

LITTLE S. MARY'S, CAMBRIDGE

March 2024: No. 621

NEWSLETTER



Notable dates in March

Tuesday 19th

Feast of S. Joseph

Low Mass 7:45am

Sung Mass 7pm

Sunday 24th

PALM SUNDAY

Low Mass 8am

High Mass 10:15am, meeting at Laundress Green

Evensong and Benediction 6pm

Monday 25th – Wednesday 27th in Holy Week

Low Mass with homily 7pm

Thursday 28th

MAUNDY THURSDAY

High Mass with Maundy Liturgy

and watch of the Passion 7pm

Friday 29th

GOOD FRIDAY

Preaching of the Passion 12noon

Liturgy of the Day 1:30pm

Children's Stations of the Cross 5pm

Tenebrae 9pm

Saturday 30th

HOLY SATURDAY

Paschal Vigil and First Mass of Easter 9pm

Sunday 31st

EASTER DAY

Low Mass of Easter 8am

High Mass of Easter 10:30am

Festal Evensong and Benediction 6pm

Lent is an excellent time to make your sacramental Confession for the first time. The Clergy are very happy to provide help and guidance.

Vicar's Letter

3rd March 2024

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Last night I had the privilege of giving Tony Fletcher the Last Rites, surrounded by his children, grandchildren and even a great-grandchild. We commend his soul to God's mercy and pray for his family who mourn him. Tony was a devoted father and grandfather, and as an altar server was always a great encourager of young servers. He worshipped here over many years. On Wednesday 6th March we will host the Funeral Mass for Edward Lachlan, who has died aged 93 and was the son of Robert Lachlan (1861-1945) who laid out the semi-wild churchyard garden at LSM and was churchwarden here. Robert had three wives, all of whom sadly died, and Edward was the eldest of his children by his third wife. Robert was 70 when Edward was born and died when Edward was 14. We commend Edward to God and pray for his widow Elizabeth and their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The month of March is traditionally the month dedicated to Saint Joseph, Our Lord's foster-father, whose feast day we keep on 19th March. It seems fitting that Tony died in this month, given his own fatherly care and commitment, and that we have Edward's funeral here in March, given his father's long connection with LSM. S. Joseph was a loving father, one who followed his heart, one who was content to be in the background and who never abandoned his wife or child, and who traditionally was an older man when Jesus was born.

This year March is also the month of Holy Week and Easter Day. Holy Week is where the Fatherhood of God is revealed to us most supremely by Jesus Christ. God is indeed King, Father, Lord, and All-Powerful, all images we might traditionally associate with masculinity. He is also revealed in that week, however, to be the victim, the one who removes His outer garment and washes His disciples' feet, the one who forgives from the Cross, who prevents His disciples responding with violence, who is silent before His accusers. We often imagine the Fatherhood of God by projecting onto Him earthly ideas and images of being a father; whereas actually our earthly ideas and images of being a father should be transformed by what is revealed about true fatherhood in the life, death and

resurrection of Jesus Christ (Ephesians 3.14). When we have finished describing God the Father, He often sounds surprisingly like an earthly mother.

Surprise is one of the enduring features of Holy Week, which makes it a special time regardless of whether this is your first or ninety-first. There is always something new to discover about the death and resurrection of Jesus and about the extent and nature of God's love.

This year we will have a variety of preachers over the week, giving us lots of different voices and perspectives on the Passion. As I always do, I urge you to make room in your diaries and hearts for the liturgies of these days in order that the death and resurrection of Jesus may not just be an external event but something that takes place and transforms deep within us.

The striking thing is that this week does not follow a simple linear process. Yes, we enter Jerusalem with joy on Palm Sunday, but we also read the entire Passion in that liturgy and so we anticipate all that will occur. From Monday to Wednesday we go backwards and forwards, dipping into the days before the Lord's Passion but also Maundy Thursday night itself. Then on the Thursday night, after the liturgy of the Lord's Supper, we strip the altar in honour of His stripping the next day but return to the previous day in watching through the night with Him, even after the hour when He was arrested. At Tenebrae on Good Friday at 9pm we are in fact praying the morning office of Holy Saturday!

