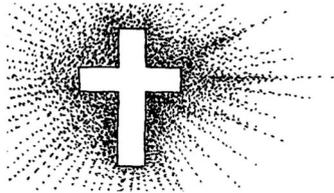


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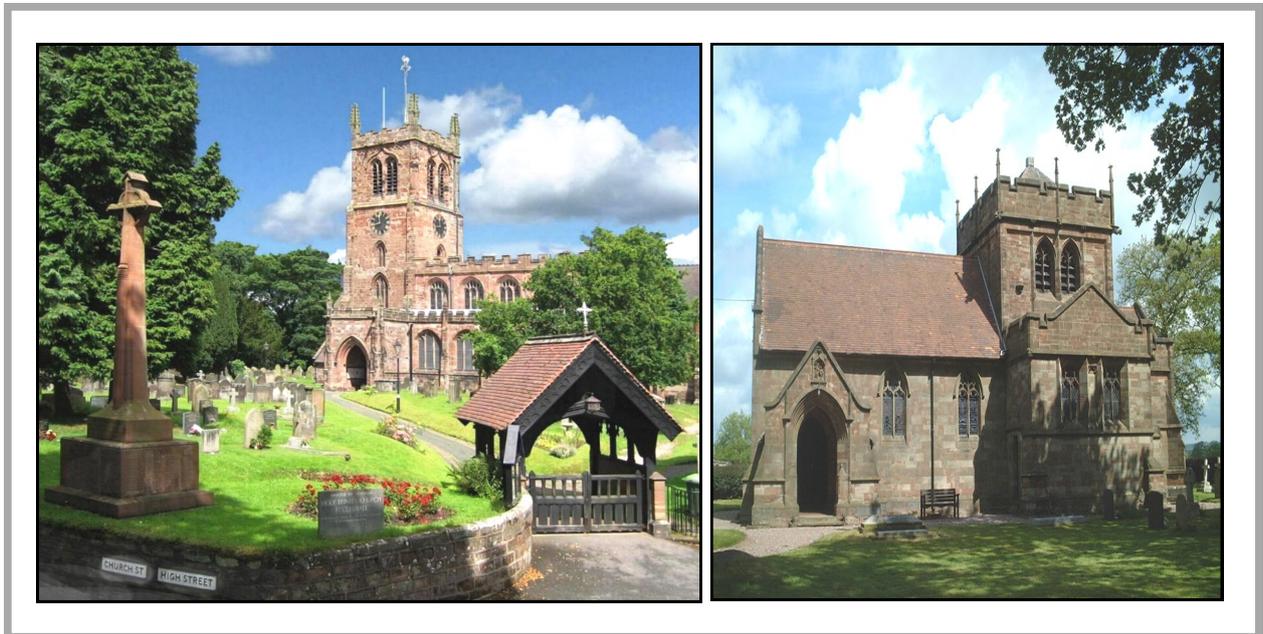
Parish Magazine

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April 2021

The Magazine of Holy Trinity Eccleshall & St. Chad's Slindon



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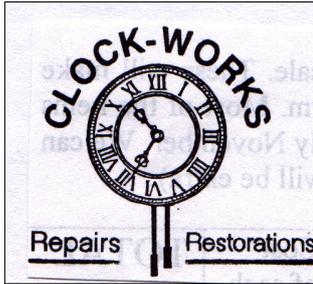
CONTENTS

<i>Letter from Revd. Stephen Habgood</i>	5
<i>Prayer Page</i>	9
<i>Could You be a Sidesperson?</i>	11
<i>Annual Parochial Church Meeting</i>	12
<i>St. Chad's News</i>	13
<i>The Children's Society Collection Boxes 2020</i>	13
<i>Eccleshall Parish Council - Covid-19 Helping Hand Fund</i>	15
<i>Bishop Lonsdale - Children's Thoughts and Reflections on Lockdown</i>	17
<i>Prayer Support</i>	20
<i>Thank you from Joyce Legge</i>	20
<i>Farewell to Cath Bell</i>	21
<i>Thank You for Donations to Sanctus</i>	23
<i>Eccleshall Churches Together - Reflect on Easter</i>	24
<i>All in the Month of April</i>	26
<i>Eccleshall Community Band....certainly not the first!</i>	27
<i>Swifts, Swallows and House Martins</i>	29
<i>Sanctus St Marks - Suggested items for donations</i>	32
<i>The Latest Buzz</i>	33
<i>Eccleshall Show update</i>	33
<i>Crossword</i>	35
<i>Wardhaugh Chiropody and Podiatry</i>	37
<i>Eccleshall Flood Action Group - Have you experienced flooding?</i>	37
<i>Funerals and Interments</i>	39
<i>Notes from Trinity Magazine Team</i>	40
<i>Rotas for April Services</i>	41
<i>Town Contacts</i>	42
<i>Church Contacts</i>	43
<i>Services in April</i>	Back cover



Happy Easter!

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Holy Trinity & St. Chad's

Celebrating Christ Proclaiming Christ Growing in Christ

A letter from Revd. Stephen Habgood, Assistant Priest

Dear Friends

Easter Sunday is almost here, one of the holiest days on the Christian calendar.

Easter is the day that Christians believe that Christ rose from the dead, bringing eternal life to those who have faith in the Risen Lord. Christ's resurrection, following his crucifixion on what is known as Good Friday, is a time of rejoicing and rebirth.

For the faithful it is about sharing messages of hope.

Easter is about resurrection and the hope of new life.

People want to know that they are loved. They want to hear that someone loved them enough to give their life for them.

As we begin to move out of lockdown, we are all pondering what life might mean after experiencing the terrible consequences of a pandemic, which has taken hundreds of thousands of lives around the world.

Will life be the same?

I certainly hope not.

Humanity has become selfish. We exploit one another and we exploit the world around us, a world that we are required to share with all God's creatures.

We exploit others when we allow such terrible inequality to exist within our own society and the world at large. This has been so evident during this pandemic which has clearly had a much greater impact on the poor and the socially disadvantaged, and on those third world countries where the number of deaths has been too many to count.

When the pandemic began, we counted the terrible loss of life for those in care homes, not just the elderly, but amongst those who are disabled or have learning disabilities.

We saw the pandemic's terrible and disproportionate impact on poorer communities, especially those black and minority ethnic communities.

And whilst the pandemic moved around the world, we witnessed the impact of climate change which saw increasingly unusual weather patterns. Our daughter lives with her family in Austin, Texas which boasts a

Continued on page 7

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A huge thank you to everyone for your continued support during these difficult times!



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Continued from page 5

wonderful warm climate. Not this year.

For the first time they can remember, they had snow and experienced days of freezing temperatures and power loss, as wind turbines froze solid.

Around the world we see evidence that our planet is struggling to deal with the way we have exploited and continue to exploit it. Sir David Attenborough's predictions are proving to be true as our world faces a very real crisis.

So, I hope things will not be the same. I hope that the pandemic will change us and make us a better people.

