



TODAY

The Parish
Magazine
for the
Exe Valley
Mission
Community

April / May, 2011

Price 40p

MATTERS ARISING

If you have the time and a sufficiently strong constitution, you can travel to a remote corner of India and visit the tomb of a gentleman called Siddhartha Gautama. If that name doesn't ring any bells for you, perhaps you know him by his more formal title: Buddha.

If you don't mind adopting the style of dress of a Muslim pilgrim, you may be able to visit the tomb of Muhammad, in the grounds of the mosque of the prophet at Medina, in Saudi Arabia.

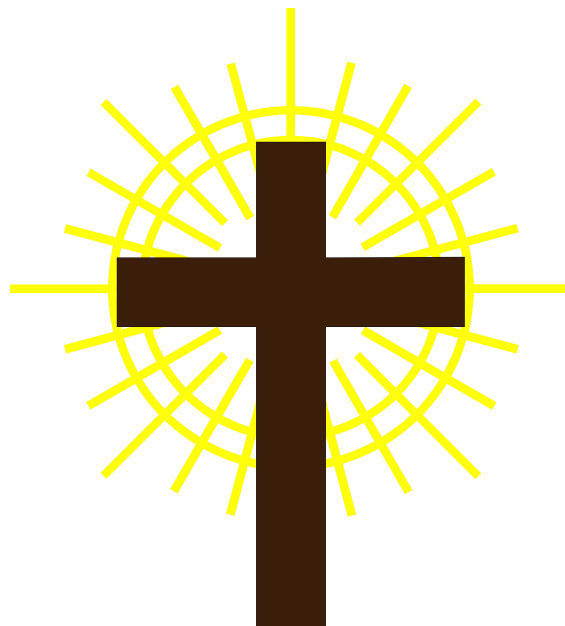
If you find yourself in Illinois in the USA, you can take a trip to visit the tomb of Joseph Smith, the founder of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints, better known as Mormonism.

And if you happen to be in Jerusalem, you can visit a tomb in the crypt of the church of the Holy Sepulchre, which claims to be the tomb in which Jesus Christ was buried.

But this last tomb differs from all the other tombs that I've mentioned in one vital way: it is no longer occupied. Its resident has

long since departed. It is an empty tomb.

Christianity is set apart from all the other world religions by this one simple fact: its founder is still alive. The resurrection of Jesus is the foundation on which the Christian faith stands. Without it, Chris-



tianity would be complete nonsense. As the Apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15v17: "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins".

The resurrection brings great hope to those who trust in Jesus Christ. It assures us that death has been defeated, that our sins have been paid for in full, that we have a mediator who can reconcile us to the God who made us, that our eternal destiny is secure. Paul puts it like this in 1 Thessalonians 4v14: "We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him".

But the resurrection is also a great warning to those who refuse to put their faith in Jesus Christ. When Paul preached in Athens, he warned the crowd: "God has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead" (Acts 17v31). The risen Jesus will one day judge every single one of us.

So what does the resurrection of Jesus Christ mean to you? Is it a great hope, or a great warning? Come to church this Easter and make up your mind!

Steve

Copy Deadline for the June / July issue - Monday 9th May

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COVER UP.....

The eagle-eyed among you will have noticed that the cover price of 'TODAY' has been increased to 40p, the price having been 25p for in excess of seven years! This, combined with the recent increase in the number of pages, has resulted in Churchwardens' Council approving this increase. (After all, 25p won't even buy you a second class postage stamp!) It must be stressed, however, that this remains a voluntary contribution to the cost of producing the magazine, and the churchwardens are well aware that many already make a contribution which is in excess of the suggested amount. We are grateful for all contributions and, with this issue you will find, as in previous years, a contribution envelope for those who prefer to make an annual donation.

As last year, there are a number of services being planned for Good Friday – please see page 8 for details. On Easter Sunday, a service of Holy Communion is planned for each parish; we are extremely grateful to visiting clergy who have agreed to help us to achieve this, and to those who have agreed to step in - at short notice - during

John's absence. We wish John a speedy recovery.

You may remember that the Plough Service last year had to be cancelled due to the severe weather conditions at the time, being substituted by a Rogation Service held later in the spring. You may also have noticed that there has been no Plough Service this year! Because it was felt that the Plough Service did not directly relate to much of the Exe Valley, where dairy and sheep farming is the order of the day, the decision has been taken to hold a Group Rogation Service on 29th May. This will take place in **Templeton Village Hall** at 10.30am, and will be followed by a Bring-and-share lunch; (tea and coffee will be provided).

Whilst on the subject of Group events, and with limited parking at some venues, there may be scope for car-sharing. This does happen to some degree at the moment, but we can all do ourselves and the environment a favour by sharing transport wherever possible. It may be worth checking with others in your parish before setting out.

Paul Iliff

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DEANERY SYNOD

15th February 2011.

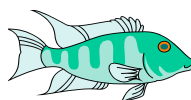
The speaker was Mr Martin Follett, the diocesan registrar. He has a very wide brief. The most usual issue relating to the parishes is that of faculties. They usually go through without a problem, but any difficulties get referred to him. Very rarely do they have to go to an ecclesiastical court. They advise parishes on the ecclesiastical law, should that be necessary. This usually is in relation to whether someone can get married in a particular church. It used to be very restrictive, but has been relaxed recently, and there are easier rules on connections with the parish. He has to sort out the law over mission communities. His office deals with church properties, especially church halls. They also advise on how to widen the use of a church - some parishes now use the church as a shop, post office or play-group. He himself is a specialist in employment law, and he advises on this. Recently the terms of employment for the clergy has changed so that all vicars have a common tenure and are subject to modern employment law. They now have conditions of service, training and appraisals, as happens in business. Recently his office has organised training for church wardens, treasurers and secretaries. Sometimes they have to sort out graveyard problems and exhumations.

