

## Welcome

Week beginning Sunday 13th April  
Palm Sunday

The funny thing about Christmas is that no-one really knows when it happened. We have 25th December, but there's not really much evidence that this was the date. However, with Easter, we do know, because the Biblical record gives us the time of year- around Passover. Whilst there are some variations within the gospels, they all record the events in Holy Week. Most of the Christian church tends to follow this in real time, which allows you to almost walk with Jesus and the disciples.

And I think that's important. It's the point of discipleship, that we walk with Jesus. Sometimes that walk is close, sometimes sadly not. But as the US pastor Dane Ortlund points out, "The heart of Christianity is not ethics. The heart of Christianity is Jesus Christ". Christianity is about a close relationship with our Saviour and Lord. If we collapse our faith into simply "being good", we'll have missed the point. The point is to follow Jesus, and I think there are worse images for that than the lambs that we see in the fields at this time of year. They stick with their mothers, because they instinctively know they need them. Lambs need ewes; humans need Jesus (even if we're not prepared to admit our need of a Saviour).

The "being good" comes when we're close to Jesus, when we are influenced by him over anything else. The Easter journey is a key part of that. As ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven sinners, we don't have to do Easter. God loves us regardless, whether we turn up on Palm Sunday or not. Yet we are given the privilege of doing Easter- of engaging with the difficult and scary themes of sin, suffering and death (including our own); but also entering into the truth of hope in Christ. And what is amazing is how Jesus' redemption and hope is offered freely, to all who are thirsty.

"You can take a horse to water, but you can't make it drink", is a proverb we probably all know; well, Jesus has given us living water, perhaps we should think about drinking it. That's the point of Easter. I'm looking forwards to having a good draught.

*Reverend James Menzies*

### Please Pray

- For Holy Week/Easter events, that the glory of Jesus will be clear
- For people to hear the gospel in a new way
- For our brothers and sisters in other Weymouth/Portland churches, as they seek to share the good news of Jesus

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**Readings**

Isaiah 50. 4-9a Luke 19. 28-40

**Collect**

True and humble king, hailed by the crowd as Messiah: grant us the faith to know you and love you, that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross, which is the path of glory. Amen

**An Afternoon of Acoustic Music**

**With Ken Watkins**

**3pm Sunday 11th May**

St Andrew's Church Rooms,  
Preston. DT3 6BU

Raising funds for St Andrew's Church  
Tickets £15 from

weymouth.ridgeway.team.office@gmail.com  
or Alex Sissons 07801 820722

**Easter Lillies/Flowers**

Donations, in memory of a loved one, for  
Easter flowers at St Andrew's & St Osmund's.

**St Andrew's**

Caroline Crisp - c.crisp274@gmail.com



**St Osmund's**

Val Pierce - valanep@icloud.com  
or Carol Sutton - 01305 779353

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**St George's Day  
Celebration Champagne Breakfast**

**Saturday 26th April  
Osmington Village Hall**

Doors open at 9.30am  
breakfast served at 10am

£12 adult, £8 for children under 10

Contact Sally Little by 22nd April

sally.little49@gmail.com Tel 07973225048

**St Nicholas Church, Broadway**

**Free Concert!**

**All Aboard The Mary Rose**

**Saturday 26th April -doors open 2.30pm**

Discover more about this historic ship and  
hear music of the time.

Donations invited for St Nicholas &  
St Laurence School &

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**Quiz Night**

**7pm Friday 30th May**

**St Andrew's Church Rooms, Preston**

£7 per person (light supper provided)

Contact: Carole Anders 01305 833431

**Free Afternoon Tea to commemorate the  
80th anniversary of VE Day.**

**Saturday 10th May - 2.30pm**

Scones & cakes with musical entertainment.

For more information & to book contact:  
susanamalik@yahoo.com 07944 617553

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**Permission slips for photographs**

We are in the process of updating the benefice website and, with this in mind, we are having some photographs taken to show the churches in action. We do however need your permission to do this. When it comes time for the photographer to visit your church you will be offered the chance to fill out a form to give your permission. On the day please just let one of the sides-people know if you don't want to be in any photographs. Thank you

If your church has something it would like advertised on the newsletter please contact:01305 837147  
weymouth.ridgeway.team.office @gmail.com

**The answer to last week's question from  
Reverend Mike Stear.**

The most expensive perfume in the world is:  
Golden Delicious by DKNY – \$20,000 per ml /  
\$1,000,000 per bottle 50ml!

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