I hope our lives will be markedly different as we move out of the pandemic.

I hope we might take a moment to think about the impact that the pandemic has had on our communities and perhaps it will force us to focus on what really matters to us and how the experience should change us.

We have missed the close contact with friends and relatives. We have missed the opportunity to celebrate the lives that have been lost. We have missed the opportunity, which I am sure we take for granted, to come together for worship.

How will our lives be changed?

I hope Easter will be a time of renewal and hope for us and for our world. For us, as we come to see and accept the love that God has for each and every one of us. The hope of a new life with Him.

Perhaps a realisation that a life of faith will give meaning and purpose to our lives.

We might begin to appreciate those around us, our families and friends, and spare a thought for those who are disadvantaged and for whom life continues to hold enormous challenge and hardship.

And hope for our world as we are confronted with the need to take seriously climate change and make a renewed effort to protect our world and all that lives within it.

May we truly accept God's blessing this Easter as we celebrate Christ's resurrection and the gift of a new life, a life of hope.

May this Easter indeed be one of the holiest times of your life.

Stephen

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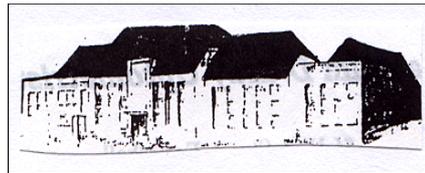
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Prayer Page



Prayer seen in a Church porch

This is the house of God and He is here.

Pray then to Him who loves you and bids you welcome.

Give thanks for those who in years past built this place to His glory.

Rejoice in His gifts of beauty in art and music, architecture and handicraft; and worship Him, the one God and Father of us all, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

This prayer can bid you welcome to Holy Trinity Church. It is His house and He is there to welcome you. Come in through the door and His presence will greet you.

The first thing to say, of course, is that God isn't confined in any way to a building, but that His presence is everywhere. He can be encountered in any place at any moment. Although a Church is a house of prayer, we can pray by our bedside, in the office, or anywhere else we choose.

Nevertheless, there are a number of reasons why you may feel a special sense of God's presence in a Church like ours. **First**, its atmosphere. For more than 800 years people have prayed in this building. You can feel it. It's as if the walls have absorbed all that devotion. The more sensitive you are, the more you feel this prayerful ambiance. If you sit in silence on your own, especially if all is quiet and still, you can sometimes feel God is so close you could almost touch Him. I had that experience many times when I was in and out every day.

Secondly there is the beauty of the building and its contents. The more you look at the windows, the ceiling, the carved woodwork, the ancient furnishings, the graceful pillars, the superb chancel and sanctuary – so much the more they can help to direct your thoughts towards God. Our heavenly Father is a God of beauty. I have never understood why the puritans of 350 years ago found these things a distraction: so much so that they destroyed them so ruthlessly. For me and for countless others, beauty is a signpost to God's glory. Their presence in Church reminds us of HIS glorious presence amongst us. "O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness".

Thirdly we can feel God's presence through our shared worship in a sacred building. Some people have their most real experiences of God at

Continued on page 11

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moments when it is shared with others. When a Church is first built and opened for worship the Bishop consecrates it with solemn and sacred ceremonial. As we worship and pray together we can sense that we are on Holy ground. It adds a dimension to what we are doing. A consecrated building helps to enrich our prayerful activity, reminding us of God's presence in our midst.

So give thanks that Eccleshall has such a treasure in its ancient Church. And pray that it may continue to inspire our parishioners through the ages to come.

Revd. Stephen Cooke

Whilst our church buildings have not been open for public worship due to Covid restrictions, a small group has been allowed to enter Holy Trinity Church to livestream services to the congregation at home, which has been wonderful. We are hopeful that congregations (restricted numbers) will be able to attend church* this month from Easter Sunday (see back page).

We are indeed very much looking forward to our churches being open again, and we will welcome and be welcomed. Not long now!

Editor

(*Subject to change - see back page.)

Could you be a sidesperson?

We can't physically meet in our church buildings at the moment, but want to be well prepared for when we can!

Hospitality and welcome is vitally important for a healthy Christian community: could you be one of the team who makes sure this happens? Sidespeople play a very important role in our church services, in both of our church buildings; they assist the wardens in ensuring that everyone receives a warm welcome, that the service runs smoothly and that everyone is kept safe and well.

Please do consider being part of this important team. Revd. Jules or one of the wardens would be happy to explain the duties further: just give one of them a ring or drop an email (contact details on page 43).

Welcome!

Annual Parochial Church Meeting



We are fast approaching the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), which takes place on Thursday 15th April 2021 at 7.15pm, most probably via zoom. At the APCM we will elect, as ever, our Wardens and PCC vacant posts. These are important and key volunteer posts within the parish. Now is the time to start prayerfully reflecting on whether you might feel God's nudge to these roles. We are certainly in an important chapter of the life of the parish, not least as we respond to the COVID pandemic and its effect on our future. Wardens serve for 12 months (with a maximum of 6 years) and PCC membership is for a 3-year term. We currently appoint four wardens each year - one dedicated to St Chad's, three for Holy Trinity - although in reality the wardens work together as a team across the parish. We have five vacancies on the PCC for 2021 - 2024. Please do pray about these opportunities, and of course I am always available to talk further if that would be helpful. Please do ask our Parish Administrator, Emily (Telephone: 07522 713459 or Email: parishad.eccleshall@gmail.com) for a nomination form for either role, which will need to be returned to me as APCM Chair before April 15th.

With many thanks in advance, Revd Jules.

Date for your diary:

Eccleshall Parish APCM

Thursday 15th April at 7.15pm via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

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Meeting ID: 829 9036 8167 / Passcode: 935658



ST CHAD'S NEWS APRIL 2021

As the coronavirus pandemic continues, although now hopefully slowing down, it has been achingly stressful not to enjoy the social contact with our fellow parishioners. To pray together in St Chad's, listen to music together and to exchange any family news, socially distancing. However, our regular Sunday gatherings have not completely disappeared. Each week we tune in to a special Zoom service led by Vicar Jules with sermons given by Diocesan leaders. It is so lovely to see the familiar faces from Slindon and our friends from Holy Trinity.

Once again we were unable to hold our annual Mothering Sunday celebration in Church but the traditional ladies' gifts of primroses, which are usually given out during the service, were delivered to each household, decorated with a palm cross.

On April 4th, Easter Sunday, we are holding our first service in St Chad's since Christmas. Revd Stephen Habgood is conducting this very special event and it will be so uplifting to see the pews occupied again, fresh flowers adorning the altar and font and to take Holy Communion. Current rules and regulations will be followed of course.



Diary Dates: Mowing Rota to be arranged.

Anthea Treanor

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOX COLLECTIONS 2020



Lindsey Knowles has let us know that last year, the box holders of Holy Trinity Church, Eccleshall collectively raised a grand total of £843.73 for The Children's Society. A wonderful result!

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Please do apply if you feel you need this 'Helping Hand'. Your application will be confidential. You must be a resident of Eccleshall Parish.

