

ECTON CHURCH AND VILLAGE NEWS



MARCH 1991

From the Rector's Study

Easter Day is the time when Christian folk celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Jesus had been killed by the combined forces of hatred, privilege and prejudice. He had taken up the role of the victim on behalf of the vulnerable of every age and place. Identification with those who are powerless, and have nothing, was complete from the first sign of his victory on the cross. Three days later he appeared to Mary Magdalene in the garden. All who are poor, weakened or punished by circumstances can now identify with Him.

The older I become the more I am intrigued with the personality of Jesus. My life has been lived at too frantic a pace for a little over 60 years and during this time, I have been privileged to meet countless people of all shapes, colours and sizes. I have mixed with rich and the poor alike. There have been times of great disappointment as well as times of glorious fulfilment. And now I look at life around me with all its failings and achievements, knowing that Jesus is the only answer, if my soul is to be saved. I also know that He is the Saviour of the world, and has been for enumerable souls who have turned to Him throughout the ages. Jesus is Lord; Jesus is our Saviour. He is our Master and our Friend. There is much wrong with the church, because it is human: a mixture of saint and sinner; but there is nothing wrong with Jesus.

Jesus is always pointing to God as Father in Heaven and, although He is fully aware of the failings of the Church, we know from the Bible

that He loves the Church despite its failings. Come to Church this Holy Week and Easter - meet Him in the worship, fellowship, and especially in the sacrament of Holy Communion. Our worship leading to Easter will be solemn, and the Church bare to remind us of the awful crucifixion that took place on that black day in Jerusalem 2000 years ago.

It will be a time of sorrow for the sins of the world, and of our own particular sins. We know what we have done. Should anyone wish to learn about Confession, please consult me knowing that anything that is said will be in absolute confidence. If there is someone who wishes to confess and receive absolution, then I will be only too honoured to exercise my priestly ministry.

On Easter Day the Church will be beautifully decorated, prepared as a bride for the arrival of Jesus. So let us be there together in Christ at the great festival. Let the Church be filled on this great day with the glorious Easter hymns and with the thunderous shout, "He is Risen, He is Risen".

God bless you and all those in your loving care.

Peter Naylor

Ecton Fellowship

Ecton Fellowship meets at 2.30 pm on Tuesday, 12th March, when Patricia Naylor is going to talk to us about her nursing experiences. Everyone is very welcome to this meeting.

Joan Dickins

OLD FRIENDS REMEMBERED

The Rector decided to write to past incumbents who are still with us and asked if they would like to visit Ecton on a Sunday and preach, with the exception of his predecessor who he hopes will return officially in 1992. The replies were most encouraging.

Father Michael Payne who was Rector and Warden from 1978 to 1983 will preach at both services on Sunday the 21st April, and Canon Cyprian Thorpe, Rector and Warden from 1973 to 1978, will do likewise on Sunday the 9th June. On both these occasions it is intended to arrange a Sunday buffet lunch when it will be possible to talk about old times, and to catch up with the news. He received a letter from Father Boncey, Rector and Warden from 1967 to 1973 as follows:-

"33 Laughton St.
Chisholm A.C.T. 2905

Dear Father

Thank you very much for your kind letter inviting us to visit Ecton next time we are in England. That sounds delightful, and we should enjoy it very much indeed. This year we have had a succession of visitors from England. As my younger brothers and friends reach retiring age, they seem to think that a trip down here is a good idea. I have been in Australia for the last 14 years; but more people have visited us during the last year than in all the other years put together! We have had two visits from Cyprian and Margaret Thorpe, who followed me to Ecton. You will be keeping up a good tradition if you nip down here one of these days. You would always be very welcome. Peggy Stockdale, of Little Houghton, who worked as an assistant secretary at Ecton House in years

gone by is arriving this afternoon, having flown all round by Moscow.

We may be able to get back to England next year. If we do we shall be glad to accept your offer to spend a Sunday at Ecton. Thank you for the postcard which is most attractive.

Yours ever

Thomas Bonsey"

and was delighted to receive a letter from Bishop Goodchild, Rector from 1959 to 1964, and which he shares with you:-

"Head Farm Wellcombe
Bideford Devon EX3G 6HQ

Dear Rector

Thank you for your letter with its very kind invitation which I greatly appreciate; however, much as I would like to accept, I feel I must decline. I am not very mobile since my last hip operation (the third!) and I find long journeys by car not all that easy to manage. I am sure you will understand and forgive. I have had to take things more easily since my 80' birthday though I still help in the diocese locally.

I have heard wonderful reports of all that has happened in Ecton during the past 25 years, and I am so glad that lovely house has been so wonderfully used.

My wife and I were fascinated to read about the Rysbrack, which, during our time, was very casually dusted!

All good to you, and, if there are any of the Dicks family still around, we would be glad to be remembered to them.

Yours sincerely

Ronald Goodchild"

It will soon be possible to book a place at the buffet lunches by adding your name and telephone number on lists at the back of the Church. All who know these distinguished clerical gentlemen will be welcome, and the Rector hopes that no one will be put off from coming through shyness.

