



# The Lion and The Dragon

A Monthly News Sheet for St. Mark's, Basford and St Margaret's, Wolstanton

[www.stmarksbasford.co.uk](http://www.stmarksbasford.co.uk) and [www.stmargaretswolstanton.org](http://www.stmargaretswolstanton.org)

March 2024



## What's the Buzz? Tell me what's a-happening!

Beloved,

I recently went to the theatre to see Jesus Christ Superstar, a fabulous musical from Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice. It was the first musical I ever went to see while at High School.

Like any of the different interpretations of the story of Jesus Christ from the Bible that have been produced over the years, it brings alive that most incredible of stories of His Great Passion.

Lyrics from the musical say: "*Jesus Christ, Superstar, Do you think you're what they say you are?*"

This is a question we must ponder at this time, and let us each pray that we have the same answer as that centurion who looked upon the lifeless body of a man and cried "*Truly this Man was the Son of God.*" (Matthew 27:54, Mark 15:39, Luke 23:47).

This Lent and Passiontide, we are called to live out our own interpretation of those fascinating events of 2,000 years ago, as we recall the narrative and enter the deep mysteries of Truth. The most important time comes with Holy Week, and in fact the last 3 days, the Triduum – I hope you will join me in the Upper Room, in Gethsemane, at the Cross and by the Tomb.

The Liturgy of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter give us the chance for vigil and awe.

One of the most famous songs in the show goes: "*I don't know how to love him. What to do, how to move him. I've been changed, yes really changed. In these past few days, when I've seen myself.*" I hope we can echo those words as we approach Easter – it isn't always easy, I don't think it's meant to be. We enter the mystery faith and look closely at where we are.

*"Try not to get worried, try not to turn onto, Problems that upset you, Don't you know, Everything's alright, yes, everything's fine."*

We bring to the Cross, our pain, our hurt, and all the bits where things and life is Not "Alright", But we let light in, curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life, we cry victory, Death is crushed to death, life is ours to live, and so we start once again.

May your journey to the cross and the empty tomb, this year, be Holy and life-changing.

*In Christ,*

*Your Shepherd, Fr Tommy*

**Clergy:** Fr Tommy Merry ☎ 01782 624450 ✉ frtommymerry@gmail.com; Rev'd Pat Dunn ☎ 01782 846417.

**St Mark's Parish Administrator and Reader:** Julie Atkins ☎ 01782 632213 ✉ joulis1506@gmail.com

**St Mark's Churchwardens:** Diane Downward ☎ 01782 621424; Nick Atkins ☎ 01782 632213.

**St Mark's Reader:** Janet Pazio ☎ 07594135691; **Safeguarding Coordinator:** Jill Ayres ☎ 07792 549356.

**St Margaret's Churchwardens:** Dai Elias ☎ 07562 988435; **St Margaret's Safeguarding Coordinator:** Catherine Plumb 07944578077

## Worship Services during March

(St Mark's, Basford (B), St Margaret's, Wolstanton (W))

<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> of Lent</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (B)</b>
		<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Mass (W)</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Holy Communion (BCP) (B)</i>
<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Mothering Sunday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (B)</b>
		<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Mass (W)</b>
<b>13<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Holy Communion (BCP) (B)</i>
<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> of Lent</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Family worship + HC (B)</b>
		<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Mass (W)</b>
<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Holy Communion (BCP) (B)</i>
<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (B)</b>
		<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Mass (W)</b>
<b>27<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Holy Communion (B)</i>
<b>28<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	<i>7.00pm</i>	<i>HC + foot washing + vigil (B)</i>
<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>9.00am</i>	<i>Good Friday Liturgy (B)</i>
		<i>12.00pm</i>	<i>Good Friday Liturgy (W)</i>
		<i>2.00pm</i>	<i>The Last hour liturgy (B)</i>
<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Easter Eve</i>	<i>6.30pm</i>	<i>Easter Vigil (B)</i>
<b>31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Easter Day</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (B)</b>
		<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Mass (W)</b>

### Lent Course:

Come and join us for our Lent course this year. We will meet for 5 weeks each Tuesday evening at 7pm, at St Marks church, in the lady chapel, until 19<sup>th</sup> March.

### Vicar's Lent Appeal:

Can you please help with toilet rolls and the following cleaning equipment. Washing up liquid, washing tablets, cleaning wipes, anti -bacterial spray and bleach.



### Ecumenical Service of the Wolstanton Churches:

On Thursday of Holy Week (28th March) at 10.00am we will begin at St Wulstan's Roman Catholic Church, Wolstanton following a short service we shall then walk to St Margaret's and then onto Wolstanton Methodist Church. There will be a short act of worship in each church, and we shall finish with coffee and hot cross buns.

### Devotional Film:

This year's devotional film will take place on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March at St Marks church at 6.30pm.

### Diary Dates for March

5 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	7.00pm	Lent Course (B)
12 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	7.00pm	Lent Course (B)
16 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	10.00am	Christian Aid walk
16 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	5.00pm	Film night(B)
19 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	7.00pm	Lent Course (B)
26 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	6.30pm	Lent film (B)
28 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	10.00am	Ecumenical Services
29 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	10.00am	Church clean (W)
30 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	10.00am	Church clean (B)
<b>31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>12.00am</b>	<b>Clocks go forward.</b>

### Early April Dates

15 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	7.00pm	APCM (B)
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Monday	7.00pm	Baptism Prep (B)

### Easter flowers:

As Easter approaches anyone wishing to make a donation towards the Easter flowers at St Mark's please speak to Fr Tommy or Pat Roberts.

### Spring clean:

It's that time of year where we fling open the windows and have a good clean and sort out. So if you would like to help please join us on **29<sup>th</sup> March at St Margarets** and **30<sup>th</sup> at St Marks** both churches at 10.00am. Remember many hands make light work.



### The Easter Octave will be kept at Basford (The Great 8 Days) :

Bank Holiday Monday 1st April – no service  
 Tuesday 2nd April – 12noon  
 Wednesday 3rd April – 10:30am  
 Thursday 4th April – 7.00pm  
 Friday 5th April – 10.00am  
 Saturday 6th April – 10.00am