

April 2022





Dear All

As I write this article, the sun is shining, the newly born lambs are bleating in the fields and the daffodils are providing some much-needed colour in the garden.

BUT turn on the TV or read the newspaper headlines and the news is dreadful. The images of the aftermath of the bombs and the thousands and thousands of refugees seeking safety, leave indelible marks in our minds and on our hearts. It can seem so overwhelming, and we can feel so helpless to know what to do.

In a service at Winchester Cathedral a member of the DEC said that Christian Aid has encouraged its members 'To Give, To Act and To Pray'. Giving is more than just a charitable donation it is an act of compassion, solidarity, and love. We can act, you may feel able to offer a spare room if you have one, or you could lobby the Government to do more to help the refugees by minimising the bureaucracy and form filling which is preventing even those with families in the UK from getting here. And of course, we can all pray – offering God our lament, our sorrow, and our hope for an end to the war.

As we head towards Easter, a time when, as Christians, we remember how Christ died on the cross for each of us, to take away our sins even though we are unworthy. We remember all those for whom each day can be as bleak as Good Friday, not knowing if they will see the resurrection of Easter Day.

Do join us if you can for one of our Easter services. You may not feel like celebrating but you are welcome to come and just be, to offer a prayer, or to simply sit in the silence of our 2 pm meditation service on Good Friday. The church is yours – however you want to use it.

This Easter I pray that each of you may know the joy of the resurrected Lord in your lives as you take time to appreciate the beautiful, safe and friendly place that we have the privilege to live in.

God bless you all.

Fi x



Join us! During Lent, Holy Week and Easter

Lent course on Weds evenings

10 am on Palm Sunday | 7.30 pm on Maundy Thursday 10 am and 2pm on Good Friday | 10am on Easter Sunday

Wishing you a blessed Easter

See back page for zoom codes | See allsaintsgrayswood.org for full details

Church Services

8am Holy Communion:

2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays

10 am Services:

In Church and on zoom every Sunday all welcome no booking required

Services will continue on zoom. For details of how to join see our website or see the back page

allsaintsgrayswood.org

Morning Prayer

Wednesdays 9 - 9.30
All welcome

Church Open

Every day: 9.30 to 4 (ish)
Whether you want to
pray, give thanks or find
hope in times of despair,
our beautiful Grade II
listed church is open for
you every day



Baby & Toddler Group is back

Thursdays 9-11 During term time In the Village Hall £3 per family

Next deadline: 15th May



God's Love in Our Lives

At our 120th Anniversary service I asked the congregation to write on a paper heart what their prayer or vision was for All Saints as we move forward into this next chapter of the life of the church. These have been laminated and put on a prayer tree in the North Transept, so do please go in and have a look.

One idea was that we should collect anecdotal experiences from people in Grayswood of where they have felt God's love in their lives. We have decided to launch it this month and Jasmin Tempest has kindly written our first article which you can read below. You don't need to be a member of All Saints or any other church to offer up an article. We would really like this to be a shared experience. If you have an example that you would be willing to share, then please write it down and send it to Sarah at allsaintsgrayswood@gmail.com

TOUGH LOVE by Jasmin Tempest

As Easter approaches, I am reminded of how God intervened in my life, and both taught and empowered me to learn the true meaning of 'Tough Love'.

This time last year, my youngest brother got into trouble with the police. He and his wife, both alcoholics, had an argument that resulted in him being arrested and imprisoned in a cell overnight. They released him on bail on the condition he didn't go home. He phoned me and asked if he could stay for a few days. When he arrived, he was angry, bewildered and hungry.

Four days turned into a month. Night after night, I listened to his angry outpourings, fuelled by drink. Then, one Saturday night, when the bail term had been extended to three months, it was awful, and everything I said to try to calm and reassure him was met with fierce resistance. His upset and anger were directed at everyone, including me. I was emotionally exhausted.

The following day in church, I cried the whole way through the service. Two of our congregation had noticed and came to talk to me. 'How can I be a Christian and ask my brother to leave?' I wailed at them.

Then something extraordinary happened. As the three of us prayed for a solution, I felt a hug so distinct I knew it could only be the arms of Jesus wrapping around me.

When I got home, my brother was preparing a Sunday roast, his way of apology. He is a brilliant cook. He told me he would move to a Travel Lodge. I didn't even have to ask him to leave. **Within the hour my prayer was answered - or so I thought.**

But I had a much bigger lesson to learn.

During the following few days when he hadn't left, friends and family told me to tell him to go; it was *tough love*, they said. I began to wonder. Was it really? Or was it 'convenient' love because I was struggling to cope. Was it even love at all?

I am not sure what day it was, but the solution came to me in the same week. Tough love didn't mean taking an action that would make my brother's life worse, chucking him out to sink or swim – it was me who had to toughen up to give him the unconditional love he needed.

So that's what I did. I told him he would always have a home with me. I encouraged him to let go of his anger and look for silver linings. I got him to paint my barns (he offered) which meant he was outside on sunny days doing something positive. I helped him reduce the drinking by half (not easy) and drove him to local places for days out. I encouraged friends to visit so he could cook for them, his self-worth increasing every time we praised the delicious meals. He started to glimpse an alternative life. I even got him to church one day. He laughed when I said I would write a book called 'Three months with my brother', and it became a running joke of anecdotal stories.

Although the title would change to 'Seven months with my Brother', he was by God's Grace I believe, a strong and positive man when he finally went home. He may have learned a few things, but I was the one who gained the most. I now understood how much the power of God's Love in my life could achieve.

