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Welcome*

**April/May 2024**

**THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF ST. MARTIN'S WEST DRAYTON**

# Challenge

May all who enter the Church find the peace of Christ and feel welcome.



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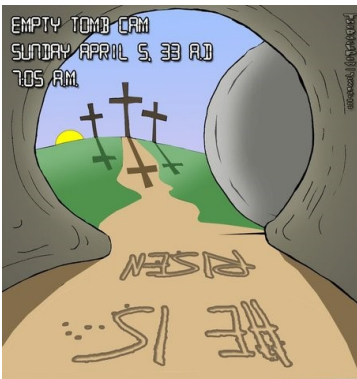
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## *From the Vicar, the Revd Rosy Barrie*

*“the lot fell on Matthias” (Acts 1:15-end)*

*St Matthias is remembered in the church on May 14<sup>th</sup>*

The *Acts of the Apostles*, a book of the New Testament we read during Eastertide, are full of fascinating information about the beginnings of the church, including an election.

It was felt essential to have a replacement for Judas.

Two men are proposed, with equal qualifications, they had been with the other 11 apostles during Jesus' ministry and were also witnesses to his resurrection. The apostles then pray that God will chose the right person: casting lots is a way of saying this decision was in God's hands. Matthias is chosen as the new number 12 apostle.

This is an election year, not just for our city as we vote for a new mayor, not just for our country, as at some point a general election will be called, but for a huge proportion of the population of the world. Not all of these elections will be fair or truly representative, and many of us will admire the courage and integrity of protesters who therefore refuse to vote or deliberately spoil their ballot paper. But what about those of us who are entitled to vote, what are we going to do when the time comes? There are moments when we are highly critical of local or national politicians, when we feel it's not worth voting for any of them. Yet surely if we don't bother to vote we run the risk of giving more power to the extremist ends of the political spectrum who can motivate their supporters to turn out. This could tip the country's balance into a direction we don't really want it to go. Choosing by lot isn't an option, but praying before hand really is. May we treasure our democratic right to vote by using it in a wise and godly way, with the hope that God will work in politics as well as in our own lives, for the common good of us all.

*Revd Rosy Barrie*

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## **Maundy Thursday**

28 March 6.30pm Holy Communion

## **Good Friday**

29 March Noon-2pm Church open for private silent prayer and reflection, 2.15 we Worship together with hymns and music

## **Easter Sunday**

31 March 10.15 Sung Eucharist followed by an Easter egg hunt for children

*Don't forget! Summer time begins today*

## **Annual Service of Thanksgiving and Commitment**

### **Tuesday 30 April at 6.30pm**

Everyone is welcome as we thank God for the blessings of the last year and dedicate ourselves afresh to serve God, each other and our community. This service includes our annual meetings and election of those who will serve as Church Wardens or on the Parochial Church Council or as Welcomers for the next year.

*If you are wondering if God is calling you to help in this way, please see Revd Rosy for an informal and prayerful discussion of this possibility.*

## **Service of Adult (or older child)**

### **Baptism and Confirmation**

#### **6.30pm Wednesday 5 June**

(The feast day of St Boniface).

This will be led by Bishop Pete and everyone is welcome. *If you would like to be baptised and/or confirmed please contact Revd Rosy*

**The Day of Pentecost, Sunday 19 May** don't forget to come to church to celebrate this major feast day when we thank God for the gift of the Holy Spirit!

## **Summer Fair Saturday 8 June** from 12 noon to 3pm

# PRAYER PAGE

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord:  
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,  
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life  
and serve you continually  
in righteousness and truth, amen.



*I kneel and pray,  
to the Father who made me,  
to the Son who died for me,  
to the Spirit who cleansed me.*

*Save us from  
disaster, grant us your love:  
the affection of God, the smile of God,  
the wisdom of God, the grace of God,  
the majesty of God.  
Each shade and light,  
each day and night,  
grant us your peace.*

*(Celtic prayer from Songs of the Isles)*

Thank you for the kind hearted people  
who serve us in shops and Cafes;  
the ones who help us out when  
we don't know what to choose,  
and can't sort out the money really quickly.  
Bless them for being polite and patient.  
(Lois Rock)



# ***A Rocha UK's Easy Eco Tips 2024 Calendar Continued***

Welcome to A Rocha UK's tips for a prayerful approach to looking after our earth! Until December 2024/January 2025 every Challenge is going to contain tips. We hope you enjoy them; let Eco Champions Ann Stephens or Astrid Weinmann know if anything inspires you in respect of our church life.

