St James, Badsey with Aldington Parish Newsletter April 2003

By the time you read this the season of Lent will be almost over and Passiontide beginning. This is when Jesus' life here on earth is coming to an end. Jesus tells his disciples "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified". But Jesus is still human enough to be afraid of his forthcoming torture and death. He argues with himself, "Should I ask my Father to save me?", then immediately answers "No, this is the reason I have come to this hour.

It's mind blowing, isn't it? I find myself asking "Could I be so brave in such circumstances?" And the answer is "I truly don't know". But many, many people do show tremendous courage in the face of great suffering, whether their own or a loyed one.

The great thing is as Christians we don't waste time asking the unanswerable question "Why do bad things happen to good people?" We accept that everything that God created is essentially good but sometimes things go wrong. It's more important to ask the question "Where is God when it hurts?". And, as Christians, we know the answer, God is with us sharing in our suffering. After all what could be more painful than watching your own Son hanging on a wooden cross being jeered and booed and hissed at by a hostile crowd standing below.

But this is followed three days later by the great and glorious Easter Day when Christ rose from the dead to give purpose to our lives. Through Jesus we know that our physical death here on earth is not the end. And what a thought that is to hold on to.

When Thomas didn't believe that Jesus had risen, Jesus reached out Thomas's hand and put it in his side and Thomas immediately believed saying "My Lord and my God". Jesus answered him, saying "You have believed because you have seen. Blessed are those who have not seen yet believe". And that's the Easter message for us all.

So enjoy your Easter eggs, a symbol of new life, and I wish you all a very, very

happy Easter.	Theila Lancaster	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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CHURCH SERVICES

Wednesday 2 nd April	10.00.a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 6 th April	11.00.a.m. 6.30.p.m.	Family Worship Sung Eucharist
Sunday 13 th April Palm Sunday	11.00.a.m. 6.30.p.m	Family Worship Evensong
Sunday 20th April Easter Sunday	11.00.a.m. 6.30.p.m.	Family Worship Sung Eucharist
Sunday 27th April	11.00.a.m. 6.30.p.m.	Praise and Worship Youth Celebration

For ALL services during Holy week for the Benefice of Badsey with Aldington, Bretforton and Offenham please see separate enclosed sheet.

PALM SUNDAY

On Palm Sunday, 13th April, at 10.30.a.m. we will be having our now customary celebration of Jesus' triumphant ride into Jerusalem. We shall meet at the School and be lead round the village by a donkey. The service will be a family worship with lots of congregational participation. So do come along and support us and bring all your friends.

PRAYERS FOR PEACE

Each Saturday at 4.30.p.m. there will be a quiet half hour of prayers and silent vigil for the conflict in Iraq. If you wish anyone who is out in Iraq to be prayed for by name please give their name to Mike Shepherd, or one of the Churchwardens, or hand it to the person officiating at that time.

The Church bell will also be rung for approximately 2 minutes each evening when possible.

BADSEY REGISTER (up to 20th March 2003)

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BAPTISMS:	9 th March	Samuel Jay Howard Harriet Lucy Middleton
FUNERALS:	13th February	Dorothy Keen of Horsebridge Avenue. Cremation at Worcester followed by interment in Badsey Churchyard on February 14 th .
	4 th March	Constance Ellen Chamberlain followed by Burial in the Churchyard
	4 th March	Sheila Geraldine Perkins followed by cremation at Worcester

MOTHERS UNION

Wednesday 2nd April at 10.00.am. - Communion in Church

Tuesday 8th April at 2.30.p.m. - Speaker: Hilary Bolton "Bells".

Tuesday 15th April at 7.30.p.m. - Holy Week Service

If you would like to come along to any of our meetings, you will be made most welcome.

SANDRA SPARROW

YOUTH CELEBRATION

On Sunday 27th April at 6.30.p.m. Young people from Badsey and Offenham (and their mums), have been working very hard to organise a service for which they will take the majority part. They have diligently attended rehearsals most Sunday afternoons for over four months and we very much need your support for their efforts. So do come along and join in a service of Youth Celebration.

ACTIVITY GROUP



Saturday 5th April 10.30.a.m. to 12 noon. This will be an Exciting meeting. You will be getting ready for Easter and we have some lovely activities for you to do and make.

TEA AND CAKES AFTERNOON

IN AID OF

MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE AND THE MENINIGITIS TRUST
ON SATURDAY 5TH APRIL
AT BADSEY REMEMBRANCE HALL
3.00.P.M.



ENTRANCE £1.00 (includes tea and cake).
Raffle, Bring & Buy, etc.



ST. JAMES GUILD OF BELLRINGERS

On Saturday 5th April starting at approximately 9.45.a.m., a full peal attempt will be made in celebration of the Golden Wedding Anniversaries of John and Mary Callaghan and Mike and Anne Barnard, and hopefully, if successful, the 100th peal on eight bells. Our warm congratulations to John and Mary and Mike and Anne.

Hilary Bolton & Badsey Guild of Bellringers.

CHRISTIAN AID

An envelope for Christian Aid will be delivered with next months newsletter. They can be filled and posted in the box at the Spar Shop. Thank you.

Our very warm and sincere congratulations to our Reader Emeritus, John Callaghan and his wife Mary on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

ST. JAMES FLOWER GUILD -- APRIL ROTA 2003

1st and 2nd Sunday - Lent

3rd Sunday - Easter - all the guild.

4th Sunday - Mrs Pat Goldstraw and Mrs Sue Goldstraw.

Ladies – we will be decorating the Church ready for Easter on Saturday 19th April from 9.45.a.m. I hope to see as many of you as are able to make it on that day. Any queries on Church flowers please contact me on (01386) 832007

Hazel Stewart

BADSEY REMEMBRANCE HALL

Please note that the new caretaker for the hall is Mrs. Janet Taylor of 31 Synehurst, Badsey. Tel. No. 07765588705

BADSEY WEBSITE

For further and interesting information on Badsey and Aldington, past and present, why not consult the Badsey Website – www.Badsey.Net.

BARN DANCE

On Saturday 17th May from 7.30p.m. to 11.00.p.m. at Badsey Remembrance Hall with 'Doctor Bedcote's Amazing Electrical Ceilidh Band'. Tickets now available at £5.00 from Sue Cole on 831260, Chris Smith 830217 and other members of the Church (all names and numbers are on front page of this magazine).

FARMERS MARKET

In Evesham Market Square on Friday 23rd May 9.00a.m. to 2.00.pm. By supporting these markets you are playing a vital role in keeping alive many small rural businesses.

FOR EVERYTHING TURN, TURN, TURN, THERE IS A SEASON TURN, TURN TURN (apologies to the Seekers)

There is even a season for CRIME. At Christmas it is trees and electrical goods. Now the Spring has sprung and the grass is green, it's gardening time. Time for theft of lawn mowers, strimmers, hedge cutters and all other gardening bits of kits. Now is the time for MARKING such kit while you clean it ready for use. Take all the serial numbers (just in case). Get yourself a shed alarm. BE PREPARED. Don't say you haven't been warned. Don't buy cheap items of garden equipment from strangers in pubs, they could be stolen, they could be your neighbours. However enjoy the Spring and your gardening.

Tom Iddons – Beat Manager

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Rejoice, for Christ is risen, he seeks us to rise with Him. In Him is our hope, in life, in death and all eternity. Today the risen Lord comes to us with His gift of Peace.