

# Sanderstead Team Newsletter

April 2018

Welcome to the Sanderstead Team Newsletter! This is your newsletter, so do send us your news and anything you would like us all to know. The newsletter will continue to be published for the first Sunday of every month, and items need to be with Rosanne the Monday of that week.

[admin@sanderstead-parish.org.uk](mailto:admin@sanderstead-parish.org.uk)

## Susan writes ...

By the time this is published we will be celebrating Jesus' resurrection but as I write Holy Week is fast approaching and we are preparing to remember the agony of Jesus' death. This is a time of year, which is charged with emotion – sadness, horror, weariness, confusion, amazement, joy and many more besides.



Often in this season certain films are shown or repeated on television portraying the life and death of Christ. They are often fairly comfortable 'Hollywood' viewing. But this isn't always the case. In recent weeks I have watched (or re-watched) several films including Mel Gibson's 'The Passion of the Christ' (2004). It was a film, which caused some controversy when first released not least due to the extreme violence it portrays but it is a reminder of the brutality, the agony and the love, which led to the Crucifixion. The film follows the last few days of Christ's life, through his eyes, and provides no comfort for those of a 'delicate' nature. However, the self-sacrifice; the love which led to Christ's death on the cross for our sins is all but spelt out for us and the climax of the film (not to give the story away too much) is of course, the Resurrection.

I have also watched Risen (2016) a film, which focuses on a Roman Tribune who is sent by Pilate to expedite Jesus' crucifixion and then three days later to search for his body as he investigates the rumours of a risen Jewish Messiah. The Tribune encounters the risen Christ and eventually acknowledges he will never be the same again.

Then most recently I have seen Mary Magdalene (2018). A film, which focuses on Mary and her encounters with Christ. The story of Mary is told in line with her being proclaimed "Apostle to the apostles" by the Roman Catholic Church in 2016.

Each of these films along with the many others that have been produced over the years have their critics yet each also serves to share something of the Christian message with their audiences.



The Crucifixion without the Resurrection would have meant little, and so important is the question put to the women at the tomb in Luke's Gospel 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he is risen!' (Luke. Ch 24 v 5-6). It is all too easy to focus on what is lost rather than what exists, or what is gained. Jesus certainly died on the cross but he rose again so that he will never be separated from those who believe; he is always with us. (cont.)

Mary Magdalene was deeply sad because she thought she'd lost for ever the person whom she loved so deeply and who had transformed her life. She stood outside weeping (John Ch 20 v 10-18) but the Lord came to her, called her by name, and showed her that he was alive and would be with her always. She was filled with joy.

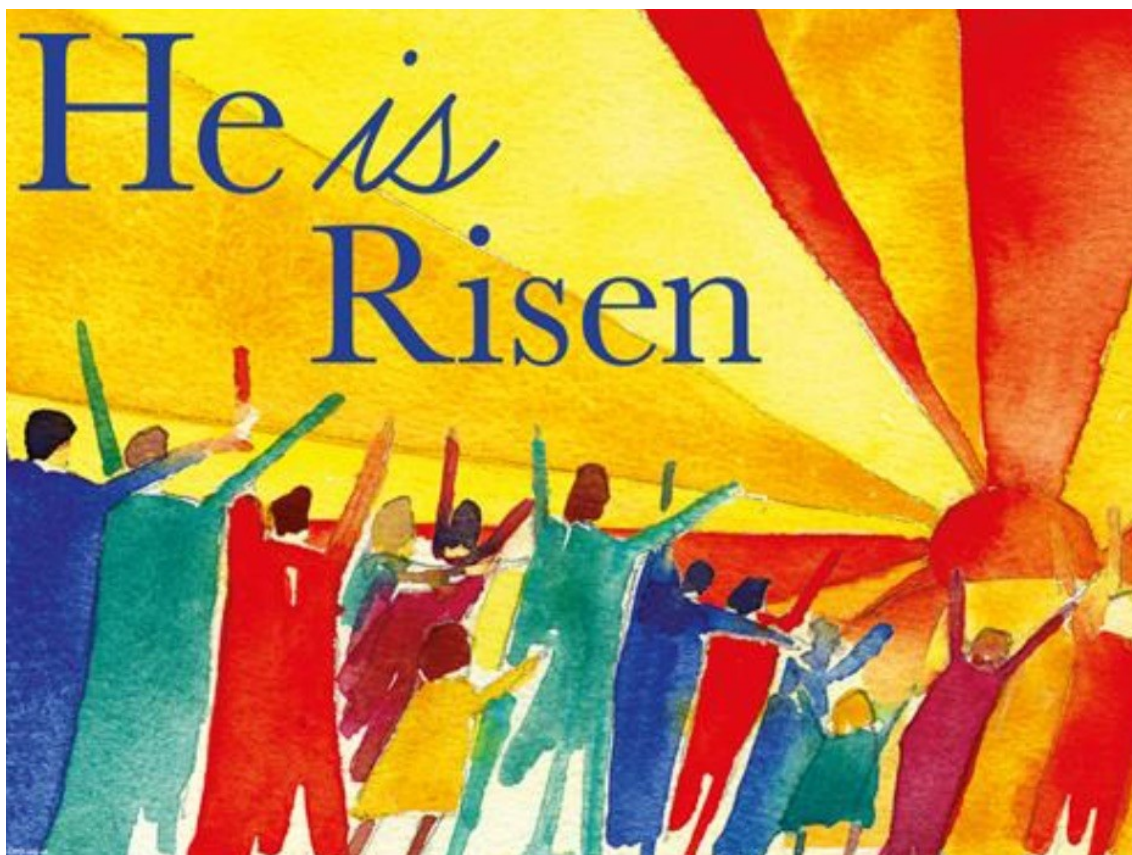
The two disciples on the road to Emmaus were very confused (Luke Ch 24 v 13-35). The risen Christ came and explained the Scriptures to them and they saw everything clearly again.

