



Sunday 17th March – Lent 4

This week's readings are:

Jeremiah 31.31-34; Hebrews 5.5-10; John 12.20-33

8.00am Holy Communion at St Peter's Church

9.15am for 9.30am Café Church at St Nicholas' Church

9.45am *The 9.45 Special* at St Peter's Church

11.15am Café Church with the URC at St Nicholas' Church

11.30am Parish Eucharist at St Peter's Church

5.00pm Evensong at St Peter's Church

For safeguarding reasons we are not able to livestream the 9.45 Special this week. You can access a service from the Church of England at 9.00am on Sunday at <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/church-online>

Please think of God's creation when coming to church; walk or cycle if you can or consider car-sharing.

Parish Calendar for the Week Ahead:

Mon 18th March	7.15am	Mission Prayer via Zoom - https://bit.ly/mondaymissionprayer
Tues 19th March	9.15am	Refresh Parent, Baby and Toddler Group at St Peter's Church
	2.00pm	Church Tots at St Peter's Church
Weds 20th March	9.00am	Morning Prayer via Zoom https://bit.ly/WednesdayMorningPrayer
	3.30pm	Ragamuffins at St Peter's Church
	7.30pm	Jesus at the Movies Lent Course at St Nicholas' Church
Thurs 21st March	10.30am	Midweek Communion at St Peter's Church
	10.40am	Midweek Church Coffee via Zoom https://bit.ly/3RybNnJ
	2.00pm	Lighthouse Café at St Nicholas' Church
Sat 23rd March	10.00am	Easter Tree Egg Painting at St Peter's Church

Next week's services:

Sunday 24th March – Palm Sunday

Mark 11.1-11

Isaiah 50.4-9a; Philippians 2.5-11; Mark 14.1-15.47 (or 15.1-39)

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St Nicholas' Church

9.45am The 9.45 with Communion at St Peter's Church

11.30am Parish Eucharist at St Peter's Church

6.00pm Haven at St Peter's Church

Our Prayers



Those in need Debbie Souter, Stella Porter, Margaret Carey, Doreen Thomas, Alan and Pat Jouxson, Maureen Noakes, Wendy Burrell, Brenda Greenham

The departed

Help Needed: Would you enjoy helping with serving toast and coffee to the people who come along to the 9.45am Special Service on the third Sunday of each month? If yes and/or you'd like further details, please speak with either Lindsay. Thank you.

Revd Tonya – Sabbatical 2024: Hello Everyone, Just a quick note to say that I'll be 'disappearing' for 3 months, as of the 10th March.

The Church very generously gives clergy this time when we've been ordained for 10 years or more for rest, renewal and refreshment.

For me, it'll look something like this:

- Some study on the 'Spirituality of walking' at Sarum College, Salisbury
- Lots of walking the 'Celtic Way' in Cornwall
- Pondering on 'Craft & Prayer' whilst hopefully making a quilt!
- Visits to various Monasteries
- Spending time with family and friends

I'll miss you all while away and you'll be in my prayers and thoughts.

See you again when I return from hibernation in mid-June! *Blessings, Tonya.*

The last film for our Lent series, **Jesus at the Movies** will be on Wednesday 20th March at 7.30pm in St Nicholas' Church. We will be watching 'Risen' from 2016 starring Joseph Fiennes telling the story of the Resurrection through the eyes of a skeptical Roman Tribune. Do join us.

9.45am Special: Come along for this all-age service, with lots of interaction for our younger members.

It's informal and creative, with a craft activity for all to enjoy. Sunday 17th March.

A simple breakfast will be served from 9.30am, St Peter's Church.

We urgently need more people to join our tech team at the 9.45 Service – whether setting up and operating sound or visuals. Please speak to one of the clergy or the Tech Team if you are interested.

Holy Week and Easter 2024

Holy Week presents a wonderful opportunity for us to journey with Jesus for the last few days of his life among us. Do please dip into anything that you are able to

before joining us on Easter Day to celebrate Jesus' Resurrection. The message and hope of Easter comes with even greater poignancy if we have entered into something of the darkness of Holy Week.

Portishead Church of England
Growing & Going in God's Love

Tea and toast served from 9.30

9:45 SPECIAL
Informal and Creative Service
Date: 17th March 2024
Time: 9.45
Location: St Peter's Church, Portishead.

Day			
Mon 25 th March	Night Prayer: The Authority of Jesus	St Peter's Church	7.30pm
Tues 26 th March	Night Prayer: The Greatest Commandment	St Peter's Church	7.30pm
Wed 27 th March	Night Prayer: Betrayal	St Nicholas' Church	7.30pm
Maundy Thursday	Maundy Thursday Communion Service	St Peter's Church	7.30pm
Good Friday	Churches Together Walk of Witness	From St Peter's Church to the Precinct	11.00am

	At The Foot of the Cross	St Peter's Church	2.00pm
Holy Saturday	Tenebrae Service	St Nicholas' Church	6.00pm
Easter Day	Churches Together Sunrise Service	Battery Point	6.30am
	Holy Communion	St Peter's Church	8.00am
	Easter Communion	St Nicholas' Church	9.30am
	The 9.45 with Communion	St Peter's Church	9.45am
	Easter Communion	St Peter's Church	11.30am

Night Prayer on Monday to Wednesday will include reflections on a piece of artwork, scripture, music and prayer and will last up to an hour

The Tenebrae Service on Holy Saturday provides a powerful opportunity to reflect on the passion readings in gradually deepening darkness. It will last less than an hour

St Nicholas' Church: After almost 10 years as Church Warden Pearl Walker has decided not to stand again at our APCM in May. Huge thanks to her for her faithful service. As we reflect on how we might journey forwards I would like to invite as many people from St Nicholas as are able to meet after Communion on 24th March (Palm Sunday) to reflect and pray. Please join us if you are able to. Rob

Plastic Bottle Top Collection: We're planning a super-exciting collaborative installation at our Re:Creation themed church stand at the Summer Show this year. More details to follow, but for now please leave any clean plastic bottle tops in the boxes at St Peter's Church and St Nicholas' Church. Many thanks.