## **APRIL**

Fit more active travel into your day and daily routine. Reevaluate your journeys: explore walking or cycling options, or modify your route to include some form of active travel, i.e. disembark a stop early and complete the remaining part of your journey on foot, indulge in a leisurely stroll, or opt for a bike ride along a cyclist-friendly route. Consider connecting with your local Ramblers or cycling group for shared experiences. Use the extra steps or the changed travel arrangements as a prompt to pray for God's creation, nature's preservation and the reduction in fossil fuel usage.

## **MAY**

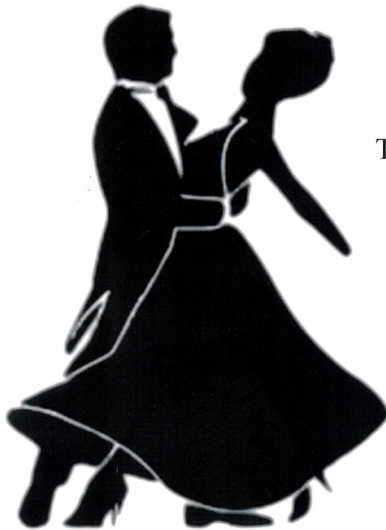
Say no to the mow. Mowing your lawn less and letting parts grow long saves you time and helps give nature a home. If you want to make an even bigger impact on wildlife, wait to mow your lawn or a section of it until August to support even more animals. Contribute to citizen science and get to know what (and who!) lives in your church's green space - sign up to take part in Churches Count on Nature (8-16 June 2024) at [caringforgodsacre.org.uk/churches-count-on-nature-faqs/](http://caringforgodsacre.org.uk/churches-count-on-nature-faqs/).

*PS. We are definitely up to be part of churches count on nature this year again.*

**As I walk through  
the valley of the  
Shadow of Death, I  
remind myself that  
you can't always  
trust Google Maps**

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Lateral thinking puzzle Answer

A snowman was built in the yard, and the snow has since melted, leaving the eyes, nose, mouth, and scarf on the ground.



St Martin's Church  
Church Road, West Drayton UB7 7PA

## COFFEE MORNING

Come and Join us for a Coffee and  
a Chat in the Church Hall

Friday 12th April 2024

Friday 10th May 2024

Friday 14 June 2024

10 to 12 noon

THE RECTOR IS REALLY INTO THE EASTER VIGIL.





# ST MARTIN'S CHURCH IS OPEN FOR WORSHIP ON

**Sundays 10.15am - Sung Eucharist**  
*all ages are welcome.*

**Mini Martins Club** (for toddlers to teenagers)  
*meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month for a  
Bible story & a craft activity.*

**Mondays 9.30 am - Morning Prayer**  
*a short time of Bible readings and prayer, all welcome.*

**Wednesdays 10-11am - Peace and Quiet Hour**  
*Pop in and out any time to light a candle, sit, think, read, or pray.  
Everyone of all Faiths or none are welcome to  
enter and enjoy the tranquility of this ancient holy place.*