The other disciples may well have felt frightened, weary or depressed. Their whole world seemed to have fallen apart. But then Jesus came and 'stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."' At first they were 'startled and frightened', but when they realised Jesus really was with them, they were filled with 'joy and amazement' (Luke Ch 24 v 36-43).

The risen Christ still comes to us, however we may be feeling, and says, 'I am with you always.'

So this Easter, let our thanks and praise ring out 'He is risen, Alleluia!'

*Rev. Susan Atkinson-Jones*  
*Vicar of St Antony's and St. Edmund's*



# Walking, Welcoming, Growing

## Walking with Jesus and getting to know Jesus better as we journey on

I was fortunate enough to spend February half term on the North Cornwall Coast and despite the mixed bag of weather, we managed to get out for some bracing family **walks**. I did at times feel as though I was acting out scenes from "We're going on a bear hunt", as we squelched our way through mud, waded through streams, stumble tripped through the woods and got caught in a swirly hail storm. There were moments of breath-taking cliff top views, and times when we had to focus on the next step ahead, as we clambered over slippery seaweed covered rocks.

I found myself reflecting on the Diocese of Southwark's vision slogan: **Walking**, Welcoming, Growing. My **walk** reminded me that in ministry, we have those God-given cliff-top moments of seeing the bigger picture, which are quite often followed by times of feeling in the thick of it, finding our way on a slippery path, focusing on moving one step at a time.

I have to admit that without the family there, I would have taken one look at the weather conditions and opted to curl up on the sofa to watch the Winter Olympics. However, we spurred each other on and were rewarded by watching an amazing sunset. It made me ponder the importance of a team approach to the children and young people in our midst - a team that can spur each other on in all weather conditions. A team that includes parents and older members of our congregations, who can encourage each other to continue to **walk** with Jesus and get to know Him better as we journey alongside young people. A team that is willing to take a risk and step out in mission - a team that might be willing to risk a bear hunt!

Journey well,

**Aike Kennett-Brown,**

*Mission Support Officer, (Children and Young People), Diocese of Southwark*





# Parish Weekend in Ashburnham

23 to 25 March 2018

Ashburnham is a beautiful place in Sussex, near Battle. A narrow road winds down a hill through woods, and suddenly you're approaching a little bridge, with a lake on either side, leading up to a surprisingly modest and modern house, set in 220 acres of land.

There were about 50 in our group, mostly from All Saints' but a few from St Edmund's and about ten folk from the Coppice Community Church in Bromley.

Peter and Davina Irwin-Clark led the weekend, with the theme of "Standing at the River."

At the Jabbok, we learnt about Jacob wrestling all night with God, when Jacob was at his wits' end – as we sometimes are, especially at 3 am.



Jacob persevered with the idea of God's faithfulness, and God never gave up on Jacob. In the end, because Jacob would not give up the struggle, God granted Jacob's wish to be blessed.

Peter and Davina reminded us that we do not always understand what God's plans are, but we are asked to trust him, anyway.

This isn't easy. At times, it can be extremely hard. Peter and Davina have two children who are grown up and happily married, but they spoke movingly about losing their son, Sebastian, to cot death when he was only six weeks old. This has had a profound impact on their lives and ministry.

