

UPDATE

THE MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR THE
LIVING STONES OF ST PETER'S, ST JAMES'
AND ST BARNABAS' CHURCHES

APRIL 2010

Apologies—there is no room for the Clergy Corner in this Easter edition of Update. For those who wish to read this month's Clergy Corner look on our website (www.spsj.org.uk) or ask someone to download it.

A Thought for Easter

Someone said to Joseph of Arimathea, "That was such a beautiful, costly, hand-hewn tomb. Why did you give it to someone else to be interred?" "Oh," said Joseph, "he only wanted it for the weekend."

An Evening to Savour

An evening of music, poetry,
wine, bread, cheese and pate.

Saturday 1st May
Great Hall, Bishop's Palace
7.30pm

£10 per head including food

For tickets contact Diana Thomas
dianathomas@btinternet.com

In aid of F.L.I.C.

The Shoe Shine Prophet

Elias, newly released from prison, is given a shoeshine stand by a priest outside Birmingham Cathedral – but the cathedral clergy know neither the priest nor the shoeshine stand he has been running that Maundy Thursday, writes Bill Thomas.

So starts Jonathan Coore's novel "The Shoe Shine Prophet", in which we follow Elias's meetings with several of his clients in the revamped city centre. Through his eyes and theirs, we see how their lives are changed, and not always for the better, as fluffy slippers, mis-spelt name rings and fallen passion flowers leave a trail that leads to a very unexpected ending.

If you've ever been baffled by the menu at a coffee shop, or poured out your heart to a total stranger, or ever thought "there, but for the grace of God..." then this book is for you. If you haven't, it's still for you, as Jonathan opens up a hauntingly realistic picture of life in the Second City.

Copies are available from the author – the first printing is already sold out – and all money raised goes to **Hereford Open Door**. A good read and a good cause; what more could you want?

*** Advanced Notice *** Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Tuesday 20th April
7.30pm

St Peter's Church House

Reports from 2009
Election of Churchwardens
Nominations for our PCC
(please think, pray and act about this before the meeting)

Main Item:
**Discussion of the Vision and
Future direction for our Churches**

Your views count
Please pray for the meeting, put
the date in your diary **and come!**

Please remember to collect a
PRAYER FOCUS FOR APRIL
from the back of church.



Monthly Parish Prayer Meeting
Next Meeting:
Check the Church Notice Sheet or the Website.
St. Peter's Church House
PLEASE COME—ALL WELCOME

CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS

PARISH OFFICE
Helen Durant: Parish Administrator
24, St James Road
Hereford
HR1 2QS

Tel: 01432 276320
email: office@spsj.org.uk

The deadline for items for our weekly Sunday
Notice Sheet is Thursday 10.30am.

UPDATE Coordinator Diana Thomas
dianathomas@btinternet.com

The deadline for items for UPDATE to Diana
by the 20th of each month please

**For all of this and more
look on our website
www.spsj.org.uk**

Website items to Peter Massey
pwmassey@btinternet.com

Paul's Ponderings

At last! It's Spring! Well, by some measures it is, anyway, writes Paul Towner. The clocks have changed, we have emerged (I trust) from the long cold spell, the daffodils are out - in time for St Patrick rather than for St David this year! And watching the birds and trees, new life is all around. As a result of all these things - and a bit more sun and warmth - many of us feel better, about ourselves and about the world around us. It is a time of hope, of new life.

All this happening as Easter approaches is brilliant, theologically. Just as our beautiful county is so green because of the seasonal cycle, so our spiritual life can benefit from due attention to the liturgical "seasons" and their significance. Almost as soon as April starts we are pitched into the depths and the heights of God's grace and mercy and love - and as we read in Ephesians 3 and Psalm 139 we can never reach the limits of that love.

We see the depths of our human sinfulness, and the thoroughness of God's plan, and the strength of Jesus' obedience to His father's will, as Jesus on the cross becomes sin for our sake. And we see the heights of glory and share the excitement of triumph revealed in the empty tomb and the startling but thrilling resurrection encounters.

And somehow, just as the new life of Spring is more glorious because of the darkness and icy coldness that preceded it, so our new life in Christ is shown in more glorious colour when we see the death and darkness from which we have been delivered. And our hearts cry "Alleluia!"

Marking Holy Week 2010

Palm Sunday (March 28th)

6.30pm St James'

What kind of King? What kind of Kingdom?

Tuesday 30th

8am St Peter's
Morning Prayer

Wednesday 31st

11.30am St Peter's
Holy Communion

Wed 31st 9pm - Thur 1st 9pm

(see separate list)

Friday 2nd - Good Friday

2-3pm St Peter's
Meditations at the Cross

2.30pm Brierley Court (St Giles)
Evening Prayer + Hot Cross Buns

3-5pm St Barnabas
Children's workshops

5-7pm St Barnabas
Stations of the Cross

8-9pm St James'
Meditations at the Cross

Saturday 3rd - Easter Eve

7pm St James'
Thanksgiving Memorial Service

Easter Day

We celebrate communion at all services today

6am Castle Green - Sunrise Service

8am St Peter's

9am St James'

10.30am at St Peter's and at St James'

6.30pm St Barnabas

24 hour Prayer and Fasting for the F.L.I.C. Project

Praying for St Peter's city-centre work now and in the years ahead

Wed 31st 9pm- Thurs 1st 9pm

All shared events in St Peter's

Wednesday

9-9.30pm Getting focussed

Maundy Thursday

8-8.30am Morning Prayer



Maundy Thursday continued

12noon-1pm Midday Prayer

4.30-5pm Evening Prayer

7.30pm Holy Communion

YOUTH ZONE

ACCESS

for school years 10-13

For more info call **Andy Clark on 07590 617738**

ST JAMES' SUNDAY SCHOOL

During the 10.30 service, we welcome youngsters old and new between the **ages of 3 - 11** to join our groups.

d2b (Dare to Believe)

School years 7 to 9

St. James' Church 10.30am.

A church based youth group, we meet every Sunday morning during term times.

ST. PETER'S EXPLORERS

on Sunday mornings during the 10:30 service for ages 7-11+.