You can apply:

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Tel No: 01785 282296 Email: eccleshallpc@gmail.com

On line at www.eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk/helpinghands

Via the link on the Eccleshall Parish Council Facebook page

Eccleshall Parish Council is here to help

If your life has been changed by the pandemic and you need help, for example; if you are waiting for Universal Credit, or waiting for or receiving New Style Jobseekers Allowance, Pension Credit, etc or in receipt of means-tested free school meals, please apply by any of the ways above. Only one application per household may be made.

The information given in the application will be kept confidential in compliance with General Data Protection Regulations. Applications will be considered until the funds allocated by the Parish Council are exhausted, or by 31 May 2021

For more information about other sources of help available please see the Parish Council website www.eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

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Thoughts and Reflections from Bishop Lonsdale School Children

Thank you to children and their teacher at Bishop Lonsdale C of E Academy for putting together some thoughts about what they're looking forward to "after Covid" and reflections on lockdown.

3 things we're looking forward to.

Emilia year 2

Emilia is looking forward to starting horse riding lessons, going to the cinema and visiting her Nanny's house.

Sean Year 6

A sleepover.

Playing in the park with lots of friends all at the same time.

Seeing my family, such as grandparents and cousins etc again.

Jacob Year 2

When bug has gone I am looking forward to going to the shops to buy a pet, I want to see my friends and have a play and a sleepover, and also to go to school on my birthday and get something from the prize box.

Tabitha year 5

I'm looking forward to going back to school.

I'm excited to see all my friends and teachers.

I'm excited to go see my aunt in her new house.

Reflections on Lockdown 2

At the beginning of January, it was all change again at Bishop Lonsdale with most children working at home, having online meet ups and worships. Some children of key workers continued coming into school, working in their bubbles. Here are some reflections from some children who have been at home and in school.

Tabitha Year 5

My thoughts and reflections on this lockdown are:

It's been a lot more isolated.

I can't meet up with anyone.

I can't see my friends.

Continued on page 18

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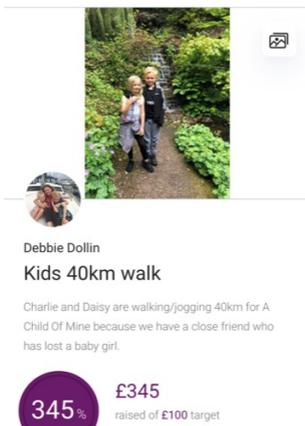
Jacob Year 2



I have done lots of baking with my mum this lockdown in Jakes Bakes.



Charlie Year 6 and Daisy Year 4



Charlie
and
Daisy



raised £345 for charity over lockdown by walking 40km.

Lockdown life by Isaac Year 6

During lockdown I've enjoyed the way I can personally select my timetable for school work and that seeing parents really boosts myself up to feeling great.

Difficulties haven't been occurring too often but it's just a lack of communication with friends and relatives as they are also a large part of who you are.

I am extremely excited for the return to school as friends will be with me at all times.

Life in lockdown by Scarlett year 6

Life in lockdown has been a rollercoaster of emotions. It's been fun to spend time with family. I've eaten more dinners with them and have

laughed with them. One thing that has kept me going and smiling has been my bunnies (Maple and Harper). They have helped me keep calm. Another important thing is when you're out for a walk and you see someone give them a smile because a smile can make someone's day.

Life in Lockdown by Ethan year 6

I have been really happy and lucky to have been going to school. As I have been going to school I have seen some of my friends but I can't wait to see more on the 8th March. My family have helped me keep going through lockdown by supporting me in everything I do. If I didn't have my family I would be losing my head!

Lockdown by Rowan year 5

Lockdown has been happy because I got to see more nature and I got to go on more walks more often.

Life in lockdown by Nicole year 5

Life in lockdown is boring but fun because we get to spend more time with our household and pets. We also got to have a break and a walk at any time then get back to work. The bit I haven't liked is not seeing friends and family. However you can do other things like puzzles.

Life in lockdown by Rosie Year 5

Lockdown has been really hard lately because we haven't been in school much not like we used to be. We have been staying at home more often which means not seeing friends and less fresh air. I think it's unfair but it's keeping us safe. However, there's still fun things like less noise, trying new things, drawing, watching movies. There are loads of fun things that you can still do but I still like to be at school more than anything.

Life in lockdown by Nathan year 6

Good things that have happened in lockdown have been that I got a hoverboard and I got to have more family time. I got a new hamster and I didn't have to go shopping!

However, there were bad things. I couldn't see my old friends and couldn't go anywhere fun and couldn't go out to eat.

Continued on page 20

Lockdown by Issy year 4

During keyworker time in school it has been different because we haven't had the full class in so it's been quiet. It's been good for me as I have had all my friends in school. Plus we get to do "Just Dance" which is really fun! However, you still have to get up very early!

Lockdown in school by Hollie Year 4

I like it in school that there are not many people in classes. We work hard but do more fun things and I still get to be with my best friend. I like having a piece of fruit in the morning and learning lots of new things.

*Penny Holland, Worship and RE coordinator
Bishop Lonsdale C of E Academy*

Prayer Support

There is a small group of people who pray for needs in the Parish. If you would like prayer for yourself, a loved-one or someone you know but are not sure who to turn to, please ring one of the telephone numbers below and we will ensure you are prayed for:

Kate Griffiths 01785 850948

Revd Jules 01785 850351

"You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you decide what kind of difference you want to make." Jane Goodall

*Thank you so much to our many Eccleshall friends
for the sympathy and cards we have received on
Keith's death at home in Harrogate in February.*

Joyce Legge and family

Farewell to Cath Bell

Cath and her husband Roger are moving to Longford near Market Drayton after some 50 years in Eccleshall.

Cath was born in Liverpool and her most important job, where she honed her skills, was as a Cookery Demonstrator with Midlands Electricity Board (MEB) in Newcastle-under-Lyme. In the 1950's, having married farmer Roger from Byanna, they had one daughter Karen, who now lives in Longford, hence the reason for the move. Karen's husband also farms so Cath will not lose her touch!

Cath has been a staunch member of Eccleshall society and she has retired Vicar James Graham to thank for persuading her to become a Governor of Bishop Lonsdale School and also David Beswick for her to become a Vice President of the Eccleshall Young Farmers' Club. She was also a founder

member of the Ladies Flower Guild: Kate Griffiths tells us how "Cath was a great leader and inspirer. She had so much knowledge about flowers and was wonderfully creative. Cath was always looking for a fresh focus for her arrangements. One learnt so many skills just watching her create a display. She supported and encouraged new members. We were very grateful to her for sharing her talents over so many years."

Cath's hobbies of gardening, needlework and bridge brought her many friends, and so she will have many fond memories of Eccleshall. Cath will be missed and we wish her and Roger best wishes for the new life in Shropshire!!



One of Cath's beautiful displays

David Brass

Would you like your newspaper delivered?

