



contact

for St Mary's, Burwell with St Etheldreda and the Holy Trinity, Reach

What does Easter mean to you?

I wonder what Easter means for you? Is it the hot cross buns, the chocolate eggs, celebration meals? I love all those, but for me, the most important thing is that Easter is when we realise afresh what a completely outrageous, and yet glorious hope we have. Hope that even when all seems hopeless, new life can come. The disciples think it's all over...And then, amazingly, their lives are transformed, from being terrified, running away, to being courageous witnesses, ready to proclaim the good news of the risen Jesus.

What I find encouraging is that they don't all 'get it' straight away. One of my favourite Easter accounts is the encounter of the two walking to Emmaus. They had heard the reports that Jesus was alive, but just couldn't make sense of it, or believe it for themselves. A stranger comes alongside, but they don't realise that it is Jesus. He talks with them, gently helping them to understand.

At the end of the journey, they still haven't recognised that it is actually Jesus who is walking with them, until they invite him in for a meal, and he breaks the bread, and they finally see him for who he is. Their eyes are opened, they realise that he has been there all along, and it's as if their hearts are on fire.

I can remember times when, like the two on the Emmaus road, I have trudged along struggling with disappointment and heartache, and miss the presence of the Stranger walking beside me saying: 'Can't you see?' I wonder what Jesus would say to you and to me today as he draws alongside and walks with us? Because he doesn't force himself on us. He waits to be invited. But when we do invite him, he enables us to see him for who he really is, so that we know that glorious, outrageous resurrection hope for ourselves.

Eleanor Williams

Easter at St Mary's Burwell & St Etheldreda's Reach



Palm Sunday
24th March

8.30am Holy Communion
at St Etheldreda's, Reach
10.00am Holy Communion
at St Mary's, Burwell
4.00pm Churches Together
Songs of Praise
at Ness Court

Cross Talk - Burwell Radio
<https://burwell.radio/>
Led by St Mary's & St Etheldreda's
Sunday 8.30am & 4.30pm,
Monday 7.00pm



Holy Week 25th - 31st March
Mon, Tues, Weds 25th - 27th March

6.00pm Night Prayer at St Mary's
Tuesday 26th March
3.00pm (approx) Pilgrim Cross visit
Wednesday 27th March
10.30am Holy Communion at St Mary's
Maundy Thursday 28th March
7.30pm Holy Communion at St Mary's
Good Friday 29th March

10.30am Messy Easter at St Mary's
11.00am Churches Together
Walk of Witness from North St Co-op
2.00pm Reflective Service
at St Etheldreda's, Reach



Easter Sunday
31st March

7.00am Churches Together
Sunrise Service
on Castle Mound
followed by breakfast
8.30am Holy Communion
at St Etheldreda's, Reach
10.00am Easter Celebration
Holy Communion at St Mary's

Cross Talk - Burwell Radio
<https://burwell.radio/>
Jointly led by Churches Together
Sunday 8.30am & 4.30pm,
Monday 7.00pm

**From the
Parish Registers
Funerals**



Rest in Peace
John Rose
Janet Conti

Burwell Food Support Group

Pop-up Pantry & Ely Foodbank

*working together
to support our local community*

**at Burwell Day Centre
Fridays 2.00 - 3.00pm**

Pop-up Pantry is working towards reducing waste and offers short life food and more as is available.

Donations towards the Pantry are gratefully received and can be dropped off at the Day Centre.

A voluntary contribution of £2 is helpful towards running costs.

Ely Foodbank provides food for 3 days and can help with issues such as benefit changes, low incomes and more.

Citizen Advice join the team on 1st Friday of month.

If you require help from the Foodbank please ring 01353 468626 or email info@ely.foodbank.org.uk

Burwell Food Support Group links individuals and groups working to support those in need in our community, and includes Burwell Help Group, Open Arms, St Mary's Church, Burwell Baptist Church, Burwell & District Day Centre, Burwell Co-op



PRAYER MINISTRY

We will be starting again soon to offer prayer for individuals during our services. Before Covid, this was an important part of our Sunday services, and has been very much missed. Most Sundays, there will now be an opportunity to ask for prayer, in confidence. With changed arrangements for communion, we propose to have an area near the font where two of our pastoral team will be available, if you would like to go there, after going forwards to receive communion or a blessing. The team could also come to pray with you where you are seated. We hope that this will be a means of encouragement, blessing, and healing to many. **Eleanor**

CentrePeace



38a The Causeway, Burwell

Opening Times

Tuesday	10.00am—12.30pm
Wednesday	2.00pm—4.00pm
Thursday	10.00am—12.30pm 1.00pm—3.00pm
Friday	10.00am—12.30pm
Saturday	10.00am—12.30pm

**Parish of St Mary's, Burwell,
with St Etheldreda's, Reach**

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting
(APCM)**

Sunday 7th April

In St Mary's Church

Approx. 11.15am

After the 10.00am Café Church

The APCM is very much like the Annual General Meeting of any organisation. We receive reports on the year past and vote for our Churchwardens and members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC).

