



Four Beautiful Churches - Three Parishes – One in Christ

Meon Bridge Benefice Pew News

1st Sunday – 7th April 2019

Church Annual Meetings – all at 7.30 pm

Parish	Exton	Parish	Droxford
Date of APM & APCM	09Apr19 in Exton Church	Date of Re-opened APM	29Apr19 in Droxford Church

THE ANNUAL PARISHIONERS' MEETING (APM) [Vestry Meeting]

The meeting is for the election of **churchwardens** in each parish.

PLEASE SPEAK TO THE RECTOR IF YOU WOULD
CONSIDER STANDING FOR THIS IMPORTANT OFFICE.

(Nomination forms are in the churches)

The meeting may be attended by all persons whose names are entered on the church electoral roll of the parish and all persons resident in the parish whose names are entered on a register of local government electors by reason of such residence.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)

The meeting may be attended by all persons whose names are entered on the church electoral roll of the parish only.

For the election of Parochial representatives of the laity as follows:

- To the Parochial Church Council. Please consider standing if you are eligible.
- For the appointment of Sidesmen and the Independent Examiner.

Details of the reports considered at the APCM are listed on the notices.

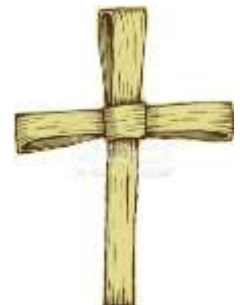
PLEASE CONSIDER STANDING FOR YOUR PCC.

(Nomination forms are in the churches)

14th April ~ Palm Sunday

8.00 am ~ Meonstoke ~ Holy Communion (BCP)
Blessing of the Palms

10.30 am ~ Droxford~
Blessing and Liturgy of the Palms
Palm Procession through the Churchyard
Dramatic Reading of the Passion as a Tableau
Holy Communion (CW)



Passiontide and Holy Week

It is still uncertain when Christians first began to make an annual (as opposed to a weekly) memorial of the death and resurrection of Christ. This *Pascha* (a word derived indirectly from *pesach*, Hebrew 'Passover') was at first a night-long vigil, followed by the celebration of the Eucharist at cock-crow, and all the great themes of redemption were included within it: incarnation, suffering, death, resurrection, glorification. Over time, the *Pascha* developed into the articulated structure of Holy Week and Easter. Through participation in the whole sequence of services, the Christian shares in Christ's own journey, from the triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to the empty tomb on Easter morning. The procession with palms, which was already observed in Jerusalem in the fourth century, is accompanied by the reading of the Passion Narrative, in which the whole story of the week is anticipated. Maundy Thursday (from *mandatum*, 'commandment', because of the use of John 13.34 in the Antiphon) contains a rich complex of themes: humble Christian service expressed through Christ's washing of his disciples' feet, the institution of the Eucharist, the perfection of Christ's loving obedience through the agony of Gethsemane.

After keeping vigil ('Could you not watch with me one hour?') Thursday passes into Good Friday with its two characteristic episodes. The veneration of the Cross is older; the sequence of meditations and music known as the Three Hours' Devotion was introduced into the Church of England in the nineteenth century, whilst in this Benefice we undertake a walk of witness and keep just one hour before the cross with a simplified communion service, as is now widespread practice, using consecrated bread reserved from the Maundy Thursday Eucharist. The churches remain stripped of all decoration. They remain bare and empty through the following day, which is a day without a liturgy: there can be no adequate way of recalling the being dead of the Son of God, other than silence and desolation. But within the silence there grows a sense of peace and completion, and then rising excitement as the Easter draws near.

This is indeed a solemn season, which preserves some of the oldest texts still in current use, and rehearses the deepest and most fundamental Christian memories.

The Benefice is seeking to appoint a **Safeguarding Officer** as soon as possible and certainly before the end of April 2019. If you are interested in volunteering for this important role, please discuss your interest with the Rector. The post requires an enhanced DBS check and some additional safeguarding training. There is the option of taking on the responsibility for document and identity checking in relation to DBS clearances should the successful applicant wish so to do.



Meon Valley Food Bank (MVFB)

The items needed for the coming week are tinned cold meats, tinned meat meals, tinned vegetables, biscuits and shower gel and shampoo. Please donate if you can.



The Annual Christian Aid Walk goes through the Bridge Parishes
on 12th May 2019
starting at 1.00 pm in Droxford

PLEASE HELP - We need:

SPONSORS

CAKE and BISCUIT MAKERS (or donors)

VOLUNTEERS TO COLLECT SPONSORSHIP and/ or DONATIONS

And on the day

WALKERS ~ WELCOMERS ~ TEA MAKERS

and possibly some MARSHALS

**PLEASE DON'T WAIT TO BE ASKED –
LET TONY & SAMANTHA KNOW**

HOW YOU CAN HELP ON THE DAY OR IN ANOTHER ROLE

Evensong follows in Church at 6.30 pm

BISHOP'S LENT APPEAL 2019



The focus of the Lent Appeal this year will be **Mental Health**, and the support of people, especially children and young people, with mental health difficulties. The main recipient will be an initiative that is spearheaded by four young members of the royal family.