Emma Forward talked about General Synod. Mr Mitchell the M.P. in charge of the aid budget had been the speaker. He explained what they do, and the budget restraints. At the moment this has not been cut, and he has been

told to use the money wisely. Synod discussed the problem of the Christian hoteliers in Cornwall. No conclusion was reached. There was a discussion on the wedding project, which is to encourage more weddings in churches. Marketing and making it easier seems to be the way forward. They had a heated discussion on whether there can be divorced Bishops. They agree to continue to talk about it. There is also a debate on modernising the Christening service, particularly the wording.

Ann Crawford

FISH CLUB REPORT



Thank you to all who supported the Fish Club and Toddler group Coffee morning; it was great to see so many people there. £500.00 was raised, which has been divided between the toddler group and Fish Club. Thank you, also, to all who helped in any way.

At fish club this term we have had a good number of attendances each week. We have been learning about the early Christians and how they met secretly away from the Romans. We have been following a series called 'The Story Keepers' and have watched a film each week of the stories the story keepers told about Jesus, and the lengths to which they have to go to keep the stories of Jesus alive.

We have had treasure hunts, quizzes, and took part in various craft activities.

If you have children who would like to join us at Fish club to play games, take part in crafts, singing and learning about what the Bible tells us, please Contact; Cindy Trick Tel. 01363 866621. We are always happy to welcome new children.

Holiday Club will be held at Calverleigh Hall, Tuesday 2nd to Friday 5th of August, The title will be 'Mission Rescue' and promises to be an action packed four days of fun activities to help us learn more about Jesus. During the mornings we shall discover how God rescued the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, and how God continues to rescue people today through Jesus. In the afternoons there will be sports and craft activities for the children. The holiday club is open to all children 5-11.

We will be pre-registering children again this year, and application forms will be available nearer the time.

There will be a meeting for adult helpers to plan this year's Holiday Club soon. I will contact those of you who helped last year with a date for the meeting. If you would like to join us this year as a helper, please contact me: Cindy Trick on 01363 866621.

ANN'S NATURE NOTES

Now, at last, spring is here. It is a month of the yellow, dancing Daffodils. I love the yellow Daffodils swaying in the breeze. I would ask people when they are buying Daff bulbs to

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get the single ones not the double, as Bees cannot cope with double flowers to get at the nectar. Beneath the daffodils are the violets peeping out. They are the food stuff for the Fritillary Butterfly. By now the early Butterflies should be about, the Brimstone, which uses Buckthorn for its eggs, the male is pale yellow and female greenish white, and the smaller orange tips which lay their eggs on Cuckoo Flowers.

Talking of all things yellow, I wonder if any of you have noticed the variation in colour of the Great Tit. It would seem that he who has the most yellow breast seems to get his fair lady. Research has shown that the yellow is caused by a pigment in the caterpillars that they eat. Therefore, the yellower the breast, the better the provider of food, and so would be a better provider for the new family. It is an interesting way of nature and instinct being at work. A worry about Great Tits is that they seem to be reducing in number. I have noticed in my Garden, having once had about 8 regulars to the bird table, I now only have two.

Outing for the month. Why not go to Steppes Bridge, near Dunsford. It is a lovely walk along a stream, with the Beech Trees coming out. You might see Dippers and Kingfishers there, as well as the rare Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, a small bird the size as a sparrow, which lives in the tops of the trees.

Ann

Spring Chatter



We ask you to consider -
Who counts in society?
Who does the counting?

Who decides who is included and
who is excluded? Who has a voice?

Whom do we value and why? Who counts in God's eyes?

There is going to be a census of the population in 2011, as there is every 10 years. The census will try to list all of the people who live in the country - but chances are there are many it won't include - such as the 'hidden homeless' and destitute asylum seekers. God's own son was born into poverty in a stable, in the year of a great census. Will this census recognise the exclusion many experience, or will it reflect just the world's material values - values of success, looks and celebrity?

Scripture tells us that in God's kingdom, "the least shall be the first". Does the way we live bear witness to this truth? Are we living in true solidarity with people who are poor, homeless and excluded?

At CHAT we try hard to make sure everyone counts - we know that even with training, resources and experience it can be difficult to do, but for us as individuals it is such a huge challenge to follow Jesus example and extend a hand of friendship to those on the margins of our society.

Perhaps by working together we can better show those in need or despair that they are valuable people. To discuss possibilities - call CHAT now.

In a town near you -

Crediton Council Offices, Market Street Tuesdays 2 - 4.30pm
Cullompton, Community House, Fore Street Mondays 2 - 4.30pm
Tiverton 28 Gold Street Monday from 10.30 & Tuesday to Friday from 9.30
Advice by phone 01884 255606 or email theooffice@chatmid.co.uk

COMMUNITY BUS

On 18th February, a Quiz in Oakford Village Hall raised £246 for the Exe Valley Community Bus. The Bus is run entirely by volunteers and provides a twice weekly Tiverton Market run as well as being used for local community group outings. We are grateful to everyone who took part and hope you enjoyed it.

Many thanks
Simon Edwards

PARISH ROUND-UP

Calverleigh

On the 16th January, Tom Lejeune, son of Simon and Claire, was baptised by Steve in our church, which was filled with family and many friends.

Withleigh Young Farmers came second with their entertainment at Tiverton High School. They put on a very talented show, with some of Calverleigh's young people taking part or working behind the scenes. Well done to you all.

Annette Goldsworthy's funeral service took place at Calverleigh on 10th January, with many family and friends attending. Tributes were paid to her by Aubrey Goldsworthy and Peter Smith. She was laid to rest in the churchyard.

Ron Rowe's funeral service took place in Calverleigh Church on 19th January. The Church was overflowing with family and his many friends.. Tributes were given by Aubrey Goldsworthy. Son in Law Andrew and

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Daughter Sharon read a very moving poem. Ron was laid to rest in the churchyard.

The funeral service of Joyce Boundy took place in Calverleigh Church on 8th February, and she was laid to rest in the churchyard. Many family and friends attended and Mervyn Burd paid a very moving and detailed tribute to Joyce.

We send our love, sympathy and prayers to all the families. We are thinking of you all at this sad time.