In this parish, the APCM is usually very brief because all the reports from the Vicar, the Churchwardens, the Secretaries and the Treasurer are circulated in advance in our Annual Report, copies of which will be available in church two weeks before the meeting and will also be available on line.

Look out for more details nearer the time, including nomination forms for PCC and other officers. There will be several vacancies on the PCC, and we are also looking for a new churchwarden, and others to help with church finance.

Please continue to pray for all in leadership positions, and for others to come forward, when some need to step back. Please speak to Eleanor for more information about joining the PCC, or volunteering for other roles in the church.

This month's Eco Living Ideas from Kathy

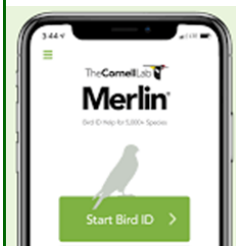


When you buy chocolate for Easter, remember to look for FairTrade Chocolate. While you're food shopping, look for other FairTrade food and drink, such as coffee and tea.

Choosing organic versions makes them even better for the planet and people.

When buying compost and plants for your garden, choose peat-free to avoid the damage peat extraction causes. Carbon is stored in the ground in peat, but when the peat is extracted, millions of tonnes of CO2 are released into the atmosphere, adding to climate change.

As spring arrives, take time to appreciate the many signs of new and returning life, and give thanks to God for his wonderful creation. See how many flowers you can name on your walks, look out for the different insects and listen to bird song – how many can you recognise and name?



Merlin Bird ID app

This is a free app for iPhone or Android to help learn how to identify birds, by recording a short clip of birdsong. Highly recommended!

“Why should Christians care?”

Katharine Hayhoe, a Christian and climate scientist wrote an email in November 2023 in which she quoted Bangladeshi scientist Dr Saleemul Huq: “Climate change can be characterised as pollution by rich people and rich countries adversely impacting poor people, in both rich and poor countries. This is morally wrong and every religion teaches that it is wrong. If we accept this premise, then it is incumbent on each and every person on the planet to take requisite actions to tackle climate change.”

Student Cross Pilgrimage

Will be visiting St Mary's for tea on Tuesday 26th March 2023 at about 3.30pm

Please contact Pat Chalmers if you could help with the teas by providing food or serving on the day or would like to walk with them for a short distance.



www.studentcross.org.uk

Space to talk and pray...

Lent and Holy Week have become for many a time for a spiritual review, and I would like to offer space to meet with anyone who would like an opportunity to reflect on where they are with God and where God may be at work in their life. Please contact me to arrange a time, if you think that would be helpful.

Eleanor



Reflection by Philip Baker

Epiphany. Ash Wednesday. Lent. Easter. Each of these is a time of historical importance in the church year. Each is steeped in history and has great symbolism. I have just returned from a service in which a cross was placed on my forehead in ash – Ash Wednesday. But is all this relevant today? I strongly believe it is and I hope to show why with my following personal view.

Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent, a completely different time from the period following Epiphany. We move from celebration to a time of prayer, contemplation and repentance. The ash cross makes a public statement – I follow Christ, with all that implies. It symbolises our mortality – “ashes to ashes, dust to dust” – it is a reminder to us that, at our appointed time, we too will face physical death in order to be risen to new life with God.

Lent comprises the 40 days prior to Easter in which we remember the love of God poured out to us through His Son, culminating in Easter when He defeated death, sin and temptation in all forms to lead us to Eternal Life. Lent is therefore a time when we attempt to establish a daily routine which excludes (or includes) certain things (usually involving fasting in some form) and have to resist the temptation to give in. Lent is about Praying, Fasting and Penance. Easter is the great celebration of the resurrection of Jesus following the immense sorrow of His Crucifixion. But that is to come, it is still far away and we need to return our thoughts to Lent and the challenge we set ourselves.

The above shows the emotional states we have to pass through in order that we can fully appreciate Easter. If we are not reminded of our mortality on Ash Wednesday, if we do not face and defeat temptation during Lent through Prayer, if we do not appreciate the need for us to Repent of our sins and show our humble desire to follow Christ, then we are not prepared to understand the sorrow and joy of Easter, and without Easter, where is our Faith?