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Thank you for
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Many people who live in Eccleshall have been kind enough to donate food and toiletries to the charity Sanctus which helps refugees and asylum seekers in Stoke-on-Trent. Prior to Spring 2020, St Marks in Shelton would see between 100 and 150 people come through the doors for food, English lessons, help and advice on paperwork.

From volunteering on the welcome desk, you soon realise how many myths there are and how much misinformation is in the media about refugees (for example, there is no such thing as an illegal asylum seeker). You also learn that the systems are very complex and hard to understand, even for someone English with a good education, never mind for someone who is just learning English. Volunteers are taught not to ask people why they have left their home or how they got here, because this can be very distressing (they have to tell this story many times to officials) and people are trying to move on in their lives.

We hear on the news about the atrocities in Syria and the abuse of the Yazidi women of Iraq, and it seems obvious why they would run away. If I thought my child was likely to be kidnapped from school by Boko Haram, I would run away too. Or, imagine if female genital mutilation was on the agenda! Then there are other countries which are not making headlines, and I search on the internet to find out why people have left El Salvador or The Gambia to build a new life in Stoke-on-Trent?

By donating a bag of rice, a tin of tomatoes, nappies or toiletries, you are helping to feed someone who may be a very long way from home, missing their family, struggling to learn the language as well as coping with the isolation of lockdown. With so many churches closed at present, the charity has been receiving fewer donations, so all contributions are greatly appreciated.

See page 32 for suggested donations: these can be left on the doorstep at 82, High Street, Eccleshall, and Kate Griffiths will take to Sanctus, St. Mark's as appropriate.

You can find out more: at www.sanctusstmarks.org or www.refugee-action.org.uk or www.refugeeweek.org.uk

Sue Bramall

ECCLESHALL CHURCHES TOGETHER

Reflect on Easter

A recent T.V. advert shows a girl fiercely playing rugby – and winning. It says, “...sometimes the pain is worth it”. Perhaps that could remind us, on a hugely magnified scale, of Easter. Certainly there was unimaginable pain and an immense



victory. Perhaps, as Jesus gave his all in the years leading up to this, at times his teammates dropped the ball, were not in the right position, or didn't give their absolute all. Perhaps that is still the case.



Is Easter a time of sadness and suffering or joy and celebration? It is both and they are inseparable. The Easter story is not an end nor a beginning, but a stage

along the way in God's eternal plan. Easter is a yearly reminder of the journey we are on and a time for reflection. Here are 2 hymns written nearly 300 years apart, (almost 400 and 100 years ago) as Christians then reflected on Easter. I invite you to read them now and reflect yourself on the words, the language, the possible background to their composition and reflect on your own feelings and emotions this Easter.

My song is love unknown *Samuel Crossman born 1623*

1

My song is love unknown,
My Saviour's love to me;
Love to the loveless shown,
That they might lovely be.
O who am I,
That for my sake
My Lord should take
Frail flesh, and die?

2

He came from His blest throne
Salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none
The longed-for Christ would know:
But oh, my Friend,
My Friend indeed,
Who at my need
His life did spend.

3
Sometimes they strew His way,
And His sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day
Hosannas to their King:
Then "Crucify!"
Is all their breath,
And for His death
They thirst and cry.

4
They rise and needs will have
My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save,
The Prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful He
To suffering goes,
That He His foes
From thence might free.

5
In life, no house, no home
My Lord on earth might have;
In death, no friendly tomb,
But what a stranger gave.
What may I say?
Heav'n was His home;
But mine the tomb
Wherein He lay.

6
Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine;
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like Thine.
This is my Friend,
In whose sweet praise
I all my days
Could gladly spend.

We have a gospel to proclaim! Edward J Burns born 1938

1
We have a gospel to proclaim
Good news for men in all the earth;
The gospel of a Saviour's name:
We sing His glory, tell His worth.

2
Tell of His birth at Bethlehem,
Not in a royal house or hall
But in a stable dark and dim:
The Word made flesh, a light for all.

3.
Tell of His death at Calvary,
Hated by those He came to save;
In lonely suffering on the cross
For all He loved, His life He gave.

4
Tell of that glorious Easter morn:
Empty the tomb, for He was free.
He broke the power of death and hell
That we might share His victory.

5
Tell of His reign at God's right hand,
By all creation glorified;
He sends His Spirit on His Church
To live for Him, the Lamb who died.

6
Now we rejoice to name Him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
This gospel message we proclaim:
We sing His glory, tell His worth.



Dorothy Kirkham

All in the month of APRIL

....some memorable dates down the years.

It was:

500 years ago, on 27th April 1521 that Ferdinand Magellan, Portuguese explorer who led the first expedition to circumnavigate the earth, died at the hands of natives in the Philippines. He was aged 41.

300 years ago, on 3rd April 1721 that Robert Walpole became the first British Prime Minister. He was one of the greatest politicians in British history, but he had intended to be a clergyman, until his older brother Edward died in 1698, leaving him responsible for the considerable Walpole estate. Walpole lived in 10 Downing Street, which was offered to him personally by George II, but which he accepted as the official residence of the First Lord of the Treasury.

250 years ago, on 13th April 1771 that Richard Trevithick, British mining engineer and inventor of the first working railway steam locomotive, was born.

125 years ago, from 6th to 15th April 1896 that the first modern Summer Olympic Games were held in Athens. The original Olympics were banned by the Roman Emperor Theodosius (I or II) in either 393 or 426 AD.

95 years ago, on 21st April 1926 that Queen Elizabeth II was born in Mayfair, London. Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor was the first child of the Duke and Duchess of York. Her father became King on the abdication of his brother King Edward VIII in 1936, from which time Elizabeth was the heir presumptive.

90 years ago, on 14th April 1931 that the first edition of the Highway Code was published in the UK.

80 years ago, on 12th April 1941 that Bobby Moore, British footballer, was born. He was Captain of the English team that won the 1966 World Cup and died in 1993.

70 years ago, on 17th April 1951 that the Peak District National Park was established. It was Britain's first national park, and includes a beautiful part of our county of Staffordshire.

60 years ago, on 11th April 1961 that Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann went on trial in Jerusalem. He was convicted on 12th September and executed in June 1962.

50 years ago, on 6th April 1971 that Igor Stravinsky, Russian composer, died. He was one of the most important and influential composers of the 20th century.

40 years ago, on 11th April 1981 that the Brixton riot took place in London. 5,000 youths rampaged through the streets, attacking police officers and damaging buildings, looting shops and setting cars alight.

30 years ago, on 3rd April 1991 that Graham Greene, novelist, short story writer, playwright and journalist died. Author of *Brighton Rock*, *Our Man in Havana* and many more.

20 years ago, on 7th April 2001 that NASA launched its Mars Odyssey spacecraft to search for evidence of life and volcanic activity on Mars. It went into orbit around Mars and remains operational (though it will run out of propellant in 2025). It is the longest surviving continually active spacecraft orbiting another planet. (It has successfully mapped the distribution of water below the surface and discovered a vast amount of ice below the equatorial regions.)

