

## ALL SAINTS FLOODLIGHTS

### FEBRUARY

16 For my husband, Jeremy's birthday

### MARCH

- 7 In loving memory of Peter Pannell on his birthday  
8 For Alf Rothwell - where have those 20 years gone?  
9 In loving memory of Hugh Campbell on his birthday  
15 In loving memory of Peggy Welham, beloved wife, mother and Nanny on her birthday, still greatly missed  
26 In loving memory of Nancy Naish (nee Layzell) on her birthday  
28 In loving memory of Bill and Gladys Nunn on their wedding anniversary

All light bookings must be made in writing with the fee - £8.00

Details need to be received by 6<sup>th</sup> of the previous month for inclusion in the monthly list

#### Cheques should be made payable to:

"The Friends of All Saints' Church, Brightlingsea" please and sent to:

St James' Church Office, Victoria Place, Brightlingsea CO7 0AB

You can also book by telephone (302378) and confirm by letter with the fee.

**Those who are ill for whom we have been asked to pray are:** Ruth Askew; Karen Birnie; Sonia Bones; Mylie Brooker; Emily Cannon; Arthur Cole; Brenda Collins; Bonnie Day; Tom Dale; Becky Dines; Alfie Taylor Fenwick; Willie Gant; Johnnie Russell; Jeff Scott; Rita Smith; Nicola Springett; Karen Talmey; Christopher Williams; Amy, Lily and Poppy Wright.

**CRADLE ROLL:** Lucy Esmay Seward, George Andrew Stanley Woods, Benjamin Robert Holland, William Malcolm Holland, Megan Rose Alice Skinner

### BRIGHTLINGSEA CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

In accordance with the Church Representation Rules, the current Electoral Roll (a record of membership of the Church of England) relating to the Parish of All Saints' with St James' Brightlingsea is due for revision before the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2018.

The revision will take place from 18<sup>th</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018.

The Roll is a list of Baptised lay persons (ages 16 and over) who are qualified electors in the Parish. Fuller details of membership and responsibilities are shown on the application form for enrolment - these are available in St James' Church.

Please return completed forms to me or a Churchwarden before Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018. Thank you

Annette Whittle  
Electoral Roll Officer

### The Bishop's Lent Appeal

This year's Lent Appeal will be raising funds to purchase a Water Bowser for use by the Diocese of Marsabit in northern Kenya. This will help them to transport water to the more remote communities that they serve. Downloadable resources for parishes are also available on the Diocesan website.

### EVENTS:

Breakfasts on 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays monthly, excluding August and December.

10<sup>th</sup> March - Quiz

5<sup>th</sup> May - Supper Evening.

### An observation on life

Common sense is a flower that, sadly, doesn't grow in everyone's garden.

## Sunday worship - usual service times - look out for notices showing changes

### ALL SERVICES AT ST JAMES' CHURCH (IN THE TOWN) UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

8.00 am Holy Communion (at All Saints' on the third Sunday each month)

10.00 am Parish Eucharist (at All Saints' on the third Sunday each month)

Wednesdays 10.00 am Eucharist at St James' church

Saints' Days services as announced in the Parish Diary.

Baptism enquiries to Shirley Raynes (305190) or Jennifer Gallant (305060)

Wedding enquiries to Linda Salmon (306365)

Funeral enquiries to Church Office (302378)

If you wish to seek confidential advice, request prayer for the sick or infirm, or receive the sacraments, please contact the Church Office

### Contacts

**Church Office** Telephone 302378 (out of hours answering machine)

e-mail: brightlingseaparish@btconnect.com

**Churchwardens** Carole Warren 825027 [cawarren825@gmail.com](mailto:cawarren825@gmail.com)

Bob Goodenough 303749 [bob.m.goodenough@gmail.com](mailto:bob.m.goodenough@gmail.com)

**PCC Secretary/PCC Treasurer** Church Office, Victoria Place,  
Brightlingsea CO7 0AB

Parish website: [www.allsaintswithstjamesb-sea.co.uk](http://www.allsaintswithstjamesb-sea.co.uk)

### MARCH DIARY (please check pewsheet for any discrepancies)

1	Thursday <i>St David</i>	8.15 am	CTB Prayer Meeting
2	Friday	10.30 am	Prayers for the Sick
4	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.00 am	Parish Eucharist
6	Tuesday	9.00 am	Parish Prayers
7	Wednesday	10.00 am	Eucharist
8	Thursday	8.15 am	CTB Prayer Meeting
9	Friday	10.30 am	Prayers for the Sick
11	<b>MOTHERING SUNDAY</b>	8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.00 am	Parish Eucharist
13	Tuesday	9.00 am	Parish Prayers
		10.30 am	Open House at 38 High Street
14	Wednesday	10.00 am	Eucharist
15	Thursday	10.15 am	CTB Prayer Meeting
16	Friday	10.30 am	Prayers for the Sick
18	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	8.00 am	Holy Communion at All Saints'
		10.00 am	Parish Eucharist with Baptism at All Saints'
		10.00 am	Sparklers at St James'
		6.30 pm	Stations of the Cross
20	Tuesday <i>Cuthbert</i>	9.00 am	Parish Prayers
21	Wednesday	10.00 am	Eucharist
		2.15 pm	Brightlingsea Bears
22	Thursday	8.15 am	CTB Prayer Meeting
23	Friday	10.30 am	Prayers for the Sick
25	<b>PALM SUNDAY</b>	8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.00 am	Eucharist
27	Tuesday	9.00 am	Parish Prayers
28	Wednesday	10.00 am	Eucharist
29	Maundy Thursday	8.15 am	CTB Prayer Meeting
		8.00 pm	Holy Communion with washing of feet followed by Vigil
30	Good Friday	10.15 am	CTB United Service
		1.30 pm	Silence - from 2 to 3 o'clock 'Meditation'
		7.30 pm	Words and Music for Good Friday with St James' Singers