We are proposing to have a Flower Festival in the Church on the weekend of July 2nd and 3rd. The theme will be stories of The Bible. We are hoping that The Fish Club and the Toddlers Group will take part by creating some displays in the village hall where we will be having a display of photographs, etc., of Calverleigh - some old and some more recent. There will be light refreshments available all day Saturday, and coffees, etc., on Sunday morning. To finish the weekend we will be having our annual open air service in the churchyard (in church if wet), followed by tea and cakes, on the Sunday afternoon at 3pm. Hope you will be able to join us. We will have more details later.

We were all sad to hear of the death of Alec Roud on 24th February. Pam and family have lived at the Rose and Crown for about 10 years. We send our love and sympathy to all the family.

Alec was laid to rest in the churchyard on March 8th.

Ten of us from Calverleigh Church went on the Tiverton Deanery visit to Exeter Cathedral. About 90 from the Deanery attended. We were given a conducted tour of the Cathedral, then taking part in Choral Evensong, with the wonderful voices of the Cathedral Choir. The young choirboys looked and sang like little angels, but I am sure they can be little monkeys once out of the choir stalls!! We were then invited to the Chapter house for tea. It was a very interesting and pleasant afternoon.

Some of you may have found the Church door locked recently during the day. We have had to take this action as we found that a vagrant had been sleeping in the porch and lighting fires in there. The police have been informed, and we think that he has now moved to another area. We must still be vigilant.

The annual church meeting takes place in church on Tuesday 5th April at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Cruwys Morchard

An enjoyable evening was had at the 'Men of Morchard' Concert, which raised £363.78, including two generous donations. A big thank you

to all who helped or supported the event. The evening was a great success, despite the problems with the electricity all afternoon - we thought it was going to be cold soup for a while.

'A Sweet Interlude' -The Ladies committee are holding a pudding evening on Saturday 21st May at the Parish Hall - 'In Harmony' will be singing. The evening starts at 7.30pm, tickets are £5.00. This will include a selection of delicious puddings to sample. Tea and coffee will be available, bring your own drinks. Tickets available from The Cruwys Arms or members of the Ladies Committee.

Thank you to the Ladies committee who organise the social and fundraising events for the church throughout the year. Thank you to Wendy Lake and Ann Gillbard who have served on this committee for many years and now feel they would like to step down. A special thank you to Ann for all her hard work with the Christmas Craft Fayre

YFC did well at the Exe Valley competition, with Ryan Berry coming 2nd in the Seniors and Will Palmer first in Junior's (Best member).

THE LADIES WHO LUNCH!

We are a group of Ladies from the Cruwys Morchard area who aim to meet together 3-4 times a year. We provide a simple 2 course lunch with coffee/tea for £5 a head, which goes



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PARISH ROUND-UP

to a local charity. Our last meeting raised money for Cancer Research, but we aim to fund a different charity chosen by our members every time.

This is open to Ladies of all ages in this area, so if you would like to come and join us sharing lunch, chat and much laughter, please contact Jenni Edmonds on 01363 866717 or Judith Taylor on 01363 860056, and we will give you more information and put your name on our list to be contacted when the next event is to take place, probably in May. We'd love you to join us; hope to hear from you soon!!

If anyone would like to help with the Breakfast and Brunch to be held on Saturday 6th August from 7am to 2pm, it would be much appreciated. Last year was a great success, raising £400 – can we beat it? Please contact Mary or Marilyn or use the 'Contact Us' module on the parish website:

We send best wishes for a speedy recovery to all who have been unwell or have had a stay in hospital recently,

We send our prayers and condolences to the family of Miriam Endacott whose funeral was held in church in February.

Congratulations to Tracey Gillbard and Jim Penny on the birth of Nicholas James, also to Helen and Justin Barker on the birth of Oliver Robert who was born on the same day - a grandson for Cindy and Michael Trick.

We welcome John and Sarah Baker and their children, Beth, Max and Hal, as they move into Pennymoor.

Please feel free to give a call or send an email, if you have any news that you would like included in the newsletter. Please contact Teresa Grant on 01363 860124 or email Tesstranscripts@aol.com

Forthcoming Events

Ladies Committee Tuesday 26th April at 7.30 at Sonia Notley's, Wringsland, Pennymoor

PCC meeting on Tuesday 10th of May at 7.30 at Wringsland House

Cruwys Morchard Flower Show Saturday 13th August – You should receive a schedule with this magazine, or contact Pauline Guscott - 01363 8866754. If any children would like to grow potatoes this year, contact Pauline or a member of the flower show Committee.

Parish Hall events:

Sat 30th April - BINGO and 200 Club Draw. Doors open 7.30, eyes down 8pm.

Sat 14th May & Sat 28th May - BINGO

For 200 Club or Bingo queries, please contact Mary 01363 83030 or Contact us on the parish website ailto:cmparishhallmary@btinternet.com or contact at www.cruwysmorchardparish.co.uk

Flower and Cleaning Rota:

April 11 th	Marilyn Hill
April 18 th	Decorators for Easter
April 25 th and May 2 nd	Vine Spragg
May 9 th and 16 th	Cindy Trick and Pat Cross
May 23 rd and 30 th	Diana Vincent and Val Randerson

Mowing Rota

April	-	Paul Isaacs
May	-	Les & Hilary Tosdevil
June	-	Steve Guscott
July	-	Dave Berry
August	-	Dave & Diana Vincent
September	-	Rod Chisholm
October	-	The Notleys

Loxbeare

It is lovely to see the spring flowers coming out, and the trees and shrubs beginning to bud, showing us that spring and new life has come, once again reminding us of God's faithfulness.

We send our love and prayers to John Roberts and Richard Haywood, both having spent time in hospital, now at home recovering. Our thoughts and prayers are also with Maurice Taylor who has been taken to hospital. We hope that you will all soon be back to good health again, and for anyone else who is unwell - a speedy recovery.

Belated congratulations to all who have had special birthdays, and love and best wishes to those celebrating birthdays / anniversaries in April / May.

We welcome Jack & Janice Page who are moving into Highgate. We hope you will soon settle in Loxbeare and be very happy.

