

NOTICES CONTINUED

In church this week –

Wednesday 15th February	9.30 am	Said Eucharist Service
	10.30 am	Lent Course
	12.15 pm	Funeral

THANKSGIVING

As part of our Christmas celebrations, when we remember the birth of our Saviour, we give and receive gifts. At Epiphany we remember the wise men bringing their gifts to the Christ Child. As Christians each Sunday we celebrate the greatest gift of our Saviour who gave his life and rose from the dead to save us from our sins.

So where in all these celebrations do we fit in and what gifts do we bring to our Lord?

As Paul wrote, we all have many and various gifts, and these can benefit our secular lives as well as in the church where we call them talents. Being on the coffee rota, cleaning the church, washing the linen, arranging the flowers, maintaining the churchyard, doing general repairs, being a sidesperson etc. are all vital to maintaining and running a vibrant church.

Talents alone will not sustain the church which needs major maintenance, heating, lighting, water, the parish office and of course our clergy - all of which cost money. This is where regular giving becomes so important for budgeting and paying our regular bills.

Thankfully there is now a very effective and simple way in which anyone with a bank account can give regularly. This is the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) which was set up some years ago by the Church of England. It has the advantage that our church receives income monthly thereby avoiding the 'feast and famine' syndrome. Furthermore, if you are a taxpayer the PGS scheme obtains any Gift Aid due on a monthly basis. This is then passed onto the church with the relevant donations. At this point it is worth mentioning that there are very few people who do not pay any tax. Although you may think you do not pay tax that is because it has in most cases been deducted from your income at source such as your salary, investments or pension. Therefore, everyone who is eligible should 'Gift Aid' their donations as the government increase the value of your donation by 25p for every pound you donate.

Donating through the PGS simply involves filling in a form or applying online at www.parishgiving.org.uk. If you would like a form and information pack, please speak to our Rector, Christine, or one of the Parish Wardens.

Last year it cost more to run our church than we received from all sources. Past generations provided the whole community with the church we love. It is therefore essential that we all donate a realistic amount on a regular basis to maintain this church now and for future generations.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me confidentially.

Chris Bell
Churchwarden
01293 521699, chris@ifieldparish.org

For more information on Save West of Ifield please refer to this website:

www.savewestofifield.co.uk

Registered Charity Account no. 1132318

WELCOME TO ST MARGARET'S CHURCH, IFIELD



[Please join us](#)

Here at St. Margaret's we are delighted to open our church again daily from 8:30 am till 4 pm to enable people to use this building individually for private prayer.

Please do look at our website

www.ifieldparish.org

or our group

[St Margaret's Church, Ifield](#)

for more details of our online services, how to join them, and discover how the church is active and at work proclaiming in this community, that in Jesus you are "Loved as you are".

12th February 2023

2nd Sunday Before Lent

Services next Sunday:	Family Service (9.30 am)
<i>Sunday Before Lent</i>	Sung Eucharist Service (11 am)

For our prayers

- The Parish: Hanbury Road, Hardham Close, Hoylake Close and Hunstanton Close, Hazel Close, Hazelwick Mill Lane and Heron Close
- The Sick: Patients of Langley Green Hospital and Paula Holt, Arthur and Doris Pattenden, Lydia, David Baker, Maureen Clifford, Charlotte Bacon, Daphne Goodwin, Sally Windsor, Ray and Pam Budd, Tina Fell, Katie and family, Madeline, Mary and Andrew Eastman
- The Departed: Hazel Kent, Richard Aldridge, Ray Buck, Ben Moorhouse and Pam Webster
- Year's mind: Carol Le Beau, Dennis Brackpool, Leonard Matthews, June Walsh, Richard Langley, Robert Smith, Caselmere Birch, Lily Cooper, Charles Clarke, Sydney Dawson, Pamela Das, Stuart McLeod, Meg Daniel, John Hubbard, Constance Collins, Ralph Hogben
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NOTICES

The funeral for Richard Aldridge is taking place on the 15th of February at 12.15 pm in church. All welcome.

The funeral for Ray Buck is taking place on the 24th of February at 12.30 pm in the Surrey and Sussex Crematorium. Rev'd David Parker is taking the service. All welcome to attend.

Lent Lunches - Please Can You Help? We would like to be able to offer lunches of soup, rolls and cheese on Wednesdays in Lent. If you can assist in any way, please speak to Jill Bell.

Church Cleaning. Volunteers needed. If you can help, please speak to the Churchwardens - Andy Ironside or Chris Bell.