'Heads Together'

is a national coalition of charities that is supported by HRH the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and HRH the Duke and Duchess of Sussex. These include **Contact**, working particularly with the military community, and **Mind**, with experience in this field for over 70 years. The Bishop will also support local charities working in our area among people, especially children and young people, facing mental health challenges.

The 2019 Lent Appeal will also support local charities working in our area among people, especially children and young people, facing mental health challenges. As in previous years the Bishop will welcome suggestions of such small, or larger, local charitable groups.

The Bishop hopes that by making mental health the focus of this year's appeal, it will also prompt our church communities to be more accessible and welcoming to those facing mental health problems.

Please give generously – your donation will make a real difference to the work of **Heads Together**, and to local charities and local groups working to support adults and especially children and young people with mental health difficulties.

The gift aid envelopes and leaflets are available in church and at Lent Lunches.

1st Sunday – 7th April 2019 - Passion Sunday (Lent 5)

First Sunday 7Apr19 5 th Sunday of Lent <i>Passiontide begins</i>	8.00 am	Droxford	Holy Communion (BCP) Black Book p.229 Readings: Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8
	10.30 am	Meonstoke	Holy Communion Lent Booklet 409 Lord for the years 738 When I survey 32 And can it be 206 Glory be to Jesus (Choir) 695 To God be the glory! Readings: Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8
	7.00 pm	Meonstoke	The Messiah from Scratch



St Paul: I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. *Phil 3: 14*



Mary and Martha
with Jesus
John 12:1-8



The Messiah from Scratch

Tues 9Apr19	8.30 am	Exton	Morning Prayer Red Book p.238 Ps55; Jer 22:1-5, 13-19; Jn 11: 45-end
Weds 10Apr19	8.30 am	Meonstoke	Morning Prayer Red Book p.238 Ps35; Jer 22:20-23:8; John 12: 1-11
	5.00 pm	Droxford	Evening Prayer Red Book p.244 Ps 62; Exodus 9: 1-12; Heb 12: 3-13
Thurs 11Apr19	10 am	Droxford	Holy Communion Lent Booklet Final Session of Lent Course Genesis 17: 3-9; John 8: 51-end

9 April

Dietrich Bonhoeffer - Lutheran Pastor, Martyr, 1945. Please see *The Bridge*

10 April

William Law - Priest,
Spiritual Writer, 1761

William of Ockham - Friar, Philosopher,
Teacher of the Faith, 1347

11 April

George Augustus Selwyn - First Bishop of New Zealand, 1878

2nd Sunday – 14th April 2019 - Palm Sunday

Second Sunday 14Apr19 Palm Sunday	8.00 am	Meonstoke	Holy Communion (BCP) Black Book p.229 Readings: Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 22:14-23:56
	10.30 am	Droxford	Holy Communion (CW) & Blessing of Palms; Special Booklet 60 All glory laud and honour 61 Ride on, ride on in majesty 72 Lift high the cross (Omit v.3 – 7) 260 And now, O Father v. 1 & 2 332 Christ is made the sure foundation (Part II & Doxology vv. 5,6, & 9) Readings: Palm: Luke 19:28-40. Passion: Phil 2:5-11; Luke 22:14-23:56
	6.30 pm	EXTON	Evensong: Black Book p.72 Ps 69.1-20; Is 5.1-7; Luke 20.9-19
Monday 15Apr19	08:30	Droxford	Morning Prayer. Lam 1: 1-12a; Ps 41 Luke 22: 1-23
	19:00	Meonstoke	Stations of the Cross
Tues 16Apr19	8.30 am	Exton	Morning Prayer. Lam 3: 1-18; Ps 27; Luke 22: 39-53
	19:00	Corhampton	Holy Week Reflection
Weds 17Apr19	8.30 am	Meonstoke	Morning Prayer: Jer 11: 18-20: Ps 102: 1-18; Luke 23: 54-end
	5 pm	Droxford	Evening Prayer Ps 88; Is 63: 1-9; Rev 14:18 – 15:4
	19:00	Droxford	Stations of the Cross
Thurs 18Apr19 Maundy Thursday Principal Feast	9 am	Droxford	Holy Communion p.1/ 166; Euch Prayer: E p.30/ 196 1 Cor 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35
	11:00	Cathedral	Chrism Mass
	19:00	Corhampton	HC (CW) with foot washing Ex 12:1-14; Ps 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Cor 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35
	20:00- 23:59	Corhampton (drop in, even for just 20 min)	Vigil Evening Psalm 39, Matthew's Passion; Mark's Passion; and Luke's Passion read one each hour.
Good Friday Principal Holy Day	09:00	Droxford	Good Friday Breakfast (Droxford VH)
	10:00	Around Benefice	Walk of Witness (details in next week's Pew Sheet)
	11:30	Meonstoke	Informal Service
	13:45	Corhampton	Hour at Foot of Cross Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Ps 22; Heb 10:16-25; John 18:1-19:42.

