

ON THIS WEEK

MONDAY 16th APRIL

2.00pm Revd Diane meeting to discuss this years Remembrance service

6.30pm Meditation group meet at 43 Barking Road

TUESDAY 17th APRIL

9.30pm Tuesday Tots in the ARK

11.00am Prayer group meet at 12A Uvedale Court

4.00pm Revd Diane meeting at the Cathedral

7.00pm Celebration planning meeting at the Rectory

WEDNESDAY 18th APRIL

12noon MU meet in the ARK

THURSDAY 19th APRIL

10.30am Christians Together meet at Christchurch to share Lent and Easter reactions and reflections

SUNDAY 22nd APRIL

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER

10.00am Sung Eucharist in the Limes

7.00pm Young peoples group in the ARK

SUNDAY 29th APRIL

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

10.00am Sung Eucharist at the Limes

SUNDAY 6th MAY

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER

8.00am Said Eucharist in the ARK

10.00am All Age Worship in the ARK

12.00noon Revd Diane home communion

CONTACTS

Revd Diane Williams – 720316 or

07714016554

Linda Ruby Churchwarden

07546222947

Please include in your prayers

-Madge and Iris

-Ruth and family

-the Ruby family, for Mick and Linda

- Catherine's friend David and for Janet and for the family

- Roland's mother Lore and for Roland and Allison

-Bryony and Tom and the twins

especially Frida who is still in hospital

-for all families who are facing difficulty during these uncertain times.

-we lay before you the heated arguments, industrial action, blinkered vision and stubborn behaviour of our world; may the power of your love soften, ease and coax us all to be more understanding, wise and forgiving.

--for Revd Diane as she goes about her ministry here in Needham Market, and elsewhere in the Deanery

We also pray for the many names that appear on our prayer board and all those who are suffering in mind, body and spirit, for those who are in pain and distress and for those who care for loved ones. Give skills to doctors and nurses and patience to all those who care for invalids.

-we pray for our town of Needham

Market as Mid Suffolk District Council bring forth their plans for new building developments which would see our resources stretched to over its limit.

We pray that they may have the grace to listen to our concerns and work with our Town Council in the spirit of co-operation and generosity for our neighbourhood.

St. John the Baptist Church Needham Market,

SUNDAY 15th APRIL **3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER**

10.00am Sung Eucharist in the ARK

11.15am ACM in the ARK

4.00pm Cafe Church

Readings

Zephaniah Ch3 v14-end pg947

Acts Ch3 v12-19 pg1095

Luke 24:36b-48 pg1062

Hymns

603 Sing to God new songs of

67 Be Still for the presence

295 How lovely on the mountains

87 Broken for me, broken for you

361 Jesus stand among us

716 We have a gospel to proclaim

Collect

Almighty Father,

who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord;

give us such knowledge of his presence with us,

that we may be strengthened and sustained by

his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;

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 forever Amen

CELEBRATION WEEKEND

DON'T FORGET the first meeting to discuss this important event will be held on **Tuesday 17th April 7.00pm at the Rectory.** If you are interested in helping to organise this event please go along, if you are unable to attend but would like to help please speak to Revd Diane.

THE ARK after many years of loyal service as the booking secretary for the ARK, Sharon and Paul have decided that it is time for them to hand this over to someone else's capable hands. The PCC are therefore looking for someone to volunteer to take over this responsible job. We need to be able to hire out this venue in order to help with the running costs so it is an important part of the running of the ARK. It has been suggested that this could be a shared role if two people would consider working together on this.. If you would be interested in taking on this important role please speak to either Revd Diane or David Long.

MONTHLY PRODUCE STALLS AND COFFEE MORNINGS

Thank you to all those who supported these stalls and to Margaret, Diana, Ray and Ann for running them., between them they raised £146.00.

PLEASE DO LOOK AT THE ROTAS AS David and Carol have signed up to run the produce stall on May 5th but so far there is no one running the coffee morning. If no one volunteers it will not happen which would be a shame as it is advertised in the Needham Newsletter .

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 12 –

19TH MAY This is a great opportunity to show our church in action in the town. We will collect from house to house again and will need plenty of help with this, please. Also, we are holding a coffee morning in the Ark on Sat 19th & would be very grateful for offers of help and/or cakes.

Would anyone be willing to host a coffee morning/ afternoon tea/ soup lunch at their house during the week? We are trying to reach out beyond the congregations of our church & Christchurch to friends and neighbours. New ideas are also most welcome. Kate Dines & the team.

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

TODAY after this service.

It is not too late if you would like to be nominated to join the PCC even if you cannot stay for the meeting. See Carol right away for a form.

FELLOWSHIP AND LEARNING

I have been asked if we might have more teaching and fellowship, along the lines of the Lent courses we did this year and I am proposing to start a monthly meeting, open to all who wish to attend.

Keep an eye out for more information. It is likely to be an evening meeting, but if there was a desire for a daytime group too we could do that as well. Let me know if you are interested

Diane

From the Vicarage

What does it mean to be a Christian, to be a follower of Jesus? That is something we are learning about through our Gospel readings during this Season of Easter and it is something that we reflect on each year as we approach our Annual meeting.

There is not an easy answer is there? There is a clear one, something along the lines of what Jesus said to that rich young ruler “Go and sell all that you have, give the money to the poor and then come and follow me (be with me).

And that is not an easy answer!

But it is the challenge we face as we seek to grow as disciples of Christ.

What he was saying to that young man, I think, was “let me be at the centre of your life” and there are probably many times when we don't want to hear that and don't want to do that.

I was reminded the other day of a young lady, a young mum, who came across the gospel teaching about denying family in order to be Christ's and her response was along the lines of “forget that; my family mean the world to me!”

One thing I have learnt is that when we truly allow Christ to be at the centre of our lives, somehow everything else also has its rightful place and instead of losing we gain.... Better relationships, increasing love and so on.... Or that has been my experience.

And I think this is true for the church too. When the Church lets Christ be at the centre of all that it seeks to do, then everything else falls into place.

Maybe, this coming year is one to focus on Christ and his call to discipleship. Diane