

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

**Fifth Sunday of Lent & Passiontide begins**

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion  
10.00 a.m. Café-style Altogether Worship  
4.00 p.m. Tea Time Church

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**Collect for Today**

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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**Service Readings**

Isaiah 43:16-21 (*p.682*), Philippians 3:4b-14 (*p.195*) and John 12:1-8 (*p.102*)

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**Please pray for**

... Dave Barclay, Carole Bookham, Anne Bradbeer, Llew Parry (Alison's Dad), and Roger Young.

... the family and friends of James Smallpeice, Charlotte Smallpeice, Sandra Hyde, Heather Godfrey, Joan Bolton and Gladys Wilmott whose anniversary of death is at this time.

... those who live and work in Hedgeway, Henley Bank, High View Road and Hollow Close.

... the Koens family in Papua New Guinea supporting the work of Bible translation through vehicle maintenance, teaching, missionary care.

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**Post Communion Prayer**

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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**Financial Giving**

We take a collection during our services. If you don't give regularly by standing order or the envelope scheme, please put your donation in the bag, tap the card reader on your way out, or use the QR code on the back of this news-sheet. Thank you.

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## Dear Friends

Following on from our Mothering Sunday celebrations last week, we now start to move closer to the events of Holy Week and Easter; and 'Passiontide' begins. We walk, with Jesus, towards the final moments of his life.

Our Gospel reading for today, and the account of Jesus' anointing at Bethany, calls into question the depth of our love for God, and our devotion to him. Mary's lavish display of love and affection offends those around her; yet Jesus commends her in the most moving of terms. He accepts her offering as a preparation for the day of his burial.

Often, we shy away from public displays of affection, and like Judas in our reading, prefer a more practical approach to our faith. Yet Jesus commends Mary's devotion to himself, and the importance of her act in the story of salvation. Love for God so often overflows into love for the world that he has made; and Christians have expressed that in a whole variety of different ways over the years. Without it, our faith becomes an exercise, and our service a duty; with it our faith becomes a joy, and our service a privilege. Let's pray for the love of God to touch our hearts and lives afresh today, on this Passion Sunday, and to overflow into love for others and the world that he has made.

Wishing you every blessing for this season.

**Beverly**

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## Mission Focus for April: ReSkilled

ReSkilled is based in Guildford. Its aim is to reduce social isolation and give people back self-esteem, choices and hope. It enables them to re-discover the fulfilment and benefits of being in employment through learning woodworking skills. Please pray for the staff, volunteers and participants. See more in our April magazine and on their website: [reskilled.org/](https://reskilled.org/)

## Notices

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**TODAY at 3pm – Hedgehog Highways:** Join us in the hall this afternoon for this fun, all-age talk by Dr Tara Pirie of Surrey University. Borrow tracking tunnels to see if there are hedgehogs in YOUR garden, and learn how to create a welcoming habitat for our prickly friends. Don't forget to bring your gloves and footwear good for the field! Refreshments provided.

**Tea time Church today:** We'll be hearing the story of Jesus' anointing at Bethany.

**Thank you:** to everyone who came to help at Saturday's work morning. I'm sure you'll notice the improvements in and around church.

**Stewardship Review 2025:** If you've not had a chance to watch Andy's video, then it's here: <https://youtu.be/I1dNhEPVtBI>. Andy, our Treasurer, asks us all to increase our giving by 10% to cover our costs for the coming year. If you've not yet done that, we'd be so grateful if you could do that asap.

**Easter Lilies:** If you'd like to remember a loved one this Easter, perhaps you'd like to donate towards the lilies decorating the church. Please put their name and your donation in an envelope in the foyer post-box, or give to Trish.

### Holy Week & Easter:

✝ ***Palm Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> April (Next Sunday)***

*10am:* All-Age Communion with procession. Meet at the top of Vicarage Gate at 9.45am if you'd like to join the procession.

*6.30pm:* Choral Meditation on the Passion led by Jeremy and the All Saints' Choir. A special time of words and music.

✝ ***Maundy Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> April***

*9.30am:* Holy Communion

*8pm:* Holy Communion with foot washing

*9-10pm:* The Vigil – a time of quiet reflection in the Reading Room

✝ ***Good Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> April***

*10.30am:* 'Walking with Jesus to the Cross' on the field followed by hot cross buns. The children will be re-enacting the story of the last days of Jesus' life.

*12-1pm:* 'The Watch' An hour of quiet reflection in church.

✝ ***Easter Day, 20<sup>th</sup> April***

*5.15am:* Sunrise Communion Service. An outdoor service around an open fire at the front of church. Stay for breakfast afterwards at the Vicarage.

*10am:* All-Age Family Communion followed by an Easter egg hunt

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## Diary for the Coming Week

**Morning prayer Mon, Tues and Weds 9.15am in the Reading Room and Zoom. Thurs Holy Communion at 9.30am in the Reading Room.**

- Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Small Group Leaders Meeting, Vicarage, 10.00am  
Celebration of Guildford's Gold Eco Churches, Church, 1.00pm
- Tues 8<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee, Vicarage, 7.30pm
- Weds 9<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Lunch Group, Wilders, 12.30pm  
Mission Vision Group, 8 Vicarage Gate, 5.00pm  
Lent Course - week 5, Vicarage, 7.30pm
- Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> Holy Communion, Reading Room, 9.30am  
Choir Rehearsal, Church, 8.00pm
- Fri 11<sup>th</sup> Friday Group, 43 Poltimore Road, 3.00pm
- Sat 12<sup>th</sup> Prayer Breakfast, 9.00am
- Sun 13<sup>th</sup> *Palm Sunday*  
All-Age Communion, 10.00am  
(meet 9.45am at top of Vicarage Gate for the procession)  
Choral Meditation on the Passion, 6.30pm  
(*Note, no Tea time church*)

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## Daily Readings for the coming week

- Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Ps. 73, Jeremiah 21:1-10, John 11:28-44
- Tues 8<sup>th</sup> Ps. 35, Jeremiah 21:1-5,13-19, John 11:45-end
- Weds 9<sup>th</sup> Ps. 55, Jeremiah 22:20-23:8, John 12:1-11
- Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> Ps. 40, Jeremiah 23:9-32, John 12:12-19
- Fri 11<sup>th</sup> Ps. 22, Jeremiah 24, John 12:20-36a
- Sat 12<sup>th</sup> Ps. 23, Jeremiah 25:1-14, John 12:36b-end

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## Service Readings for Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April: Palm Sunday

Luke 19:28-40, Psalm 118:1-2, 19-end

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## Contacts

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