And now, as I deal with cancer, those months with my brother have become infinitely precious. *Jasmin*

THE HUNTER CENTRE Supporting those living with DEMENTIA

The Welcome Club

Caring for someone with dementia? Feeling isolated? Would you like someone to talk to, who knows how you're feeling?



Pop down to see us on a Tuesday afternoon, 1.30 – 3.30pm either on your own or with the person you are caring for. The last Tuesday of the month is a lunch club. Light lunch provided.

There will be a variety of activities on offer and visits from professionals including Dementia Navigators from the Alzheimer's Society and local solicitors that can advise on any legal issues.

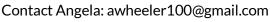
For more information, please contact Denise 01428 654710 | deputy@thehuntercentre.co.uk

Summer Barn Dance

Dancing, Food, Drinks and general merriment organised by The Friends of All Saints, Grayswood Friday 17th June 2022

Grayswood Book Club

Bad Blood—John Carreyou March on Tues, 19th April at 8 pm





Time to Be... in the presence of God

A quiet hour where we can pray with scripture and pray for others | 3rd Weds of the month @7pm Zoom code: 844 4083 8929 Passcode: TimetoBe

Email Elaine for more info revelainecollins@icloud.com

Passion of Jesus

Play in Trafalgar Square on Good Friday 15th April | 12 noon & 3:15pm Free performance | All welcome Livestreamed on facebook

Grayswood Club

Coffee and Chat

Drop in for tea/coffee and homemade cakes 14th April 10 am to 12 noon

Games Night

7.30-10.00, every Wednesday

Quiz night

Thursday 28th April from 7:45pm

Knockout Skittles

Friday, 8th April 7.30 pm
Teams of 4, come as a team or join in on the night

Film Club

7.15 pm, 23rd April "Sideways"

Kids' Film

3.00 pm, 24th April "Hop"

Members only but it's easy to join: Call 07808 474147

www.grayswoodclub.co.uk

Thank you to all who provided food, walked the dog and kept me company when I came out of hospital—Jean White



1920 - 2021

TRINKET TALES
Our April WI meeting
hands over to YOU!

DATE: Wednesday 13th April

TIME: 7:45pm

WHERE: Grayswood Village Hall

A cherished childhood toy, a prized picture or photo, a quirky curio with a fun story behind it... Our April meeting invites members and friends to bring in a 'special something' and share its story. Not compulsory, of course - some of us will simply enjoy sitting and listening to these 'trinket tales'.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

EMAIL: grayswoodwi@gmail.com **WEBSITE:** grayswoodwi.wixsite.com/home **FACEBOOK:** @grayswoodwomensinstitute



WI membership

annual renewals

this month!



Church Services for April

Church open for all 8 am and 10 am Services

Apr 3rd 10 am Parish Communion

Meeting ID: 827 2667 7637

Passcode: 817573

Apr 10th 8 am Holy Communion in Church

10.00 am Palm Sunday Meeting ID: 869 1038 5316

Passcode: 850278

Apr 14th 7.30 pm Maundy Thursday Supper

with Eucharist

Village Hall, Oonagh Jeffrey Room

Apr 15th 10 am Good Friday Service

Meeting ID: 890 3291 6164

Passcode: 414146

Apr 17th 10 am Easter Sunday

Meeting ID: 890 4525 0479

Passcode: 301168

Apr 24th 8am Holy Communion in Church

10 am Fourth Sunday Service Meeting ID: 896 9200 0191

Passcode: 284718

For all services please dial 0131 460 1196 UK

Enter the meeting ID followed by the # key. Then enter the passcode followed by the # key. You will be connected to the meeting and be on mute. Please do not unmute yourself unless necessary as this can distort the reception for everyone else. If you do need to unmute you press *6. Please note that calls will be charged at your usual standard rate - which would be for approximately 40 minutes.

Ways to contact the Church

Would you like us to pray for you?

God hears you, but it is good to know you have other people who care, joining with you! Phone us, email us, pop a note into the box in the church porch, or ask someone to pass a message on. A first name is all we need and confidences are ALWAYS respected.

Would you like to speak with a priest?

Revd Fi Gwynn works part-time

(day off Friday)

 $\mathsf{Tel}\, 01428\, 654728\, /\, 07769\, 856343$

Email: revfigwynn@gmail.com

Revd Elaine Collins is available Mon and Weds

mornings and all day Friday.

Tel 01428 714385

Email: revelainecollins@icloud.com

Baptism? Wedding? Funeral?

Please contact the church office on 01428 656504 or allsaintsgrayswood@gmail.com

Do you have a general enquiry?

Contact our church administrator Sarah Bennett

at allsaintsgrayswood@gmail.com

For more information, visit our website:

allsaintsgrayswood.org

Village Prayer

In April / May, we pray for those who live and work in Grayswood Road including Church Close, Sandy Lane, Grayswood Common, Lower and Upper Birtley, Witley Farm, Shoelands, South Park, Stroud, Hurt Hill and Hugh Button

Haslemere Food Bank – Donations Needed Please

if you, or anyone you know is in need please do not hesitate to obtain a voucher for the Food Bank from Rev Fi Gwynn on 07769 856343.

All in date, unopened tinned and packaged food items, sanitary products and domestic cleaning products are welcomed.

Please donate small packets which are easier to fit into the food packs . Please place items in the Food Bank box at the back of church

Thank you

