

### Easter at the Churches of St James Beauchamp Lane and St Francis Hollow Way

<b>Palm Sunday April 9th</b>	2:30 pm Procession with Donkey from St Francis Hollow Way to St James (PARISH EVENT)	
<b>Maundy Thursday April 13th</b>	7:30 pm St James (PARISH EVENT)	Soup supper with Maundy Thursday Service
<b>Good Friday April 14th</b>	10:00 am St James (PARISH EVENT)	Messy Church- Good Friday
	1:00 pm – 1:45 St James Centre (PARISH EVENT)	At the cross: Reflections on the Passion
	2:15 pm Anglican Asian Living Church at St James	Good Friday Service
<b>Easter Saturday April 15th</b>	4:00 pm St Francis (PARISH EVENT)	Stations of the cross
	8:30 pm St James (PARISH EVENT)	Service of light with soup and sausages
	8:00 am St James	Traditional language Communion Service
<b>Easter Day April 16th</b>	10:00 am St James	Family Easter Day Communion Service
	10:30 am St Francis	Family Easter Day Communion Service
	1:45 pm Anglican Asian Living Church at St James	Resurrection Day Service



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## EASTER FUN DAY

### Saturday 8th April

**At St Francis Church, Hollow Way**



**10.00am – 2pm**

*Lots of Easter craft activities,*  
**Egg Hunt!** *Story telling, face painting,*  
***St Francis Cafe, Easter Raffle,***  
***Hotdogs & Hot cross Buns, & lots more!***

£1:50 per child includes crafts and snack, 50p per adult -  
*Free under 4*



# Chronicle

April 2017

# From the Editors

Sally Hemsworth, May Morgan, Nicki Stevens

How fast time passes – after what seemed like a long January, and a very quick February, we are now at the end of March! We now have longer days, the daffodils and primroses are out and the trees are showing signs of leaves, and Easter is almost here.

One important thing is for forms to be completed for vacant Church Warden and PCC posts – look-out for the forms in the churches if you wish to nominate anyone.

We are very grateful to all those who contribute to The Chronicle but we would welcome more articles if possible. Also, do you have a favourite recipe you would like to share, any poems that you have written, etc, any issue you would like to air. We would love to hear from you.

The sign-up forms are in place for the various outings and suggested outings – even if you are unable to participate we would welcome your comments on the ideas and perhaps you have other ideas you would like us to follow up?

## CHRONICLE

Editorial Team- Sally Hemsworth, May Morgan, Nicki Stevens

Deadline for the next edition:

Monday 24 April 2017

If possible, please send entries by email to Sally at [chronicle@cowleyteamministry.co.uk](mailto:chronicle@cowleyteamministry.co.uk)

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## A word from the Rectory



I wonder what comes to mind when you think of the cross of Christ. St James church is full of crosses. Some of these are empty and some hold an image of Jesus. The cross over the altar at St Francis Church is particularly striking. It is an empty cross, an Easter Cross. Jesus is no longer held on it. It tells the story of the risen Christ. It is made up of an intricate collection of pieces of coloured metal and glass. Metals reflecting light, glass allowing light to shine through them. It is also an intricate balance of big and small, Long and short, narrow and wide, brightly coloured and more subtle tones. As St Paul talks of us, the Church being a body made of many parts, so the beauty of this cross arises from the many different and varied parts.

As we look to the future we will be celebrating our diversity. Are we strong as a church? Yes, because we lean on Jesus but also because of our differences. One of my favourite children's songs is titled superglue:

At the centre of our faith is a cross that no longer holds Jesus. Jesus defeated death. Christ is risen! Our faith is in God who loves us. It is a love so strong that he sent his Son to show us how to live.

But he also did the very thing that was needed so that we could again walk as a friend of God (John 15:15, James 2:23). It is the awesome truth we

celebrate on Easter morning! Happy Easter to you



Benson Cottage

### Super Glue!

*We come in all kinds of colours  
Every shape and size  
We come in all kinds of ages  
Nought to ninety-five  
And we have all kinds of stories  
Some of them are sad  
But together we're the family of God*

*And the love of God  
is superglue  
That sticks us together  
And makes us all one  
Yes the loves of God is  
the super glue  
That keeps this family strong*

*And when we all get together  
Some come early, some come late  
We like all kinds of music  
Except the kinds we hate  
There are things that could divide us  
Make us fuss and fight  
But we won't let the dark  
Put out the light*

*Written by Judy Mackenzie Dunn*



## PARISH ELECTORAL ROLL 2017

The Parish of Cowley Electoral Roll – our list of registered church and parish ‘members’ – is open for revision. This message is for any new *and* established participants of our congregations who are not yet and would like to be recorded as a committed member of the Parish – at no cost and with the benefits of being able to vote at the Annual Meetings and to stand for Church and Parish roles.