Lent Course details as published on the weekly pewsheet

Parish of All Saints' with St James', Brightlingsea

## Monthly Parish News



## March 2018 - THE FINAL ISSUE

Issue 45

### NEWS FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

At the moment, Brightlingsea has no vicar. We are "between" vicars. Officially, this is an interregnum.

Reverend Anne Howson retired last Autumn and she and her husband, Eddie, have moved to Dorset. The vacancy has been advertised and interviewing for a new vicar will take place in March. That may seem like a very long time - but one of the factors that we have had to take into consideration is that the Crown is the patron of our parish and every part of the process has to be approved by the Ecclesiastical Secretary of the Cabinet Office - who will also be one of the people who make up the interviewing panel.

Advertisements for the vacancy appeared in "The Church Times" in January. Clergy who were interested sent for the Parish Profile which was written by the Parochial Church Council (PCC). This, we hope, gave a clear picture of what kind of a place we are and what kind of a vicar we are looking for. The Parish Profile was painstakingly put together and is 20 pages long with photographs and descriptions of the town, the churches, activities and the people. If that looked attractive to an enquirer, they submitted an application.

We continue to pray that we've created the right kind of impression and that the right person will find us and become our next vicar. The chances are that whoever is appointed will have to give three months notice to their current parish so we're not likely to see anyone taking up the post until the Summer.

Meanwhile, the Churchwardens and the rest of the team are working hard to make sure that we book stand-in clergy for services, baptisms, funerals, weddings and that we run all of the many activities centred on our two churches.

Carole and Bob

DEANERY PRAYER DIARY - Each week we are asked to pray for one of the parishes in our Deanery. In March these are:

- 4 St John the Baptist and St Mark, Great Clacton, as they seek a new incumbent
- 11 All Saints, Great Holland, and the strengthening in health and faith in their congregation
- 18 St Bartholomew, Holland on Sea, continuing their work for Christ
- 25 St Michael, Kirby-le-Soken, for the building repairs

Sally and I spent a week at Lee Abbey on a course devoted to "God, the Big Bang and Biology". All of it was fascinating but some of it (the maths especially) was challenging. Many of the other attendees were themselves scientists.

The sessions were presented by two scientists: John Bryant, a geneticist, and Graham Swinerd, an astrophysicist.

It is one of these sessions which is summarised here. Please bear in mind that I have written a simple account, stripped of the mathematics and Einsteinian theory which underpinned Graham Swinerd's presentation:

We are all made of stardust. It sounds like a line from a poem or song. It's actually a statement of scientific fact.

All life is carbon based. Carbon is made in the incredible heat of an exploding star. It is the only way that carbon can be made.

The universe was created (scientists believe it to have been about 13.7 billion years ago) in a "Big Bang". In that moment all matter (energy and mass) was created and flung outwards by the colossal force of the big bang. The expansion of the universe was slowed by the gravity that also came into being. The amount of gravity was a result of the amount of the mass. If there had been more gravity it would have slowed it down too much and it would have contracted so that the galaxies and stars would have never formed. If there had been less gravity the expansion would have been too rapid and the stars and galaxies wouldn't condense. The size of creation was precisely balanced. The chance of that precision to have been random has been calculated to be one in a million billion.

So creation was not a random event.

Early in the process of the development of the universe, there were collisions which caused the supernova which created carbon and the other elements which were later to become the building material for all life. Another one in a million billion circumstance.

So the creation of life was not a random event.

Many of the scientists who have contributed to our understanding of creation have been at a loss to explain the precision involved without acknowledging God. Even the atheists have talked about it being "almost as if someone was mucking about with the laws of science, fine-tuning them to achieve a result". For 50 years, Graham Swinerd was an agnostic - but he found himself unable to resist the conclusion that his scientific research had led him to: that the whole of creation follows God's precise plan!

To discover that we are made of stardust was spine-tingling; to glimpse the evidence of the work of the creator of the universe was humbling! *Bob*

### To make you smile ...

**What now?** - Today, I was in the bathroom at a popular coffee chain. Someone had written "What Would Jesus Do?" on the wall. Another person had added, directly underneath: "Wash His hands." Then a third person wrote, "And your feet."

