

**PCC news. We pray for all those standing for election at the annual meetings across the parish, giving thanks for their leadership. Mon 27th April 7.30pm at SCC Annual Parish Church Meeting - all welcome.**

**Holy Week and Easter at All Saints' Whitstable**  
**Maundy Thursday 7.30pm Agape Supper**  
**(light ceremonial meal) and footwashing followed by stripping of altar**  
**Good Friday 12 noon to 3pm Three Hours at the Cross**  
**Easter Sunday 6am Sunrise Service on Tankerton beach below the Marine Hotel**  
**8am and 10am Holy Communion services for Easter including Easter Egg hunt for children at 10am service**

**Holy Week and Easter at St Alphege Seasalter**  
**Palm Sunday Service 8.45am as usual**  
**10.30am – All age service, no Lighthouse this week.**  
**Easter Day Services 7am at the Beach**  
**8.45am as usual**  
**10.30am – All age service, no Lighthouse this week.**

**Also at St Alphege Seasalter**  
**Easter Activity Morning for pre-schoolers' with an Easter Egg Hunt and activities on 10th April 10am to 11.30am.**  
**And**  
**An Easter Experience for primary school age children on Saturday 11th April from 2pm till 5pm.**  
**Community Lunch for April is Friday 17th April 2020.**  
**Don't forget to book you space, by ringing Seasalter Christian Centre on 01227 276923. Everyone welcome.**

### **MOTHERS UNION**

**Tuesday 7th 10am Seasalter Christian Centre - Speaker Rev. Donald Lugg on Holy Week.**  
**Thursday 23rd 10am Corporate Communion - All Saints' Church.**

# **UNITY UPDATE**

**APRIL 2020**

### **Rev Simon Tillotson writes:**

On the first Good Friday, we can imagine how the disciples must have felt. All was lost. The mission of bringing the kingdom of God to the people of Israel had been cruelly rejected not just by the religious leaders but by the people themselves. The people had turned on Jesus after being so supportive just a few days before when he entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. Jesus himself in the eyes of the disciples had not managed to stem the tide of opposition growing and had seemingly given in to it all, remaining largely mute during his questioning.

No wonder the disciples felt so forlorn. We sometimes berate the disciples for feeling this way but I think its important to understand their mindset. It is important to understand their fear, for they were now hunted by the authorities. Important also to understand their doubt, for the Lord had seemingly lost his abilities to bring in the kingdom in the way many of the disciples had hoped. Feelings of fear, confusion, a sense of being abandoned, and then ... suddenly – “The Lord has risen!” Out of the darkness the resurrection came and transformed everything! Alleluia!

The first witnesses were astonished. Some like Thomas doubted. However, gradually, people started realising that the Lord really had risen from the dead. The old order of decay and death had been overcome by the new order of renewal and life! Alleluia! And – crucially – Jesus rose from the dead despite the fear and lack of faith of his disciples. That is grace and love at work. A God prepared to work with us as we are, with all our fear, lack of faith, natural negativity and despondency. Alleluia!

As I write, on 13<sup>th</sup> March, I sense many of us are living in fear, scared of the virus that is menacing our world and predicted to have impacted our country significantly by the time April arrives. How much more then do we need to reach out to the risen Christ and ask for the spirit of our Risen Lord, even now in Lent, to come alongside us and give us hope! As we approach Easter with its promise of victory of life over death, good over evil, hope over despair, I pray that we will be able to sense the risen Christ with us too, and that this will spiritually transform us at this difficult time.

**Holy Week and Easter at St John's Swalecliffe**  
Maundy Thursday 7.30pm Eucharist with foot-washing and stripping of the altars - jointly with St Alphege Whitstable at St John's Church

Good Friday 2pm In His Steps A reflective pilgrimage beginning in the Scout Hall and ending in Church

Easter Eve 6pm Evening Prayer and lighting of the Easter Light in the St John's Centre

Easter Day 10.30am Parish Eucharist

Also at St John's Church - Explore Easter - Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 9.30am to 11.30am A drop in family morning all about Easter with crafts, games, Easter egg hunt and Easter bunnies. Free of charge

**Holy Week and Easter at St Alphege Whitstable**  
(Maundy Thursday we are joining with St John's Swalecliffe - please see above)

Good Friday: Wow; 2pm 'Last hour' quiet service with hymns, prayers and reflections.