Please take and complete an electoral roll form and return it to church or direct to Lesley Williams, Electoral Roll Officer – details are on the letter with the form.

The revision closes on Saturday 15 April, following which the draft revised roll will be displayed, at which time we ask both the new entries and everyone already on the roll to check the personal details we hold, especially mobile phone numbers and e-addresses and those for your emergency contact, which have a tendency to change – and are also sometimes mis-typed!

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## GARDENING PARTY

HELP REQUIRED – COME AND BOOST THE NUMBERS LOOKING AFTER THE AREA AROUND ST JAMES CHURCH AND ST JAMES CHURCH CENTRE.

LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH – 9.30 AM ONWARDS AT ST. JAMES CHURCH CENTRE.

Come and have fun, fresh air and exercise as we prepare the St. James Church Centre garden for another beautiful spring and summer showing. If possible bring your own tools but some will be available. Both heavy and light work available plus coffee and cake.



## FRIENDS OF ST JAMES OLD SCHOOL

We are excited to be hosting ‘2 + 2 = 4 : Victorian Schooling’ presented by Liz Woolley, a leading local researcher, historian and lecturer, on Friday 5 May, 6.30pm refreshments for 7.00-8.30pm. Just £5 as usual and there is no need to book.

A bluebell time afternoon visit to Nuffield Place, home of Lord Nuffield, now a fascinating National Trust property between Wallingford & Nettlebed, is planned for Saturday 6 May. There is of course a list to sign if you would like to join us.

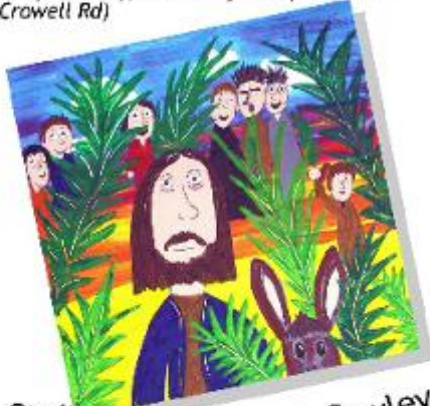
## Palm Sunday Prayer Walk

Churches Together in Cowley

Starting at St Francis Church  
Hollow Way

2:30 pm 9<sup>th</sup> April

prayer points at Our Lady's Roman Catholic Church (Hollow Way), United Reformed Church (Temple Road), John Bunyan Baptist Church (Crowell Rd)



ending at St James, Cowley  
with tea and hot cross buns

Walk all the way, or join anywhere along the route

## Programme

2:30 pm

start at St Francis Church  
(Hollow Way)  
with short prayer. Process to :

2:50 pm

Our Lady's Roman Catholic Church  
(Hollow Way)

3:10 pm

United Reformed Church  
(Temple Road)

3:35\* pm

John Bunyan Baptist Church  
(Crowell Rd)

5:15\* pm

St James' Church  
(Beauchamp Lane)

for refreshments

with a stop for a reading and a prayer  
at each of the churches on the journey

*\* times are approximate*

## Easter Saturday 8:30 pm 20 Minute Service of Light Welcoming in Easter

A candle lit  
procession with  
a few Songs.  
Followed by a  
sausage in a  
bread roll

**St James' Church**  
**Beauchamp Lane**  
**OX43LF**

Geoff Bayliss 01865 778596  
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"Jesus prayed at the Last  
Supper that we, those who  
follow him, might 'be one  
that the world might be-

lieve'. We are invited to make a lasting  
difference in our nations and in our world, by  
responding to his call to find a deep unity of  
purpose in prayer."

ARCHBISHOP JUSTIN WELBY

In 2016 the Archbishops of Canterbury and York invit-  
ed parishes across England to join a great wave of  
prayer between Ascension and Pentecost.