The Ladies will be spring cleaning the Church on March 28th from 10am. Any help will be much appreciated.

The men's breakfast has been postponed for the time being, due to John's illness.

April 3rd - Mothering Sunday. We are having a breakfast in the Village Hall from 10.15am, cooked by the men, followed by a Family Service at 11am. The offering will be for Children's Hospice.

April 10th - Natalie Husk, the South West Area Co-ordinator for the Leprosy Mission, will be taking the Family Service at 10.30am. As reported in the last magazine, Natalie

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NEW CREATION NEWS – APRIL, 2011

Spring is with us definitely the time of year to experience the joy of new beginnings. God's creation is bursting out all around us and with Easter, just around the corner, hopefully within us.

What better time to have a new beginning at New Creation. May we introduce our PRE-SCHOOL STORY CLUB, to be held in our UPSTAIRS ROOM on 1st Monday of each month during term time (except when a bank holiday) between 2.00 and 3.00 pm. Rita Janes and Jan Goldsworthy have 'bags of delight' to bring wonderful bible stories to life: what better way to introduce a love for God's word as presented by the many talented authors and illustrators on our bookshelves. Do invite friends.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: Monday 4th April

“ 9th May

“ 6th June

“ 4th July

The giant stores like Waterstones have closed their doors in Tiverton, but we are still here ready to supply your Christian material. We are only a little independent: WOW does that bring a bible story to mind "David & Goliath".

We have a good selection of Easter Cards to send Easter Blessings, some children's Easter Books; and how about Fair Trade Chocolate and Biscuits as excellent Easter Gifts, spreading blessings across the seas. We have a good selection of C.S. Lewis Narnia books, if you enjoyed the film 'The Voyage of the Dawn Treader' maybe another one in the series would be a good gift.

We have added another folder for those interested in Sunday School, Assemblies, Holiday Clubs and All-Age Worship. We invite you to make use of this.

The Christian Marketplace at your fingertips (magazine) includes The KJV Study Bible (the year 2011 marks the 400th anniversary of the King James Version). Two books about Delirious, one by Martin Smith and one by Mrs Anna Smith: the CD - Survivor Celebrating 15 years, only £4.99: DVD - Why Does Easter Matter, Families are often left out where Lent Courses are concerned, read why Friends and Heroes have produced this creative new study course.

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is planning to walk the 630 mile South West Coastal Path in May and June to raise money for the mission. Anyone wishing to support her by donation, or even to join her for part of the walk, please contact Ron & Margaret Tidball on 01884 881362.

May 8th - will be a Family Service at 11am. Helen Williams from Tear Fund will give a presentation on her three month visit to Rwanda.

The Parochial Church annual meeting

PARISH ROUND-UP

will be on April 5th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. All parishioners are invited.

In February some of the parishioners walked the second half of the parish boundary, followed by a meal at the Rose and Crown. They have also walked from Buzzards Wood Withleigh to Bickleigh, followed by a lunch sat outside at the Fishermans Cott. If anyone would like to join the group in various walks about once a fortnight, please contact Ron Tidball on 01884 881362.

Sue's final total raised for Guide Dogs for the Blind was £2,420.50 from her sponsored 60 mile walk. A presentation was made in February. Once again, well done Sue.

Loxbeare Ladies enjoyed a trip to Snowdrop Valley in February, and a skittles night at the Rose & Crown in March.

Future Dates:

April 4th - a tour of the Orchid World Nursery at Newton Abbot. Cost £5. Leaving Loxbeare at 11.45am. Contact Viv Abbott on 01884 881209 for more details.

April 18th - Easter Bingo in aid of the Village Hall funds, 7 for 7.30pm. Details from Carol Radford on 01884 881480.

May 9th - Anne Ackland is holding a charity 2 course supper. Numbers are limited, and the cost will be £10 to be given to the new Tiverton Hospice. Contact Anne on 01884 253013.

June 6th - BBQ at Sue Troake's. Please contact Sue by 27th May on 01884 259496 if you wish to go.

Progressive meal date to be arranged.

Continued on Page 10 ➡

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On 3rd Tuesday in month

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Alternate Tuesdays at 2pm

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4th Tuesday - East Sidborough

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Withleigh Home Group

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MISSION COMMUNITY SERVICES

AGAPE MEAL

Maundy Thursday

(21st April)

Calverleigh Village Hall

GOOD FRIDAY (22nd April)