10 years ago, on 29th April 2011 that the wedding of Prince William and Catherine (Kate) Middleton took place at Westminster Abbey in London. They were given the titles the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

Eccleshall Community Band...certainly not the first!

When Pat Trevor read the article about Eccleshall Community Band in our March issue, he remembered a photograph that he'd had from an Eccleshall lady who passed away some years ago. On the back of the photograph is written "Church Lad's Brigade c.1900".....120 years ago! Does anyone know who any of these people might be?



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Swifts, Swallows and House Martins

Swifts



Maer Village Hall is one of many places to see and hear these beautiful birds that spend most of their time in the air. They start to arrive here in early May having flown from central Africa. They will not be here for long and could well be gone some three months later. We will be installing some swift boxes this year in Maer Village in the hope to attract yet more of these summer visitors. They are only here to breed. They like warm weather and a good food supply.

The young swifts can hatch after about 5 weeks but can take as long as 8 weeks to hatch. If the weather is too cold, they can fall into a torpor, which is like semi-hibernation. If this happens, they do not feed until conditions improve. They do not hang about when they fledge. They migrate straight back to Africa. They may not stay in one place in Africa but move about depending on food supply.

Swallows



I wish we had swallows nesting in our property, but it is not to be. There were plenty about last year and many of them were in farm buildings and stables less than half a mile away. I remember the excitement of seeing the first ones arrive last year as they swooped over Trentham lake. You can encourage swallows to nest in your garage or outhouse by making sure there is a small entrance for them to get in and by fixing a platform high inside the roof space.

Swallows can have as many as three broods in a season. By July, the first brood will have fledged. The parents will then go on to raise another, if not two more broods.

By early September they can be seen collecting on telegraph wires and most will leave during the month. The young ones go first followed by the

Continued on page 31

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Continued from page 29

adults. Some stragglers can wait until October. The return journey can take as long as six weeks before reaching Namibia and South Africa. Unlike swifts, who just keep flying, swallows will travel about 200 miles during daylight hours and they will feed on insects whilst on the wing. They stop for the night at traditional stopover places and can live for up to sixteen years.



House Martins

These sociable creatures are smaller than swifts or swallows and have a pure white underside.

We have lived in our present house for nearly fifty years and we thoroughly enjoyed the arrival of house martins in April/May each year. To us, the noise they made was the sound of summer and it was a sad day when they flew south in September. They have failed to nest on our house since 2016 and we really miss them.

They normally nest in colonies of dozens of birds. Like swallows, house martins build cup-shaped nests from mud that they collect locally, and they generally go for outside eaves, rather than inside barns. In recent years, the numbers breeding here in the UK has fallen by two-thirds, leading to the species being amber listed as a bird of conservation concern and in need of some help. House martins only eat insects they catch on the wing, which means that you cannot attract them by putting food out for them in the same way as you would attract other birds. But, because their nests are made almost entirely from mud, a nice pool or puddle may attract them to build near you, especially during a dry spell.

I mentioned that we are putting swift boxes up in Maer Village. These are homemade nesting boxes, but you can buy them. Likewise, you can buy nesting cups for both swallows and house martins. If you go to the RSPB website, you will be able to purchase them or get the plans to make your own. All three species need our help.

David H. Lovatt

Chairman of the NW Group of Staffordshire Wildlife Trust

***Sanctus St Marks - Suggested items for donations - thank you
(can be dropped off at porch of 82 High Street, Eccleshall)***

Food Items

Tinned food - particularly chopped tomatoes, sweetcorn, fruit, chickpeas, kidney beans, tuna/fish, meat, tomatoes
Cereal (particularly cornflakes)
Coffee and tea
Biscuits
Sugar and salt
Rice, pasta and cous-cous
Lentils
Cooking oils

(See article on page 23)

Toiletries and Baby Items

Shampoo
Shower gel
Deodorant
Razors and shaving cream
Sanitary towels (no tampons please!)
Toothbrushes and toothpaste
Soap
Toilet paper
Washing up liquid
Nappies (all sizes but particularly size 5+ and 6)
Baby wipes
Baby food

Note: we prefer items not to be in huge bulk packets (i.e. huge bags of rice or gallon bottles of oil) as these are a harder to distribute.



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The Latest Buzz

It's spring at last and the bees are flying. Sounds good, however we do have a little concern about them: it's great to see so much activity around the hives but there is not a lot of nectar about for them to feed on. On sunny days in the afternoon the young bees come out for flying practice. This can take about an hour. After that it's back in the hive for domestic duties of cleaning and looking after the queen.

We are getting ready to plant open accessible plants such as cosmos, asters, lavender. The bees would appreciate your help and in return they will pollinate your garden. Bees also love wild areas which is a great reason to leave dandelions, ivy and daises. One of the beekeepers is busy in the garden, repainting hives, tidying the bee store and generally getting ready for new season honey



HOPEFUL NEWS FOR ECCLESHALL SHOW

The Directors of Eccleshall Show held a Zoom meeting recently to discuss the likelihood of holding the 2021 show, due to take place on 4th September.

The 2020 show was cancelled due to the Covid -19 pandemic and the staging of this year's which would be the 73rd in the show's history still hangs in the balance.

Show Chairman, Edward Lambert said "The Board of Directors considered all the ramifications of holding the show this year and have taken advice from other show organisers regarding regulations which are likely to be still in place in September. Compliance could involve considerable extra expense and reorganisation, but we have not taken a final decision yet. All in all, we are optimistic but we have to remain realistic"

The directors will meet up again at the end of March with the hope of making a final decision. If it is decided that the show cannot go ahead then plans will be made to mark the show with some event possibly a Virtual Show like last year.

Sheila Kettle

P & M Edwards

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Crossword

Across

8 'He poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the — ' (Isaiah 53:12) (13)

9 'When they had sung a hymn, they went — to the Mount of Olives (Matthew 26:30) (3)

10 Comes between Galatians and Philipians (9)

11 'Your heart will — and swell with joy' (Isaiah 60:5) (5)

13 Muslim holy month (7)

16 Ten ears (anag.) (7)

19 Under (poetic abbrev.) (5)

22 How Abram described himself to God when he complained that his inheritance would pass to a servant (Genesis 15:2) (9)

24 'Go to the — , you sluggard' (Proverbs 6:6) (3)

25 Debar from receiving Communion (13)

Down

1 My — for His Highest (Oswald Chambers' best-known book) (6)

2 Festival of the resurrection (6)

3 'His sons will prepare for war and — a great army' (Daniel 11:10) (8)

4 'Let not the — string his bow' (Jeremiah 51:3) (6)

5 Name of the River Thames in and around Oxford (4)

6 'From then on Judas watched for an opportunity — — him over' (Matthew 26:16) (2,4)

7 'But Christ is faithful — — — over God's house' (Hebrews 3:6) (2,1,3)

