

PEAR TREE PRAYER TREE

Today, as part of our cycle of prayer, we pray for all those who live in Wharncliffe Road and Wodehouse Road; all those who work in our local shops; Messy Church.



We also remember the bereaved and the housebound, all those known to you who may be ill at home or in hospital and all those who care for them.

In particular, please continue to pray for the Ockelford family, Les Beard, Win Stead, Aimee, Edith, Emily Thomas, Joan Dunnings, Pamela Clayton, Rosemary Nutburn, David Wellman, and Patsy Harrison.

EASTER LILIES

We would like to fill the church with lilies again at Easter. Would you like to sponsor a lily in memory of a relative or friend?

Cost £2.50. Please put your payment in an envelope marked with your name and the name of your relative or friend and give to Liz Spencer-Fleet by Sunday 14th April.



OPEN CHURCH

will commence again 1.00-4.00 p.m. every Wednesday from the beginning of May. If you would like to join the rota, please contact Jim or Jean Inglis (80252292).

SIDESPERSONS

For those not on e-mail, the new rota is now available on the table.

THANK YOU

... to all those who organised and supported the Pear Tree 400 Community Coffee and Stories session in the Church Hall yesterday.

PARISH MAGAZINE

The April/May Easter edition is now available on the table. Please help yourself to a copy.

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

A dramatic staging by The Merry Opera Company

7.00 p.m. Saturday 4th May in the Church

Tickets: £10, available from Pat or Doris, or contact 0333 666 4466. Full details on the notice board.

~~ DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ~~

Friday 12th April Messy Church in the Church Hall, 10.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. Free entry, refreshments provided, but donations appreciated.

Saturday 20th April Messy Church Easter Outreach, 10.00-11.30 a.m. at St. Mark's Institute, Victoria Road, Woolston.

AT PEAR TREE CHURCH WE AIM TO LOVE GOD AND OUR NEIGHBOURS



The Purpose of the Church in Pear Tree is to provide a place of worship where all people are welcome and encouraged to experience God's love in faith and prayer; where we will reach out as witnesses to discover the needs of the local and wider communities using our gifts and resources and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit

**SUNDAY
31st
MARCH
2019**

**4th Sunday
of Lent**

Priest-in-Charge - Revd Miles Newton, 117 Swift Road, Woolston SO19 9ER
☎ 023 80441124

9.30 a.m.

PARISH COMMUNION
- Revd Miles Newton

*Mothering
Sunday*

Hymns: MP 467, 709, 133, 266
Readings: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
See overleaf

INTRODUCTORY SENTENCE

"My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"
(Luke 15:31)

COLLECT

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



PLEASE JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS IN THE CHURCH HALL AFTER THE SERVICE



2 Corinthians 5:16-21

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Then Jesus told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

"Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

"The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

"But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

"Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

"The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've

been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!

"My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

THE WEEK AHEAD

- MON 1 APR** 10.00 a.m. Crafty Coffee Morning in the Church Hall - all welcome
- TUE 2 APR** 9.30 a.m. Morning Prayer in the Church - all welcome
7.30 p.m. Pear Tree 400 meeting in the Hall Committee Room
- SAT 6 APR** 11.00 a.m. Messy Church Outreach with pop up Repair Café at the Veracity Ground, Sholing
- SUN 7 APR** **5TH SUNDAY OF LENT**
10.00 a.m. Parish Communion
11.30 a.m. Annual Parochial Church Meeting in the Church Hall - all welcome

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

11.30 a.m. Sunday 7th April in the Church Hall

At this meeting officers and a new Parochial Church Council will be elected for the coming year. The PCC needs people who are willing to become involved in the day to day running of the Church. A nomination form is available on the Church notice board.

Please sign up if you would like to stand for election.

Please note - stand (or to vote at the meeting), you must be on the Electoral Roll of the Church. For further information, please speak to Jean Inglis, our Electoral Roll Officer (tel. 80252292).

The Annual Report is now available on the table. Please help yourself to a copy.