

All Saints' Laleham

Connect, Grow, Serve, Share, Worship

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The 2018 Winter Olympics are taking place in South Korea. The original Olympics are mentioned in the Bible. It reflects on the sacrifices athletes make to win the victor's crown of olive branches, and contrasts it with the much greater prize of eternal life.

Everyone who competes in the

games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

Eternal life is offered to each one of us. What efforts are we making to gain the greatest prize of all? Why not come to a service or visit Canaan Christian Bookshop to find out more.

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Parish Newsletter

MAR 2018 – MAY 2018 // FREE

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Mothering Sunday

11th March

WE'D LOVE TO WELCOME YOU TO OUR MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE

Mothering Sunday gives us a great opportunity to give thanks for our mothers. We also remember that we can receive 'mothering' from people besides our biological mothers, and so we like to offer a small posy of flowers to every lady that comes.

10.30AM Mothering Sunday service in Laleham School

We welcome Laleham Church Playgroup who will sing to us, and our children's groups will run as normal.

CHRISTIANITY IS FOOLISH

Easter falls on the same day as April Fool's this year. It is the first time in 73 years that the coincidence has occurred. For many people the events of the first Easter seem foolish.

That Jesus died on a cross so we can be forgiven sounds barbaric. That Jesus rose from the dead to give us new life is simply unbelievable. Such reactions are not new. Less than 25 years after the events, the Bible notes:

The teaching about the cross is foolishness to those who are being lost

But many who investigated the evidence became convinced and drew a very different conclusion:

but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

A Vicar in London called Rico Tice has produced a short DVD called 'Believable' looking at some of the eyewitness evidence for Easter. If you'd like to receive one, we'll be giving away free copies at our Easter services.



Easter



Palm Crosses

The week before Easter is known as Palm Sunday.

We give out crosses made from palm leaves in our services. This commemorates Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem. As He rode into the city on a donkey, His followers spread palm branches at His feet, which were symbols of victory for a

king. Through the year they remind us that Jesus' ultimate victory was through His defeat of death on the cross.

We buy African Palm Crosses made by Massai villagers of Southern Tanzania, giving them valuable extra work, economic independence and increased control over their own lives and livelihoods.



Hot Cross Buns

Though many places sell them all year round, hot cross buns are traditionally eaten on Good Friday.

The cross on the top is a reminder of the cross on which Jesus died, and the spices are a reminder of the spices used in His burial.

Every Good Friday the churches of Laleham and Staines gather outside the Two Rivers shopping centre. As well as singing, speaking and praying, we also have hundreds of hot cross buns to give away to passers-by. You might be able to spot the Vicar in this photo!



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The egg that shares the Easter story

The egg that shares the Easter story.

Out of the 80 million Easter eggs sold in the UK every year, The Real Easter Egg is the only one which has an Easter story book in the box, is made of Fairtrade

chocolate and supports charitable projects. Launched in 2010, more than one million eggs have been sold and nearly £250,000 has been donated to charity. Eggs can be bought from Church or Canaan Christian Bookshop.



CANAAN: A RESOURCE ON THE HIGH STREET

Have you ever been into Canaan Christian Bookshop in Staines?

It's been on the High Street since 1979, and is a wonderful place to visit or browse. It describes itself as 'More than a bookshop! A Christian resource centre for the community'. You can buy cards and gifts, as well as books and music, and the helpful staff are always willing to advise on finding just what you're looking for. Canaan is also home to a professional Christian counselling service. After 38 years of sterling work Andy Gilmour is passing over the manager's role to Barry Mockford.



Dame Sarah – new Bishop of London

The next Bishop of London will be the Rt Revd Sarah Mullally DBE.

Bishop Sarah will be installed as the 133rd Bishop of London at St Paul's Cathedral on the 12th May.

Bishop Sarah was a senior civil servant in the Department of Health before ordination. A trained nurse, she became Chief Nursing Officer for England in 1999, the youngest person to be appointed to the post. She was ordained in 2001 initially as a self-supporting minister in Battersea, before leaving her Government post in 2004, subsequently taking up full-time ministry in Sutton.

Bishop Sarah was made a Dame Commander of the British Empire

in 2005 in recognition of her outstanding contribution to nursing and midwifery.

Bishop Sarah said: *"It is a great honour to be nominated to the See of London. Having lived and worked in London for over 32 years, the thought of returning here is about returning home. I am often asked what it has been like to have had two careers, first in the NHS and now in the Church. I prefer to think that I have always had one vocation: to follow Jesus Christ, to know him and to make him known, always seeking to live with compassion in the service of others, whether as a nurse, a priest, or a bishop. To be given the opportunity to do that now in this vibrant world-city is a wonderful privilege."*



Godparents have a special role in a family's life.

Part of a christening is the opportunity parents have to formally involve other significant adults in their child's upbringing, for advice, support and encouragement, and they give a lot of thought to choosing

the right people.

We want to celebrate the role of godparents. At our morning services on May 6th we'll be praying for this special relationship, and asking for God's blessing on all our godparents and godchildren. Often godparents don't live close-by, so we wanted to give lots of notice. Would you like to invite your godparents?

Dates for your diary

MARCH 2018

- SUN 4** 10:00. Holy Communion
10:30. Morning Service
18:30. Evening Service
- SUN 11** MOTHERING SUNDAY
10:00. No service
10:30. Joint Morning Service
18:30. Evening Service
- SUN 18** 10:00. Morning Service
10:30. Holy Communion
18:30. Evening Service
- SUN 25** 10:00. Morning Service
10:30. Morning Service
15:00. Toddler Easter Service
18:30. Evening Service
- THU 29** 19:30. Holy Communion
- FRI 30** GOOD FRIDAY
09:30. All Age Service (School)
11:00. Walk of Witness (meet at Staines Methodist at 10.45am)
14:00. Hour at the Cross

APRIL 2018

- SUN 1** EASTER DAY
10:00. All Age Service with Holy Communion
10:30. No Service
18:30. Holy Communion
- SUN 8** 10:00. Morning Service
10:30. All Age Service
18:30. Evening Service
- SUN 15** 10:00. Holy Communion
10:30. Morning Service
18:30. Evening Service
- SUN 22** 10:00. Morning Service
10:30. Morning Service
18:30. Holy Communion
- SUN 29** 10:00. Morning Service
10:30. Morning Service
18:30. Evening Service

MAY 2018

- SUN 6** 10:00. Holy Communion
10:30. Morning Service
18:30. Evening Service

Services at 10.30am in Laleham School Hall. Other services in All Saints' Church, unless specified.