12 Long-handled implement used to till the soil (Isaiah 7:25) (3)

14 Order to which monks and nuns devote themselves (8)

15 Appropriate (Proverbs 15:23) (3)

16 I, uncle (anag.) (6)

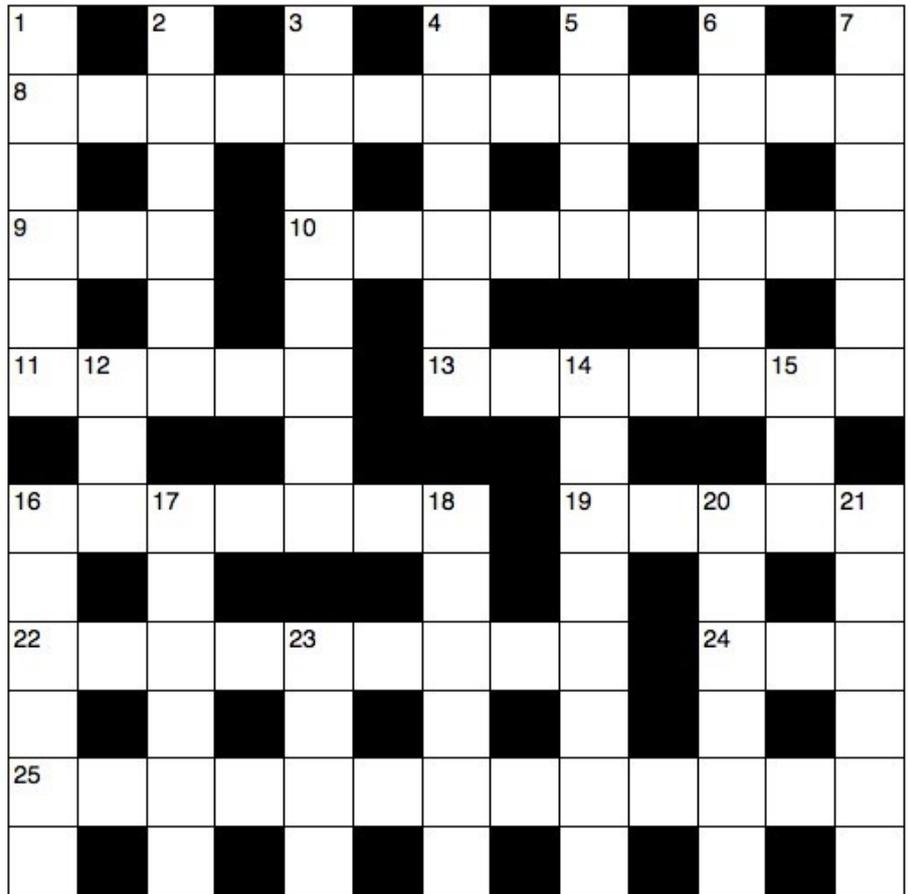
17 'They gave him — — of broiled fish' (Luke 24:42) (1,5)

18 'Weren't there three men that we — — and threw into the fire?' (Daniel 3:24) (4,2)

20 Mountain where Noah's ark came to rest (Genesis 8:4) (6)

21 'Don't you know that friendship with the world is — towards God?' (James 4:4) (6)

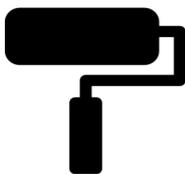
23 Prominent architectural feature of large cathedrals such as St Paul's (4)



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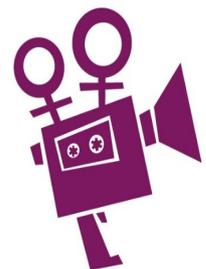
or **07871 401642 (Eccleshall)**

Eccleshall Community Cinema

“The Committee continues to meet (virtually) and keep the COVID situation under review. We are planning to reopen later in 2021 as soon as the situation allows. We also hope to screen “Eccleshall The Movie”, one of Colin Burley’s favourite projects, which is now at the “final editing” stage. Watch this space!”

For confirmation of dates, film titles, and more details check out our web site at: www.eccleshallcommunitycinema.co.uk

Contact Ann Holmes for more information
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For more information please contact Debbie Wardhaugh at Wardhaugh Chiropody Podiatry, Creswell Grove, Eccleshall Road, Stafford. ST18 9QP Telephone 01785247604 Mobile 07718012571 Registered with HCPC No. CH 19510.



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THE PARISH REGISTERS

1st March 2021

Mrs Muriel Green

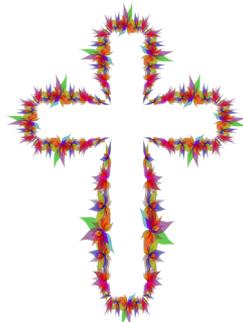
Funeral at Stafford Crematorium

‘When you were born, you cried
And the world rejoiced.
Live your life
So that when you die,
The world cries and you rejoice.’

From Aled Jones’ Everyday Blessings, 2020

SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO ALL WHO MOURN

Sadly, Nigel Alan (Budge) Beasley died at home in Eccleshall on 21st February. A service was held at the crematorium on 26th March.



Notes from Trinity Magazine Team

*Very many thanks to all who contribute articles to Trinity magazine.
Please send articles or forthcoming events for the May 2021 Trinity
magazine by 7th April 2021, to Hazel and Emily
Email: parishmag.eccleshall@gmail.com*

As the situation around restrictions due to Covid is still very much with us, we are grateful to the small group of volunteers doing the deliveries; as soon as the Trinity Magazine Team feels it is the right time, we will be in touch with our regular deliverers to ask if they will be happy to take on their rounds again. The subscription cost of Trinity for the 10 copies in 2021 will be £6.00: the Team met recently and agreed that collection of money for 2021 will be continue to be delayed until it is safe for us all to be doing that.

In the meantime, we hope you enjoy reading the magazine and keep safe and well.

Church rotas

Whilst there is a super team helping to keep our churches in good order and Covid-secure, we are still not sure when normal Church Flowers and Cleaning Rotas will resume: if there is anything on the normal list that is going to need doing, we will be in touch with individuals. Thank you to everyone who gives time and talents - we do hope we are able to see you soon! If anyone would like to offer to help as sidesperson/AV system at Holy Trinity, or with 'Zoom' please get in touch with Jules, or one of the wardens.