At the Red Sea, we talked about how difficult it was for the Israelites to leave Egypt behind – where they had been slaves for more than 400 years. We, too, can find it hard to leave the familiar behind, even if it's "slavery."

But God says "I can change this – if you say you want it to change."

All that happened on the Saturday morning. We had free time in the afternoon. Some people went to Battle, others to Hastings, others for walks round the grounds.

In the evening, we sang Songs of Praise before enjoying a social time together. Katharine organised various quizzes and Pictionary. I joined a group playing the "Hat" game. It's a bit like charades and was great fun. Tony Robinson had us fooled when he talked of a black American preacher – who turned out to be Billy Graham.

On Sunday morning, at the Jordan, we were asked to look to the future, to the promised land. There may be difficulties. The Israelites faced two big obstacles: the river Jordan in full flood, and the fortress of Jericho. Both of them seemed impossible to deal with. But God asked the Israelites to trust him, and he led them through the Jordan. He also told them that the people in the fortress were more frightened than they were.

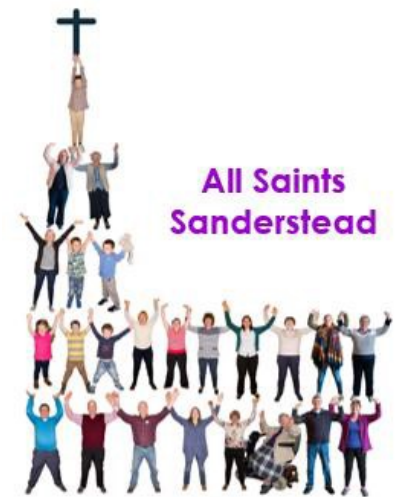
We, too, can put our trust in God.

**Sarah Jane Sherlock**









*A picture of a lily emerging from the ground. First there is bare, dark ground. Then the tip of a shoot appears and gradually the 'spearhead' of a lily pushes up through the ground, loosening the soil all around and freeing it up as the shoot keeps growing.*

March 23rd 2018



**God brings new life! Praise be to Jesus!**

# Summer Study Opportunities

## *Homegroups*



We have some great opportunities for everyone this Summer term, including existing home group members, for exploring the Bible, Prayer and Spiritual Growth. Hopefully you will feel inspired to choose one of the groups below. - 6 sessions on alternate weeks beginning the week of 23rd April.

Contact the leader direct for more details:

\* **Soul Spark** - including Approaching Spirituality: Getting to know God better: Who is God to me. Leader Penny Bird. Email: [ppennybird@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ppennybird@yahoo.co.uk).  
Tuesday evening 8pm.

\* **Cover to Cover series, “David.”**  
Contact Corrie Hibberd. Email: [corinahibberd@gmail.com](mailto:corinahibberd@gmail.com)  
Tuesday evening 8pm.

\* **Cover to Cover series, “Prayers of the Bible”**  
Contact Lynne Davison. Email: [lynbriton@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:lynbriton@blueyonder.co.uk)  
Monday morning 10.30 am

\* **The Kings Speech & Finding a Voice.**  
Contact Fanny Smith. Email: [fanny.smith@talktalk.net](mailto:fanny.smith@talktalk.net)  
Tuesday evening 8pm

\* **“God’s Covenants”** Contact Robin Gordon  
email: [robingordon@waitrose.com](mailto:robingordon@waitrose.com)  
Thursday evening 8pm

\* **“Surprised by Hope”** by Tom Wright.  
Contact. Wendy Holt. Email [w.m.holt@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:w.m.holt@blueyonder.co.uk)  
Time and day tba



# All Saints'

## YOUNG AT HEART Social Club

All Saints' Church Hall

10am—12.30pm on alternative Fridays

£3 entry

Members can stay for lunch for an extra £2

For information or transport call

**020 8657 8289**

Our programme includes talks, slide shows, music.