I have run out of space to continue, so I close by suggesting you continue your Lent journey by reading and reflecting on Psalms 100 and 130. **Philip Baker**



Burwell Branch

I am enrolling some more members into the Mothers' Union in March, if you have been thinking of joining I would be very pleased to talk with you about what it involves and adding you into the service. Philip Baker, Mill Bungalow, Mill Lane. philip.bakerhome@ntlworld.com

**Mothering Sunday
Thanksgiving Service**
followed by refreshments
Sunday 10th March
10.00 am
at St Mary's Burwell
All very welcome to join us



Flower posies to be given out



Quiet Morning March 16th
11.00am - 1.00pm, drinks from 10.30am
at St Etheldreda's, Reach
*An opportunity to take some time out
during this season of Lent
with reflections, prayer and times of silence*
Contact Virginia for more details
and to reserve a place

Charity Spotlight

This month, we focus on some of the charities that the PCC supports who work with people with specific needs.



Livability

<https://www.livability.org.uk/>

Livability is a UK based Christian charity which helps people with disabilities to live the life they want to lead. They provide a wide range of care, education, vocation and rehabilitation services to help people become more confident and independent and to grow community connections that improve wellbeing.

Yeldall Manor

<https://www.yeldall.org.uk>

Yeldall Manor is a residential drug and alcohol treatment centre near Reading for men struggling with addiction. Established in 1977 by a Christian family and their supporters, it welcomes men from all walks of life, background, ethnicity, culture and faith and helps them to address issues in their physical, emotional, mental and spiritual health, as well as practical life problems and damaged relationships.

EACH – East Anglia Children’s Hospice

<https://www.each.org.uk/>

EACH offers family-centred care and support to children with life limiting conditions and their families. They ensure all the psychological, physical, emotional, social or spiritual needs of the children they care for are met and offer the flexibility for the child to be at home, in hospital or in one of their three hospices.

Smile Train

<https://www.smiletrain.org.uk/>

Smile Train is the world’s largest organisation that focuses on the needs of babies born with a cleft lip and/or palate, a condition which affects 1 in 700 babies globally. Clefts cause difficulties eating, breathing, hearing, and speaking and children born with clefts need more than just surgery. They may also need nutritional support, dental care, orthodontic treatment, and speech therapy, which Smile Train aims to provide.

Pat Chalmers for

The Mission Giving Group

Refresh Café and Messy Church

We have a really exciting ministry with children and families at Refresh Café every Friday morning, and at Messy Church, monthly Sunday afternoons. We are hoping to recruit more team members to help with activities and with preparing food, and would love you to pray with us for those that God is calling to share in this lovely and very special ministry.

If you would like to know more, please speak to Eleanor or Paula. All team members need to complete the Church of England’s Safer Recruitment Process, and be prepared to have a DBS check and undertake some safeguarding awareness training.



Hold the Date!

St Mary’s Church Fete

Saturday June 8th 2024

2.00pm - 4.00pm

In the Church and Churchyard

If you have any good ideas for new attractions, especially for families and children, or if you’d like to be involved, Jo or Rob Proctor would love to hear from you.

Jo’s email is

LLM@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Rob’s email address is

tech@stmarysburwell.org.uk



March Services

Please check the weekly news sheet for updates or our website. Refreshments are served after the 10am Sunday service and our Wednesday midweek service. Café Church is usually on first Sunday of month, beginning with refreshments, themed activities for all ages, then a short service.

Date	St Mary's Burwell	St Etheldreda's Reach
Sunday 3rd March Lent 3	10.00am Café Church	8.30am Holy Communion
Wednesday 6th March	10.30am Holy Communion	
Thursday 7th March	9.00am Morning Prayer	
Sunday 10th March Mothering Sunday Lent 4	8.30am Holy Communion 10.00am All Age Service	
Wednesday 13th March	10.30am Holy Communion	
Thursday 14th March	9.00am Morning Prayer	
Friday 15th March	12.30pm Wedding of Tanya and Shane	
Saturday 16th March		11.00am Quiet Morning
Sunday 17th March Lent 5	10.00am Holy Communion	
Wednesday 20th March	<i>10.30am Holy Communion at Ness Court</i>	10.30am Holy Communion
Thursday 21st March	9.00am Morning Prayer	
Sunday 24th March Palm Sunday	8.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Holy Communion 4.00pm Churches Together Songs of Praise at Ness Court	
Monday 25th March	6.00pm Compline (Night Prayer)	
Tuesday 26th March	6.00pm Compline	
Wednesday 27th March	10.30am Holy Communion 6.00pm Compline	
Thursday 28th March Maundy Thursday	7.30pm Holy Communion followed by the Watch	
Friday 29th March Good Friday	10.30am Messy Church 11.00am Churches Together Walk of Witness starting Co-op	2.00pm Reflective Service
Sunday 31st March Easter Day	7.00am Sunrise service 10.00am Holy Communion	8.30am Holy Communion
Wednesday 3rd April	10.30am Holy Communion	
Thursday 4th April	9.00am Morning Prayer	
Sunday 7th April	10.00am Café Church 11.15am APCM	8.30am Holy Communion

More details of some of our Holy Week and Easter events



Palm Sunday
Songs of Praise
At Ness Court
 Sunday 24th March
 4.00pm
 Followed by tea
 All welcome

SUNRISE SERVICE
A little later this year!