We have lots of lovely photos that we use for the front cover of Trinity, but would like to add to our library. If you have any digital photos of either of our beautiful churches at different times of the year that you would be happy for us to use, we'd be very grateful. Please do email to parishmag.eccleshall@gmail.com

Crossword answers (page 35)

U	E	A	A	I	T	A						
T	R	A	N	S	G	R	E	S	S	O	R	S
M	S	S	C	I	H	A						
O	U	T	E	P	H	E	S	I	A	N	S	
S	E	M	E							N	O	
T	H	R	O	B		R	A	M	A	D	A	N
	O		L			O				P		
N	E	A	R	E	S	T		N	E	A	T	H
U	P					I		A		R		A
C	H	I	L	D	L	E	S	S		A	N	T
L	E		O			D		T		R		R
E	X	C	O	M	M	U	N	I	C	A	T	E
I	E		E			P		C		T		D

Church Rotas... *The giving of time and talents*

Date	2 nd April Good Friday	4 April Easter Sunday	11 April Easter 2	18 April Easter 3	25 April Easter 4
Holy Trinity 10am	Reflective Service <u>11am – 12noon</u> Congregation on-line	Easter Sunday Holy Communion In church + on-line	Holy Communion In church + on-line	Holy Communion In church + on-line	Holy Communion In church + on-line
Service Leader	Revd. Jules from Holy Trinity	Revd. Jules	Revd. Stephen Habgood	Revd. Jules	Revd. Stephen Habgood
Warden on duty	K Griffiths/ J Jones	K Griffiths A Dale	J Jones	J Jones	K Griffiths A Dale
Sides-people	-	L Jones T Jones	N Reynolds C Reynolds	P Jones, D Brass & G Pinney	L Jones T Jones
AV Tech	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
Prayers	-	J Norton	J Jones	O Baines	J Cheetham- Wilkinson
Reading 1	-	Acts 10: 34 – 43 N Reynolds	Acts 4: 32-35 H Bradshaw	Acts 3: 12-19 D Brass	Acts 4: 5-12 P Miner
Reading 2	-	Mark 16: 1-8 C Reynolds	John 20: 19-end J Bradshaw	Luke 24: 26b-48 J Treanor	John 10: 11-18 D Milner
St Chad's 11.30am	No service	Easter Sunday Holy Communion ** In church	No service	Church open for Private Prayer ** 11.30 – 12.30	Holy Communion ** In church
Service Leader	-	Revd. Stephen Habgood	-	-	Revd. Jules
Readings	-	Readings as above	-	-	Readings as above

As we still have to restrict numbers coming into our churches,

it is essential to book before you come to services in church from Easter Sunday.

- ♦ For services (apart from Easter Sunday) at Holy Trinity, please ring Emily, Parish Administrator, between 9 and 11am on the Thursday morning before the service you would like to attend, on 07522 713459
- ♦ For the Easter Sunday service at Holy Trinity, please ring Revd. Jules (01785 850351) on Tuesday 30th March between 9 and 11am
- ♦ For St. Chad's services, please ring John Treanor (01785 851378) on or before the Thursday before the service

If you would like to join the service online, **see back page for Zoom link details.**

At this time of uncertainty, service formats may be subject to change at short notice.

Town Contacts

GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS

Acoustic Nights, Royal Oak:
Martin Jones 01630 620220
Art Group: Ann 748061 and Joan 851225
British Red Cross Society: 258155
Ecc. Agricultural Show: R. Cartmail 284276
Ecc. Allotments Association: James Beeley 851773
Ecc. Bridge Club: Margaret Atkins 01782 796201
Eccleshall Community Band: Hazel Bradshaw 851259
Ecc. Community Centre Bookings:
Libby Dale 850124
Ecc. Community Cinema: Keith Winstanley 859908
Ecc. Cricket Club: Andy Buttery 284242
Ecc. & Dist. 41 Club: Martin Ratcliffe 07831 277398
Ecc. Festival: Peter Jones 851381
Ecc. Historical Society: Lester Stuart 850826
Ecc. Library Book Group: Ros Taylor 01785 859068
Ecc. Singers: Peter Jones 8501381, 07815 419166
Ecc. Trust: Sharon Lynch 851046
Ecc. W.I.: Joan Davies 851412
Ecc. Young Farmers: Charlotte Atkin 07772 206957
Ecclian Society: Brian Freeman 851590
Indoor Bowls Club: Joe Yeomans 851255
Katharine House Hospice-Eccleshall Support Group: Helen Deane 850071
Methodist Church Room Bookings:
Anne Ainsworth 850722
National Women's Register: Mary Busby 850854
Neighbourhood Watch: John Baldry 850004
The Over 60s Club: Fran Veck 859505
Rotary Club of Eccleshall Mercia:
Steve Groom 818330
Royal British Legion (Eccleshall Branch):
Clive Blakeway 01952 550205
North Staffs Riding for the Disabled:
Erica Pinfold 01785 813510.
Staffordshire Marquetry Group:
Quentin Smith 850614
Staffordshire Wildlife Trust:
David Lovatt 01782 680250
Tennis Club: Mark Embrey 851265

ECCLESHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Peter Jones 851381
Clerk to Parish Council: Mrs. Stacey Worden
16 Newport Road, Great Bridgeford ST18 9PR
01785 282296 eccleshallpc@gmail.com

RECYCLING CENTRES

Closed Christmas Day Boxing Day & New Year's Day
Open Bank Holidays 9am-5pm

St. Alban's Rd, Stafford

Open: Winter : 9am-4.30pm Mon Tues Fri Sat & Sun
Summer: 9-6 Mon Tues Fri 9-5 Sat and Sun

Stone Recycling Centre

Open: Winter : 9am-4.30pm Wed Thurs Fri Sat & Sun
Summer: 9-6 Wed Thurs Fri 9-5 Sat and Sun

ECCLESHALL LIBRARY 0300 111 8000

Sun/Mon Closed Tues 9am-7pm Wed. 9am-1pm
Thurs 9am-5pm Fri 9am-5pm Sat 9am-4pm

YOUNG PEOPLE & CHILDREN

Bishop Lonsdale C. of E. Academy:

Principal: Miss Karen Taylor 01785 336512

1st Eccleshall SCOUTS

Beavers: Friday 6.15-7.15 pm

Cubs: Wednesday 6.30-8 pm

Explorers: Thursday 7.30-9.30pm

Scouts: Friday 7.30-9.30 pm

Contact: e-mail firsteccleshallscouts@outlook.com

GUIDES

Guides (10-14 years)

Tuesdays Eccleshall Scout Headquarters 7-8.30pm

Brownies (7-11 years)

Tuesdays Holy Trinity Parish Room 6-7.30pm

Wednesday at Woodseaves Academy 6-7.30pm

Rainbows (5-7 years)

Monday Eccleshall Parish Room, 5-6pm

Wednesday at Woodseaves Academy 5-6pm

Contact District Commissioner, Sheila Slaney, 851663
or e-mail sheila.slaney@btinternet.com

HEALTH

Drs. Carr, Davies & Jones

The Crown Surgery, High Street, Eccleshall

Telephone 850226 for appointments

www.crownsurgery.org.uk

Hospital Visiting Times.

County Hospital Stafford 257731 3-8 pm

Royal Stoke University Hospital

01782 715444 2-4 pm, 7-8 pm

First Responders: Martin Watson 851336

Mob: 07877919733

Requests for **Hospital Radio** Stafford : 223456

Pharmacist (High St. Eccleshall) 850057

Shires Veterinary Practice 01785 907185

HELP NEEDED!