**The Young at Heart dates are:**

**Friday**

**13 & 27 April, 11 & 25 May,**

**8 & 22 June, 6 & 20 July**

Thank you for all your support

## Fresh Encounters



Come and explore,  
through Scripture,  
poetry, music and meditation,  
the encounter of humanity with God

**Sunday 22nd April**

**6pm**

**All Saints'**



**ALL SAINTS**  
**Sanderstead Parish**



**Come and join us for**

# FAMILY FUN HOUR

**Sunday afternoons, 3-4pm**

**15<sup>th</sup> April**

**13<sup>th</sup> May**

**10<sup>th</sup> June**

**8<sup>th</sup> July (on the Gruffy)**

**craft**   **play activities**

**Bible story**   **singing**

**refreshments**

**All Saints' Church Hall**

**Onslow Gardens, CR2 9AB**

**For parents, carers and children**

For more details contact Martin 8657 1366  
[rector@sanderstead-parish.org](mailto:rector@sanderstead-parish.org)



# St. Mary's

## CAMEO

**Come And Meet Each Other**  
**Thursday 19th April, 2.30pm – 4.00pm**  
**In the Jubilee Room @ St. Mary's**  
**All are welcome**



We meet once a month on the **third Thursday, 2.30pm—4pm**. We provide a place where people who are lonely can come and enjoy friendship and fun. We offer tea and cakes and a huge welcome. Whether you want to sit and chat or get involved in a game such as Scrabble, Bingo, skittles or cards, Cameo is a place to come and meet new friends.

**Next few CAMEO dates:**

**17<sup>th</sup> May, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 19th July, 16th August 2018**

## Bring and Buy Plant sale at All Saints

To be held on **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May** after the 10.00am service at All Saints'. Please think about plants and add a few extra seeds when sowing to add to the range of plants brought.

As usual the proceeds will be sent to St. Christopher's Hospice. You have contributed between £100 and £150 each year for over a decade. Please contact Linda or Piers Hubbard with offers or deliver them to the Church on the day.



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**Piers and Linda**

**All Saints Sanderstead, 'Mission Rescue'**

# SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB

**TUES 28TH TO THURS 30TH AUGUST 2018**

**10AM — 12.30PM**

**FOR CHILDREN AGED 5-11**

**MISSION RESCUE** is a secret agent theme.

Each day we will be engaging in missions, inventing secret language, cracking codes as we explore God's amazing rescue plan.

**Join us for fun, games, crafts, stories and more.**

**MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

**Emma, Judith & Sue**



*Around and About Sanderstead,  
and  
beyond ...*



**Sanderstead URC APRIL events:**

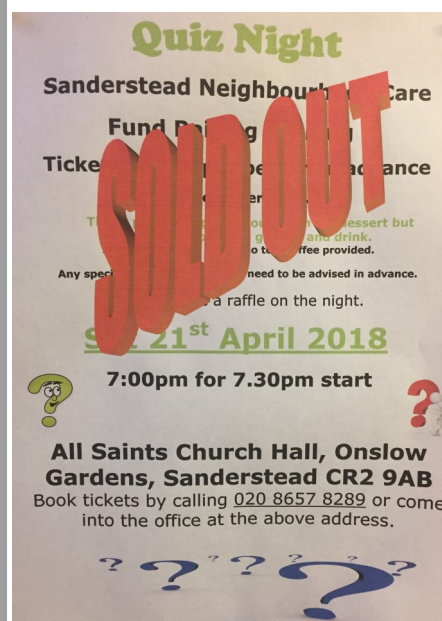
Sanderstead Literary Society  
SURC Main Hall

**Sunday 8th April 3pm**

**Concert:**

**Virginia Stone (mezzo-soprano) with Timothy  
Sutton (piano)**

**including works by Purcell, Bizet and Gershwin.**



**PURLEY CLASSICS APRIL RECITAL**

**TIMOTHEÉ BOTBOL – CELLO AND CRAIG WHITE - PIANO**

György Ligeti - Cello Sonata

Schostakovich - Cello Sonata in D minor, Op.40

David Popper - Hungarian Rhapsody, Op.68

Swiss cellist Timothée has performed in St John's Smith Square and Kings Place in London and in Germany and Italy and in 2017 won a major competition in Tenerife. He is studying on the Artist Diploma course at the Royal College of Music. Timothée is also a baritone soloist, performing in Geneva. Future engagements include St Martin-in-the-Fields, St James's Piccadilly and Hampton Court.

**Wednesday 11th April 2018, 1.15pm to 2.00pm,**

**The Lounge, Purley United Reformed Church, Brighton Road Purley.**

Open to all with a retiring collection to cover costs. Light refreshments served before the start.

For more details [purleyclassics.wix.com/purleyclassics](http://purleyclassics.wix.com/purleyclassics)



# Diocesan Training

## Introduction to Messy Church

**Sat 14 April, 10am-1pm**  
**St. Matthew's House Croydon**

### **What is (and isn't) Messy Church?**

How to start one; resources and support available. Plus how it can fit with the wider ministry of the church.

Led by **Aike Kennett-Brown**.