Loxbeare

11.00 am Service of Meditation

Oakford

2.30 pm Devotional Service

Templeton

11.00 am Easter Garden Service

Washfield

3.00 pm Service of Meditation

Withleigh

10.00 am Informal Service in
Village Hall

ROGATION SERVICE

29th May 10.30am

Templeton Village Hall

followed by Bring-&-Share Lunch

OAKFORD

3rd April - Mothering Sunday

9.30 am Holy Communion

10th April

9.30 am Morning Prayer

17th April - Palm Sunday

9.30 am Family Service

24th April - Easter Sunday

9.30 am Holy Communion

1st May

5 pm Songs of Praise

8th May

9.30 am Morning Prayer

15th May

9.30 am Holy Communion

22nd May

9.30 am Family Service

29th May - Rogation Sunday

See Templeton

RACKENFORD

3rd April - Mothering Sunday

11.15 am Family Service

10th April

9.30 am Morning Prayer

17th April - Palm Sunday

11.15 am Morning Prayer

24th April - Easter Sunday

11.15 am Holy Communion

1st May

11.15 am Morning Prayer

8th May

11.15 am Holy Communion

15th May

11.15 am Family Service

22nd May

9.30 am Morning Prayer

29th May - Rogation Sunday

See Templeton

STOODLEIGH

3rd April - Mothering Sunday

11 am Holy Communion

10th April

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

17th April - Palm Sunday

11 am Morning Prayer

24th April - Easter Sunday

11 am Holy Communion

1st May

11 am Morning Prayer

8th May

9.30 am Holy Communion

15th May

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

22nd May

11 am Holy Communion

29th May - Rogation Sunday

See Templeton

CALVERLEIGH

3rd April - Mothering Sunday
11.15 am Morning Worship

10th April
6.30 pm Evening Prayer

17th April - Palm Sunday
11.15 am Family Service
With Baptism

24th April - Easter Sunday
9.30 am Holy Communion

1st May
11.15 am Morning Worship

8th May
9.30 am Holy Communion

15th May
11.15 am Family Service

22nd May
6.30 pm Taizé

29th May - Rogation Sunday
See Templeton

CRUWYS MORCHARD

3rd April - Mothering Sunday
11 am Family Service

10th April
11 am Morning Prayer

17th April - Palm Sunday
6.30 pm Evening Prayer

24th April - Easter Sunday
11 am Holy Communion
by extension

1st May
11 am Morning Prayer

8th May
11 am Family Service

15th May
9.30 am Holy Communion

22nd May
6.30 pm Evening Prayer

29th May - Rogation Sunday
See Templeton

LOXBEARE

3rd April - Mothering Sunday
10.15 am Breakfast in Village
Hall for 11 am Family Service

10th April
10.30 am Family Service
Speaker from The Leprosy Mission

17th April - Palm Sunday
6.30 pm Evening Praise

24th April - Easter Sunday
11 am Family Communion

1st May
9.30 am Family Communion

8th May
11 am Family Service

15th May
6.30 pm Evening Praise

22nd May
11 am Family Service

29th May - Rogation Sunday
See Templeton

TEMPLETON

3rd April - Mothering Sunday
11 am Family & Toddler Service

10th April
No service

17th April - Palm Sunday
9.30 am Morning Prayer

24th April - Easter Sunday
11 am Holy Communion

1st May
9.30 am Holy Communion

8th May
No service

15th May
11 am Toddler Service

22nd May
11 am Morning Prayer

29th May - Rogation Sunday
10.30 am Group Rogation
Service in the Village Hall
followed by Bring-&-Share lunch

WASHFIELD

3rd April - Mothering Sunday
11 am Family Service

10th April
11 am Morning Prayer

17th April - Palm Sunday
6 pm Holy Communion

24th April - Easter Sunday
9.30 am Holy Communion

1st May
6 pm Evening Prayer

8th May
11 am Morning Prayer

15th May
11 am Family Service

22nd May
9.30 am Holy Communion

29th May - Rogation Sunday
See Templeton

WITHLEIGH

3rd April - Mothering Sunday
11 am Family Service

10th April
9.30 am Holy Communion

17th April - Palm Sunday
11 am Morning Worship

24th April - Easter Sunday
8.30 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Family Service

1st May
11 am Parish Celebration

8th May
9.30 am Morning Worship

15th May
11 am Holy Communion

22nd May
9.30 am Morning Worship

29th May - Rogation Sunday
See Templeton

PARISH ROUND-UP

Oakford

The countryside is at last showing signs of Spring, and soon it will be Easter when we remember his death and celebrate the risen Christ. Here at Oakford we will have our Good Friday service at 2.30pm. This will be a devotional service with hymns and readings. On Easter Day we celebrate with Holy Communion at 9.30 am.

In January we said goodbye to Brenda Dowsett and also to Joyce McManus as they moved away to be near their families.

We send our condolences to Joy Fisher and family on their recent sad loss.

We welcome Maggie and Tony into the village, and hope they will soon feel at home here.

As we all know, Prince William and Kate Middleton will be married on April 29th. With this in mind, Oakford Church is continuing the wedding fever with a weekend of 'Wedding Belles and Flower Festival'.

Wedding dresses and christening robes, dating from the 1930's until the present day, will be displayed. All the floral window arrangements will be themed to celebrate Silver, Ruby and Gold anniversaries, along with the wedding breakfast, honeymoon, music and bells. There will also be a Bring and buy stall. Please come and enjoy looking round, and stay for

coffee and cake, light lunches or afternoon tea.

It starts on Saturday April 30th at 11am until 5pm, and the celebration continues on Sunday from 11am until 5pm, with coffee and cakes etc.

At 5pm on Sunday there will be a 'Songs of Praise', with hymns and readings, and a celebration of fifty years of marriage with re-affirmation of vows.

On Monday the church will be open with coffee, etc., as on Saturday and Sunday. We hope you can join us for a great weekend.

Moorland Club

April 14th A.G.M. A cheque will be presented for 'Help for Heroes'.

May 12th A talk by a representative from 'Shelterbox', who will then be presented with a cheque.

Stop- press! The Pancake Day held on Saturday March 5th raised £175 to be shared between Talking Newspapers and the Church. Our thanks to all who helped, supported and took part in the races, and special thanks to Sylvia and Steve for holding it at the Red Lion, and for all their support on the day. Coffee and pancakes were enjoyed by everyone.

There are plans for a royal wedding party – Kings and Queens fancy-dress on Friday 29th April. Come dressed to impress! in a Kings or Queens theme at the Red Lion. Time to be confirmed. Keep an eye in the village for info.

Co-ordinators Julia 351682, Carole 351727, Debs 351496

Bird Recording

I am doing recordings for the British Trust for Ornithology. They are creating an atlas, with the density of birds throughout the British Isles. It has been a 4 year project, and my square this year, is round the village of Oakford. I would be grateful if anyone who has a bird nesting on, or on the boundary, of their house could let me know. Ann Crawford 01398 351304.

Oakford Village Fete

Oakford Village Fete will be held on Saturday July 2nd, starting at 2pm on the Playground. Lots to see and do for everyone, plus cakes and cream teas! More details next time.

Parish Council

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 16th May at 7.30pm in the village hall. This is your chance to hear what the Council has done this past year, and to let the Council know what you would like to see in the village, and raise any issues. It is also a chance to meet the new Councillors after elections on May 4th.

If you would like to become a Parish Councillor, please contact the Clerk, Martin French, on 01398 351236, as soon as possible. Nominations have to be with the District Council by noon on Monday 4th April.

Rackenford

We were saddened to hear of the death of David Highman on New Year's Eve. He was well known to



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PARISH ROUND-UP

many of us and a good friend. His funeral service and burial were held at our church on January 18th where family and friends gathered to pay their respects to an obviously dearly loved and respected man. Our love and deepest sympathy to Mrs Highman, Ann and all the family at this difficult time.