Eccleshall First Responders: Jan Watson 851336

Police: Non Emergency Number 101

Crime stoppers: 0800 555 111

Samaritans: 24-hours: **Free Call Number** 116123

or email jo@samaritans.org

Citizens Advice Bureau: 258673 or 814806

Relate (Marriage Guidance) : 242779

Bereavement and Loss Support Service :

01782 263455 & 01785 211734

NSPCC (24-hour line): 0800 800 500

GAS emergency number: 0800 111 999

ELECTRICITY emergency number: 0800 328 1111

WATER emergency number: 0800 783 4444

British Rail Enquiries: 08457 484950

Staffordshire Bus Line Information: 223344

Eccleshall Website www.eccleshallguide.org

Parish Council Website

www.eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

Trinity Magazine Free Delivery

If you know of anyone who would like a magazine delivered to their home in the
Eccleshall/Slindon/Copmere Area, please contact Charles Taylor, on

01782 658832 Mobile 07484 890439

Church Contacts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

VICAR Rev'd Jules Walker
The Vicarage, Church Street,
Eccleshall ST21 6BY
Telephone 01785 850351
Email: vicar.eccleshall@gmail.com

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Emily Howard
Telephone: 07522 713459
Email: parishad.eccleshall@gmail.com

ASSISTANT PRIEST

Rev. Stephen Habgood
Email stephen.habgood@btopenworld.com

TRINITY TOTS, TRINITY KIDS & MESSY CHURCH

Email: trinitykids.eccleshall@gmail.com

CHURCHWARDENS

Allan Dale, Prospect Farm, Mill Meece,
01782 791214
Kate Griffiths, The Malthouse, 82 High Street, 850948
Jonathan Jones 1 Kerry Lane, 851237
John Treanor, Lower House, Sugnall Parva 851378

Lay Chairmen David Beswick 850622
& John Treanor 851378

Treasurer

Finance Officers John & Gill Pinney 850111

Deanery Synod Representatives

Lorna Sant (S) Hazel Bradshaw
Kate Griffiths David Beswick

Other Elected Church Council Members

(S represents Slindon, C represents Co-opted)
Olivia Baines, John Bradshaw, Joseph Cheetham-
Wilkinson, Stephen Habgood, Mary Leather (S), John
Leather (S) David Milner (S), Judith Norton,
Chris Reynolds, Nancy Reynolds, Keith Winstanley

Parish Website: www.ecclshallparish.com

Facebook Page : Parish of Eccleshall

ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER

Steve Enock 01785 851873

ST. CHAD'S, SLINDON

Churchwarden: John Treanor 851378

Treasurer: John Leather 850888

Secretary: Sue Marsh

Health & Safety Coordinator: John Treanor

CHURCH GROUPS

Monday Bible Study Group:

Judith Norton 859390

Thursday Bible Study Group: Ann Braithwaite 851114

Eccleshall Handbell Ringers: David Sandham 859950

Men's Prayer Group: John Pinney 850111

Parents, Babies & Toddlers: Thursdays 9.30am in the
Parish Room, Email: trinitykids.eccleshall@gmail.com

Thursday Fellowship: Leader, Judith Norton, 859390

Social Events: Chris & Nancy Reynolds 01785 282281

Tower Bells: Warren Griffiths 850948

Trinity Men's Fellowship: Rob Hughes 851372.

Parish Prayer Group: Ann Braithwaite 851114

OTHER CHURCH PERSONNEL

Parish Room Bookings Secretary:

Tim Griffin 850342 Email: timgriffin@btinternet.com

Bible Reading Fellowship: Gill Pinney 850111

Children's Society Boxes: vacant (see page 17)

Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator:

Hazel Bradshaw 01785 851259

Electoral Roll Officer: Kate Griffiths 850948

Flower Guild Rota: Kate Griffiths 850948

Sanctuary Cleaning Rota: David Beswick 850622

Lady Chapel Cleaning Rota: Kate Griffiths 850948

Sidesmen's Rota: Emily 07522 713459

Health & Safety Coordinator: Kate Griffiths 850948

ECCLESHALL METHODIST CHURCH

Superintendent Minister: Rev. Pauline Salter 01785 225474

Minister: Rev. Jimione Kaci

Circuit Office: Mrs. Leigh Reade 01785 229973

Lettings: Mrs. Anne Ainsworth 01785 850722

SACRED HEART CHURCH

Fr. Gerry Doyle 01785 813951

ECCLESHALL CHURCHES TOGETHER

Dorothy Kirkham 851778

THE TRINITY MAGAZINE TEAM

Email: parishmag.eccleshall@gmail.com

**PLEASE SEND articles photographs and forthcoming
events for the magazine, by the 7th of the month, to:**

Magazine Team Email: parishmag.eccleshall@gmail.com
(or Emily on 07522 713459, or Hazel on 01785 851259)

Editors Emily Howard 07522 713459
Hazel Bradshaw 01785 851259

Slindon Contact Anthea Treanor 851378
antheatreanor@gmail.com

Editorial Input David Brass 859475

Advertising Sales Emily Howard 07522 713459

& Accounts

Distribution Charles Taylor 01782 658832
Mobile 07484 890439
Ron Biggs 850512

Treasurer Ron Biggs 850512
(Subscriptions)

***Please send articles or forthcoming events for the May 2021 Trinity magazine by
7th April 2021, to Hazel and Emily
Email: parishmag.eccleshall@gmail.com***

Services for Holy Trinity, Eccleshall & St. Chad's, Slindon

Friday 2nd April, Good Friday

11am-12 noon On-line Good Friday Reflective Service followed by virtual hot cross buns and refreshments.

4 April, Easter Sunday

10am -11am On-site* & on-line Easter Sunday Holy Communion, Holy Trinity

11:30am-12:30pm On-site* Easter Sunday Holy Communion, St Chad's

11 April, Easter 2

10am -11am On-site* & on-line Holy Communion, Holy Trinity

18 April, Easter 3

10am -11am On-site* & on-line Holy Communion, Holy Trinity

11:30am-12:30pm On-site* Private Prayer, St Chad's

25 April, Easter 4

10am -11am On-site* & on-line Holy Communion, Holy Trinity

11:30am-12:30pM On-site* Holy Communion, St Chad's

We are looking forward to being able to welcome congregations to "on-site" services in our churches again. Numbers and content will be restricted until June 19th at the earliest.

*** Booking to attend on-site services will be essential.**

See page 41 for booking details.

Services from Holy Trinity will be live-streamed on Zoom, so if you would rather take part in the service remotely, that will still be available to you.

Zoom services are at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89042160010?pwd=cHh6bUJsV3VMY1dhaGsyMlhtYVM4QT09>

Or you can join by telephone by ringing:

0800 358 2817 or 0800 031 5717 or 0800 260 5801

and then putting in the meeting id and password which are:

Meeting ID: 890 4216 0010 Passcode: 660173

(Do get in touch with Revd Jules on 01785 850351 if you would like some help with Zoom for services.)

* On-site services are subject to the Church of England and Government's restriction announcements, clergy availability, and are subject to last minute change.