

The Buzz



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



April 2025 Monthly information for the Parish of Ifield

Thought for the Month



As the month of April ushers in the vibrant hues of spring, we are reminded of the most significant event in the Christian calendar: Easter. This sacred occasion commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ, an event that is the cornerstone of our faith. It is a time of profound reflection, deep gratitude, and joyous celebration.

Easter is not merely a single day of observance but the culmination of a spiritual journey that begins with Lent. The 40 days of Lent represent a period of penance, fasting, and prayer, mirroring Jesus' own 40 days of fasting in the wilderness. This time of preparation helps us to repent, renew our faith, and draw closer to God.

Holy Week, the final week of Lent, is marked by significant events in the life of Jesus. Palm Sunday commemorates His triumphant entry into Jerusalem, where He was greeted with palm branches and shouts of "Hosanna!" Maundy Thursday recalls the Last Supper, where Jesus instituted the sacrament of Holy Communion and demonstrated the importance of humility and service by washing the feet of His disciples. Good Friday is a day of sombre reflection as we remember the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus. It is a stark reminder of the immense sacrifice He made for humanity's salvation. Yet, amid the sorrow, there is a glimmer of hope, for we know that the story does not end at the cross.

Easter Sunday dawns with the glorious news of the resurrection. The stone is rolled away, and the tomb is found empty. The angel's proclamation, "He is not here; He has risen, just as He said," echoes through the ages, filling our hearts with hope and joy. The resurrection of Jesus is a testament to God's power over death and His promise of eternal life.

Churches around the world celebrate this momentous occasion with joyous hymns and beautiful flowers. The Easter service is often marked by the lighting of the Paschal candle, symbolising Christ as the light of the world. In some churches the congregation can renew their baptismal vows, reaffirming their commitment to live as followers of Christ.

Easter is rich with traditions and symbols that enhance our celebration and deepen our understanding of its significance. The Easter lily, with its pure white blooms, symbolizes the purity and new life that come through the resurrection.

Easter eggs, often brightly decorated, are a symbol of the empty tomb and new life. The practice of exchanging Easter eggs dates to early Christian communities in Mesopotamia, who dyed eggs red to represent the blood of Christ. Today, Easter egg hunts bring joy to children and remind us of the hope and new life that Easter brings.

Easter is not just a historical event but a living reality that calls us to embody the promise of the resurrection in our daily lives. It challenges us to live with hope, love, and compassion, reflecting the light of Christ to a world often shrouded in darkness. As we celebrate Easter, let us remember the transformative power of God's love. Let us reach out to those in need, offering kindness and support to the marginalized and the suffering. Let us seek to mend broken relationships, extending forgiveness and grace to others as Christ has done for us.

April, with its blossoming flowers and renewed vitality, serves as a beautiful metaphor for the renewal we experience through Christ's resurrection. Just as nature awakens from its winter slumber, we are called to awaken to a new life in Christ.

This Easter, let us embrace the opportunity for spiritual renewal. Let us recommit to our faith and seek to grow in our relationship with God. Whether through prayer, scripture reading, or acts of service, let us draw nearer to the One who conquered death and offers us new life.

As we gather with family and friends to celebrate Easter, let us carry the message of hope and resurrection in our hearts. Let us rejoice in the victory of life over death and the assurance of eternal life in Christ. May this Easter season fill you with peace, joy, and the unwavering love of our risen Savior.

Happy Easter to all and may the blessings of this holy season be with you now and always.

Christine
Rector



Palm Sunday 13th April

9.30 am FiiSH

11.00 am Parish Communion

Monday 14th April

7.00 pm Compline

Tuesday 15th April

7.00 pm Compline

Wednesday 16th April

7.00 pm Compline

Maundy Thursday (17th April)

7.00 pm Eucharist with foot washing and watch

Good Friday (18th April)

1.30 pm Good Friday Service

Easter Day (20th April)

9.20 am Easter Vigil with lighting of the new fire

10.00 am Holy Communion followed by

Refreshments and an Easter Egg Hunt



WELCOME TO ST. MARGARET'S SERVICES

1st Sunday	9.30 am 11.00 am	Sunday Celebration Parish Communion
2nd Sunday	9.30 am 11.00 am	FIISH for Young Families Parish Communion
3rd Sunday	11.00 am	Parish Communion
4th Sunday	9.30 am 11.00 am	Family Service Parish Communion
5th Sunday	9.30 am 11.00 am	Service Of the Word Holy Communion (BCP)

www.ifieldparish.org

www.facebook.com/groups/stmargaretsifield



**St. Margaret's Church,
Ifield Street, Ifield,
Crawley, RH11 0NN.**

Wednesdays

9.30 am

Said Eucharist

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM) - ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH SUNDAY 27TH APRIL 2025 AT 12:30

All are welcome to attend our APCM as we review the life of our church over the past year, our mission and our plans for the future. Revd. Christine Spencer is Chair of the meeting. This will include bring and share refreshments.