Best wishes to Peter Fraser who has had an operation on his leg. Hope you are making good progress Peter.

The profit from the Bingo evenings for 2010 is £467.45. Many thanks to Annette, Joan and all helpers. Date of the next bingo is 13th May. Thank you to Herbert & Marjorie Smith for running the fund-raising evenings.

Please remember in your prayers Percy Stone, Bill Clark and Ken Blackford.

Get well soon to all who are poorly at this time, and our thoughts and prayers to the lonely, depressed and all who mourn.

God bless.

Acknowledgment

Mrs Betty Highman, and daughter Ann Rickard, would like to offer their sincere thanks for all the kindness and sympathy shown by neighbours and friends on the sad death of David Highman, from Jubilee Cottage, Rackenford.

They are both grateful to all who took the time and trouble to attend the service at All Saints, Rackenford, and those who contributed towards mak-

ing the service most memorable.

Yours sincerely

Mrs B A Highman

Stoodleigh

On Saturday February 5th, the bells of St Margaret's Church rang out across the parish once again. It was an historic moment, and we felt we must celebrate it properly here – and pay a small tribute to Jennifer Rowlandson for making it happen.

The bells fell silent in July 2008, when the wooden bell-frame was found to be rotten. Many of us wondered then if they would ever ring again, if we would ever be able to raise £50,000 to re-hang them. Jennifer just got on with the job – inventing new ways to bring in a few more pounds, selling the cause to funding bodies, cutting through red tape, commissioning the work and, finally, acting as labourer and foreman of works! Without her leadership, the renewal of the bells might never have happened and it certainly would not have happened so quickly.

Thank you, Jennifer: everyone in the parish owes you their gratitude, as do all those future generations who might never have heard the Stoodleigh bells. Almost the best thing was how much you seemed to enjoy it all! Your enthusiasm was infectious.

Twelve other people from the parish helped with the alarming task of extracting the six bells (the heaviest



Jennifer

weighs 8cwt) and the old bell-frame; and getting the new steel frame into the tower and hoisting the bells back up. These volunteers saved us some money and had an unforgettable experience. Leading the work was Mark Pring, skilled bell-hanger from Nicholson Engineering of Bridport.

While the bells were out of the tower, they went to be tuned at the famous Whitechapel Bell Foundry (where Big Ben was cast). So listen out for improved tone, which, we are told, will get even better once the bells have been in use for a while.

Many people supported the work through endowments, donations and sponsorship of Jennifer's 31-mile walks round Exmoor. About £7,500 was raised in Stoodleigh in this way and a further £25,000 came in ten grants. On the strength of all this effort, the Heritage Lottery Fund then granted us £44,000, allowing the bell-



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PARISH ROUND-UP

tower work to go ahead as part of a wider project, to include cleaning the clock and re-gilding the dial, and repairing the 15th century roof bosses and 'green man' wall plates (this conservation work is to be done in May). Education is also part of the package: we must try to get people, especially schoolchildren, more interested in the church building and its history.

Jennifer said: "I am thrilled that the first part of this major project is now complete and it could not have been done without so much enthusiastic help. I am grateful to everyone who has contributed, particularly the band of twelve helpers. Now we need to encourage people to come and see the church and have a go at bell ringing. It is a fascinating art and possible to learn from an early age (about ten), and lasting a lifetime. The conservation in May will complete this project, all of which is being recorded photographically and in the form of a diary available for viewing in the church."

Gerald Palfrey, captain of the bell-ringers, said the ringers wanted to thank Jennifer for all she had done.

Bell ringing practices will be held on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month from 7.30 to 9.00pm. Anyone who would like to know more, or arrange to have a go, should contact Gerald Palfrey (01398 351271) or Jennifer Rowlandson (01398 351402).

A service to rededicate the bells, conducted by the Bishop of Crediton,

will be held in the church at 6.30pm on Sunday June 26th. Everyone is warmly invited to come.

Easter

Easter this year is almost as late as it is possible for it to be, falling on Sunday April 24th. We hope many will be able to join in the Easter Day Holy Communion Service at 11am. The church will be decorated on Saturday April 23rd from 10am – all help will be greatly appreciated.

Flower Rota: May 8th & 15th – Pat Aplin; May 22nd & 29th – Jennifer Fraser.

Parish Hall

Users of the Parish Hall will be pleased to know that the roof space in the hall has now been insulated, and the benefits should start to be felt.

Easter Market and Coffee Morning – Saturday April 23rd, 10am to noon. The first market of 2011 will see arts, crafts, eggs, plants, preserves, vegetables, coffee and cakes. For information about the market, hiring the hall, or becoming involved with fundraising events, contact Geraldine on 01398 351391 or

geraldinetalbot@tiscali.co.uk

The Pilates class (Mondays, 7pm) and Line Dancing Group (Thursdays, 11am) continue to meet weekly at the Hall and always welcome new members.

SWAG

Friday April 1st, 7.30pm, Village Hall: "Jeff and Vida" – Original Bluegrass Music and Rockabilly, from Nashville TN.

Monday April 11th: Visit to Plymouth Gin Distillery. £6 plus coach fare. Numbers limited to 20. Contact Margaret Cunningham 01398 351252.

In prospect – June 15th: Visit to Agatha Christie's house, Greenway. July 11th: Burgh Island.

Stoodleigh Club

Lizzie writes: Thank you to all of you for tolerating the frozen toilets in the last few months. I am delighted to say that all the problems have now been sorted. Thanks to the local 'Pig' group for donating funds towards this.

Sat. April 2nd – Cricket Club skittles night, 7.30, all welcome.

Sat. April 9th – Grand National, open from 2.30, food available, come along and enjoy the fun, we may even be celebrating a local win (no pressure, Tom!). Evening: skittles night with the Buckhounds, from 7.30, all welcome.

Sun. April 17th – Chairman's Lunch from 1.30, tickets £10 for a fantastic meal. Auction from 4pm. Raising money for Morebath CC and Devon Air Ambulance.