**Holy Days** as announced.





# *The Editor's Easter Quiz*

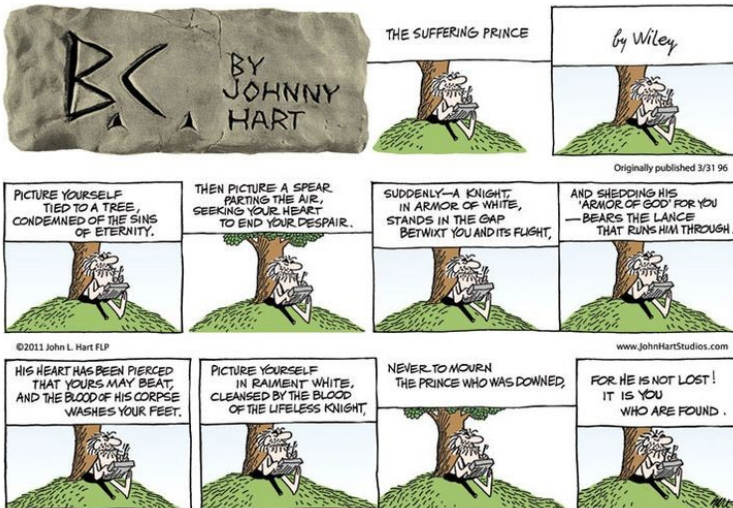
- 1) Easter always falls between which two dates?
- 2) About how many chocolate bunnies are produced each year?
- 3) The first Easter eggs were dyed what color?
- 4) In the 13th century, the church prohibited eating what during Holy Week?
- 5) While the Easter Bunny brings children eggs in the U.S., what sort of critter delivers the goods in Westphalia, Germany?
- 6) In Switzerland, what animal delivers Easter eggs to kids?
- 7) In England, what is the name of the fruitcake with marzipan balls traditionally served at tea time on Easter?
- 8) The original Easter bunny in Germany was actually what sort of animal?
- 9) Easter Island is part of which country?
- 10) When was Cadbury founded?
- 11) In countries including Greece, Mexico and Spain, what is burned during Easter bonfires?
- 12) When were Cadbury Creme Eggs introduced?
- 13) Who wrote "Easter Parade?"
- 14) What garment was popularized by the song "Easter Parade?"
- 15) Easter's date is determined by what?
- 16) Cadbury Creme Eggs were first called what?
- 17) What flower is considered an Easter symbol?
- 18) In the Bible, who was the first person to enter Jesus' tomb?
- 19) In the Bible, Judas traded Jesus in exchange for what?
- 20) In Britain, the Easter Act of 1928 was an attempt to do what?

# Mini Martins (MMs)



All ages from toddlers to teenagers  
are most welcome  
to meet in our church hall for a  
Bible Story and craft activity at  
10.15 am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month

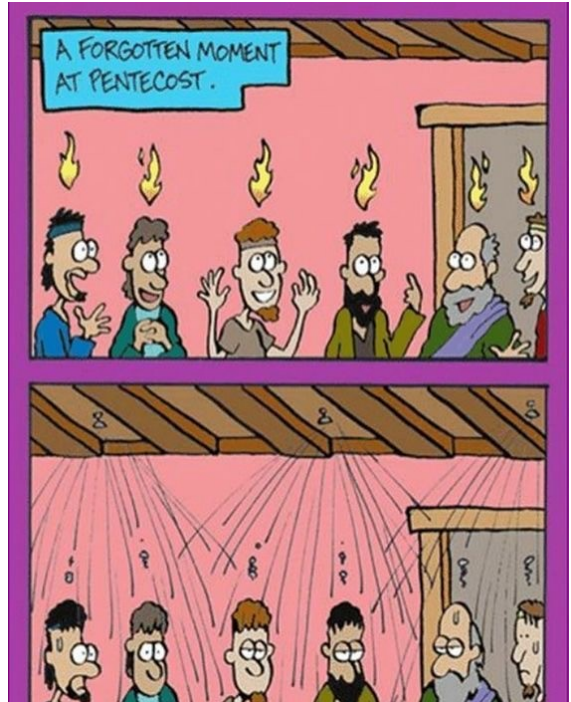
*Come and join us on  
April 14 & 28, May 12 & 26, June 9 & 23*






# Easter Quiz Answers

- 1) March 22 and April 25
- 2) 90 million
- 3) Red
- 4) Eggs
- 5) A fox
- 6) The cuckoo
- 7) Simnel
- 8) Hare
- 9) Chile
- 10) 1824
- 11) Effigies of Judas
- 12) 1963
- 13) Irving Berlin
- 14) Easter bonnets
- 15) The moon
- 16) Fry's Creme Eggs
- 17) Lily
- 18) Peter
- 19) 30 pieces of silver
- 20) Establish a set annual date for Easter





**Easter morning  
bright and fair  
Tells me of God's  
loving care.  
Flowers that were  
gone from view,  
Now awakening,  
bloom anew.  
Though God's face  
I do not see,  
I will trust His care  
for me.**