The response was overwhelming. Hundreds of thou-  
sands joined the wave of prayer in churches of many  
traditions and denominations around England and  
around the world. What began as invitation in Eng-  
land started to look like the beginnings of a global  
wave of prayer for people to know Jesus Christ.

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# WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2017

The planning meeting for the 2017 Women's World Day of Prayer Service was held at St James Church Centre in Beauchamp Lane, Cowley on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> February. Representatives from the following churches attended: Rose Hill Methodist, The United Reform Church, Cowley, St Nicholas and St Mary, Littlemore, Blessed Dominic Barberi, Littlemore, and St James, Cowley. The two churches at Blackbird Leys sent apologies but expressed a wish to be included in the participation of the service. Posters were distributed and readers for the service allocated. The theme for 2017 "Am I Being Unfair to You?" had been devised by the women of the Philippines.

Further posters were sent to John Bunyan Baptist Church, St Francis Church, the Littlemore Methodist Church, plus Holy Family and The Sacred Heart at Blackbird Leys.

Cowley Mothers' Union members prepared 90 small sachets of rice to be distributed at the service.

The rehearsal for the music and readers was held in St James Church on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> February. Mr Brian Tidy, organist for the church, led the attendees through the tunes to be used for the hymns. Those people appointed to read parts of the service then rehearsed. The afternoon ended with tea and biscuits and further arrangements for the preparation of the service.

The service itself on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017 was planned to begin at 3.30 pm so that parents with school-age children would be able to pick them up and arrive in time to take part. St James Church was delighted to welcome 11 children who spent a happy hour during the service taking advantage of the excellent material provided for them. The Rector's wife organised this. The church was filled with 70 adults and was warmly welcoming.

There were a number of hymns during the service, but the one which bound the service together was the Circle Song by Bernadette Farrell:

Come and join the circle,  
come and take my hand.  
Come and join the circle,  
come and be my friend.  
Gather round and see  
what the world can be.  
Come and join the circle,  
come and share God's word with me.

A tea party was organised to follow the beautiful service.

The total collection sent to Women's World Day of Prayer was £238.58.

Rosanne Butler

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## Prayers from the Ark

By Carmen Bernos de Gasztold

Translated from the French and with a  
Foreword and Epilogue by Rumer Godden

### THE PRAYER OF THE DOVE

The Ark waits,

Lord

the Ark waits on your will,  
and the sign of Your peace.

I am the dove,

simple

as the sweetness that comes from You.

The Ark waits,

Lord;

it was endured.

Let me carry it

a sprig of hope and joy,

and put, at the heart of its forsakenness,

this, in which Your love clothes me,

Grace immaculate.

Amen

## COWLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

After dealing with the business of the Annual meeting in March, one of our members gave an excellent account of a fascinating holiday spent in Spain and Morocco.

PLEASE NOTE: There is a change of day for our April Meeting. For that month only, instead of the usual third Wednesday, we shall meet on Friday, 21 April, at 2 pm for a demonstration of Flower Arranging.

We revert to our normal third Wednesday for the following month when we meet on Wednesday, 17 May, for a talk about osteoporosis, and we will also discuss the Resolutions to be debated at the National Annual Meeting being held in Liverpool in June.

Ann Withers

President, Cowley WI-

Kindness Begets Kindness  
Swedish Saying

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# MOTHER'S UNION NEWS

It has been a busy time for our Mothers' Union branch recently. Apart from our regular monthly meetings we have been multi-tasking on other projects.

Importantly members, their families and friends have been industriously knitting some beautiful cot blankets and tiny garments for the Special Baby Unit at the John Radcliffe Hospital. As an organisation which cares for families across the world, we felt that supporting sick babies, their families and the wonderful medical staff in our local area was certainly part of our mission.

We have also been supporting the Mothers' Union appeal called "Make a Mother's Day". This project sends much-needed funds to mothers in the Third World often in dire straits. This year we have sent funds for the literacy and numeracy project which gives women the skills to support their menfolk in their agricultural businesses and also help to teach their children to read and enumerate. The rest of our contribution is going to help young African mothers develop parenting skills in coping with hygiene, health and nutritional needs for their babies.

Last month we held our annual "Puddings and Quiz" evening. It was the best attended ever and a great success. The fun and laughter emanating from the various teams was evidence that a good time was had by all even if some of the questions were a bit obscure.

