



*St. Mary Magdalene Church, Longfield*  
Part of the Rural North West Kent Group of Churches

**NOTICES FOR WEEK COMMENCING 21<sup>st</sup> April 2019**

**RNWK Group Clergy: Revd. Dylan Turner, Revd. Helen Reeves, Revd. Elizabeth Robertson**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2019**  
**EASTER DAY**

5.30 am Tower Service at St. Peter and St. Paul's Church, Ash  
5.30 am Dawn Service at Service at St. Mary's Church, Fawkham  
8.00 am Holy Communion Service at St. Peter and St. Paul Church, Ash  
9.00 am Holy Communion Service at St. Peter's Church, Ridley  
10.30 am Holy Communion Service at St. Peter and St. Paul Church, Ash  
10.30 am Holy Communion Service at All Saints Church, Hartley  
**10.30 am Holy Communion Service at St. Mary Magdalene Church Longfield**  
**Please remember to bring a flower to place on the Easter cross during the service at Longfield.**

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019

8.00 am Holy Communion Service at St. Peter and St. Paul Church, Ash  
**8.00 am Mattins Service at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Longfield**  
9.00 am Morning Worship Service at St. Peter's Church, Ridley  
**10.30 am St. George's Day Service at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Longfield**  
10.30 am St. George's Day Service at St. Peter and St. Paul Church, Ash  
10.30 am St. George's Day Service at St. Mary's Church, Fawkham  
6.30 pm Evening Prayer Service (BCP) at St. Peter's Church, Ridley

**(Please note that tea and coffee will be available in the Jubilee Hall after most of our services, please feel free to join us)**

**HOLY SATURDAY (EASTER EVE) SERVICE – 20TH APRIL** It would be lovely to see as many folk as possible at the Holy Saturday service next Saturday 20th April. The service begins in a darkened church with a vigil, reminding us of the saving stories of God found in the Hebrew Scripture. We then move outside for the lighting of the Easter fire, from which the paschal candle is lit. All of the candles in the church are then lit from the paschal candle – and slowly the church is bathed in light.

Finally we will renew our baptism vows and celebrate the first Eucharist of Easter. The service is particularly exciting this year as Bishop James will be presiding and preaching. It's a unique way that the whole of the RNWK Group can enter deeply into the mystery of the resurrection. Those who attended last year thoroughly enjoyed it. After the service there will be a festive 'bring and share' as we break our Lenten fast. It would be wonderful if you could bring a plate of food with you to share afterwards. Please do speak to Gill or Paul our churchwardens if you'd like to know more. The service takes place at **Ash Church at 7pm on Saturday 20th April.**

**EASTER DAY IN LONGFIELD - Our Easter Day service is kindly being taken by Bishop Ken. We extend our heartfelt thanks to him for his willingness to preside and preach for us this joyous morning.**

**BIBLE, BREW AND BISCUITS –** There will be a relaxed and informal get together at Ruby Wheal's house at 3 Hartley Road, Longfield to have a brew of your choice with some biscuits in the warm glow of the Bible. If you would like a light hearted chat through some of the familiar Bible passages then please do come along. **For further information and the date of the next meeting please speak to Ruby or Steph.**

**OPEN CHURCH WEDNESDAYS FROM APRIL TO SEPTEMBER – MORNINGS 10.00-12.00** - Thank you to everyone who has agreed to help open our church to visitors for just 2 hours each Wednesday morning during the spring and summer months. Stewards operate in pairs and the time passes quickly. Although we have already had to put a rota in place we would be very grateful for more volunteers as it would lessen the load on those who have already agreed to help. If you would like more information please speak to Gill Horner. **The stewards for Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April will be Wendy Smith and Susan Rogers**

**COFFEE AND COMMUNION –** This will be held on **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April** starting at 10.00am in St. Mary Magdalene Church, Longfield.

**JIM FLETCHER –** My licensing service at St. George's will be **Monday 29th April, 7.30pm**. Being a bigger Church there is no need of a ticket system but it would be helpful to know how many may be coming—please give your name to Marion Strachan in the Church Centre office 704972. There may also be an opportunity to car share if you speak to Marion Strachan.