**—*Jennifer Hayden***

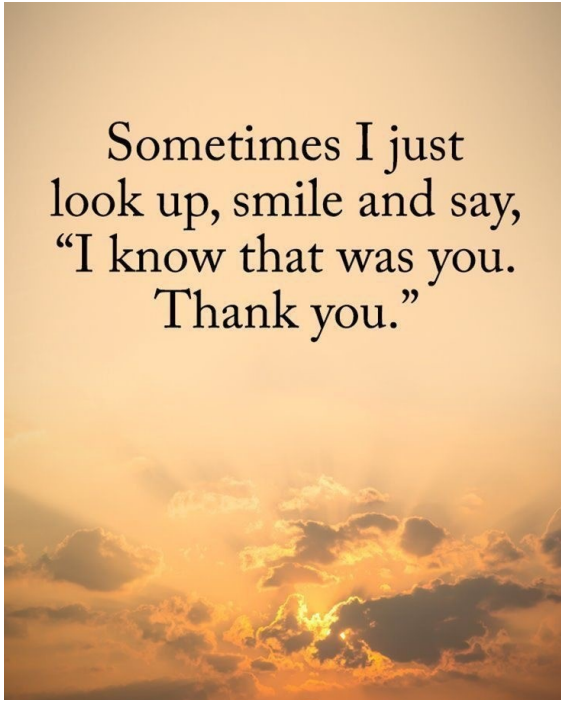
# BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION

*Sunday 25 Feb 2024 led by Bishop Lusa*



*Thank you to Kai for taking the photographs.*

Sometimes I just  
look up, smile and say,  
“I know that was you.  
Thank you.”



How you make others feel says  
a lot about who you are.



Leave them with a smile,  
a hug, and a kind thought.

## **Hall Activities**

### **Monday**

Tae Kwondo 17:45 - 19:15

### **Tuesday**

Zumba Gold 10:00 - 11:00  
Drama Group 16:00 - 18:30

Craft Group 13:30—15:30

History Society 19:30 - 21:00  
(Last Tuesday of the Month)

### **Wednesday**

Irish Dance 19:00 - 21:00

### **Thursday**

WI 14:15 - 16:15  
3rd Thursday of the Month

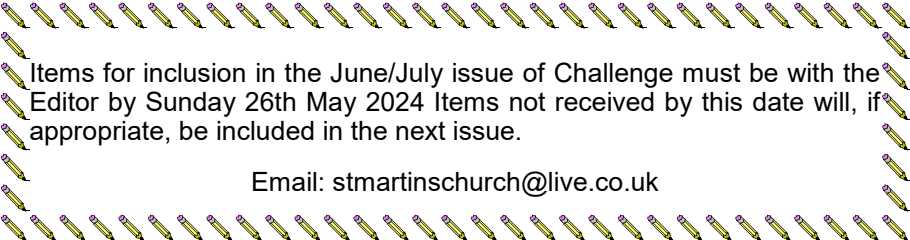
### **Friday**

Tae Kwondo 17:30 - 20:30

AA 7-10pm

### **Saturday**

Zumba Gold 10:00 - 11:00



Items for inclusion in the June/July issue of Challenge must be with the Editor by Sunday 26th May 2024. Items not received by this date will, if appropriate, be included in the next issue.

Email: [stmartinschurch@live.co.uk](mailto:stmartinschurch@live.co.uk)



# FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS

## *Baptism*

*Lottie Mae, Sunday 3 March 2024*

*Baptism (8) Confirmation (9)  
and 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion (2)*

*Sunday 25 Feb 2024 led by Bishop Lusa  
We thank God for our new brothers and sisters in  
Christ. We pray that they will continue to grow in  
faith, and that as a church community we may  
walk forward as pilgrims together.*

### **Going to Church on Easter Morn**

---

Up with the sunrise,  
Excitement is in the air,  
Easter morning  
Is finally here.

Brand new clothes  
and a freshly washed face,  
Going to church to give thanks  
For God's grace.



## WHO'S WHO

<b>VICAR</b>	Rev Rosy Barrie rosybarrie1@btinternet.com	01895 442194
Church Wardens	Yvonne Barrabas	01895 434949
Hall Bookings	Marie Tampin	07742 757377
PCC Secretary	William Fairchild	01895 434949
Stewardship	Julia Bennett & Mary Davie	01895 851269
Deanery Synod Representatives	Mary Davie & Ann Stephens	01895 434949
Mini Martin's	Uche Obi	01895 434949
Church Treasurer	Emeka Obi	01895 434949
Eco Champions	Ann Stephens and Astrid Weinmann	01895 434949
Editor of Challenge	Kevin Stephens	01895 434949
Flowers	Contact Pat via the Office	01895 434949



## PARISH OFFICE

St Martins Church, Church Road, West Drayton UB7 7PT  
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