

Childs Ercall MARCH



Newsletter



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Riddle: What has a
head, a tail, is
brown, and has no
legs?

Answer – A Penny



Services



3rd 11:00am Holy Communion

10th 9:30am Sunday School
(Mothering Sunday)

17th 11:00am Service at St Peters

24th 11:00am Service at St Peters
(Palm Sunday)

31ST MARCH 9:30AM EASTER SERVICE
(Easter Sunday)

It would be lovely to see you all,
refreshments will be served
after the service.



Easter Sunday 31st March

DAWN EASTER SERVICES 6:30AM

Hot drinks and light refreshments will be served
after the services

Cheswardine Cemetery **AND**
St Luke's Churchyard, Sambrook



**EASTER
FAMILY
FUN**



2:00-4:00pm Childs Ercall Churchyard
Easter Family Fun with Easter Egg Hunt
and other Easter
Crafty Activities.





March 2024 Clergy Letter



March is dominated by lengthening daylight and by LENT (old English for ‘lengthen’), with its air of austerity, fasting or giving-up things. However, in the middle we get a brief reprieve – **Mothering Sunday** and the joy of giving or receiving gifts, flowers, visits or phone calls. Before the era of Commercialism – this was a church festival, observed by country employers who gave their servants time off to walk home, to their ‘mother church and family’. Walking the lanes and hedgerows, they would gather Spring blooms and thus arose the custom of giving flowers.

This year I am especially excited as I anticipate becoming a Grandma for the first time (I have even pulled out my crotchet hook and dusted off the sewing machine!). Yet the day is always tinged with sadness as we remember the mothers (or sometimes the children) we have lost and we always make space in our church services to light candles, give thanks for love shared and remember them.

The Bible readings set for Mothering Sunday remind me that many people can be called upon to take a ‘mother’s role’ in our lives – to offer nurture, protection, wisdom and encouragement. From the Old Testament, we read about Moses being hidden in a basket in the bullrushes, from where he is rescued by Pharaoh’s daughter. The Princess realises this is one of the Hebrew babies in danger, takes him to the Palace and raises him as her own. In the New Testament Reading we find Mary standing under the cross of Jesus with the young disciple John. Jesus looks down and seeing them there says, “*Woman, here is your son,*” and to the disciple, “*Here is your mother.*” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home. (John 19:26-27).

Mother figures don’t even have to be female. One of my favourite photos, taken during the War in Afghanistan is of Master Sergeant John of the US Air Force. He spent his off-duty hours in the field hospital because the small Afghan girl he had rescued would only rest when lying on his chest. Even God himself (or herself) is described with motherly language, so I will leave you with this beautiful old English prayer,

*Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you;
you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.*

*Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness;
through your gentleness we find comfort in fear.*

*Your warmth gives life to the dead, your touch makes sinners
righteous.*

*Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us; in your love and tenderness
remake us.*

*In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness,
for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us. (Anselm 1109)*

This Mothering Sunday, perhaps you could message someone who has been like a mother to you with your appreciation.... Or consider who you could be a mother to.

Rev Becky, 20/2/24



Air Force Chief Master Sgt. John Gebhardt cradles an injured Iraqi girl at the U.S. military hospital in Babel in 2006.

Soup & Stories

**Every Friday lunchtime
during Lent**

12:30pm at St Peter’s

**1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd
March**



foodbank The Food Bank collection point is in the church porch. All donations gratefully received
The food left with us is sent on to Market Drayton where it is distributed back to local families

DID YOU KNOW THIS ABOUT CHEESE? Cheese is an ancient food with no conclusive evidence indicating when or where cheesemaking originated, whether in Europe, Central Asia or the Middle East. The earliest proposed dates for cheesemaking range from around 8000 BCE, when sheep were first domesticated. Animal skins and inflated internal organs have provided storage vessels for foodstuffs since ancient times, it is probable that the process of cheese making was discovered accidentally by storing milk in a container made from the stomach of an animal, resulting in the milk being turned to curd and whey by the rennet from the stomach! Every year, during Spring, the South West England Gloucester region hosts the annual cheese-rolling event where people from far and wide travel to watch competitors launch themselves down a hill in pursuit of a round of cheese. Sound a bit strange? These are other strange British sports. 1.) Cheese Rolling 2.) Shin-Kicking 3.) Swamp Soccer World Championships 4.) Face Gurning 5.) Haxey Hood Game 6.) Husky Racing 7.) Annual Nettle Eating Contest 8.) Man vs. Horse Race 9.) World Bog Snorkeling Championships 10.) International Worthing Birdman 11.) The World Gravy Wrestling



Childs Ercall Club info for March

- 7th & 21st -Coffee & Cake 11am
- 9th -Equine Car Boot Sale
- 13th & 27th -Prize Bingo 8pm
- 16th - Bowling Club Host Prize Bingo
- 29th - Tropic Skin Care Pop Up Shop

FOREST CHURCH

Fun Afternoon For Families

Saturday 23rd March 2024

2-4 pm



Sambrook Churchyard
TF10 8BW

Come and join us for our Easter Forest Church. We will have Easter stories and activities with a fire pit to have our snack around.

