**Weekly News**

13th April 2025

Palm Sunday

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| **Welcome!**We are so glad you are here with us today. We welcome those who are new to the Church. If you would like more information about us, please take and complete a slip in the Welcome Area and give it to a Steward or a Minister, or scan the QR code, also in the Welcome Area. |

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| **Collect for This Sunday**Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen |

**Today at St. John’s**

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| 8.00am | Communion | Reading: Matthew 21:1-22*Preacher: George Belfield* |
| 10:00am3:00pm | Morning Worship*(Children and Youth prayer meeting at 11:30am)*Easter choir rehearsal | Reading: Matthew 21:1-22*Preacher: George Belfield*Church |
| 6:30pm | Communion | Reading: Matthew 21:33-46*Precher: Peter Chamberlin* |

**Today at Emmanuel****(Emmanuel service times will change to 4pm from April 27th, 2025)**

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| 9:30am | Morning Worship | Reading: Matthew 20:17-34 |

**This week – Easter Week Services****Thursday 17th – 5.45pm Maundy Thursday Meal\*\* and informal communion****Good Friday 18th – 10am – Family Easter Trail service****Good Friday 18th – 2pm – An Hour at the Cross**Easter Sunday 20th 8am – Communion at St John’s, 1 Peter 1:3-5Easter Sunday 20th 9.30am - Morning Worship at Emmanuel, Matthew 21:1-22**Easter Sunday 20th 10am- All-age Communion at St John’s, 1 Peter 3-5****Easter Sunday 20th 6.30pm - Easter Praise at St John’s, 1 Corinthians 15***Recordings of our livestreamed services are available on our website*[www.stjohnswoking.uk](http://www.stjohnswoking.uk) |
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| ***Events This Week:*** |
| Mon 14th  | 9:30am | Ladies’ Bible group | Church lounge |
| Tues 15th  | 8:00pm | Music group rehearsal | Church |
| Wed 16th  | 10.00am2:00pm | Men’s Bible groupKnit&Natter | Church loungeEmmanuel |
| **Easter Invites:**  Please take the Easter invites from the welcome area to distribute to friends, neighbours and family. All are welcome. |
| **\*\*Maundy Thursday Meal**: It is a simple fellowship meal, followed by an informal communion for everyone, starting at 5.45 but feel free to arrive a little later if coming from work. Please sign up in the Welcome Area so we know how much food to buy. There will be a box on the night for donations to cover the cost of the meal (or donate online). Suggested donation is £6. |
| **Financial need:** If you know of anyone who is in need of financial help, please speak to clergy or the church wardens as they have access to small charitable grants which could help. |
| **SGP Prayers:** Pray for all churches as they prepare for the run-up to Easter services and activities, and that good contacts would be made and the gospel would be shared clearly. |
| **Origin Christian Bookshop in Christ Church, Woking** - The new pop-up bookshop is at Holy Trinity on Guildford High Street from 10th March every Monday-Wednesday 11am-2pm whilst Christ Church Woking is closed for refurbishment.  The pop-up shop is currently offering a 20% discount to anyone who mentions the name of their church when making a purchase. You can still order online at [www.originbooks.org](http://www.originbooks.org/) or contact the manager Phil Perello on Philip.perello@ccwoking.org or 07985 495 736. |
| **Are you new to St. John’s church? We would love to get your name and contact number. This QR code will take you to a secure online form.** |
| **EDGE Coffee mornings – Every Tuesday – term-time only:**  Meet the team, have a cuppa, and encourage young people to learn life skills.(*EDGE hire out our Small Halls. They work with young people* *outside the standard education system*). |
| **Did you say ‘mourn day’ Thursday? 13th April**With our Lent courses finished for another year, this coming week leads us right into our Easter celebrations. They begin with Maundy Thursday, sometimes called Holy Thursday, a day when our attention is drawn to that final meal Jesus had with his disciples on the evening of his arrest.The word maundy actually comes from the Latin word ‘mandatum,’ which means ‘commandment or ‘mandate,’ a term related to Jesus’ words given to his disciples after he washed their feet in that extraordinary display of humility and service. In John’s gospel, chapter 13 we read, how Peter was horrified at the thought of Jesus’ willingness to wash his feet, “You shall never wash my feet,” he told Jesus.‘Unless I was you, you have no part with me,’ Jesus replied. Jesus’ action was symbolic of the humility he was about to display as he gave himself over to be arrested and crucified. His death was what mattered. Peter, not wanting to risk missing out on anything responded to Jesus by asking him to wash all of him, ‘…my hands and my head as well!’Sometimes we can respond to Jesus in a similar way, failing to recognise that Jesus dealt with all our wrong, all our disobedience, all our failures, all our attitudes, our lack of care, lack of thought, greed, selfish acts, selfish thoughts, unkindness… There is nothing more we need and yet our lives fail to reflect that, we live as though our salvation were nothing more than a heavenly insurance policy instead of a new life that begins here. Please join us on Maundy Thursday as we sit down together as those who do ‘have a part in Jesus’ Kingdom.’ We are one with those first Christians, those who by God’s grace, recognise Jesus’ humility and service. Let’s take a moment together to share a simple meal together and remember his blood poured out, and his body broken for us.Once again, this year, we are starting early, at 5.45pm so little ones can be home in time for bed and we can all have this time together. Yes, it might be inconvenient, and a little stressful, it might be early for some – if you can’t make it on time, let us know and we’ll makes sure a table is ready for when you can arrive. Let’s begin this Easter time together, remembering and celebrating what humility and service truly mean as we hold in our hearts Jesus’ words that evening, *“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”*Glyn**Sermon Notes**

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| *Someone from our Prayer Ministry Team (with* ***blue lanyards****) will be available after the 10am service to pray with those who would like prayer.* |
| Our Parish Safeguarding Officer, Mary Kirkman, is available for advice or to talk through concerns relating to safeguarding.Tel 07763 456015 or email:**safeguarding@stjohnswoking.uk** |
| **St. John the Baptist Church**Church Road, St. John’s, Woking GU21 7QNSee the source imagelike/groups/stjohnswoking  | Office hours: 9am-1pm, Mon-Frioffice@stjohnswoking.ukTel: 01483 377477 |

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