Electoral Roll 2024: If you are on the Church Electoral Roll you can vote for your PCC members, Churchwardens and Deanery Synod representatives. You could also stand for one of these offices yourself when you have been on the roll for 6 months. The revision of the Electoral Roll for the Parish of Portishead will take place from Sunday 31st March to Sunday 14th April.

If you would like to be more fully involved in the life of our church, by being on the Electoral Roll, please apply. It is very simple and will not cost you or the church anything. Application forms are available in both churches as well as Keeping in Touch forms, for your contact details. The box for

completed forms will be available each Sunday and removed for safekeeping at the end of worship. If the box is not available, please post your form to the Electoral Roll Officer, Paul Jeffery, 19, Mulberry Avenue, Portishead, BS20 7LG.

The closing date for the receipt of forms will be midday, Thursday 20th April. Any names received after that date will be added to the Electoral Roll after the Annual Parish Meeting on 11th May 2024. Any queries, please speak to Paul Jeffery on 01275 845150 or email him at paul@pauljeffery.force9.co.uk

A Lenten Challenge! Nearly 100 billion pieces of plastic waste are thrown away by UK households each year, and just 12% is recycled in the UK. It really is time the government got serious about tackling the plastic crisis. Let's make our love for God's world have more impact by taking part in the Big Plastic Count. Next week 11-17th March is The Big Plastic Count and thousands of people across the country will be committing to count their plastic waste and record the results. Almost a quarter of a million people took part in 2022 and the results revealed that almost 2 billion pieces of plastic packaging are being thrown away in the UK each week. This year we can help build more evidence to convince supermarket bosses and ministers to lead the way at the global talks that could finally phase out plastic pollution. It's very easy to take part, follow this link: <https://thebigplasticcount.com/> For more info speak to Verity ED, Nick McDuff or Lindsay.

Martha's Kitchen: Martha's Kitchen is an ecumenical group working to bring some light into the lives of families in Portishead who are struggling financially or otherwise. On Tuesday mornings during the school holidays, we provide a hearty breakfast, time for families to meet one another and craft activities for the children. Over 50 meals were prepared and served in the February half term, and our families were shown love and friendship.

It would be great to have some more volunteers to make these mornings even better, so if you would like to join the team and work together with folk from other churches around Portishead to give a welcome to these families, please get in touch with Lindsay. There are various ways to be involved, such as setting up and/or taking down the tables and generally getting the room ready, praying partners, serving at the table and charring with the families or helping with crafts. Just a couple of hours in the school holidays can make a lot of difference. Contact Rev Lindsay Smith – pioneer@portisheadparish.co.uk – 07483932608

Easter Tree Egg Painting! Following on from the lovely wreath-making event, we thought we'd do another seasonal craft together. Please see the poster below for the details, but if you have any questions contact office@portisheadparish.co.uk or 01275 846230 – Verity ED



Ethics Forum: Monday 15th April, 7.30pm: St Peter's Church

Topic: **Support or Abuse? The Mental Capacity Act in Practice.**

Our speaker will be Dr. Peter Carpenter, Retired Psychiatrist. Peter will help us explore mental capacity, principles and conundrums in practice, the Mental Capacity Act and other related legal issues.

For several years, Peter was a special medical visitor for the Court of Protection and the Public Guardian, writing legal reports on capacity and assessing people when there were concerns about lasting powers of attorney. He was co-opted to advise on the NICE clinical guidelines on mental capacity and advance directives and has taught extensively on the Mental Capacity Act. All welcome. No tickets are required. Admissions are free but donations to cover costs are welcome. Contact David Tyers for more information: david.tyers@gmail.com The meeting will also be live-streamed to the church's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=98Am2Xs8nRk>

Christian Aid Week 12-18 May: Christian Aid is a fantastic aid organization working with communities in need throughout the world. Churches Together in Portishead have joined forces over a number of years to support Christian Aid Week. We will not be running a house-to-house collection but would like to continue to highlight the work of Christian Aid and raise money to support it. If you would be interested in being involved in any capacity, please speak to Rob (rector@portisheadparish.co.uk / 846592).

Wells Cathedral announces changes to its admission guidelines: Wells Cathedral will remain free to enter for worship, prayer and to light a candle. Free passes are available for parishioners in the diocese. Anyone who is on the parish electoral roll is eligible to apply for a Wells Cathedral Parish Pass. Each parishioner needs to apply for an individual pass. For more information on how to apply please visit: <https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/your-visit/wells-passes>

Church Office opening times Mon – Fri 9.00am – 12.00pm Tel: 01275 846230 Email: office@portisheadparish.co.uk	To make a donation to the church please use: 
Revd Rob Eastwood Dewing 01275 846592 rector@portisheadparish.co.uk	
Revd Tonya Nixon 01275 840016 pastorportishead@outlook.com	
Revd Mark Fuller 07766310509 pilgrim@portisheadparish.co.uk	
Revd Lindsay Smith 07483932608 pioneer@portisheadparish.co.uk	