Our branch meeting in March was a lovely quiet afternoon for Lent led by Mandy Watts. She concentrated on the beautiful painting "The

Light of the World" by Holman Hunt. Her meditations, enhanced by perfectly chosen music, were moving and very thought provoking.

April 24th is the date booked for our St George's Day Lunch (only one day out). We ask members and friends to arrive at the Church Centre at 12.30 pm in time for a 12.40 pm lunch. We are asking for a donation of £3 for a good two course lunch with coffee/tea. As the Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer is scheduled for the previous weekend we have decided to follow our lunch with the readings for this. The Wave of Prayer is a world-wide project where dioceses everywhere pray for those with whom they are linked. Our link dioceses are in Africa and Southwark in London. So they pray for us and we do the same. It does seem to make our membership very relevant to world issues.

Recently the committee has been delving into the Cowley Mothers' Union archives and has uncovered some wonderful old documents and records going back for over 80 years. The earliest of these are going to be offered to the Oxfordshire Records Office at St Luke's (they are much too good to lose). By the way it caught my attention that at one time the Cowley branch had 41 members. We at the moment have 22 so come on you ladies of Cowley, come and join us. I do not think you will be disappointed.

Rosanne Butler



# DIARY DATES TO REMEMBER

## Mothers' Union

Monthly Meeting on 3rd Monday of month from 2.30pm.

But note different date for April—24 April

St George's Day Lunch

St James Church Centre

## Women's Institute

Monthly Meeting is on 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month from 2 – 4.30 pm

But note different date for April—Friday 21 April

Demonstration of Flower Arrangements

St James Church Centre

## Gardening

Last Saturday of the month – Gardening at St James Church/St James Church Centre

## Easter Fun Day

Saturday, 8 April 2017, 10 am – 2 pm

St Francis Church

## Film Club

Friday, 21 April 2017 – "Hello Dolly". St James Church Centre, commencing at 6.30 pm with coffee and cake

## Lunch at the Centre

Sunday, 23 April 2017 at 12.45 pm

St James Church Centre

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday, 30 April 2017, at 12.15 pm

St James Church Centre

## 'Victorian Schooling'

Talk by Liz Woolley

Friday, 5 May 2017 at 6.45 pm

St James Church Centre

£5 per person

## Plant Sale

Saturday, 13 May 2017, 12 – 3 pm

St James Church Centre

## Christian Aid Week

Sunday, 14 May to Saturday, 20 May 2017

## Big Brekkie

Sunday, 14 May 2017, at 8.45 am

St James Church Centre

## Coffee Morning

Wednesday, 17 May 2017, at 10 am

88 Temple Road

## Cowley Festival of Christmas Trees 2017

First Full Planning Meeting, Wednesday, 24 May 2017 at 9.30 am

St James Church Centre

REMEMBER – Tuesday Lunches at St James Church Centre from 12.30 pm.

**Maundy Thursday**  
**7:30 pm**  
**Soup Supper and Maundy**  
**Thursday Service**

An order for  
**MAUNDY**  
**THURSDAY**



More details from Revd Geoff Bayliss-  
Tel: 01865 778696  
St James Church Beauchamp Lane OX4 3LF

# Please can we have some warm weather?

The snowdrops in St James' Churchyard this year were a little reluctant to get going though they showed well on our second Snowdrop weekend. Many are in congested groups and not very well-distributed around our church. So, two successive Monday afternoons recently saw a few of us digging up clumps, splitting them and spacing them out to cover a bigger area. We suffered cold wind and rain, as well as getting muddy on our first outing, but the second Monday gave us better weather when we also took clumps from the Rectory garden (with permission!). We hope you approve, especially of the cross-shape planting fronting Beauchamp Lane. It seemed strange to advertise snowdrops when none can be seen from the lane! Thanks to Pat Chambers, Brian Brown, Jill Ling, Chris and John Booty and Dave Stanley for the help. There are still lots of places where more can go. We await next Spring to see if our efforts have worked.

I also got wet and cold today pricking out seedlings to grow on in readiness for the Plant Sale. This will be a daily task over the next few weeks to produce enough plants ready for Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May. I do hope that you lovely people who turn up on the day with your contributions will be able to do just that this year and to help sell at the sale itself. Hopefully we will have all the usual extras such as refreshments, raffle, cakes and general merchandise which we usually call bric-a-brac and which attracts many purchasers just as the plants do!