Holy Saturday: 7pm Easter Vigil Service

Easter Day: 6am Easter Fire at Beacon Hill, Duncan Downs, followed by breakfast in St Andrew's Church

8am Traditional communion; 9.30am Holy Communion

Other events at St Alphege Whitstable in April

Sun 5th April 4.30pm Cafe Church at St Andrew's

Sun 19th April St Alphege's Patronal Festival 9.30am

Bishop Rose will preach and preside at this special service to which all are welcome. Refreshments after the service will be held at St Alphege Infant School.

Sat 25th April Church Spring Fair

**Holy Week and Easter at St Peter's Whitstable**

April 5th 10.45am Palm Sunday Liturgy

April 9th 8.00pm Maundy Thursday Liturgy and Stripping of the altar

Good Friday 12 noon Liturgy of the Day

April 11th 8pm Easter Vigil

Easter Day 10.45am Easter Day Eucharist

6.30pm Easter Day Evensong

April 25th Coffee Morning and Mini Market Church House, Cromwell Road 9.30am to 12 noon



**Churches Together in Whitstable Walk of Witness**

**Good Friday**

**9.45am start at St John's Swalecliffe.**

**Walking along seafront.**

**Times difficult to assess but should arrive at Harbour between**

**10.45am and 11.15am and**

**St Alphege Whitstable from**

**11.15am to 11.45am**

## WHITSTABLE TEAM MINISTRY SUNDAY SERVICES

St Alphege Whitstable [www.stalphege.org.uk](http://www.stalphege.org.uk)

8am Quiet Communion (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in each month and also Easter Day and Christmas Day)

9.30am Morning service usually with Holy Communion

4.30pm 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in each month Café church at St Andrews

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in month 4.30pm Evensong at St Alphege

Team Rector – Rev Rachel Webbley 01227 273329

[vicar@stalphege.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stalphege.org.uk)

Team Curate – Rev Rob Tugwell - [rtugwell@junior-kings.co.uk](mailto:rtugwell@junior-kings.co.uk)

All Saints Whitstable [www.allsaintswhitstable.com](http://www.allsaintswhitstable.com)

8am Holy Communion (BCP) and 10am Sung Holy Communion with 10am Family Communion on Second Sunday of each month

Occasional evening services – see website

[www.allsaintswhitstable.com](http://www.allsaintswhitstable.com)

Team Vicar – Rev Simon Tillotson -01227 275947

[tillotsons@gmail.com](mailto:tillotsons@gmail.com)

St Alphege Seasalter [www.stalphegeseasalter.org](http://www.stalphegeseasalter.org)

8.45am Holy Communion , 10.10 Lighthouse service and 11am

All-Age worship 6pm to 8pm Y congregation

Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion at 11.15am first Sunday of the month at The Old Church.

Team Vicar: Rev Paulette Stubbings - [seasaltervicar@gmail.com](mailto:seasaltervicar@gmail.com)

St John's Swalecliffe [www.swalecliffestjohns.co.uk](http://www.swalecliffestjohns.co.uk)

10.30am Parish Eucharist 6.30pm Evening Services (see website for details)

Team Vicar – Fr David Vannerley 07510 383 123

[vannerley@aol.com](mailto:vannerley@aol.com)

St Peter's Whitstable [www.stpeterswhitstable.org.uk](http://www.stpeterswhitstable.org.uk)

10.45am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm Evening service

Team Vicar – Rev Simon Tillotson – 01227 275947

[tillotsons@gmail.com](mailto:tillotsons@gmail.com)