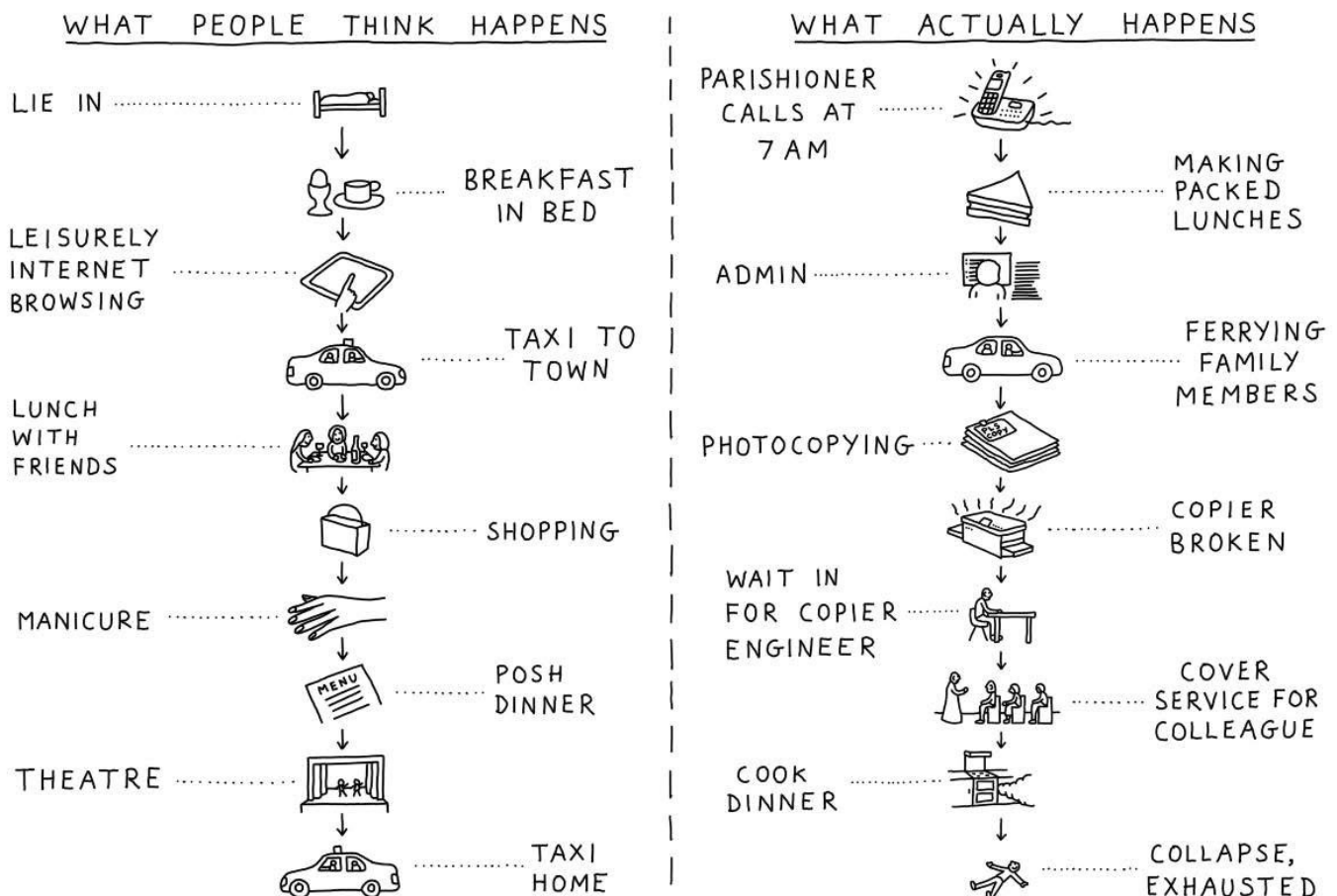
During the meeting, we will elect our Parish Wardens and the PCC representatives.

This is an open, public meeting, but if you wish to vote at the meeting, you will need to be on our Church Electoral Roll. Please contact Clare Wilson, PCC Secretary and Parish Electoral Roll Officer for additional information.

Email pccsecretary@ifieldparish.org

A CONTRIBUTION FROM OUR CURATE

THE VICAR'S DAY OFF



NEW DAYLIGHT A BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP PUBLICATION

New Daylight is an excellent quarterly book produced by the Bible Reading Fellowship. It contains a page for every day of the year with a Bible reading, a comment on the reading, and a prayer. Regular daily readings can help to focus on and enrich knowledge of the Scriptures and help us to feel closer to our Lord.