Childs Ercall Sun Dial



INTERESTING INFORMATION ABOUT OUR SUNDIAL

In 669 the saintly Bishop Chad fixed the Mercian bishop's seat at Lichfield, where it has since remained. Offa, king of Merica, defeated the King of Powys, changed the Welsh "Pengwern" into the English "Shrewsbury" and made "Offa's dyke" to be the Welsh boundary. He also made Lichfield an Archbishopric, from 788 to 803. At some time during this period of Mercian settlement the Celtic monks reached Ercall. The actual sundial in the churchyard is dated 1713, but it rests on the stump of the early Cross which marks the spot where missionaries preached the Gospel to the heathen Angles a thousand years before that date.

Mothering

SUNDAY

SUNDAY SCHOOL

~10th March 2024~

ST MICHAELS

~9:30am~

Come and spend a special morning for Mothering Sunday during our Sunday School.

Jubilee Hall

2024 Events Calendar

- 24th February Fleetwood Mad
- 23rd March Quiz Night
- 20th April Quiz Night
- 26th April Fashion Show & Fizz
- 11th May Quiz Night
- 17th May An Evening at the Theatre
- 22nd June Quiz Night
- 6th July Party in the Park - Free Event
- 7th September Bollywood Night
- 19th October OktoberFest Band & Dinner
- 7th December Christmas Dinner Dance
- 14th December Breakfast with Santa

For tickets contact
childsercallca@gmail.com

Would you like to meet with others to read the story of Jesus' life this Lent?'
This is an informal group.... no bible reading experience required... no questions too basic.

Wednesday 28th Feb
Wednesday 6th March
Wednesday 13th March
***Wednesday 20th March**

7:30pm

Hosted by Linda at Stable View,
12 Village Road, TF9 2BZ

*20th March will be in Wistanswick Chapel finishing by reading the Passion story and the sharing of bread and wine.

March 2024

Church	3rd March Lent 3 1 Cor.1:18-25 John 2:13-22	10 th March Mothering Sunday Exodus 2:1-10 Luke 2:33-35	17th March Lent 5 Hebrews 5:5-10 John 12:20-33	24th March Palm Sunday Psalm 118 1-2, 19- end. Mark 11:1-11	31 st March Easter Sunday Acts 10:34-43 Mark 16:1-8
St Peter Stoke on Tern		11 am Café church Lay lead	11.00am Holy Communion Rev B Richards	11 am Morning Prayer Rev C Alexander	11.00am Holy Communion Rev B Richards
St Michael Childs Ercall	11.00am Holy Communion Rev B Richards Rev C Alexander (P)	9.30am Sunday School Lay lead			9.30am Holy Communion Rev B Richards
St Luke Sambrook	9.30am Holy Communion Rev B Richards Rev C Alexander(P)		9.30am Village Service		6.30am Dawn Service Rev C Simpson Rev C Alexander 8.00am Communion
St Oswald Hinstock		10.00am Café Church Rev B Richards Jenny Evans	10.00am Holy Communion Rev C Alexander	10.00am Morning Prayer Rev C Simpson & Lay Team	10.00am Holy Communion Rev C Alexander
St Swithun Cheswardine	10.00am Morning Worship Rob Richards	10.00am Holy Communion Rev C Simpson Barney Reeve (P)	10.00am Family Worship Rev B Richards Rob Richards	6.00pm Evensong John Naylor	6.30am Dawn Service Rev B Richards 10.00am Holy Communion Rev C Simpson
St Mary Hales	6.00pm Evensong Rob Richards Rev B Richards			10.00am Holy Communion Rev B Richards Rev M Griffiths	9.00am Holy Communion Rev M Griffiths
St Lukes Hodnet	11.00 Holy Communion Rev Chris Simpson	11.00am Family Service Rev B Richards	11.00am Holy Communion Rev Janet Holmes	11.00am Morning Prayer Janice Parker Barney Reeve (P)	11.00am Holy Communion Rev Janet Holmes
The Epiphany Peplow		6.30pm Evensong Margaret Taylor		11.00am Holy Communion Rev B Richards	

***Family Worship Theme: The Burning Bush**

WEEKDAY SERVICES IN THE MONTH

Thursday 21st – Holy Communion - St Swithuns,
Cheswardine - 10.00am

LENT EVENING SERVICES

(simple supper at 7pm, evening prayer at 7.30pm)

Wednesday 6th – Sambrook - Rev C Simpson

Thursday 14th – Hales – B Reeve & J Parker

Wednesday 20th – Wistanswick Chapel - Reading of Mark
Passion – Marcus Griffiths

Childs Ercall Morning Prayers—Every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month. All Welcome

MAUNDY THURSDAY 28th – Passover Suppers 7pm

Cheswardine – Rev M Griffiths

Stoke on Tern – Rev B Richards & Brian Hatton

Hinstock – Rev C Alexander and Rev C Simpson

GOOD FRIDAY 29TH

2 -3pm Cheswardine Hour at the cross

2 -3pm Stoke-on-Tern Hour at the cross

7pm – Hodnet – Stations of the Cross

PASSOVER SUPPER



28th March
7PM
St Peters
Stoke on Tern

This is a FREE event but donations are welcome

*Please book early
using the sign up
forms in church
to help with the
catering*

Riddle: How do
eight eights add up
to one thousand?
Answer – Next
Month