

**“You did not choose me but I chose you.” John 15:16**

During Lent and Holy Week, in both the Lent course and the Good Friday meditations, we explored the similarities and differences between the four Gospels.

It is fascinating to notice that only two of the four Gospels refer to the nativity at all – and our familiar nativity scenes and plays conflate the two stories. We realised that we would have very different plays if we only used the information in Matthew’s Gospel.

Having taken time to look at Jesus – his birth, life, death and resurrection – through the eyes of the different evangelists, the meditations on Good Friday focused on the different stories of the run-up to Jesus’s death.

Luke’s Gospel puts those extraordinary words of forgiveness into Jesus’s mouth: “Father forgive them, for they do not know what they do”, and also words of salvation, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

In John’s Gospel Jesus’s final words are: “It is finished”. There is much more of a sense that Jesus knew exactly what would happen in his final hours, and was in control.

I know that spending some time focusing on Jesus through the eyes of the four Evangelists has been an enriching experience for me this Lent, and I hope that it has been for others. Taking time to study the scriptures, hear different ideas and consider our own faith is always worthwhile.

Indeed, it is from this basis that we understand more clearly our calling – and that we begin to realise that our decisions can be shaped and guided by our own relationship with Jesus.

**Rev Theresa Ricketts**

## Thank you for your prayers

A friend of one of our church members has written....

“I would like to thank everyone who has been praying for my family. I can’t thank you enough as, without your prayers and others, it could have been a very different story.

Last July my husband had open heart surgery. It was successful and he is now almost completely well and is back at work, but it took him eight weeks to recover from the operation.

Eight weeks after his surgery our granddaughter nearly died with sepsis. She was on life support for ten weeks and during this time got weaker and weaker. Praise God

she survived and did not suffer any lasting damage. Although there is still a long way to go she is now at home. She is walking with a zimmer frame and trying to get stronger as she wants to walk down the aisle when she gets married in June.

We are so thankful for what our Lord has done in both their lives and want to thank you for faithfully praying for my family.

I do not attend your church but I do go to the Women’s Group. I find you all to be very friendly and welcoming and really enjoy the fellowship.”



## Open House and Songs of Celebration at Guildford Cathedral on Sunday 13 May

The People’s Cathedral Project has now been completed and the cathedral restored to its former glory. The interior has been refurbished with upgraded lighting and sound systems, new interactive interpretation displays and improved



access for those with disabilities. The organ has been fully refurbished and sounds stunning once more.

To mark this achievement, which a number of people in our congregation generously supported,

there will be an open house afternoon of celebration on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2018, from 4pm-6pm.

There will be organ recitals by the cathedral organists, short talks on the restoration project and organ refurbishment, and later in the afternoon the opportunity to listen to the choirs rehearsing for the Songs of Celebration Service which will conclude the afternoon at 6pm. Children's activities and crafts will be available throughout together with the opportunity to explore individually the various

displays. Refreshments will also be available throughout at Seasons Restaurant.

For those who can recall the months of scaffolding and disruption it is a great joy to see the building regain its peaceful and awesome character which (in my opinion at least) make it such a special House of God. It is well worth the short trip down the A3!

If you would like any further details please pick up a flyer from the back of church or speak to Jenny or myself.

**Malcolm Coffey**

## Auf Wiedersehen, Michael



On Easter Sunday we said farewell to Michael.

We wish him success with his studies and training in Germany.

Six choir members have received RSCM Voice for Life awards recognising vocal skills, musical understanding and knowledge of repertoire.



**And finally:**..... After the christening of his baby brother in church Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. Three times his father asked him what was wrong. Eventually the boy replied, "That preacher said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I wanted to stay with you".

## May Services and Events

<b>Saturday 5</b>	<b>08.30</b>	<b>Men's Breakfast at The Queen Adelaide</b>
<b>Sunday 6</b>	<b>08.00</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	<b>09.30</b>	<b>Sung Communion and Children's Groups</b>
<b>Thursday 10</b>	<b>20.00</b>	<b>Ascension Day Holy Communion</b>
<b>Saturday 12</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>Quiet Morning (until 12 noon)</b>
<b>Sunday 13</b>	<b>08.00</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	<b>09.30</b>	<b>Café Church followed by Holy Communion</b>
<b>Wednesday 16</b>	<b>20.00</b>	<b>PCC in the Choir Vestry</b>
<b>Thursday 17</b>	<b>14.30</b>	<b>Thursday Club in the Cuddington Hall</b>
<b>Saturday 19</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>Women's Group in the Cuddington Hall</b>
<b>Sunday 20</b>	<b>08.00</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	<b>09.30</b>	<b>Sung Communion and Children's Groups</b>
<b>Sunday 29</b>	<b>08.00</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	<b>09.30</b>	<b>Family Communion with Baptism</b>

**Morning Prayer is said in church every weekday morning at 9am.**

**Every Wednesday at 10am there is a celebration of Holy Communion.**

**All are very welcome**

Do let me know what you would like to see in the Listening Post. It is your newsletter and I would like it to contain the news and information you want to read.

Please send feedback, photographs and articles to: **Linda Charlton (Editor)** [thelisteningpost@cuddingtonparish.org.uk](mailto:thelisteningpost@cuddingtonparish.org.uk) Text 07778 127670.

Longhand is welcomed too. Please hand to me or leave in the C pigeonhole beside the choir vestry door