For Our Prayers

In the morning, we pray for the day and its tasks; the world and its needs; and, in the evening for peace; individuals and their needs.

We pray for those caught up in the fighting Libya, the famine and sickness in the Yemen, in the shootings in New Zealand, the destructive cyclone in south-eastern Africa and the devastating floods in Afghanistan; for those killed and injured, and for those who mourn. We pray for the aid agencies, the emergency and rescue services, for the communities affected and for political and faith leaders in those countries and across the world as they work to bring relief, comfort and healing.

In Passiontide and Holy Week, we pray for the persecuted Church; the oppressed peoples of the world; all who are lonely; all who are near to death; and, all who are facing loss.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Bishop, Christopher Foster and our archdeacon, Gavin Collins. Please see (<https://www.portsmouth.anglican.org/news-and-events/prayer-diary>). We pray for the work of the Benefice, its mission and growth spiritually and in numbers; for our local schools. We pray for our Christian brothers and sisters in Ghana, especially in the Diocese of Wiaswo in western Ghana, and for our brothers and sisters in the Deanery of Hackney and our deanery link. We pray for our local Street Pastors on the streets of Portsmouth, Gosport, Winchester, Southampton and elsewhere in Hampshire (<https://www.streetpastors.org/our-network/united-kingdom/south-east>).

We pray for all those who are preparing for marriage in Benefice in 2019, including Robert Arthur and Ellen Caddy to be married on 12th April.

We pray for our churchwardens and new PCCs.

For those recovering from operations or undergoing treatment or who are unwell in mind, body or spirit, including Nicola Hulbert, Anne Wilkinson, Rosie Minors, Mthr Samantha, Jackie Woollard, Rosemary Denham, Tony Farnell and James Whitehead and all those with long-term or degenerative conditions. For all those who grieve; for the recently departed, including Dennis Heath, Simon Cassels, Michael Collins, Mark Smith, Ian Higgins, Edith Carver and Vera Burrows, and all in the year's mind.

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

Lent Lunches Many thanks to the organisers and for the donations to Bishop Christopher's Lent Appeal.

Dates for Your Diary

Dennis Heath's funeral will be held at Portchester Crematorium on Tuesday, 16th April at 10.15 am.

St Andrews Church, Meonstoke

'Messiah from Scratch' With Richard Martin on the organ

Sunday 7th April at 7.00 pm ~ Optional Rehearsal at 5.45- 6.30 pm

Come and enjoy singing this wonderful work! EVERYONE WELCOME!

Please bring a score if you have one, although there are some scores available. (Novello Watkins Shaw edition).

Entrance is Free, with a retiring collection,

in aid of St Andrew's Church. Refreshments will be served, which includes a glass of wine. If you would like to sing, please ring Lorna 01489 877718 or Sally 01489 877983 or just turn up on the day.

Exton Evensong will be postponed to the following week -Palm Sunday.

LAMPS Production of the Passion. Wednesday 10th April 7:30 pm,

St Peter's Church, Bishop's Waltham. Adults £10; Under 16 £5;

Tickets can be purchased from the Church Office in advance

or on the door (Refreshments served afterwards).

FODC AGM: Thursday 25th April at 7pm in Droxford Church.

CONTACT DETAILS

RECTOR: Fr Tony Forrest (01489) 877422 rector.meonbridge@btinternet.com
usual rest day is Monday.

CURATE: The Revd Samantha Martell, 232041 RevSamantha@alpha-omega.me,
Usual rest day is Friday.

Assistant Priest: The Rev'd Canon Anthony Hulbert 878289

LAY MINISTERS

Reader: Cathy Mathews 877804

Reader emeritus: Pauline Quarendon 877392

CHURCH WARDENS

DROXFORD: Sheila Matthissen 877867

EXTON: Hugh Parry 878860 & Richard Pepys 878035

MEONSTOKE WITH CORHAMPTON: Angela Peagram 878725

WEDDINGS: Mrs Sue Wells 01329 834130 - sjwells@meonwood.co.uk

SAFEGUARDING: Dr Jane Beardmore - 01489 877578