

## PARISH REGISTER

### BAPTISMS

7<sup>th</sup> March Ruby Louise Godridge  
Isabella Harley Bishop  
Nichola Jane Thompson

### FUNERALS

In Church or at the Crematorium

1<sup>st</sup> March Mike Webb  
3<sup>rd</sup> March Betty Washbrook  
11<sup>th</sup> March Selina Miles  
12<sup>th</sup> March Marta Cloey  
25<sup>th</sup> March Sylvia Woodward  
29<sup>th</sup> March Clare Davies



## REGULAR SERVICES & EVENTS

### Sunday:

8.00 am Holy Communion  
10.00 am Family Communion  
6.30 pm Evening Service

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday:

10.00 am Youth Service with Communion  
6.30 pm Choral Evensong

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday:

7.30 pm The Way at 2 Hemyock Road

### Every Wednesday

10.00 am Holy Communion

### 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday:

10.00 am Holy Communion at Sellywood House

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday:

7.45 pm Issues Group (various locations please  
phone 476 0149 for details)

### 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday:

11.00 am Holy Communion at Queen Mother Court

## SPECIAL SERVICES & EVENTS

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> April Annual Parochial Church  
11.30am. meeting.

Sun 9<sup>th</sup> May Confirmation Service at  
6.30 pm. St Gabriel's, Weoley Castle

Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> May Car Boot Sale  
10-1pm.



## ST MARY'S SELLY OAK

Bristol Road B29 6ND

[www.StMarySellyOak.org.uk](http://www.StMarySellyOak.org.uk)

*April 2010*



Vicar: Revd. Jim Cox  
0121 472 0250

Asst. Priest: Revd. Susannah Izzard  
0121 243 3745

Churchwardens:  
Donald Knight  
0121 472 4804  
Anne Pycock  
0121 476 3117

Hall Bookings 0121 604 0950

## MESSAGE FROM THE VICARAGE

Two caterpillars are sitting on a leaf. Suddenly a butterfly flaps overhead. One caterpillar says to the other, "You'll never get me up in one of those!"

We struggle with the outer limits of language and ideas when we think about the resurrection. We have only one example to go on and there are no descriptions of the event itself only sometimes-confusing accounts of meetings with Jesus after it took place.

So what can we say? Well, the first thing to say is that it is highly unlikely that the resurrection was simply an imagined experience of the first disciples. They did not invent the resurrection, if anything, the resurrection invented them: without the fact of the resurrection they would not have lived the lives they lived or written the words they wrote or died the deaths they died. Something changed who they were in a radical and lasting way.

But what was the resurrected Jesus like? He was both the same and yet different: eating and touching but disappearing and appearing through walls; ghostly and yet strangely solid; a person in time and yet not simply three days older than when he died; restored and yet still bearing the injuries from his torture.

Unlike our reluctant caterpillar the resurrection is not an inevitable latent condition of Jesus' life. It is not something that was always going to happen automatically after he died. It is a gift of God, a gift that is part of a relationship with God, part of accepting the life of victimhood that Jesus both lived and advocated throughout his ministry.

In their encounters with Jesus after the resurrection the disciples had a profound sense of being forgiven – for their behaviour around the time of Jesus' arrest and for the whole of

their lives. They also started to develop into communities which sought to understand the new life offered in their victim-Lord and to live as he had lived, open-eyed about the possibility of their own persecution and death, seeking only a self-sacrificial love that paradoxically set them free to have a total fullness of life.

The resurrection is not like anything at all; it is a new thing that requires new language and new categories that we simply do not have. The Gospels are shot through with this sense of God doing something totally different and unexpected from the birth narratives onwards and this is because they are preparing us for the account of the resurrection.

Someone once said "I believe in the sun not because I can see it but because by it I see everything else". If it is not possible to look directly at the resurrection or understand it in any meaningful way, we can try to live by its light. We can choose to accept the life of the butterfly for ourselves.

At its best, Christianity seeks to do this, by being at the heart of the suffering world in all its barren hardness and speaking words of hope and love. It is about living courageously within the fear and confusion of our times in the knowledge that both at every moment and at our end there is God and the option for new life.

JIM



## CAR BOOT SALE

Plans are under way for another Car Boot Sale. This year it will be on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May from 10am -1pm.

If you are able to come along and help on the day, please get in touch with the Vicar or one of the churchwardens. The more helpers we have the easier it is for everyone.

Details of how to book a space for your car will be available soon.

## ANNUAL PAROCHIAL MEETINGS

The annual Church meetings will be held in church on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 11.30 am. At the first meeting the Churchwardens are elected for the coming year. This meeting is open to anyone living in the Parish.

This is followed by a meeting of all those on the church electoral roll, and reviews the work of the Parochial Church Council during the past year and elects new Council members

## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

**9th-16<sup>th</sup> MAY**

Christian Aid Week raised more than £15million last year. If you would like to help in transforming lives across the developing world, please consider helping with our door to door collection.

To find out more please contact Morfudd Knight in Church or by telephoning her on 472 4804.