Rector's Notes

Music lovers will be pleased to learn that during the evening of Friday, 7th June, there will be a concert in our Church as part of the "Music in Quiet Places" programme arranged by London Virtuosi Productions.

Our Harvest Festival will be on Sunday, 6th October, and will be marked by a special peal of bells. The team of expert campanologists producing this wonderful sound will be led by Bill Hulme and details will be published later for your interest.

Readers Diary

March 3rd	Guides
March 10th	Jean Morrison
March 17th	Dennis Strange
March 24th	Joan Dickins
March 31st	Patricia Naylor
April 7th	Pathfinders

Women's Institute

Sunday Night at the London Palladium featured in the Rector's talk to our February meeting about his experiences as a "Chaplain to the Theatre" and invoked many memories of variety shows and glittering stars. Not so well known is the work of the chaplains of the Actors' Church Union, an ecumenical body which aims to look after the spiritual needs of actors and performers, and whose "secret service" work is well hidden back stage.

The Reverend Peter Naylor shared with us vivid memories and some very personal encounters during his work as chaplain to the Savoy Theatre, the Palladium in the early 70's and to the Water Rats. Removal to Ecton has not severed his theatrical links as he still enjoys serving on the Council of the Actors' Church Union and is Chaplain to the Grand Order of Lady Ratlings.

Paddy Macquire was the competition winner with a very pretty "Home made Valentine". Hopefully most of us will be able to find "A Flower from the Garden" for the next meeting on 5th March when Mr J Titcomb will speak about those beauties "Fuchsias and Auriculas". (Teas - Mrs Gibson and Mrs Knight).

Carol Jones

From the Collection Plate

January 6th	£130.54
January 13th	£181.35
January 20th	£228.75
January 27th	£173.95
February 3rd	£192.95

Over 60's Club

The dates for our Monday meetings are March 4th and 18th. There will be no meeting on April 1st (Easter Monday) but the A.G.M. will take place on April 8th.

A Whist Drive will take place on Thursday 21st March in the Rectory Room, 7.15 pm for 7.30 pm. All will be welcome.

The time for the Fish and Chip Supper on 13th March will now be 6.15 pm. Will members please let us know if they are attending by 4th March.

Denise Langley

F L O W E R S F O R E A S T E R

Although we are only just into Lent the glorious festival of Easter will soon be upon us. We will be decorating the Church on Saturday in readiness for the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Please we need your help to beautify God's House on this great festival. It does not matter whether you are a flower arranger or a flower plonker, daffodils do not mind and neither does God if they are done with love. Donations towards the cost of the flowers would be very much appreciated.

Pat Baylis



PATHFINDERS

The Group is now over a year old and has a nucleus of 11 members. In response to the Pathfinders' own wishes we have changed the format of our sessions. We now make less use of formal material and concentrate on discussion of a major topic each week. So far we have covered subjects as diverse as the Gulf War and "Home and Away". In fact, TV soaps provide a wealth of material for discussion of serious moral concerns.

Meetings are not all serious reflection, however, we still find time for some lively games, a get together over a drink and a biscuit, and, of course, prayer. Any young person between the ages of 10 and 14 is welcome to join us at our weekly meetings, Sunday evening at 7.00 pm in Ecton House.

We are still looking for other adults to help us run the group. We would be especially pleased to boost the number of women leaders. If you are interested please contact Les Mitchell, the Rector or me. The Diocesan Youth Chaplain was able to give the leaders some useful advice at the last meeting of the Parochial Church Council and we hope to build on this in the future.

Graham Jordan

Ecton Youth Club

Due to cold weather and a fall in attendance, we have decided to close the Youth Club on Wednesday evenings.

The Youth Club will re-open on Wednesday evening the 27th March 1991 at 7.00 pm.

We are also looking for volunteers to work one Wednesday evening per month - if anyone is interested please drop a note through the door of No. 53 High Street, Ecton.

Regards from Sandy, Sue and Howard

CHILDREN IN THE WAY - A Summary Paper

The 'world' of children has changed radically in the last ten years, with new opportunities as well as fresh restrictions and new pressures from society. It is therefore an opportune time for the Church to re-examine its own responsibilities towards the children with whom it is in contact, and towards those outside its direct influence.

(Preface by the Bishop of London
to Children in the Way)

This report encourages every Christian to think again about the Church's relationship with children.

The double meaning in the title is quite deliberate. The authors want children to come into the way of faith with adults, and adults to overcome any feelings that children are merely 'in the way'.

SAFARI SUPPER (after the event!)

We were blessed with good weather for our Safari Supper and Maud's carpet was spared once more!

Fifty eight of us enjoyed a splendid evening sharing different courses in each others homes. Thank you everyone who cooked and entertained us. Zara and I have always maintained that the evening should be a fun one, to be enjoyed in the depth of the English winter, but it is always most gratifying to be in a position to contribute to a children's charity or two once we have finished the shopping and held a raffle at the end of the evening. This year we finished up with a profit of £157 which will be divided and sent to help Bruce Harris with his ministry with the ill-treated orphans in Guatemala, and the remainder to a small mission for deaf children in Gozo.

