

Happy Birthday to ...

Hilary Benson on Monday;
Liz Galpin on Thursday

Please pray for:

- Please continue to pray for Steve and Ron and for those caring for others including Norma and Marian.
- Jane Denny.
- Tim has now moved and is struggling with life.
- Jean Skuse recovering well after a hip operation.
- Edie Harris who had an operation last week and is recovering at home. Give thanks for her strength and good humour.
- Cathy Rowan visiting Ali Wilkinson in Nepal.
- The team going in to Newtown School next week and for the children who will be hearing the Easter message.
- Mia being baptised today, and for her family and godparents.

Items for prayer and notices

Please give any items for prayer or notices to Linda *before* 9 am on Wednesday, by administrator's pigeon hole, e-mail, or phone.

Church Diary

Sun 21 Mar	6.30 pm	Sacred Space
Mon 22	9.30 am	Pastoral staff meeting (Quiet Room)
	10am-12md	English Class (Parish Centre)
	1.30 pm	Monday Monsters (Parish Centre)
	8.30 pm	Contemplative prayer at the Ripleys'
Tues 23	10.30 am	Newtown Lunch Club (Parish Centre)
Wed 24	10 am	Oasis (Parish Centre)
	6-9 pm	Cubs and Scouts (Hall/Parish Centre)
Thurs 25	10.45 am	Holy Communion (Parish Centre)
	11.15 am	Coffee morning (Parish Centre)
	7.45 pm	Final Film Night
Fri 26	7.30 pm	Music practice (church)
Sat 27		
Sun 28 Mar	10.30 am	Palm Sunday Holy Communion
	1-5 pm	Contact Centre
	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer

Small Groups



Contemplative Prayer (Ripleys).....	961 3034	Mon 8.30 pm
Oasis (Bridget Barwick).....	966 9735	Wed 10 am
Sue and Hamish Bruce.....	966 5925	Wed 8 pm
Ali and Pete Marshall	966 8794	Thurs 8 pm
Richard and Rosemary Croft.....	926 0672	Thurs 8 pm
Jeremy and Rachel Thake ..	987 1288	Thurs 8.30 pm
Judith Lawrence	954 1332	Thurs 7.30 pm

You are welcome to join with any group - please speak to contact/leader

Vicar:	Vincent Gardner (07901 737649)
Community Minister:	Suzanne Knight (day off: Thursday) (0118) 967 5645
Minister:	Alison Marshall (day off: Tuesday) (0118) 966 8794
Administrator:	Linda Wagner (0118) 926 3633

The church office is open on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, approximately 8.30 am—1.30 pm.
Any bookings should be made through the office please.
121-147 Orts Road Reading RG1 3JN
0118 926 3633
e-mail: stjohns@readingchurches.org.uk
<http://stjohnandstephen.co.uk>



Sunday 21 March Season of Lent 5

A special welcome today to the family and friends of Mia Eleanor Knight who is being baptised this morning



Don't rush away! Please feel free to join us after the morning service for a cup of coffee or tea. We look forward to your company.

This week served by Judith Lawrence and home group
Next week served by the Marshall home group

The link person from the Welcome Team today is Anna Duffus

Readings for this morning

Isaiah 43: 16—21

(page 707 in the OT of the Church Bibles)

Read by Jane Denny

John 12: 1—8

(page 134 in the NT of the Church Bibles)

The Eucharist this morning is led by Rev Suzanne Knight

Rev Suzanne Knight is leading worship

Rev Ali Marshall is preaching

Prayers are led by Peter Marshall

Songs and Hymns for this morning

Come let us join our cheerful songs
How deep the Father's love for us
Come on and celebrate

Here is bread
Nothing can ever

Crown Him with many crowns

Communion

*All are invited to come for communion and prayer.
We have gluten-free communion wafers available—please
ask one of the Welcome Team either before the service
begins or during the Peace if you require one. If you do not
wish to take communion, please come for prayer.*

*If you have any particular need, problem or prayer request
please speak to a member of the clergy after the service.*

Members of the Prayer Ministry Group are
available to pray in your home.
Please contact Suzanne to ask for this.

Music!

A reminder that there will be a chance to sing through some songs after the service this morning - some Taizé chants in preparation for tonight's Sacred Space and some songs and hymns we will be singing over the coming month on Sunday mornings. All welcome - do grab a cup of tea or coffee and come and join us. Also - calling anyone who would be able to sing on Easter Sunday - we plan to learn a couple of anthems/songs that require different parts so it would be great to have some extra singers. We are having a practice next Friday evening (26th March) from 7.30 - 8.30pm and also on Easter Saturday morning - time to be confirmed - both practices here in church. Please come along - see Hamish or Sue Bruce for more details.

Church Annual Meeting

The annual church meeting will be held at church at 8 pm on Monday, 26th April.

To vote at the annual meeting you need to be on the church Electoral Roll. If you are not already on the Electoral Roll and would like to be, please fill in one of the application forms which are on the table in the entrance lobby and return to Linda Wagner by Sunday 4th April. The existing Electoral Roll is on the table for you to check if you are not sure if you are already included.

This year there are 4 vacancies on the PCC. PCC and Churchwarden nominations forms are available on the table in the entrance lobby. Please give any completed forms to one of the clergy or Linda Wagner.

24-7 Prayer week at New Hope Community Church

From 8pm on Sunday 28th March to 8 pm on Sunday 4th April in the top floor room at New Hope Centre (95 York Road, Reading RG1 8DU). If you would like to book a slot, please email or text Andy Freeman (andy.freeman@24-7prayer.com, 07834 593138) or come into the prayer room when it opens after 28th March.

As it will Holy week there will be a few special activities going on including Nightly Compline/Night Prayer at 10pm, a special night vigil into Easter Sunday, beginning with corporate prayer at 8pm on Saturday 3rd April and continuing with hourly watches until 7am on Sunday 4th April, and a 7am Sunrise service on Easter Sunday.

All are warmly invited to go along and get involved.

Help needed!

Desperately needed by the Scout troop—a male or female helper for the Wednesday meetings (7—9 pm). See Chris Smith or phone 926 4838.

Time to spare?

Christian Community Action needs volunteers to help at their newly-opened furniture outlet in Silver Street. They are looking for:

- people to work in the outlet any day Monday – Saturday, particularly Saturdays (even once or twice a month would be helpful). The role may involve some lifting.
- Drivers for their vans – you don't need an HGV licence. The role involves lifting heavy furniture.
- Crew for their vans, if you don't fancy driving but enjoy being out and about. This role also involves lifting heavy furniture.

If you are interested or would like to know more, please contact Christian Community Action on 0118 951 2336 or email mail@ccam.org.uk.

Sponsored walk

Elaine Maynard is doing the Sue Ryder Midnight Walk in May. It's a 10 kilometre walk around Green Park in Reading. If anyone would like to sponsor her she would be really grateful— please see Elaine's online sponsorship page:

<http://fundraising.suerydercare.org/ElaineMaynard>

Welcome!

The opportunity for which you have been waiting has come! If you have a cheery smile and would like to join our loyal team of welcomers, please contact Charles Kenderdine (details in Yearbook 2010).



Lent Film Series

Thursday
@ 7.45 pm

Review of previous
films & discussion
Mar 25th