**Beautiful** - The English test had only one question: "Write an essay on "The Most Beautiful Thing I Ever Saw."" One of the students finished his essay in less than a minute. It read in its entirety: "The most beautiful thing I ever saw was just too beautiful for words." He got the only A in the class.

**Mouse Makes**

**Journey to the Cross**  
Read the Bible - find the answers

**READ Matthew 21:1-11**  
Where did Jesus stop on his journey? vs 1

**What did Jesus send his disciples to get?** vs 2  
What did the crowd spread on the road in front of Jesus? vs 8

**What did the people shout?** vs 9  
What city was Jesus going to? vs 10

**READ Matthew 26:17-75**  
What festival did the disciples celebrate? vs 17

**Which disciple denied Jesus?** vs 34  
Which disciple betrayed Jesus? vs 47

**READ Matthew 27**  
When Jesus was taken to be crucified, what did the soldiers put on him? vs 28-29

**What time did Jesus die?** vs 45  
Whose tomb was Jesus buried in? vs 57

**READ Matthew 28**  
On the third day who rolled away the stone covering the tomb? vs 2

**What had happened to Jesus?** vs 6,7

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**Brightlingsea Community Toy Library** for children aged 0 to 5 meets on Monday mornings during term time at 4Youth, 160 Tower Street.

### BRIGHTLINGSEA BEARS

for children of pre-school age and their parent(s)/carer(s)  
meet on the third Wednesday afternoon of each month  
at St James Church from 2.15 to 3.15 pm  
Refreshments provided



This is the final issue of "Monthly Parish News". A new Parish Magazine is being published for March but we thought that it would be rude not to tell our readers that this is the last one. Thank you to all those who have contributed in the past and we hope you will continue to let Carole Maytum have your articles in future.

*Colin, Ken and Janet, the "Monthly Parish News" Editorial Team*

### THE WAY I SEE IT: MOTHERS AND MOTHERING - by David Winter

The American invention, "Mother's Day", will be celebrated on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March, though the cards, boxes of chocolates and reservations for deliveries of flowers will be in the shops long before. It's a very nice idea, as most of us love our mothers dearly and welcome a chance to celebrate their importance in our lives. I say "American invention", because long before Mother's Day there was a Christian event, marked nowadays in the Church Calendar, with the title 'Mothering Sunday'. It's still widely observed in churches on the fourth Sunday of Lent, and yes, that's 11<sup>th</sup> March, too.

The difference between them is subtle but profound. 'Mother's Day' is about who she is, particularly in our lives. 'Mothering Sunday', as its rather awkward name implies, is about a quality which we recognise in mothers but can be present elsewhere - to 'mother' someone.

We have all needed mothering, from time to time, and not simply when we were tiny and helpless, literally dependent on our mothers for our sustenance and survival. During the years of the last War I was 'mothered' by my grandmother. Sometimes a friend acts in this role for us, when we feel lonely or helpless. 'Mothering' means caring deeply, sustaining, supporting, whatever the cost.

That is why God, whom we usually call 'Father', is sometimes spoken of in the Bible as 'mothering' us, gathering us in His arms of love, even feeding us like a mother. On 'Mothering Sunday' we celebrate so much more than our own beloved mums. We celebrate the whole glorious notion of care, compassion and nurture. And of that care, very often our own mothers are the very best examples.

**The Churches Together Simple Lunch** - All welcome. Soup, a roll, cheese and butter, followed by a hot drink. All for a minimum donation of £2.00 which goes to Christian Aid or CAFOD. On Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, at 12.00 pm., at St James' Church: Note the earlier time due to the Women's World Day of Prayer at the United Church at 2 o'clock.

The next Simple Lunch will be on Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

**The Friends of All Saints'** For those of you who came to and enjoyed Robert MacCall's reading in December - it was so successful, raising £260.00 for the Friends and £25.00 to Family Support and to the local Food Bank, that a different reading is being planned for later this year - watch out for details.

*The war in Syria has gone on for so long now, that we can almost suffer with compassion fatigue. But the people there need our continued prayers and help.*

### Christians suffer during renewed fighting in Syria

In a Christian area of Damascus near Bab Sharqi (East Gate), a shell recently fell on a church compound, killing seven Christians and wounding others. Aleppo, which has had peace for a year, is now seeing fighting again and there is a major battle in Idlib. Meanwhile, the Christian community in Homs mourns a new death every week or so.

The remaining Christian community in Syria has been described as being under 'great pressure'. Barnabas Fund, which works in the region, explains: 'They have endured years of conflict that have seen their homes destroyed, husbands and fathers martyred, hundreds of thousands displaced, and anti-Christian persecution from Islamist groups. The result is trauma and a sense of futility and hopelessness, especially amongst young people.'

If you can help Barnabas Fund to provide food and medical relief for thousands of Christians, go to: <https://barnabasfund.org/en/projects/latest-needs>

### Just a Thought or two -

**TV** - Your mind is like a television; when it goes blank, it's a good idea to turn off the sound.

**Scared** - Some people are scared of church like they are scared of helicopters - they are frightened of being sucked into the rotas.

