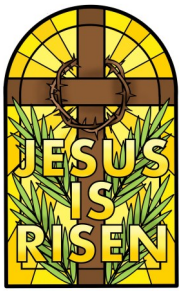
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April 2025

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Please pass this information on to anyone in the ward who does not receive the parish magazine.

Copies of Trinity magazine have been bound over the years and are available to borrow. If you would like to see any of these please get in in touch with Churchwarden, Kate, on 01785 850948

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Holy Trinity & St. Chad's

Celebrating Christ Proclaiming Christ Growing in Christ

A letter from our Vicar, Revd Phillip Johnson



I'm writing this with the sun shining and a mostly blue sky out of my window. The daffodils are beginning to open and suddenly the world looks a little brighter.

There's a theory that you get different types of theology depending on the weather that you mostly work in. Northern European theology has (for the most part) been quite cerebral. Its focused on internal feelings and thoughts – the theology is marked by deep introspection and rigorous self-examination. The churches tend to be quite plain and austere (think of the style of the puritans for example) and the liturgy designed to be done inside, within buildings. The argument is that this is exactly the sort of worship you get if its cold, raining, snowing etc. It's the sort of theology you can do in a room by a fire, wrapped up against the cold and what we would now think of as Reformed Theology.

Contrast that with the sort of theology you get in South America. This theology is marked by social action and justice and is heavily based on our interactions with others. The worship involves a lot of colour, outside processions and big festivals. The churches tend to be vibrant and packed with stuff (candles, statues, huge altars etc.). The theology is by its very nature more emotional and connective. This would chime in with a lot of Catholic Theology and practice.

So then we've got the Church of England, which was pulled initially in a Catholic direction, then into a Protestant Reformed direction, then Catholic again, then Reformed again and so on, all the way through to the Civil War. The result of this was what can only be described as a "peace treaty" and the Church of England defining itself as "both reformed and catholic" (the having you cake and eating it option).

This is why we've got the sort of liturgy and worship that focuses on our individual relationship with Christ (a Reformed focus) as well as one that focuses on our relationship with each other (a Catholic focus). I'm aware that I'm simplifying this quite considerably, but the basic premise still holds.

Continued on page 7

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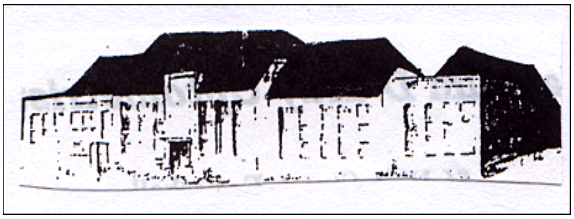
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Continued from page 5

With all of that said I wonder if the weather also affects the very way we think and feel. As the days get longer and lighter – do you find that your attitude towards things changes? Do you find that some problems seem less onerous when the sun is shining? I'm not sure that there would be any scientific data to back that up but, just for today, the world seems like a benign space with a lot of possibility.

God Bless, Revd Phillip

Holy Week 2025

This month we have a full celebration of Holy Week starting with the Palm Procession on Sunday 13th April - walking from at Eccleshall crossroads (with donkey!) making our way to Holy Trinity Church for the service, followed by a special Palm Sunday Evening Prayer at St Chad's. On Holy Monday we have Stations of the Cross at Holy Trinity at 6.30pm and then, on Holy Wednesday, we have a service of Tenebrae (a beautiful service of music and readings) drawing us closer to the main events of Holy Week. Maundy Thursday is marked by the Eucharist of the Last Supper at St Chad's at 6.30pm before The Liturgy of the Day at Holy Trinity on Good Friday at 10am. There is then an ecumenical service with Eccleshall Churches Together at the Crossroads at 12 noon.

On Holy Saturday we have the Vigil service at 6.30pm at Holy Trinity starting outside the church with the holy fire before moving into the church. Finally, we conclude our week with the Dawn service at 6am outside Holy Trinity before we have our main Easter Day celebrations at 10am (Holy Trinity) and 11.30am (St Chad's).