All these movements and anticipations and circling back on ourselves exist to remind us that in Holy Week we have entered Sacred Time, when the Eternal touches earth, and that ordinary movements in time or space cannot adequately allow for or contain what is happening.

As we rejoice that Tony and Edward are in a place where no signs or sacraments are any longer needed, and have reached their Easter, we pray for them and trust in their fellowship with us in the Body of Christ and Communion of Saints as we continue our journey towards the same eternal sunrise promised to us by the one who is our Way, our Truth and our Life.

With every prayer and all love,
Fr Robert.



Calendar and Intentions

for

March 2024

*The list of Thanksgivings and Intercessions offers a focus
for our daily prayer, both at the Offices and Mass,
and in our personal times of prayer.*

*The Vicar would be glad of suggestions or
additions to the list of daily intentions.*

Calendar for March

FRI 1st *S. David, bishop*
SAT 2nd *S. Chad, bishop & missionary*

SUN 3rd THIRD SUNDAY of LENT

MON 4th

TUE 5th

WED 6th *S. Tibb, virgin*

THU 7th *SS Perpetua, Felicity & Companions, martyrs*

FRI 8th *Edward King, bishop*

SAT 9th

SUN 10th FOURTH SUNDAY of LENT – Refreshment Sunday

MON 11th

TUE 12th

WED 13th

THU 14th

FRI 15th

SAT 16th

SUN 17th FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – Passion Sunday

MON 18th *S. Cyril of Jerusalem, bishop & doctor*

TUE 19th S. Joseph, Husband of the BVM

WED 20th *Cuthbert, bishop & missionary*

THU 21st *Thomas Cranmer, archbishop & martyr*

FRI 22nd

SAT 23rd

SUN 24th PALM SUNDAY

MON 25th Monday of Holy Week

TUE 26th Tuesday of Holy Week

WED 27th Wednesday of Holy Week

THU 28th MAUNDY THURSDAY

FRI 29th GOOD FRIDAY

SAT 30th HOLY SATURDAY

SUN 31st EASTER DAY

March Daily Intentions

Renewal of Religious Life in England	1 st
For our own part in the Church's mission	2 nd
Our Parish & People	3rd
Homeless provision in Cambridge	4 th
Catechumens	5 th
Our PCC	6 th
CofE Catholic Societies	7 th
Christian Renewal in Europe	8 th
Cambridge South Deanery	9 th
Our Parish & People	10th
Cambridge Churches Homeless Project	11 th
Calcutta Cathedral Relief Service	12 th
The Sick	13 th
Camtrust	14 th
Mental health	15 th
Our Lent & Young Adult Groups	16 th
Our Parish & People	17th
Teachers of Theology	18 th
Fathers, Stepfathers & Foster Fathers	19th
The Province of York	20 th
Prayer Book Society	21 st
Society of Mary	22 nd
Our keeping of Lent	23 rd
Our Parish & People	24th
Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham	25 th
Parish Music	26 th
Whitworth Trust	27 th
Servant-heartedness	28 th
Greater devotion to the Lord's Cross	29 th
Samaritans	30 th
Our Parish & People	31st

Anniversaries of Death

- 2nd Ivy Hinchcliffe
3rd Ceta Cherry, Harold Auckland
4th Stephen Barnard
6th Roger Knight, Mary Rowlings
8th Anna Matthews *priest*, Geoffrey Clayton *archbishop*
9th Jessie Rolph
10th Carl George
13th Elsie Murrell, Helen Dex, Beryl Oliver, Hugh Wilcox *priest*
15th Elizabeth Lampe, Violet Barnard, Michael Ogden, Alan Gustard
16th Teresa Pike, Jean Gustard
17th Richard Henry Boulind, Ann Robinson
19th Eileen Barnard
20th Mary McDougall
21st Constance Hennings, Margaret Florence Bottrall
22nd Emily Glennie, Nellie Edwards, Merlin Rotherham-Brown, Ken
Topley
23rd William Powell
24th George Head
26th Philip Gibbens Hall
28th John Gilling *priest*
31st Pamela Horne