Easter Team Foodbank. Heartfelt thanks from Easter Team for your continuing support and donations delivered last Tuesday. Particular requests for next time: Tinned potatoes (or mash), tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, custard (tinned, packet, or individual pots), rice pudding (tinned or individual pots). NEXT DELIVERY *TUESDAY 14th FEBRUARY*.

Thank you 🙏 Sue (sue@ifieldparish.org)

Wednesday Lent Course for 2023. Every Wednesday, we're going to be looking at an aspect of Christian discipleship which can often seem daunting: evangelism – sharing the 'good news' of Christ with those who have yet to receive Jesus into their lives and offering to accompany enquirers as they set out on the journey of faith.

As someone currently exploring a vocation to ordained ministry and required to give my own testimony as part of that process, I've been reflecting on how to develop our ability to speak about the faith that gives meaning and purpose to our lives. I've come to realize just how precious these personal testimonies are, and – no matter how 'ordinary' they might seem to us - how powerful they are in encouraging others to come and see what it *truly* means to follow Jesus.

This Lent course is all about valuing and nurturing our personal faith stories and thinking creatively about how we might share them with others. Combining a mixture of discussion-based activities, meditative scripture-reading and prayer, this course sets out to deepen our understanding of what sustains each of us in our faith, and to embolden us in our shared calling to be evangelists of the gospel.

Lucy

Venue: St Margaret's Church
Day and Time: Every Wednesday, 10:30 - 11:45 am
Duration: 9 weeks
Course start and end date: 01/02/23 – 29/03/23

Please note: there is no requirement to attend all nine sessions. Feel free to attend as many or as few as suits your diary. All materials will be provided, so just bring yourselves. All are welcome!

More Lent Groups

Mondays 10.30 am - 12 noon at Tree House, Rusper Road, starting on 27th February
Who then is this? Chichester Diocesan Lent Course

With the help of artists, hymn-writers and Christian teachers, we will look back to people and events in the Old Testament to answer the question the disciples asked about Jesus when he calmed the storm.

For more information please contact Jill Bell on 521699 or reader@ifieldparish.org

Tuesdays 7.30-9.30 pm at varying venues, 7th February - 21st March. Finding Jesus in the Psalms, with Barb Roose. Combining an interpretation of the psalms with real life stories. For more information, please contact Jo Strutt jo@bridgeham.com

Crawley CAP Life Skills Course. We are planning to run another Christians Against Poverty Life Skills course at Holy Trinity, Tilgate, starting on Wednesday 22nd February and consecutive Wednesdays for nine weeks, with a break for the school Easter holidays. This course is open to everyone who is struggling with life's challenges, irrespective of their financial situation. We cover topics ranging from coping with high pressure selling, living on a budget, healthy eating and shopping, managing energy bills, promoting good relationships, including forgiveness. We also make sure we have fun! The course will start at 10.15am and finish by 12.00pm. If you are interested or know someone who would be, or want to find out more **please call Graham Piper on 07491 779384.**

Men's Fellowship – 'Curry'! There are plans to go to Gossops Green for a curry at 'Kitchen Royale' on either Thurs 16th or Thurs 23rd February at 19:30 (the most votes will win the day!). If you would like to come, please email Rob at @rob@ifieldparish.org and let him know whether you have a preference on date or can do either. The date will be confirmed in due course. It will be good to get together for some fun, food and fellowship.

Telling Our Story – CAP Evangelism Training

Starts: Thursday 2nd March 7:30 pm

Hosted at Elim Church Crawley, The Mardens, Ifield, RH11 0AQ

"The church has the greatest story to tell. But the reality is many Christians say they struggle to tell our story confidently.

In all our work, the heart of CAP is to tell this story and bring hope into the darkness of our lives. As an evangelistic organisation, we want to help local Christians to tell our story, the story of Jesus and how He has given us a new story.

We are hosting our first "telling our story" evangelism training. Over four interactive evenings in March, we will talk through 4 of the storylines in telling our story:

- 1 His Story – what is the gospel?
- 2 Story Pictures – gospel images of salvation.
- 3 My Story – learning to tell my story.
- 4 Starting A New Story – leading someone to faith in Jesus.

This is open to all Christians from any church. You don't need to have any connection to CAP. Our aim is to equip Christians to share our stories confidently. Knowing it's not just about what we say but how we say it."

To sign up visit: <https://ecc.churchsuite.com/events/006r4tdl>

Can You Share The Warmth? Many of the families helped by Family Support Work live in fuel poverty. Please would you consider donating your winter fuel allowance, either online via www.justgiving.com/campaign/stw22 or by cheque payable to FSW at Family Support Work, Garton House, 22 Stanford Avenue, Brighton, BN1 6AA.