

Diary for March 2018

Thurs 1 st		
2.15pm	Toddler Church	Community room, CSL
Sun 4 th		
8.30am	Holy Communion	Oake Church
10.00am	Family Communion	Community hall, CSL
4.30pm	Evensong	Hillfarrance Church
Thurs 8 th		
2.15pm	Toddler Church	Community room, CSL
7.45pm	Steering Group	3 West Villas, CSL
Sun 11 th Mothering Sunday		
8.30am	Holy Communion	Heathfield church
10.00am	Woman's Hour! (Coffee and Danish for all women with Bible study and discussion while the men look after the children)	Community hall, CSL
	Morning Worship	Hillfarrance Church
Thurs 15 th		
2.15pm	Toddler Church	Community room, CSL
7.30pm	Heathfield with CSL PCC meeting	42 Graham Way, CSL
Fri 16 th		
7.00pm	Friday Talk: Robert Hurford Chariot maker, will talk about the projects he has been involved in	Hillfarrance Church
Sun 18 th		
8.30am	Holy Communion	Hillfarrance Church
10.00am	Family Praise with the Baptism of Otilie Harris-Sparks	Heathfield Church (Note: not CSL!)
	Morning Worship	Oake Church

Wed 21 st		
1.00pm	Church lunch	Hillfarrance Church
Thurs 22 nd		
2.15pm	Toddler Church	Community room CSL
Sun 25 th Palm Sunday		
8.30am	Holy Communion	Hillfarrance Church
10.00am	Family Praise with Powerhouse	Community hall, CSL
6.30pm	Evensong	Oake Church
Mon 26 th Holy Week		
8pm	Advent Meditation	Hillfarrance Church
Tues 27 nd		
8pm	Advent Meditation	Oake Church
Wed 28 th		
8pm	Advent Meditation	Heathfield Church
Thurs 29 th Maundy Thursday		
6.30pm	Passover Supper (ticket required)	Hillfarrance Church
Fri 30 th Good Friday		
10.30am - Walk of Witness will start at the SLC land, Rogers Walk, CSL (near the co-op) Approximate timings for church services are: 11.30am at Heathfield (followed by Hot Cross Buns), 1pm at Oake (followed by lunch) and the final act of worship will be at 2.30pm at Hillfarrance as we remember when Jesus died		
Sun 1 st April Easter Sunday		
10am	Benefice Easter Family Communion (with a challenge to the Vicar - a 60-second Easter sermon, a lot like Christmas Day!) Please bring flowers to decorate the cross that was used on Good Friday	Heathfield Church

Coffee morning in

Hillfarrance - Tuesday 6th

March 11am All are welcome to come for coffee and cake, a chat and if you are interested, pick up some ideas for making an Easter Bonnet and/or a Scarecrow (see below)

Easter Bonnets, tea and cake in Hillfarrance on Monday

2nd April between 2 and 4pm There will be prizes for the best hat worn by a man, woman and child, so go on... start getting creative! If you don't want to make a hat and enter our fun competition, you are still welcome to join us! Proceeds will go towards church repairs.

Passover Supper Thursday

29th March at 6.30pm in Hillfarrance Church

A mixture of worship and fellowship with a good meal (vegetarian option), as we remember the Last Supper. No charge, although donations to cover costs will be welcomed. Any extra will go to the Bishops' Lent appeal. There are tickets so the caterers have an idea of

numbers., available from Marcia 461245 or ask your churchwardens or Alison (PS Please bring plate, bowl, glass and cutlery with you)

Spring Fair in CSL - Saturday

12th May 10am-3pm

Several stalls are now booked including Neals Yard, Flamingo Cards, Usborne books, Always Lovely, Linhay crafts, Somerset Artisans, Somerset Woodturners, Linda Green artist and designer, Every1's Different jewellery, Sharan James Stained Glass plus many more. We just need a Shabby Chic stall and we're almost complete! It should be a great day out with lots of church stalls too and of course refreshments and raffle. All proceeds to go towards the new St Luke's Centre.

The third annual Hillfarrance Fete will take place Saturday 9th June, 2-4pm. Planning is now well under way. We are asking you to get creative and make a scarecrow to create a village trail on the day!

Deane Vale Benefice

Rector: Rev Preb Alison Norris 6 Cole Close, CSL

Tel: 431567 revalison@revsnorris.co.uk (Day off: Tuesday)

Please email items for the next news by

Friday March 120th to dvbcommunications@gmail.com

Website: <http://deanevalechurches.weebly.com/>

Deane Vale

March 2018

Church News

Covering the parishes of Heathfield with CSL, Hillfarrance and Oake

A message from Preb Alison

I write this on the day after Ash Wednesday, when only 3 people attended church.

Ash Wednesday is one of the Principal Holy days of the C of E, alongside Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Granted the service was in the morning, and many of you work, but alongside Ascension Day, Ash Wednesday seems to have lost its place of being a day when people recognised their need to attend church and now comes a poor second to Shrove Tuesday, when certainly a lot more people came through the door of Hillfarrance church to devour pancakes! And poor old Ash Wednesday also struggled this year with being on the same day as Valentine's Day! There is no criticism implied here, just an acknowledgement that we are living in changing times. So, should the C of E drop Ash Wednesday?

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the season where we take time out to think about who we are, what our lives are like, whether our discipleship is growing and to pray for strength for the 40 days of further self-examination. Ash Wednesday gives us a head start with the principle part of the service being the Act of Penitence; a time to acknowledge that our lives fall short of God's hope in us. The sign of ash on our foreheads is iconic, and our participation in the Eucharist after the ashing is a sign of God's love and forgiveness toward us.

Each year, on Ash Wednesday, as I kneel at the foot of the cross, I feel more of a priest than at any other time in the year. In that moment I carry not just my shortcomings, but the sins of all in the Benefice (whether they come to church or not) - all those for whom I was given the cure of souls. It can be overwhelming, but it is also a reality check.

Next Ash Wednesday perhaps we need to do things differently, or maybe I should suggest you all stop for a while at a certain time and recite the Act of Penitence... it would take some load off my shoulders!