Let us give thanks before God for all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in the Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

**Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord,
and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

News from the LSM churchyard garden

Jeremy Musson writes:

I am sure that regular LSM people (and others) will have noticed that we have been lucky enough to have two replacement trees planted in the LSM churchyard garden by the City Council: a new magnolia “Heaven Scent” (or as some prefer “Heaven-sent”), planted above the lilacs towards the gateway to Peterhouse, and a Dove Tree planted more centrally (on an axis with the elaborate door to the “Ark”); the latter (also known as a Handkerchief Tree or *Davidia involucrata*) has big floppy white leaves in the summer and goes very red in the autumn.



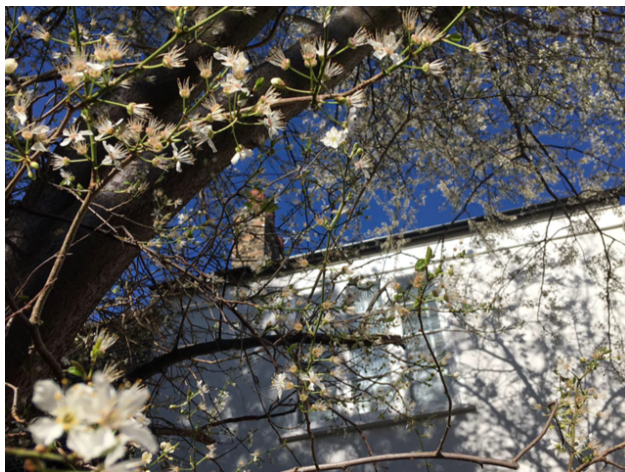
We continue to try and manage the garden to balance nature with the character of the churchyard garden established in the 1920s (partly inspired by the Botanic Gardens, where two LSM curates were early curators), and

following the new management plan first devised by Tessa Hobbs in 2003 and brought up to date and revised in 2023.

New shrub roses are being raised in the New Yew Bed and Little St Mary's Lane Border, and Marsh Grass in the Old Yew Bed, along with varieties of Chionodoxa, Geranium, Salvia, Phlox and Aster, these beds framing the new grassed area. New climbing roses were also planted in 2023 to grow over the restored oak pergola made from oak pieces which had previously been used for a pergola in the garden of the shrine at Walsingham.

The volunteer garden working parties (no special gardening skills necessary, gloves and tools provided – and cake) will take place at 11am, after the 10am Mass usually on the third Saturdays in the month; namely Saturdays 16th March, 20th April, 18th May, 22nd June, 20th July, 24th August, 21st September, 19th October, 23rd November and 14th December (note that these last two are the fourth and second Saturdays of their respective months). From May to September some evening sessions will also be organised at 6pm. These are always fun, and a way to contribute to the life of LSM and help our mission to visitors who may encounter peace here, be they travellers, office workers or students.

Contact Jeremy Musson or Christine Tipple garden@lsm.org.uk or after Mass if you are interested. Also, if people want to adopt individual beds for weeding and nurture at times more convenient to their lives but on a regular basis, just let us know, and we can assign and co-ordinate efforts.



As ever, there will be some major cutting back in the early summer when the cow parsley is over, and then again at the end of autumn. Some new hellebores, bluebells and feverfew have been introduced (many thanks to Jo Wibberley, Elizabeth Kemp and others for donations). Two new shrub roses have also been planted, courtesy of a voucher from Romana and Greg Nowak, US academic visitors who worship at LSM most summers. There are plans to establish several new myrtle bushes.



Some of the early bulbs are over now, especially the snowdrops. If you are dividing them in your garden please could you bring any extras to plant in the church garden; they can be left at the church for planting?