*You can find further details and register for this free event on our EventBrite page:*  
<http://bit.ly/2uU7hGx>

**Rochester Spirituality Network invites you to:**

## **The World is our 'Cloister'**

**A day to craft a 'Rule of Life' that will help your 'cloister' walk**  
***Facilitated by Marion Syms***

**Sat 16th June**

**10-3 pm, St Benedict's Centre, West Malling, Kent.**

Just as Monastic Communities need to craft a Rule of Life that will nourish their communal life in the cloister, so we need a 'rule' to hold onto as we walk with God along our pathway in the world. Like a tender plant, we grow best when loosely secured to a supportive 'trellis'.

Our workshop will start by distilling wisdom from the monastic traditions to provide a foundation from which we can each start to craft our own individual trellis ('rule') that will gently support us on our journey.

*In her working life, Marion found much in the Celtic and Monastic traditions that helped bring a flexible rhythm, balance and unity to her discipleship and secular life. In retirement, Marion is passionate about helping others find their own rhythm to enable them to 'become present to the presence of God' in their everyday lives. She is now engaged in spiritual direction, supervision and counselling and, as a member of the Portsmouth Spirituality Network, teaches on the Diocesan Christian Spirituality and Spiritual Direction Training programmes.*

**Bring your own lunch, tea and coffee will be provided,  
a donation towards the day will be welcome.**

**To book please contact Rev Susanne Carlsson 07795 167 603 [susannecarlssons@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:susannecarlssons@hotmail.co.uk)**

## What else?

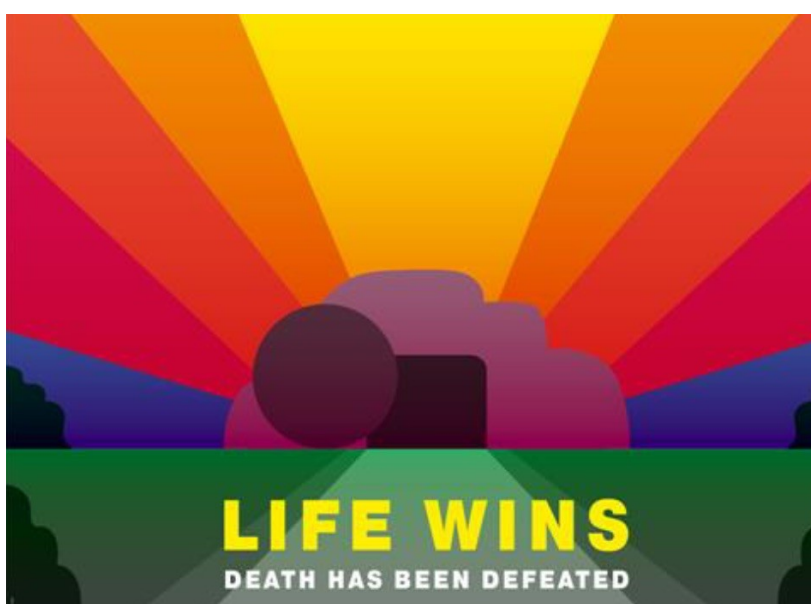
Please look at the website for regular Sunday services: [www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk](http://www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk)

WHEN?	WHERE?	WHAT?
Fri 6th April, 10am—12pm	<b>Coffee Pot</b> , All welcome for coffee, cakes and company.	All Saints' Church Hall
Sun 15th April, 3–4pm	<b>Family Fun Hour</b> All welcome for stories, crafts, singing and more.	All Saints' Church Hall
Fri 20th April, 10am—12pm	<b>Coffee Pot</b> , All welcome for coffee, cakes and company.	All Saints' Church Hall
Sun 22nd April, 6pm	<b>Fresh Encounters</b> Come and explore... the encounter of humanity with God.	All Saints' Church
Tuesday 8th May, 8pm	<b>Archdeacon's Visitation Service</b> Our churchwardens will be signed into office. Come along.	St John the Divine, Selsdon
Sunday 13th May, 6.30pm	<b>Thy Kingdom Come! Deanery Service</b> An opportunity to pray and be encouraged for mission.	St. John's, Old Coulsdon

## Baptism

Anyone with a desire to have their children baptised, speak to one of the clergy then come & join one of our classes. All Saints' have a Baptismal Preparation Class on Sat 14th April at 9-10am.

*Jeremy*



This newsletter is produced by Rosanne, Rector's Admin Assistant,  
Send your news and diary dates to [admin@sanderstead-parish.org.uk](mailto:admin@sanderstead-parish.org.uk)