



Diocese of  
**Rochester**



The Newsletter for  
The Benefice of  
East Malling,  
Wateringbury  
& Teston

April 2014  
No 68

## Beneficial News

### A message from the Bishop of Tonbridge

Reading our newspapers, looking at our TV screens and listening to our radios can give the impression that church is in a perilous position on a number of fronts. It is working through the legislation on the ordination of women to be bishops, it is facing difficult questions around matters of sexuality and same-sex marriage and it is constantly having to face (quite rightly) challenging questions about the significance and relevance of its message for twenty-first century Britain. Sometimes our own lives can feel in a perilous position as we have to face difficult decisions, broken relationships, illness or even death. 'Where is God in all this?' we may ask.

We're mid-way through the season of Lent, and this time in the Church's year gives an opportunity for us to stand aside from the usual rhythm of day-to-day living and explore our faith at a deeper level in order to make more sense of what is going on around and within us. It is an opportunity to bring to the fore those questions that have been in the back of our mind for some time, but which we have not had time to ask. First and foremost, Lent enables us to spend more time with God in order to refresh and renew our relationship with him. It is an opportunity to gain perspective in our lives and reacquaint ourselves with our priorities, and halfway through the season it's not too late to do it! When we look at the world and our lives through the lenses which God gives us, we see things differently. Lent is a God-given opportunity. The Lent courses in the Benefice (and Lent books to read) can help bring that renewed relationship with God, society and ourselves. The clergy can help and advise in these areas. Used well, Lent can be Easter in disguise.

I conclude with some words by a wonderful medieval saint called Julian of Norwich. Referring to God she writes, 'He did not say 'You shall not be tempest-tossed, You shall not be work-weary, You shall not be discomforted;' but he did say, 'You shall not be overcome.'

May you be open to receive the blessings which God is wanting to give you this Lent.

For Baptisms, Weddings and other arrangements with the Vicar please attend  
**Parish Office at The Vicarage on Wednesdays 6.30pm-7.15pm**

The Vicar:  
**The Revd Jim Brown,**  
**The Vicarage, 2 The Grange,**  
**East Malling, ME19 6AH**  
**Office tel: 01732 843282**  
**Email:**  
[parishofficeemwt@gmail.com](mailto:parishofficeemwt@gmail.com)

## Annual Parochial Church Meetings 2014

Tuesday 1st April - St John the Baptist, Wateringbury  
Monday 7th April - St Peter & St Paul, Teston  
Monday 28th April - St James the Great, East Malling  
All meetings are at 8pm in your own church.

The APCM reports will be available before the APCMs - please read them! You will be able to download the electronic version from the websites - Teston's and East Malling's APCM reports will be available on [stjames.eastmallings.net](http://stjames.eastmallings.net) and Wateringbury's will be on [www.wateringburychurch.org.uk](http://www.wateringburychurch.org.uk). Printed copies will also be available for those who have requested them.

**Please read the reports before your APCM.**

### Services of Healing & Wholeness

Tuesday 1st April Teston  
Tuesday 6th May Wateringbury



### Who's who in the Benefice?

(Details of Wardens and Ministers for your quick reference)

Hon Asst Priest	Canon Derek Carpenter	01732 874420
Hon Asst Priest	Revd Alan Searle	01622 814443
Hon Asst Priest	Revd Pam Rink	01732 840061
Administrator	Janet Saunders	01732 845816

#### East Malling

Churchwarden	David Chambers	01732 842582
Churchwarden	Sue Payne	01732 841585
Reader	Alan Bramley	01732 846800
Parish Children's & Vulnerable Adults' Rep.	Michala Neaves	01732 321473

#### Teston

Churchwarden	Ros Hutchins	01622 297340
Churchwarden & Reader	Dawn Page	01622 812691
Parish Children's & Vulnerable Adults' Rep.	Hilary Fisher	01622 813768

#### Wateringbury

Churchwarden	Joanna Fyson	01622 814980
Churchwarden	Eddie Scarlin	01622 812148
Reader	Alastair Byron	01622 812023
Reader	Barry Fisher	01622 813206
Pastoral Assistant	Becky Bowie	01622 813396
Pastoral Assistant	Edna Craig	01622 812922
Evangelist	Pauline Welch	01622 814673
Parish Children's & Vulnerable Adults' Rep.	Debbie Bond	01622 814793

## Holy Week and Easter

### PALM SUNDAY

6pm St James the Great, East Malling  
The Benefice Choirs sing  
"The Cross of Christ" - anthems, readings  
and prayers for Holy Week

### MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

#### "Meanwhile, back in the upper room"

After Jesus is arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane, some of the disciples return to the upper room, where they and their friends discuss the events of the previous night. As they try to comprehend the meaning of Jesus's arrest and trial, they express their hopes and fears and doubts about the future of their work. A thought provoking start to your Holy Week. You may choose to go just once or you may wish to attend more than one performance.