AGM in May (date to follow), open to all members.

Bank Holiday Sundays April 24th, May 1st, May 29th and Royal Wedding day April 29th – open all day.

August – Inter-village 'It's A Knockout' (details next time). Please contact Lizzie if you can help with this.

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Sat. May 7th – Name that Tune/Lyrics quiz, Oakford Village Hall, 7.30pm. Bring and share supper.

Sun. May 22nd – Oakford open gardens. Refreshments and Teddy Bears Picnic from 11am, Oakford Village Hall.

Sun. June 12th – Tom Scudamore celebrity cricket match (details next time).

CAN YOU HELP?

Gordon Crook, who now lives in Exmouth, is trying to establish the former location of a farm where a distant relative's Great Grandfather (Robert Johns) lodged / worked according to the 1871 census, before moving to Wales.

The name given is **DRUCOMBE FARM HOUSE, STOODLEIGH** (Farmer Payne)

The census gives **Caracombe Cottage** before this entry, and **Wheatonhole Farm House** after.

In 1861 Farmer Payne appears to have lived in Thurncombe Farm House on Farm Lane – could this be the same place?

If you can shed any light on where this property once was, please contact Gordon direct, or through the editor.

April 3rd. The Easter Garden Service will be on Good Friday at 11 am. The Service on Easter Sunday will be Holy Communion at 9.30 am.

We were sorry to hear that Jackie Coffin passed away on February 25th after a long illness. Our thoughts and prayers are with Peter and all the family at this sad time.

The campaign to raise over £20,000 for essential repairs to the church tower is continuing after its encouraging start.

The 100-Club is fully subscribed, and gives a monthly prize, the February lucky winner being Mike Pancherz. We are extremely grateful for the generous personal donations, and for the significant awards granted by the Heathcoat Trust, the Viscount Amory Trust and the Allchurches Trust, which have given our efforts a tremendous boost. Money raised to date is £4,100. We still have a long way to go, but it is so important that we succeed, and a number of fundraising events are planned. A village quiz in March has contributed to the cause and was a lot of fun. The next major event will be a walk through the Bluebell Woods at the Old Rectory on Sunday 8th May from 2 pm onwards. There will be teas and, weather permitting, a plant stall, also a draw. Please come along and support our efforts.

Welcome to Alison and David who have moved to Linneridge Moor Farm at Templeton Bridge. We hope you will be very happy living in Templeton.

Flower and Cleaning Rota

Teresa Pancherz: cleaning only –
27th March – 3rd April
Gloria Woollacott: cleaning only –
10th – 17th April
Phillida Strong: flowers
and cleaning - 24th April – 1st May

Clare Trevelyan-Thomas: flowers and
cleaning - 8th May – 15th May
Jan Heptinstall: – flowers and
cleaning – 22nd May – 29th May

Washfield

Remember: Life is like a garden where family and friends are the flowers. The times we spend there are some of our happiest hours.

By the time you receive your magazine, the Church AGM will have taken place and the officers and churchwardens duly elected. We pray that their dedication to the smooth running of our church helps them in their duties over the coming year.

The Traditional Mothering Sunday service will be on Sunday 3rd April, so bring your Mum along, if you are able, to thank her for being there for you.

Lent, the time when Christians spend forty days in preparing themselves to rejoice at the resurrection of Jesus Christ at Easter, ends on Holy Saturday. It is often a time for spring-cleaning our lives, as well as our homes. The church will be adorned with flowers on Easter Saturday to mark the end of the austerity of these six and a half weeks. Can the church decorators please put their arrangements in the church as normal? We thank you for your continued commitment to this.

Easter is later this year, and St Mary's Church, Washfield, has several services and events planned to help celebrate this, the greatest of the Christian festivals. There will be a Meditation Service at 3pm on Good Friday, and Holy Communion at 9.30pm on Easter Sunday.

Templeton

The Toddler Service in February was well attended and the little ones seemed to enjoy the story, playing the musical instruments and sticking and colouring. The next Toddler Service will be held on Mothering Sunday,



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PARISH ROUND-UP

As is tradition, the Egg Decorating and Rolling contests will take place on Easter Saturday at 10am in the Church porch. All children, their parents, grandparents and great grandparents are most welcome to attend this fun event that signifies the rolling away of the stone from Jesus' tomb.

The PCC is carrying out a survey of the wants and needs of the parish, and asks for your help in this. The committee poses the question... *Can we help?* During June your PCC wants to explore whether there are practical ways in which Washfield church services can be made more welcoming.

If you, or anyone you know, have experienced difficulties when attending Washfield church, please let us know. We want to help.

For example: We have a ramp for wheelchairs, but is access a problem? Would more large-print hymnbooks / service sheets be helpful?

Is it hard to hear what is said?

Comments should be sent to the Washfield PC Secretary, 2 Kensington Court, Washfield, EX16 9QU (Tel. 01884 253463).

The Baptism of Gilbert Herniman took place in January, and he was well supported by a large congregation of family and friends as he was welcomed into the family of God. We wish you much peace and happiness as you develop and grow, Gilbert.

We were saddened to hear of the very sudden death of John Cornwall on 3rd March at Exeter Hospice. John was the beloved husband of Brenda, and loving father of Mark and Deborah. John and Brenda moved to Washfield nineteen years ago to rescue animals, and loved their life here very much. John was a quiet man who will be

missed by all who knew him. Brenda wishes to thank neighbour, Michael, for being there to help out when they needed him. Our love and sympathies go to Brenda and the family at this sad time.

The Social Club is planning to celebrate the Royal Wedding on Friday April 29th in style! So, if you want to continue to celebrate the marriage of Prince William to Kate Middleton, and watch re-runs of the big day on the television, this could be right up your street! And with street in mind, the evening starts with an indoor street party (bring your union flag, and a plate of food to share). Come dressed in red, white and blue too, to enter into the spirit of this momentous occasion. There will be a Royalist style quiz, as well as a Royal Souvenirs Raffle. So, come along and toast the young couple and have a great, royal time. It all starts at 7pm.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday April 5th Garden Club
(New members always welcome)

Wednesday 20th April Parish Council Annual Meeting. 7.30pm. All welcome.

