

Longney & Elmore Community Newsletter

March and April 2016

Produced by Longney & Elmore Churches



Issue 39

We are grateful to all our distributors for making this newsletter possible. Please note that space does not always permit inclusion of every article submitted but we will do our best. Please send copy for the May/June 2016 edition to vicarage@inbox.com by Sunday April 17th 2016.



In the early church, Lent was a season for new converts to learn about the faith and prepare for baptism on Easter Sunday. Taking up a similar teaching theme, nowadays from Ash Wednesday through Lent and into Holy Week we offer many different styles and genres of worship using all our senses of hearing, sight, touch, smell, and taste.

This is in keeping with a growing recognition that people have multiple ways of learning and praying. Worship that is only directed to the intellect or, on the other hand, solely to the emotions, leaves out those who engage in prayer through vision, smell, touch, movement, and so forth.

As you will see the variety of services on offer this year, especially in Holy Week, is designed to help every Christian walk with Jesus along the Way of the Cross and through the darkness of Good Friday into the Light and Joy of Easter Sunday.

Church Services in Longney and Elmore

March and April 2016

Sunday March 6th – Mothering Sunday

“Prayers and Gifts”

Parish Eucharist at Elmore Church 9.30am

Sunday March 13th – Lent 5

“Only the Best”

Parish Eucharist at Longney Church 9.30am

Sung Evensong at Elmore Church 3.00pm

Sunday March 20th – Palm Sunday

“Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!”

Parish Eucharist at Elmore Church 9.30am

Holy Week

“Walking the Way of the Cross”

Holy Monday – Candlelit Prayers at Elmore 7.00pm

Holy Tuesday – Parish Passover at Church House 7.00pm

Holy Wednesday – Taize Style Service at Hardwicke Church 7.00pm

Maundy Thursday – Agape at Hardwicke Church 7.00pm

Good Friday - “Behold Your King” with Church Choir at Elmore 6.30pm

Holy Saturday - First Service of Easter at Hardwicke Church 8.00pm

Sunday March 27th - Easter Sunday

“Alleluia! Christ is Risen!”

Parish Eucharist at Longney Church 9.30am

Evensong with Hymns at Elmore Church 6.30pm

Sunday April 3rd – Easter 2

“Jesus appears to Thomas”

Short Eucharist and AGM at Elmore Church 9.30am

Sunday April 10th – Easter 3

“Jesus appears to his disciples again”

Short Eucharist and AGM at Longney Church 9.30am

Sung Evensong at Elmore Church 6.30pm

Sunday April 17th – Easter 4

“Good Shepherd Sunday”

Parish Eucharist at Elmore Church 9.30am

Sunday April 24th – Easter 5

“Love one another”

“Storyteller” Eucharist at Longney Church 9.30am

Evensong with Hymns at Elmore Church 6.30pm

Going with the Herd!



Wonder if you have read about the HERD effect?

It's all to do with social influence shaping consumer behaviour which really means it's about how we make choices.

Some say there are four different choice styles out there:

Considered, Guesswork, Copying Experts, Copying Peers

You can see how this works in all our decisions and attitudes our buying choices and our beliefs. Next time you make a purchase how do you decide?

Taking time to think it through – could be time consuming
Tossing a coin and going with that – quick but likely to be random
Experts know best - reading “Which” magazine or online reviews
Doing the same as someone else you know - personal recommendation

But it's also true about our beliefs and this could be disastrous!
Easter is just around the corner, what does Easter really mean?

Have you taken time to think it through – key words are cross & resurrection
Tossing a coin and going with that – choccy egg or bunny rabbit
Experts know best – see wikipedia or check out church
Doing the same as someone else you know – avoid Easter Jesus, go secular

Strange how most people seem to do Easter with the bunnies and the chocolate even though in most of the world Easter is about something quite different.

To put it into just one paragraph:

Easter is about a man, Jesus, who was God. It's about his sacrificial death on the cross. It's about his triumphant resurrection. Because of Jesus, those who were dead may live, those in bondage find freedom, those tethered to despair find hope.

Happy Easter!

Fr. Andrew-

Vicar and Parish Priest of Hardwicke and Elmore with Longney

Keeping Easter at Home

Celebrating Easter is for most Christians an activity which takes place in Church on Easter Sunday. However, Easter is a family celebration every bit as much as a Church family celebration and what better place to include the celebration than our homes? Across the world simple activities have grown up in homes, here are just a few...

Lent and Easter Food

The best know Easter foods are Hot Cross Buns. A traditional Greek Easter cake is made with Oranges and Almonds eaten with a spicy orange sauce.

The Palm Cross

Most Churches distribute Palm crosses on the Sunday before Easter as a devotional gift for their members to use. Take some time to think how to display the Palm Cross at home. Is there an obvious and visible place?

The Easter Garden

The Easter garden with a tomb along with plants or flowers, and small figures as tiny Mary's, apostles and soldiers is ideal. On Easter morning the Easter Garden has all the fascination of the Christmas crib.

An Easter Candle is also a widespread custom

Use the largest Easter candle you can find. The candle can stand in a bowl of fresh cut flowers, tokens of new life and be lit each evening with prayer.

Easter Flowers

The most popular Easter Flowers are Lilies which are often white and represent goodness and purity or Passion Flowers which have a whole range of symbolic parts (a search on Google will reveal all!)

Easter Eggs

The old (non chocolate) Easter Egg practices of decorating hard boiled or blown eggs with religious pictures and designs are still extremely popular.

Bishop Martyn's farewell service in Gloucester Cathedral

Saturday 12th March at 4.30pm to worship with Bishop Martyn and say farewell as he leaves the Diocese of Gloucester to become Bishop of Leicester. All are welcome.

Whist Drives at Elmore Village Hall – on Saturdays at 2.00pm

March 19th, May 28th, July 23rd, September 24th, November 12th

Baptism (Christening) or Weddings: phone Fr. Andrew 01452 720015

Email: vicarage@inbox.com

Our Websites: www.elmorechurch.info or www.longneychurch.info

Join us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter: @StNicHardwicke