**YARN AND YAP –** The next meeting will be on the **3<sup>rd</sup> May starting at 12.30pm until 2.00pm** in the Jubilee Hall. Light lunch and drinks/cakes are all provided. Donations of wool or a contribution towards its purchase is very much appreciated.

**HISTORY PRESENTATION –** There will be a History Sessions presentation on **Isambard Kingdom Brunel – Is his genius overrated?** on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 2.00pm** in the Jubilee Hall. 5 pounds per ticket with light refreshments provided. All proceeds will go to St. Mary Magdalene Church funds. All are welcome to this informal talk by Alan Strachan.

**COFFEE MORNING –** This will be on Saturday **11<sup>th</sup> May** in the Jubilee Hall starting at 10.30am until 12.00noon. All are welcome.

**MESSY CHURCH** – Messy Church meets again on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2019** at 4.00pm in the Fawkham and Hartley Church Centre — please come and join us. There is also a Facebook group to follow which is at: <https://m.facebook.com/RNWKmessychurch/>

**ALAN STRACHAN'S LICENCING AS AN LLM** This will be on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May** in Rochester Cathedral. If anyone would like to go along to support him and are most welcome and you will need to be seated at 2.15pm for a 2.30pm service start.

**PASTORAL CARE TEAM** - If anyone would like to be a part of this ministry through prayer or visiting could they let either Steph, Wendy or Val know and speak to us for more information.

**SIDESMEN, SOUND AND READING:- Sunday 21st April service: For the 10.30 am service the Sidespeople will be Barbara and Peter Darvill, the reader will be Gill Horner or Paul Thomas, prayers by Gill Horner and sound courtesy of Lesley White.**

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April services: For the 8.00am service the sidesperson and reader will be Sylvia Partridge. For the 10.30am service the Sidespeople will be Stephanie Perfitt and Susan Rogers, the Reader will be Stephanie Perfitt and Prayers by Lawrie Townson with Sound by Peter Darvill. Thank you to everyone for your time and assistance.**

*If you have anything to add to the notices for next week, please contact: Alan Strachan on 01474 704602 or at [a.m.strachan@btinternet.com](mailto:a.m.strachan@btinternet.com) Parish website: [www.longfieldchurch.org](http://www.longfieldchurch.org) Twitter: @RNWK\_Group*

### **CALLED TOGETHER FOR A NEW VISION**

**'CALLED TOGETHER' - WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO FOR YOUR T FOR 2-500 PLUS CHALLENGE? - 'CALLED TOGETHER'**

**WE HAVE SO FAR REACHED OUT AS A GROUP TO 320 PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FOR OUR T FOR 2-500 PLUS CHALLENGE, WE STILL HAVE 180 PEOPLE TO REACH BEFORE NEXT SUMMER. WHAT'S YOUR CHALLENGE? PLEASE LET THE MINISTRY TEAM KNOW, WE ARE CALLED TOGETHER, TO WORK TOGETHER FOR OUR COMMUNITY!**

**Just a thought!**

**Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus are interesting characters. They were what you might call twilight disciples, they believed, but stayed in the background during Jesus' lifetime.**

**Yet when all the others had run away, they came out into the open. they went to Pilate and committed themselves openly by asking for Jesus' body. What intrigues me is the moment they chose to reveal themselves. It seems to be the worst possible time. It was after Jesus had died on the cross, and it was before his resurrection.**

**Somehow, the crisis of the crucifixion gave them courage to declare where they stood. There was no hope to carry them along, Jesus was dead and that seemed to be the end of it. We know that the resurrection lay ahead, but they didn't.**

**And this was the time when they went to Pilate!**

**It strikes me that at this time of disappointment and danger, the secret disciples were the only ones who did show up. All the others were in hiding, realising that, I wonder if maybe it's time we stopped judging the soundness of our fellow Christians and the worthiness of their actions and leave that to God. In the end it will be God who is the ultimate judge not us, and besides we don't have enough information to do it.**

**Just a thought.....**

**Have a joyous and peaceful Easter.**