

**The Benefice of All Saints, Highbrook
& St Margaret of Antioch, West Hoathly**

Benefice Notices for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

Worship & Upcoming Services

This week

Tuesday 10th May 9am, St Margaret's - Holy Communion

Friday 13th May 5.30pm, St Margaret's - Evening Prayer (BCP)

Next Sunday (15th May)

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

9.00am Mattins (BCP)

All Saints, Highbrook

10.30am Eucharist

St Margaret's, West Hoathly

followed by the APCM

Deanery Confirmation Service

will take place on Thursday 12th May at 7pm at St Swithun's Church, East Grinstead. Please keep Holly and Sophia in your prayers as they prepare for Confirmation and Admittance to Holy Communion.

Stewardship - giving to and through God

Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCM)

St Margaret's APCM will take place on Sunday 15th May following the 10.30am service. Nomination forms for PCC and Churchwarden and the APCM report for St Margaret's is available from the back of St Margaret's church.

Study - deepening our understanding of God

The Bible - a guided read

Reading the Bible is a very important part of Christian discipleship, and this guide provides you with a little background information and a goal for the week. You can use any translation of the Bible, a book or online.

Set a little time aside each day to read through the passage, and let the passage sit with you throughout the day.

We continue with the fourth Gospel : **John**

Author: John, brother of James, and son of Zebedee.

Background: There is some debate but probably written between 70-90AD.

Purpose: To show through signs and sayings that Jesus is the image of God.

What does John want us to learn ? Faith in Jesus will give you everlasting life.

The week's plan:

Monday: Chapter 6.22-71— 'The first 'I Am' saying: *I am the bread of life*. As well as signs, John uses these saying to reveal Christ's identity, echoing the revelation to Moses at the burning bush, 'I am who I am'. This passage unpacks the symbolism of bread and wine, which we see as linked to Holy Communion.

Tuesday: Chapter 7.1-24— Jesus interacts with his family, with echoes of his response to his mother at the wedding of Cana. Jesus won't be forced to do things on display, but often does respond when he thinks the time is right.

Wednesday: Chapter 7.25-52 — We begin to see how people are responding to Jesus, both the common people and those in authority. John shows us a Jesus who is passionate and full of righteous energy. He is deliberately confrontation with religious leaders, and this leads to mutterings of arrest.

Thursday: Chapter 7.53-8.11— Considered a later insert, this is a famous passage where Jesus challenged those who wish to judged others to prove themselves as without sin themselves. His own response was forgiveness.

Friday: Chapter 8.12-38 — The second 'I Am': *I am the Light of the World*. Keep an eye out for light and darkness throughout John's gospel, for it represents spiritual understanding and freedom.

Saturday: Chapter 8.39-59 — The great 'I Am': *Before Abraham was, I am*. This pretty much sums up the purpose of the 'I am' sayings, to the divinity of Jesus. His listeners understand what he is saying and their response is to attempt to stone him for blasphemy.

Events - coming together as a community

Plant Sale!



In aid of

*All Saints
Church &
The
Highbrook
Ukraine
Support
Initiative.*

***Saturday
21st May.***

10.30am-noon

***at All Saints'
Highbrook
RH17 6SS***

***A broad selection of
fabulous home grown
plants - Veg, flowers,
herbs & herbaceous.***

**Sunflower plants in
paper cups painted in
colours of Ukraine.**

Nina's gardening tips.

**Tea, Coffee &
Homemade cakes
from our Dream Team
of Highbrook Bakers.**

Mission - joining in with God's work of love in the world

Supporting Ukraine hosts

Thank you to everyone who donated to help with the travel costs for the families arriving from Ukraine. We have now raised the money to cover the current costs, which will help support the host families as they support their guests.

Christian Aid Week: 15th-21st May

This year we are offer several ways to raise money for Christian Aid. Christian Aid are a vital mission partner who work with vulnerable communities across the globe, helping to combat the impact of poverty.

- There will be a house-to-house team. We need people to deliver leaflets and envelopes to every house in the parish. Can you help? You do not need to return to collect the envelopes as we are asking people to return them to the Vicarage or at the coffee morning. Please speak to Erica or Karen if you can help.
- Coffee morning at Sharpthorne Hall on Saturday 21st May from 10.30am until 12 noon, where we will be serving freshly brewed coffee, squash and gorgeous biscuits.

- 500k in May bike ride!

Please consider sponsoring Mthr Nicol as she raises money for Christian Aid by taking on the challenge of riding 500km in the 31 days of May. You can sponsor her through the Just Giving website (link below).

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/nicol-500kinmay>

Or paper sponsorship forms are available in church.

So far she has:

cycled 134 km (the equivalent of the length of the River Avon)

climbed 636 m (or the highest point in the Peak District, Kinder Scout)

over 5.25 hours.

and raised £450

NGS garden opening: Legsheath Farm

Sunday 15th May, 2.00 - 4.30 pm. Legsheath was first mentioned in Duchy of Lancaster records in 1545. The garden covers 11 acres with a spring fed stream feeding ponds. There is a magnificent davidia, rare shrubs, embbothrium and many different varieties of meconopsis and abutilons.

Funds to MacMillan Nurses via the NGS.

Family Support Work update

April's work in numbers:

- 189 individual visits and 474 calls with families, supporting 355 adults and 331 children
- 19 supported meetings with other agencies
- 27 group sessions held supporting 379 parents and 242 children
- 188 food deliveries made

Prayer points:

Pray for our new family support practitioners, that they will quickly feel part of the team and their local communities.

Pray for all of the children we support who are about to take GCSE exams.

Give thanks for new contacts made in recent months which may lead to new sources of financial and volunteer support.

Prayer - spending time with God

Prayer for the week:

Amazing God, you reach the stubborn and the cynical.

Teach us to be empathetic and understanding

as we seek to spread the Word of your love. Amen.



For our Prayers

Please remember to pray for yourself, for our communities, for our nation, and for the whole world.

The sick and housebound or in need of especial guidance: Michael Mays, Carole Oddy, Peter Brewster, Graham, David, Nigel, Shaun, David, Clive, Shirley, and Rebecca.

Those preparing for Baptism, including Christina May, Louis Pickersgill & Isabelle Jalie; and for Confirmation, including Holly and Sophia.

The recently departed, including Josephine Mahony, and those whose anniversary of death falls this week; and all who are grieving for them.

Those preparing for Marriage: Sam & Jocelyn, Jemima & Arthur, Jennifer & Stephen, Edward & Laura, Jack & Amy, Paul & Lauren, Izzy & Angus, Stephanie & Tom, Megan & Adam, Nathan & Lucinda, Jenny & Myles, Poppy & Andrew, Henry & Gemma, Ann-Marie & Alexander and Eddie & Annabell.

If you would like to add someone's name to the prayer list, please contact Mthr Nicol. If you are asking for someone else, please make sure you have their permission to have their name added publicly.

For details of how to join others online for prayer, worship, study, and community life, and for updates, please check our website:

www.allsaints-highbrook.org.uk & www.westhoathly.org.uk

And social media:

Facebook - @stmargaretswesthoathlyallsaintshighbrook

Twitter - @StMargarets_WH

YouTube - search for 'St Margarets West Hoathly All Saints Highbrook'

Contact details

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Mthr Nicol's rest day is Monday.