Subscriptions are due for the forthcoming year, 2025/2026, which starts in May, so now is the time to be deciding if you would like to receive the book. For 3 books per year the cost is £15.75, or £19.50 for the large print version.

There is a sample copy of the small New Daylight on the literature table for your perusal. Feel free to look through it, but please leave it on the table for others to see. If you would like to start receiving New Daylight, please see Jane Binmore.

PARISH HOUSE GROUPS



Mondays 10.30 am–12 noon at Tree House, Rusper Rd.

Please contact Jill Bell on 521699 for details

New members are always welcome

Tuesdays 7.30-9.30 pm

Venue may vary.

Please contact Jo Strutt jo@bridgeham.com for details

(PLEASE NOTE THIS GROUP IS NOT CURRENTLY MEETING)

200 CLUB

The latest 200 Club Building Fund draw took place on 9th March. The results are set out below:

1st Mary Pedlow

2nd Margaret Shaw

3rd Jeselle Lawler

The next draw will be on 11th April

Thank you for your valued and continued support - new members are most welcome!



With secondary school places having recently been allocated, many of our families are disappointed at not securing their preferred choice. This is particularly the case for children with SEN (which is a significant percentage of the young people we support), and there is a lot of worry about the future. Practitioners are supporting where they can in investigating whether or not an appeal is appropriate, and if not, giving emotional support around

coming to terms with the disappointment and putting strategies in place for a successful transition.

For more information, or to donate, please visit: www.familysupportwork.org

EASTER TEAM FOODBANK

Current particular needs are for

Baby food

Deodorant

Anything non-perishable as warehouse stocks are low throughout

Please leave items in the basket in church or contact sue@ifieldparish.org for collection.

Would you like to receive this publication by email?

If so, please send your email address to reader@ifieldparish.org with The Buzz in the subject line



LITTLE DRAGONS

It's church, it's messy, it's for little ones, their parents and carers!

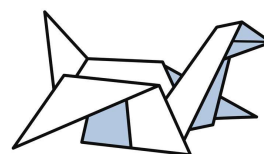
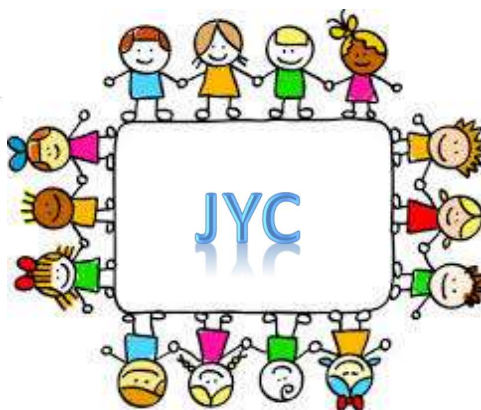
In church, 9 till 10.30am every Monday in term time

For more information, please contact the Rector

OUR YOUTH GROUP

JYC: SUMMER SCHEDULE

25 April, 9 & 23 May, 6 & 20 June, 4 & 18 July



For children from year one.

Fortnightly during term time on Fridays 18.30 – 20.00, St Margaret's Church.

St Margaret's: Loved as you are

For more information, please contact the Rector

WHO'S WHO IN IFIELD PARISH

Rector	Revd Christine Spencer	561283	rector@ifieldparish.org
Curate	Revd Dominic Desouza-Campbell	01444 247388	curate@ifieldparish.org
Reader	Jill Bell	521699	reader@ifieldparish.org
Parish Wardens	Andy Ironside	07758 168411	andy@ifieldparish.org
	Kevin Lawler	07792 809165	kevin@ifieldparish.org
	Clare Wilson	416438	pccsecretary@ifieldparish.org
PCC Secretary	James May	529146	treasurer@ifieldparish.org
PCC Treasurer	Jack Woolsey	07709 046017	jackwoolsey@hotmail.com
Finance Officer			
Safeguarding	Heather Woolsey	07584 010576	safeguarding@ifieldparish.org
DBS Lead Recruiter	Andy Ironside	077581 168411	dbsleadrecruiter@ifieldparish.org

REST DAYS

Please note that Friday is our Rector's rest day
Our Curate is only in the parish on Wednesday mornings (and Sundays)

PLEASE NOTE

St. Margaret's weekly notices can be viewed on the parish website

IFIELD PARISH WEBSITE

www.ifieldparish.org

Please send any information/photos for publication on the website to
Carl Peirce carl@ifieldparish.org

Follow us:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stmargaretsifield>

Please send any updates for the May issue to Jill Bell
reader@ifieldparish.org **by 21st April**