



The Lion and The Dragon

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

www.stmarksbasford.co.uk and www.stmargaretswolstanton.org

April 2025



'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

- 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

(John 4:15, 26, 42)

To my dear Friends at Basford and Wolstanton,

Beloved,

It's a difficult task to write my final "Lion and Dragon" article to you all.

'Goodbye' is tough, but I do look forward to completing this year's Lenten pilgrimage with you all, as we live out the great liturgies of Holy Week and greet the Easter morn once again, knowing that the Lord is indeed risen! ALLE...!

I have just flicked through all my past articles and reflections, and I notice that often I speak of the change of the church seasons. Once again, we meet a new season.

This week the church has celebrated the great Feast of the Annunciation – remembering how God sent his messenger Gabriel to the young Mary and asked her to bear God's son Jesus, and in her glory, she responded YES, LET IT BE, and so nothing was ever the same again. (Which also means it's 9 months to Christmass).

On Wednesday as some of us gathered for the Eucharist we heard the great Gospel story of

Jesus meeting a Samaritan woman at the well from John chapter 4.

It's an incredibly outrageous and yet beautiful encounter with the Lord.

Jesus dares to speak with a woman, a Samaritan woman, a "bad" woman, and even asks her for a drink.

He then speaks of living water, where he actually speaks of NEW LIFE, which He can offer, no matter who or what!

This water He offers will not only quench thirst, but it will become a spring, bubbling up inside you, refreshing you with the new life which is coming into the world with Jesus, that God is making.

The unnamed woman, takes it, lets it change her life and she meets the Saviour of the World, - and she is transformed.

My prayer for you all, is that you are all thirsty for that living water, as we continue to meet with the Lord of heaven and earth, and as He continues to reveal his holiness and loveliness to you.

Thank you so much for all your support, love and prayers over the last 3 years.

It has been a true joy and privilege to have served as your shepherd.

I will continue to holy you all in my prayers, please do pray for me also.

And as the church proclaims afresh each morning, "O Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation" (Psalm 95)

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

As we approach Easter, we shall soon have a new song to sing...

As we meet him in the new garden, I hope you are ready to hear Him, as He calls your name! Expect nothing less, our thirst will be quenched and our lives, changed!

*God Bless you all. With Love In Christ,
Your Shepherd, Fr Tommy*

Worship Services during April

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

2 nd	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) (B)
6 th	5 th of Lent	10.00am	Holy Communion (B)
		11.15am	Morning Prayer (W)
9 th	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) (B)
13 th	Palm Sunday	10.00am	Holy Communion (B)
		11.15am	Morning Prayer (W)
16 th	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (B)
17 th	Thursday	1.00pm	Funeral (B)
17 th	Thursday	7.30pm	HC + foot washing + vigil (B)
18 th	Friday	9.00am	Good Friday Liturgy (B)
18 th	Friday	12.00pm	Act of Worship (W)
18 th	Friday	2.00pm	Last hour Meditation (B)
19 th	Easter Saturday	6.00pm	Easter Vigil (B)
20 th	Easter Sunday	10.00am	Family Worship +HC (B)
		11.15am	Holy Communion (W)
23 rd	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) (B)
27 th	2 nd of Easter	10.00am	Holy Communion (B)
		11.15am	Morning Prayer (W)
30 th	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) (B)

Easter flowers:

As Easter approaches anyone wishing to make a donation towards the Easter flowers at St Mark's please speak to me (Julie) 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 could spare an hour or so, please join us here on **19th April at 10.00am**. Remember many hands make light work.

Diary Dates for April

5 th	Saturday	10.00am	Prayer Walk (B)
19 th	Saturday	10.00am	Church Clean (B)
26 th	Saturday	7.00pm	Barn dance(B)

Early May Dates

17 th	Saturday	11.00am	Spring Fayre
20 th	Tuesday	7.00pm	APCM

Barn Dance:

A date for your diaries. Come along for an evening of fun at our Church Queen's Barn Dance on the **Saturday 26th April**. Live music will be provided by the *Tern Valley Tinkers* and the ticket price includes a pie and pea supper. Tickets are £15 for adults and £6 for under-12's and are available now.



Holy Week Programme at St Mark's

Tuesday of Holy Week -7.00pm – Devotional Film

Wednesday of Holy Week – 10.30am HC

Maundy Thursday – 7.30pm HC + Foot Washing +Vigil

Good Friday – 9.00am Good Friday Liturgy
2.00pm Meditation

Easter Eve – 6.00pm Vigil / HC / Party

Easter Sunday – 10.00am Family Worship + HC

Low Sunday:

Come and join us on 27th April, as we come together for Fr Tommy's last service here at St Marks church at 10.00am, followed by a Bring and share lunch.