

Church Diary for April

Thursday 11th 7.30pm

Annual Church Meeting (note change of date)

Sunday 14th 10am Town Hall

Palm Sunday - Blessing of the palms

Friday 19th 10am

Good Friday Walk of Witness

10am service at Sacred Heart - walking to the Town Hall

Saturday 27th 10am - 12

Musical Coffee Morning

For Your May Diary

Saturday 11th May 11am-3pm

May Festival in aid of Christian Aid and the Swindon Food Collective

Thursday 16th

Elders Meeting

Happy Birthday this month to Bob Adams, Joy Mattis



Hive Toddler Group for parents, carers, and babies and toddlers, meets Thursday mornings, 9.30-11.30

Contact details

Minister

Revd Sarah Simpson 32 Niebull Close Reeds Farm Malmesbury SN16 9TX Tel: 01666 826866

Church Secretary and Serving Elder

Joy Mattis 01793 848328

Serving Elder, Preacher Booking, Foodbank Voucher Issue

Fiona Butler 01793 849075

Church Treasurer and Serving Elder

Jenny Stratton 07818 450651
jennystratton35@gmail.com

Serving Elder

Richard Jacob
richard.jacob52@outlook.com

Pastoral Visitor and Serving Elder

Mrs E.Henly 01793 848712

Serving Elder

Andrew Crown 01793 330502

Web-site

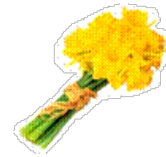
wburc.org.uk
Find us on Facebook
Twitter @rwburc

Web-site and newsletter editor

Jenny Stratton 01793 850310
jennystratton35@gmail.com

Hall Booking Contacts

Ron & Margaret Wills
ronwills1940@tiscali.co.uk



Royal Wootton Bassett United Reformed Church April 2019 Newsletter



Services

Sunday services begin at 10:30am

7 th	Julian Priddle
14 th	Revd Sarah Simpson Palm Sunday
21 st	Revd Andrew Francis Easter Sunday including Holy Communion
28 th	Church worship team

Tea and coffee will be served after the service.
Please stay and enjoy this time of fellowship with us.

Easter Services

Good Friday Morning Walk of Witness

10:00 am from Sacred Heart Church to the Town Hall, where there will be a short service, followed by hot cross buns

Easter Sunday

Worship led by Revd Andrew Francis
including Holy Communion



Look out for the new pointer sign to the path to the church from the car park. The old one was faded and hidden by the trolley shelter. This one is next to the library. Thanks to Joy for organising.

Welcome to any visitors today,
please make yourself known to any
one of us.

Choral Society Spring Concert

Monday 15th April 7.30pm RWB Methodist Church
Passion of our Lord According to St Luke

The Crucifixion by J. Stainer

Good Friday 19th April 7pm St Bartholomew's Church
Sung by St Bartholomew's Choir and friends

Easter Coffee Morning



Our Vibrato String Ensemble will be playing Easter music, and music from Cats, Brahms, Blues and Bach.



Saturday 27th April 10am-12pm.



On Sat 11th May between 11am - 3pm we will be holding a May Festival at the church with all profits being split between Christian Aid and The Swindon Food Collective.

There will be a bring and buy plant sale. Lorna has arranged talks from local wildlife and planting societies. She has gathered donations of some interesting local produce/gifts for sale and raffle. Please let her know if you feel you could grow a plant or two for the sale or help on the day selling the cake or raffle tickets.

Rotas for April

	Church Flowers	Welcome	Vestry	Notices	Readers	Communion	Tea
7 th	Angela	Lorna	Jenny	Andrew	Andrew, Richard		Jenny, Eileen
14 th	Margaret	Eileen	Jack	Andrew	Lorna, Fiona		Jack, Isobel
21 st	Eileen	Joy	Eileen	Andrew	Jack, Jenny	Eileen, Jack	Joy, Andrew
28 th	Isobel	Jack	Fiona	Andrew	Nicky, Lorna		Jenny, Eileen

Murmurings from the Manse

Which Easter character intrigues you?

I ask that having just finished a service on Pilate which prompted some gospel searching as well as some re-adjusting of established opinions.

What I found was the different portrayals of Pilate in the gospels, what he said or didn't say, how the Pilate of John's gospel is different to that of Matthew.

I found I needed secondary sources to get a balanced view. I found that I was considering a man who has a pivotal role in the Easter story and is yet often portrayed as the arch villain.

Yet Pilate, for all his faults recognised in Jesus, a man very different from any he had met before. A man who stood in front of him, calmly, who engaged in conversation with him whilst under the threat of death. A man who, acclaimed as a leader, nonetheless refused to resort to violence or call up his followers in his name.

The Pilate of John's gospel is the only one who asks "What is truth?" What is his truth – what is ours? Who do we say Jesus is for us?

Shortly we will once more live through the events of Palm Sunday, the whole of Holy Week until we come to Easter Day itself when we proclaim 'Christ is risen' but who is the Risen Christ and how central is he, how central is his message in our lives?

This year, as we hear the familiar story, may I suggest we hear it as if for the first time, not second guessing what follows, shaking our heads at the actions of Judas or the denials of Peter, not condemning Pilate without a hearing whilst blessing those who stood at the foot of the cross with tears in their eyes, but rather understanding the context of what was happening at each stage so that on Easter Day, when we shout 'Christ is Risen' we deserve to do so and then we take the Risen Christ onto the streets to make him known again to those he gave his life for.

Christ is Risen, he is risen indeed!

Sarah