As I write, we are having a cold and wet spell though they forecast more Spring-like weather soon. Cold and wet is not the sort of weather that small seedlings like. Neither do I as I tramp from shed to greenhouse and back with my precious pots!

On the allotment, the rain has stopped my other half from getting on with digging and we certainly won't be sowing and planting until things do warm

up. Onions, shallots, garlic and broad beans are all getting going in modules in the greenhouse and will be put out as soon as the soil is warm. The grass paths are growing and will get their first cut when the sun shines. I did, however, manage to have a bonfire on the correct day to get rid of stuff that could not be composted. The rules on our site are that fires can be lit only on Tuesdays after 12 noon or the last weekend of the month but not at all over the warmer months.

I always marvel at how fast things move in the early part of the year. It seems that as soon as we are enjoying the daffodils, they are going over and tulips are in bloom. Mind you, also enjoying my daffs are, obviously, legions of little slugs which climb up the stems to gobble at the yellow petals and trumpets and I can never catch them at it. It must be done at night and they must be really delicious to them but leaving the plants in tatters behind!

I have been particularly enjoying the beautiful pink blossom on my peach tree. I doubt whether I will get much in the way of fruit this year as, though we were saved from frost, I did not see many pollinators venturing out in the cold and now the petals are falling. I did have a go at pollinating with a paint brush, but I didn't seem to get any pollen on the bristles to brush on the stigmas. Hey ho!

Joan Coleman



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# CHURCHES WITHIN OUR DEANERY

## St Michael and All Angels, New Marston, Oxford



St Michael and All Angels Church was designed by Lawrence Dale, built in 1954 and consecrated on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 1955. It is an Anglican 'High' church, meaning it sometimes uses modern catholic services.

On the main (west) front is a statue of St Michael and below, flanking the oval window, are two angels. A tall Bell Tower with a modern-day cross atop, stands on the right hand side of the church.



On entering the church through the west doorway, you pass through a set of glass double doors, each with a

picture of an angel. Look straight ahead and you will see the Altar with a large mural above. The

East Window depicts Christ with Oxford at His feet whilst another mural is displayed above the small altar in the chapel.



At the front of the Nave stands a splendid life size statue of St Michael and on the pillars around the nave of the church are eight plaques showing four scenes from The Old Testament on your left and four from The New Testament on your right.

Look up at the ceiling and you will notice that this has been decorated with a modern pattern of circular design.

This is a church which has activities for all ages and is very active in the community, surely 'Christian' in name and action.



Les Hemsworth

# Prayer Space

## Palm Sunday:

Jesus, when you rode into Jerusalem the people waved palms with shouts of acclamation. Grant that when the shouting dies we may still walk beside you even to a cross.

A New Zealand prayer book

## Good Friday

Almighty God, as we stand at the foot of the cross of your son, help us to see and know your love for us so that in humility, love and joy we may place at his feet all that we have and all that we are; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Celebrating Common Prayer

## Easter Day

Everliving God, help us to celebrate our joy in the resurrection of the Lord and to express in our lives the love that we celebrate.

The Liturgy of the Hours

---

## Easter Eggs

This year, Easter will be celebrated during April. As well as being a Christian festival, Easter has traditionally been a time to celebrate the return of spring. Flowers are in bloom, the fields are full of new shoots and animals are having babies. In order to celebrate this rebirth of nature and wildlife, and the end of the winter, a number of traditions have been built up regarding the giving of presents at this time of year.

The custom of giving eggs at Easter celebrates new life. Christians remember that Jesus, after dying on the cross, rose from the dead. Easter eggs are used as a symbol of the resurrection of Jesus.

Long ago people gave gifts of eggs carved from wood or precious stones. Birds' eggs have also been given as gifts for thousands of years, and even as long ago as the Middle Ages, eggs were painted bright colours to give them further meaning as a gift. Today, people still often paint birds' eggs but usually only chicken eggs.

The first sweet eggs that were eaten were made in the last 100 years or so from sugar or marzipan. Since then chocolate eggs have become popular and these are given on Easter Sunday.



---

*The best portion of a man's life,  
His little, nameless, unremembered acts  
Of kindness and of love*

*William Wordsworth*