

SAINT MARY'S BUTTSBURY

NEWSLETTER



SPRING 2018

Services – March/April/May

All services are BCP unless otherwise stated

4	March	8.30am	Holy Communion
11	..	11.15am	Mothering Sunday service
18	..	3.30pm	Evensong with Communion
25	...	3.30pm	Palm Sunday Evensong
1	April	8.15am	Easter Holy Communion
8	..	11.15am	Matins
15	..	3.30pm	Evensong with Communion
22	..	3.30pm	Evensong and APCM
29		9.30am	Benefice service St Giles
6	May	8.30am	Holy Communion
13	..	11.15am	Rogation procession
20	..	3.30pm	Evensong with Song Cycle
27	..	3.30pm	Evensong

SERVICE TIME CHANGE

Please note that Holy Communion on **Easter day** will start at 8.15am (not the usual 8.30am) in order to allow Canon John Brown time to get to his next service at Langford.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

There will be a **lamb open day** on **Saturday 14th April** at White Tyrrells Farm Ingatestone Road CM4 9PA between the hours of 2.00pm and 4.30pm. There will be refreshments, and lambs to bottle feed. Admission is free but a donation is encouraged to be shared between Buttsbury church and Barnes Farm Infant School.

On **Sunday 20th May** Evensong at 3.30pm will be greatly enhanced by the singing of **Song Cycle** who have agreed to join us that day.

There will be an **open afternoon** at the church on **Saturday 14 July** from 2pm to 4.30pm – flowers in church – cream teas

The Vesper Singers led by Bruce Pennick will sing Evensong at the Service to be held in Buttsbury church at 3.30pm on **Sunday 15 July**.

CHURCH OFFICERS

Priest in charge	Rev'd Patrick Sherring	Tel: 352562
Churchwarden	Christopher Hayward	Tel: 356836
Deputy Churchwarden	Trevor Reeves	Tel: 07595826300
Secretary	Vacancy	
Treasurer	Bryan Shedel	Tel: 352213
Flower Rota	Christine Makings	Tel: 840615
Sidesmen	Arline Leaves & Christine Makings	
Pianists	Jean Bourne	Tel: 840466
	Mary Cole	Tel: 840485

CHURCH REPAIRS

We had our last Quinquennial Inspection in 2015 which identified various matters of routine maintenance such as replacing slipped roof tiles and repainting windows and rainwater goods. The main discovery was that the sole plate of the wooden element of the tower had rotted. Nothing could be done at the time as there was little or no money available. Having reduced our payment of Parish share since 2015 we are now in a position to carry out some repairs. The architect has drawn up a specification and in doing so revisited the tower and writes "It is possible that the stability of the turret structure now owes more to its re-cladding in oak than to the now lopsided constructional integrity of its frame". It is essential for the work to be carried out now. The quote which the PCC has accepted for all the work is £22,551. The total funds of the church at 31 December 2017 were £16,618. Grants and donations are being sought for the shortfall.

On 13 October 1958 there was a meeting of the Archdeacon with the then rector Canon Hudson, the churchwardens and others from Ingatestone and Buttsbury to discuss the future of Buttsbury Church because of the difficulty in funding repairs to the building. Doubt was expressed as to the wisdom of spending what was then at £930 a large sum of money. Various courses of action were debated including transporting the church to a more useful site an option considered impracticable, maintaining the fabric under uneconomic conditions, letting it fall down which would be a disgrace to the church and demolishing it which although logical was thoroughly distasteful and could only be decided by the resident communicants who would almost certainly not agree to it. A record of any follow up meeting has not been found but it is sufficient to say that 60 years later the church building continues to be maintained and used for worship.

What changes will the next 60 years bring? Whatever they are, the present congregation is determined that the church will continue to be maintained, used for worship and be a haven for those who visit. The treasurer will of course readily receive contributions to the repair fund. Cheques should be made payable to Buttsbury PCC.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS

The Annual Meetings will be held on **Sunday 22 April** in the church immediately following Evensong. Tea and biscuits will be served. The meetings are important in the life of the church as not only are Reports and Accounts of the past year presented but the meetings also have the responsibility of electing Churchwardens, Sidesmen and Parochial Church Councillors for the ensuing year.

INGATESTONE CHURCHES TOGETHER

Lent Ecumenical Group

The group meets at 7.45 for 8pm each Thursday in Lent in Ingatestone Parish church. The course is entitled "On The Third Day" written by Bishop John Pritchard and will comprise a hymn, a prayer and on CD with contributions from four others followed by discussion in groups. All are welcome whether to all or just one or two of the meetings which end at 9.30pm.

A Book of Meditations for Lent

Ingatestone Churches Together has again produced a book of short meditations contributed by the ministers and members of the congregations from all of the local churches. This inevitably means that there is a diversity of approaches, which helps in making each reading and reflection fresh and interesting. Copies are available in the church.

Good Friday - 30 March

There is the usual three hour devotion in Ingatestone commencing with stations of the cross in the Catholic Church at 12 noon followed by a procession of Witness, pausing at the Elim and United Reformed Churches for short acts of worship, to arrive at the Parish Church by 1.00pm where there will first be a Family Service followed by a more formal act of worship for the last hour. All are welcome to all or just part of the devotion.

Noah

Many congratulations to Trevor and Carla on the birth of their son. A very warm welcome to you, Noah.

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