Saturday 23rd April
Egg Rolling and Decorating

Thursday 28th April Lunch Club in hall 12 for 12.30pm lunch.

Friday 29th April Social Club's Royal Wedding Celebration with indoor street party (bring a plate of food to share), Royalist Quiz and Raffle with Royal Wedding Souvenir prizes!! 7pm start. All welcome.

Wear red, white and blue and bring your flag!

Tuesday 3rd May Garden Club

Thursday 26th May Lunch Club in hall 12 for 12.30pm lunch.

Monday 6th June Meeting to discuss Fete, in church 7.30pm.
All welcome.

Saturday 2nd July Church Fete 2.30pm

Church Flower Rota

April 3rd/10th/17th	LENT
April 24th/May 1st	Mrs Tobey
May 8th/15th	Mrs Parnell
May 22nd/29th	Mrs Smith



Church Cleaning Rota



April 10th/17th	Mr and Mrs McCahon
April 24th/May 1st	Mrs French
May 8th/15th	Mrs Arnold / Mrs Bicknell
May 22nd/29th	Mrs Harding / Mrs Jones
June 5th	Mrs Horsey

Withleigh

Our churchyard has been a delight to see with carpets of snowdrops, crocuses and daffodils. Spring is on its way!

We had a good number at the Pasty and A Pint evening on the 5th February. And local celebrities The Two Js came

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PARISH ROUND-UP

along and entertained us after we had finished our food. Thank-you to the village hall committee for putting on the evening, and especially to Janet Sellick and Janet Stacey for the entertainment.

Thank you, Laura, with the help of David and June, for another enjoyable Songs of Praise on 27th February. We do appreciate the work that you all put into this to provide us with a service with a difference. The muffins were also enjoyed! We now look forward to the next one being planned for June.

We send our sympathy and prayers to Kay, John and Dawn Stacey on the death of Kay's father, Mr Gillbard, who lived here in Withleigh at Hylands. He was buried in our churchyard, being now with his wife who died a few years ago. He used to frequently walk along the main road, and we shall miss him acknowledging us with the wave of his walking stick and nod of his head.

It was unfortunate that we had to cancel the Spring Dance with Barracuda. It was disappointing not to have Fred Harris playing again for us on home territory. Another dance will be arranged, when Fred can fit it in.

Our Annual Beetle Drive is on Saturday 2nd April, beginning at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall. This event is always enjoyed by children and adults alike - come along and try and win an early Easter Egg!

Our Mothering Sunday service is at 11.00am on 3rd April and we look forward to welcoming you to this special family service.

St Catherine's will be hosting one of the Mission Community Lent Holy Communion services on Wednesday 6th April, at 7.30pm.

There is a Fete planning meeting on Monday, 11th April, at Bona Vista. Our Fete is on Saturday, 15th July at Bona Vista and, if you feel you could help in any way, please come along to this meeting or ring Janet Sellick, 254851, with your offers.

Our Easter services start on Good Friday with an informal service in the Village Hall, starting at 10.00 am with tea / coffee and hot cross buns. On Easter Day, we start with Holy Communion at 8.30am, followed by breakfast in the Village Hall at about 9.30am, and then back into Church for a short Family Service beginning at about 10.30am. Please feel free to attend any one, two or three of these on Easter Day.

Withleigh will be hosting a Craft Market and Pottery Painting Day, on Easter Monday (25th April) Featuring Laura's Potty Ceramics, Lily Faith Hand Screen Printed textiles, jewellery and accessories, and Jo Bean's stencil artwork, and more, plus a chance for you or your child to paint a piece of pottery. Free admission. Open from 11am-6pm. Look out for posters for more info.

On Sunday, 1st May, we will be celebrating 125 years of being a Parish, with a morning service at 11.00am, with Bishop Bob being in attendance. This will be followed by a lunch in the Village Hall. Those wishing to have lunch, please ring Brenda, 252431 or Janet, 254851.

Unfortunately, there will not be a Horse Show at Plainsfield this year, but we will back to normal next year. There will, however, be an Indoor Show at Heazle Riding Centre on 15th April by kind permission of the Brake family, for which we are grateful in enabling our church and other charities to benefit. Please ring Christine Luxton, 257571, if you require details of this event.

We are now thinking of all the students in our parish who are preparing for their exams, and wish them well in choosing their careers.

Congratulations to Withleigh Young Farmers for winning the first round of an Entertainments competition, and then coming second in the next round at Barnstaple. The Women's Institute have also done well in a skittles competition having, at the time of writing, got through to the semi finals. Well done to both groups.

Get well wishes, thoughts and prayers are with all those who are not well at this time either in hospital, having treatment or at home. We also remember their families in our prayers.

Withleigh Farm Garden will be open in aid of The National Gardens Scheme on Saturday 7th May and Sunday 8th May, from 2-5pm. Admission - Adults £4.00, children free. There will be a Plant stall and Teas. All dogs to be kept on leads please. 75% of the proceeds will go to the National Gardens Scheme, the remainder to be divided between Arthritis Research & Cancer Research.

Forthcoming events.

2nd April Beetle Drive at 7.30pm

7th / 8th May Withleigh Farm Garden open days

Flower Rota:

April 24 th	EASTER
May 1 st	125 Anniversary
May 8 th & 15 th	Phyllis Gale
May 22 nd & 29 th	Ruby Reed

Monthly Diary dates:

First Thursday – Bingo
Second Monday – Whist Drive
Second Thursday – W.I.



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WITHEIGH FARM GARDEN open in aid of the National Gardens Scheme on Saturday 7th May and Sunday 8th May, 2-5pm. Admission adults £4, children free. Plant stall. Teas. Dogs to be kept on leads please. 25% proceeds divided between Arthritis Research & Cancer Research.



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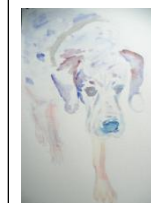
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