Somehow we didn't seem to mind that the next Saturday brought deep snow, that too had it's enjoyment factor when we took to David Dick's field with our toboggan. Who says 'roll on next years Safari Supper'?

Sheila Ingram and
Zara Hunwicks

We are pleased to announce the engagement of Ian Birkin and Alison Ratter. We wish them every success in the future and abundant blessings on their forthcoming marriage.

Coffee Rota

March 3rd	Nick and Mary Green
March 10th	Tricia Fuller and Mavis Ahead
March 17th	Janet Robinson and Jean Leigh
March 24th	Johann Pinney and Pay Baylis
March 31st	
April 7th	Audrey Treloar and Ingrid Cartwright

Cleaning Rota

March 2nd	Blue Team	Shine
March 9th	Pink Team	Polish
March 16th	Yellow Team	Shine
March 23th	Red Team	Polish
March 30th	Green Team	Shine
April 6th	Orange Team	Polish

Action Aid

Event - March 23rd 1991

Our main event this year will be -

"A talk with slides by Ted Percy about a towpath walk from Macclesfield to Huddersfield."

On Saturday March 23rd at 7.30 pm at Ecton Youth Club Hall, High Street, Ecton.

Finger Buffet
Raffle and Stall

Ticket £4.00

Ted did this sponsored walk to raise money to provide holidays for handicapped people. I bought it from the Talents Auction

Tickets available from Pay Baylis and Joan Dickins.

PRAYERS FOR MARCH

"Above all eternal things put
the need to be free for God"

Thomas a Kempis

Friday 1	St. David Bishop, Patron Saint of Wales	c.601
Satur 2	St. Chad Bishop of Lichfield, Missionary	d.672
Sunday 3	For peace in the world	
Monday 4	For our families	
Tuesday 5	For our friends	
Wednes 6	For the sick	
Thurs 7	Ss Perpetua and her Companions, Carthage, Martyrs	d.203
Friday 8	Edward King Bishop of Lincoln, Teacher, Pastor	d.1910
Satur 9	For Ecton Village	
Sunday 10	All those who go to Church	
Monday 11	For all who work	
Tuesday 12	For all who are unemployed	
Wednes 13	For all involved in war	
Thurs 14	For all those working for the Third World	

Friday 15 For members of all Governments
 Satur 16 For all caring for the young and old
 Sunday 17 St. Patrick c.460
 Bishop, Patron Saint of Ireland
 Monday 18 For all who travel
 Tuesday 19 ST. JOSEPH OF NAZARETH
 HUSBAND OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
 Wednes 20 St. Cuthbert d.687
 Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary
And: Thomas Ken d.711
 Bishop of Bath and Wells
 Thurs 21 Thomas Cranmer d.1556
 Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr
 Friday 22 For the Housebound
 Satur 23 For all those who work and live in
 Northamptonshire
 Sunday 24 The Parish Council
 Monday 25 Annunciation of Our Lord to the
 Blessed Virgin Mary
 Tuesday 26 Ecton Primary School
 Thurs 28 Ecton W.I.
 Friday 29 John Keble d.1866
 Priest, Pastor, Poet
 Satur 30 Over 60's Club
 Sunday 31 Youth and Senior Club

Church and Village Diary

MARCH

- Sunday 3 Third Sunday in Lent
 9.30 am Parish Communion
 Colossians 1. 24-end
 Luke 9. 18-27
 6.00 pm Evensong
 7.00 pm Pathfinders
- Monday 4 7.50 am Holy Communion, House Chapel
- Tuesday 5 7.30 pm W.I. in the Rectory Room
- Wednes 6 8.00 pm Parochial Church Council
 in the Rectory Room
- Thursday 7 9.30 am Holy Communion
 8.00 pm Bible Study for Lent in the
 Conference Room
- Sunday 10 Mothering Sunday
 9.30 am Parish Communion - Parade
 Service - The Sunday school
 children will attend the
 service
 2 Tim. 1. 3-10
 Luke 2. 41-end
 6.00 pm Evensong
 Flowers will be distributed to all
 ladies at both services
 7.00 pm Pathfinders
- Monday 11 7.50 am Holy Communion, House Chapel
- Tuesday 12 2.45 pm Ecton Fellowship

Monday 25
in Holy Week 7.50 am Holy Communion -
House Chapel
7.30 pm Holy Communion

Tuesday 26
in Holy Week 7.30 pm Holy Communion

Maundy
Thursday Please note there will be no Holy
Communion at 9.30 am. The Rector
will be at Peterborough Cathedral.
7.30 pm Holy Communion Sung in
Church followed by a vigil
throughout the night.

Good
Friday 9.00 am Liturgy of the Day
10.30 am Children's Service
followed by Hot Cross Buns
2 - 3 pm Devotional Service

Easter Day 9.30 am Holy Communion and
Easter Eucharist
1 Corinthians 15. 12-20
John 20. 1-10
6.00 pm Festival Evensong



