywhere and the Lord worked with them and proved their preaching was true by the miracles that were performed." (Mark 16 v 20)



What does Easter mean to you? Of course it is a historical fact that Jesus rose from the dead, but even more important is what follows on logically from that: the fact that Jesus is alive today. He calls us to respond to Him and does not condemn us if we refuse his love. He is not like 'Goosey Gander' in the nursery rhyme who will throw someone down the stairs.



We all need the new life that can only come from Christ. We continually need to ask Christ to make us new people. We need to live the Gospel and proclaim his kingdom at Mass. We need to live with a greater sense of expectancy in the work of healing.

When this happens Easter is more than just a historic occasion but becomes a feast for today. The Church

is you and me. Together let us respond to the Risen Christ!

Happy Easter!

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

NAMING & BLESSING

16th Feb: Halle Rose Moulton

HOLY MATRIMONY

18th Jan: Christopher Cowderoy and Louise Cole

HOLY BURIAL

22nd Jan: Jonathan James Taylor aged 53