Holy Trinity is open throughout the week and the Lady Chapel is set aside for private prayer. I do wish all of you a blessed and meaningful Holy Week.

(Service dates are listed on the back page)

Prayer Support

Do you know of someone who is in need of prayer? There is a small group of people who pray for needs in the Parish. If you would like a prayer for yourself, a loved one or someone you know but are not sure who to turn to, please ring Kate Griffiths on 01785 850948 and we will ensure that you or they are prayed for.

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Prayer for the Month



Heavenly Father,
we commend to your mercy those who have offended against the law
and are serving prison sentences.
make known to them your unchanging love;
turn their hearts to yourself in true repentance;
and give them renewal of hope
and the opportunity of making a fresh beginning;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Frank Colquhoun (Contemporary Parish Prayers)

Most of us barely give a thought to those in prison, still less pray for them. They are locked up "out of sight, out of mind". But this prayer makes them the subject of our intercessions. And it gives us useful thoughts about their spiritual needs.

There is the old saying, "God hates the sin but loves the sinner". This prayer affirms God's unchanging love to all his children, including those in prison, whatever their wrongdoings . Society rightly condemns their crime and they may even find it hard to forgive themselves; but God never ceases to love them. The prayer asks that they may be assured of this continuing love and that this may lead to true repentance. Repentance means not just being sorry but a sincere desire to turn their lives around. That is our wish and prayer for them.

It then asks that they may experience a renewal of hope. The monotonous life in prison and the loneliness of a prison cell may cause feelings of hopelessness. But St. Paul describes Hope as one of the great blessings of life alongside Faith and Love (1st Corinthians chapter 13). So we ask that God may restore that gift into their lives making them realise that all is not lost for the future. "Give them the opportunity of making a fresh beginning" says the prayer. That can mean a renewal of hopes and aspirations as they look ahead and may include new opportunities when they leave prison.

When I was a part-time Chaplain at Drake Hall Prison I learnt how complex and heart-rending were some of the women's personal problems. Please give them a thought and a prayer from time to time.

Revd Stephen Cooke

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Church Electoral Roll 2025

This is the time of year, prior to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, for the revision of the Electoral Roll. The Church Representation Rules require a new Church Electoral Roll to be prepared every six years and a new Electoral Roll needs to be prepared this year.

In a year of complete renewal no names are carried over from the old roll and everyone must make a new application. Any person wishing to be included on the new Electoral Roll should obtain a form from the back of church or from the Electoral Roll Officer Michelle Hardy via the Church Office.

Forms will be available from Sunday, 16th March.

The closing date for applications is Sunday, 13th April.

The Church Electoral Roll is a list of those qualified to attend and vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting where the elections of the Parochial Church Council and representatives on the Deanery Synod take place. It also gives you the right to raise any questions of parochial or general church interest and to ensure that the laity engages in every aspect of church life. You are strongly urged to apply for membership.

Any lay person is entitled to sign an application form to have their name entered on the Electoral Roll of a parish, if they are baptised and are aged sixteen or over, and can declare that they are either:-

(a) A Member of the Church of England (or of a Church in communion with the Church of England) and are resident in the parish, **or**

(b) A Member of the Church of England (or of a Church in communion with the Church of England) and are not resident in the parish, has habitually attended public worship in the parish during the period of six months prior to enrolment, **or**

(c) A member in good standing of a Church (not in communion with the Church of England) which subscribes to the doctrine of The Holy Trinity and can also declare to be a member of the Church of England and has habitually attended public worship in the parish during the period of 6 months prior to enrolment.