With the clocks going forward on Easter Day, the Churches Together Sunrise service will be at **7.00am this year.**

All very welcome to join us for the service, followed by breakfast in St Mary's. Meet in the Guildhall car park just before 7.00am or catch up with us at the mound at the far end of the Spring Close wooded area.



Messy Easter
at St Mary's, Burwell
Good Friday
29th March 2024
10.30am - 12.00pm
 Explore Easter Together
 with Activities & Crafts
Outdoor Trails & Toddler Area
Hot Cross buns & Easter Eggs
All Ages
All Welcome




Easter Lilies



The Flower Ministry will be placing an arrangement of **Lilies at the Altar** at Easter in memory of loved ones who have died. Add names to the list at the back of Church along with £2 per name to be remembered.

OPENING OF OUR CHURCH BUILDINGS

Both of our churches are open to the public every day, except when there is another event, such as a wedding or a funeral.


WEEKLY GATHERINGS

We have a number of small groups meeting during the week. Ask Eleanor for details.

- Thursday 9.00am** Morning Prayer in St Mary's
 - Fridays 10.00am** Refresh Café in St Mary's *For pre-school children with their parents & carers*
 - Saturday 9.00am** The Green Prayer Group (at Village Green Coffee Shop)
- More information in our regular emails to families and on our Messy Church and Refresh Facebook page: www.facebook.com/messychurchburwell. Join the mailing list via with our Keeping in Touch online form. [St Mary's Burwell with St Etheldreda's Reach | Keeping in Touch \(stmarysburwell.org.uk\)](http://St Mary's Burwell with St Etheldreda's Reach | Keeping in Touch (stmarysburwell.org.uk))*

WORSHIP AT HOME ONLINE *Join us to pray, to worship, to share together*

Most weeks, we aim to live stream the 10am service on Facebook, apart from Café Church and when there is a baptism.



Churches Together in Burwell has a regular slot on Burwell Radio called 'Cross Talk' on Sundays 8.30am and repeated at 4.30pm Sunday and 7.00pm Monday. To listen you can either go to the station's website <https://burwell.radio>, or play via an Amazon Echo smart speaker.

Activities for Children and Young People and their Families

Sunday Mornings @ St Mary's

Families, children and young people are welcome at all our services. Café Church once a month.

Refresh Café

Every Friday 10.00-11.45am

For toddlers & babies & their parents and carers. Free play, crafts, refreshments, with nursery rhymes, songs and a short bible story, followed by a simple lunch.

Messy Church and Café

Events for families and children of all ages, often on Sunday afternoons, and sometimes meeting outdoors in the churchyard. Also cafés in school holidays with games and activities, drinks and snacks, for children and families..

Eleanor sends out a regular update email to families. If you'd like to join the mailing list, fill in the Keeping in Touch form on our website.

Supporting St Mary's and St Etheldreda's

Could you support the work of our church by making a donation? There are various ways to do this.

At one of our services or events, you can give cash or a cheque, made payable to 'Burwell PCC' or use the card reader.

Alternatively, go to our website

www.stmarysburwell.org.uk/donate

for information about how to make a single or regular donation by credit or debit card.

You can also download forms to set up a Standing Order or a Gift Aid declaration.

For more details, please see our website or contact the Treasurer, Terry Chalmers.

Telephone: 01638 742006

or Email:

administrator@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Vicar

Rev'd Canon Dr Eleanor Williams

22 Isaacson Road 01638 741262

vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Associate Priest

Rev'd Paula Spalding 07849 936085

associatepriest@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Duty days Wednesday, Friday and Sunday

Curate

Rev'd Virginia Moggridge 07566 773020

curate@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Day off Monday

Priests in retirement

Rev'd David King

Rev'd Dr Roger Williams

Licensed Lay Minister

Jo Proctor

Churchwardens

Stephen Martin 01638 742667

Wendy Smith 01638 741888

Churchwardens' Assistant

Caroline Smith

We're also on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/stmarysburwell>

<https://www.facebook.com/messychurchburwell>

<https://www.facebook.com/centrepeaceburwell>

Keeping in Touch

During the coronavirus outbreak we started sending the pew sheet by email and phoning and posting information to those without Internet access. Both the pew sheet and Contact are also available to download from our website: www.stmarysburwell.org.uk/contact-magazine

QR code for church website home page



We welcome your contributions to Contact. Please do keep sending them!
 Send to administrator@stmarysburwell.org.uk

To join the circulation list please fill in a Keeping in Touch form available in our churches or on our website