Monday at St James the Great, East Malling  
Tuesday at St John the Baptist, Wateringbury  
Wednesday at St Peter & St Paul, Teston  
All at 8pm

### MAUNDY THURSDAY

8pm St James the Great, East Malling  
Holy Communion followed by  
Feet Washing and Vigil 'til midnight

### GOOD FRIDAY

9am Good Friday Project - East Malling  
10am At the Foot of the Cross - Teston  
12 noon An hour on the Cross - Wateringbury  
2pm Solemn Liturgy - East Malling

### EASTER SATURDAY

9.30am Easter Project - Wateringbury  
8pm Easter Vigil - Pilsdon

### EASTER SUNDAY

8am Holy Communion - Wateringbury  
9.45am Sung Eucharist - East Malling  
10am Eucharist - Teston  
10am Eucharist - Wateringbury

There are services of **Holy Communion** at St James the Great, East Malling, at 9am every Thursday. At St John the Baptist, Wateringbury there are mid-week services as follow: On the second Tuesday of the month there is a **Taizé Service**, on the third Tuesday a service of **Holy Communion** and on the fourth Tuesday **Evensong with the Choir**. All these services are for everyone in the Benefice.

*In Holy Week there will be no Tuesday evening service at Wateringbury and no Thursday morning service at East Malling.*

## Sunday Services

### Sunday 6th April - Fifth Sunday of Lent

8am Holy Communion - Teston  
 9.45am Family Service - East Malling  
 9.45am Family Service - Teston  
 10am Morning Praise - Wateringbury



### Sunday 13th April - Palm Sunday

8am Holy Communion - East Malling  
 9.45am Eucharist - East Malling  
 9.45am Palm Praise - Teston  
 10am Eucharist - Wateringbury  
 6pm Passion Service - East Malling

### Sunday 20th April - Easter Sunday

8am Holy Communion - Wateringbury  
 9.45am Eucharist - East Malling  
 10am Eucharist - Wateringbury  
 10am Eucharist - Teston



### Sunday 27th April - Second Sunday of Easter

8am Holy Communion - East Malling  
 9.45am Eucharist - East Malling  
 10am Eucharist - Wateringbury  
 6.30pm Eucharist - Teston

### Sunday 4th May - Third Sunday of Easter

8am Holy Communion - Teston  
 9.45am Family Service - East Malling  
 9.45am Family Service - Teston  
 10am Matins - Wateringbury

### Sunday 11th May - Fourth Sunday of Easter

8am Holy Communion - East Malling  
 9.45am Eucharist - East Malling  
 10am Eucharist - Wateringbury  
 6.30pm Evensong - Teston



### Sunday 18th May - Fifth Sunday of Easter

8am Holy Communion - Wateringbury  
 9.45am Eucharist - East Malling  
 10am Family Service - Wateringbury  
 6.30pm Eucharist - Teston

### Sunday 25th May - Sixth Sunday of Easter

8am Holy Communion - East Malling  
 9.45am Eucharist - East Malling  
 10am Eucharist - Wateringbury  
 6.30pm Eucharist - Teston



## Around the Parishes

### Good Friday & Easter Saturday Projects

For children from aged 5 to 11 (or younger if they are in Reception Class) at St James the Great Church, East Malling, Good Friday, 18th April (9am-12 noon) & at St John the Baptist, Wateringbury, Easter Saturday, 19th April (9.30am-12.30pm). These are activity mornings all based around Easter, helping to decorate the church and making things to take home.



### WOW - Worship our Way



On Shrove Tuesday the Teston Pioneers and WATCH Youth groups combined for a Youth Service. Pictured here are some of the young people with the band, "Rooted", from Loose Parish Church. Pancakes were provided!

### Build on the Rock

The Lent Course will continue up to and including the week beginning Monday 7th April (the week before Holy Week) when there will be sessions at Wateringbury on Mondays at 8pm and Wednesdays at 1.30pm, at Teston on Tuesdays at 8pm and at East Malling on Wednesdays at 8pm and on Thursdays at 12.30pm. Please check your notice sheets for venues.

## Special Events

### Tea at Three, Teston

Served in the Church at Teston at Three on Tuesday 15th April and Tuesday 20th May.

### East Malling Singers Concert

Saturday 5th April at 7.30pm at St James the Great, East Malling.  
 Pergolesi: Stabat Mater  
 Karl Jenkins: Stabat Mater  
 Tickets £10-12, Concessions £8-10, School children FREE!  
 Tel: 01732 750943 or on the door, subject to availability.

### Plant Sale, Teston

Saturday 10th May from 10am to 12 noon you can buy good quality plants, and other gardening goodies. Raffle and Refreshments too. In Teston Village Hall.

### Flower Festival and Plant Sale 'Dreams of Chelsea'

At St John the Baptist, Wateringbury  
 Saturday 24th and Monday 26th May 10.30am – 5pm  
 Sunday 25th May 2pm – 5pm  
 Lunches, Homemade Cakes, Clotted Cream Teas  
 Entry: Free Further Information: 01622 813076

### Lunches for Lent

A warm welcome awaits you at St. John the Baptist, Wateringbury on Wednesdays 2nd and 9th April between 12.30pm and 2pm. Why not pop in for a chat over soup and bread, or cheese, tomato and bread? Cheese sandwiches will be available for children and tea, coffee, squash and small cakes will also be on the menu. Everyone welcome.



Voluntary Donations invited for local charities.

Transport available if needed locally. Tel: 01622 813032

### Further Dates for your Diary June and July

21st June - Rosemary for Remembrance, Wateringbury  
 21st June - Fete, Teston  
 19th July - East Malling Singers Concert  
 26th July - Friends Fayre, East Malling  
 26th & 27th July Friends Flower Festival, East Malling