If you want to enrol under part (b) or part (c), and have not been able to attend public worship habitually in the six-month period, you may amend the application form as follows “I would have habitually attended worship in the parish during the period of six months prior to enrolment but was

Continued on page 13

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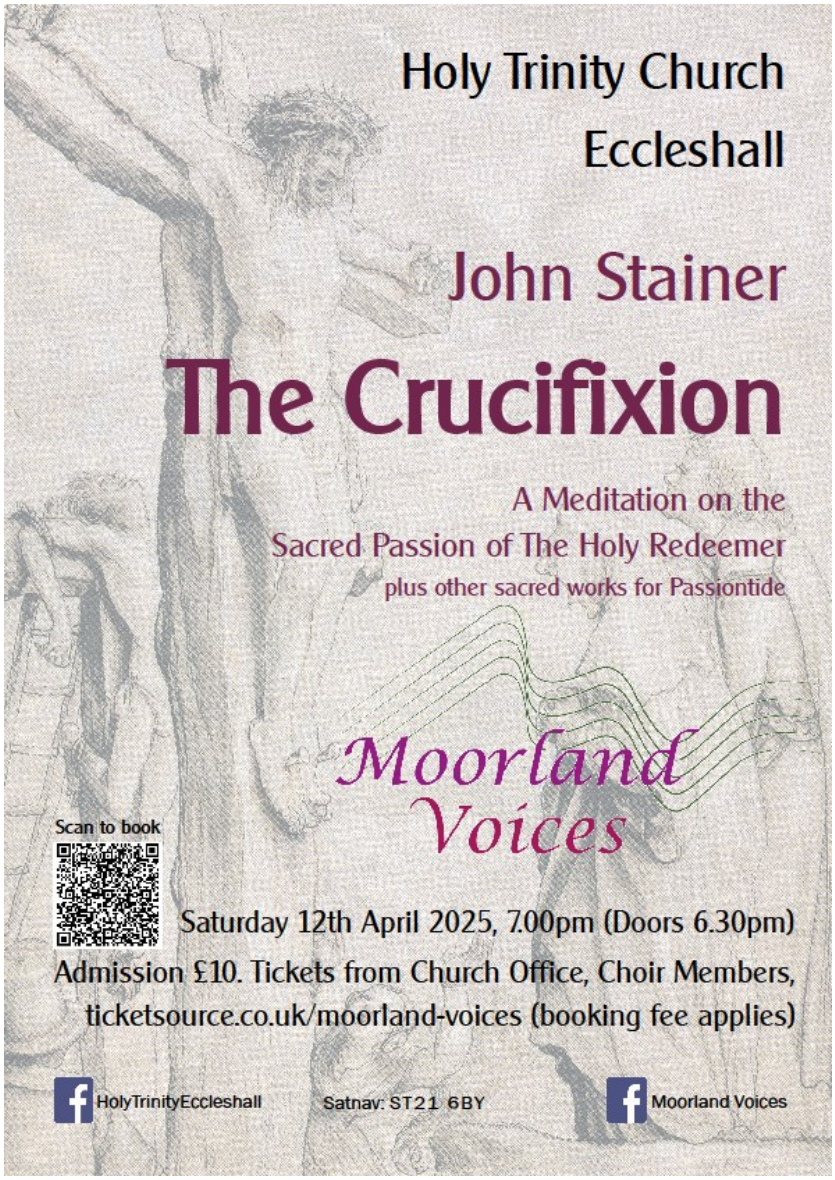
If you have any queries about completing the form, or understanding the qualifications for joining the register, please contact the Vicar or a Churchwarden. Please hand in any completed forms to the Church Office or place in the box provided on the table just inside the church door.

Electoral Roll Officer Michelle Hardy. Contact details: Parish Office 01785 305028 office@eccleshall.church

Please note that Eccleshall Parish includes the areas around Brocton, Eccleshall, Garmelow, Little Sugnall, Mill Meece, Offley Hay, Offley Marsh, Offley Rock, Pershall, Slindon, Sturbridge, Sugnall, Walton and Wootton.

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(See page 15 for details of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting)



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Have you ever thought about joining the P.C.C. or helping on one of our committees?

You might be interested in: -

helping to care for the fabric or finance of the church
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The churchwardens and members of the P.C.C. would be happy to chat with you about the roles they fulfil and how you might be able to help.

At the APCM we will elect our Wardens and Parochial Church Council (PCC) vacant posts. These are important and key volunteer posts within the Parish. Now is the time to start prayerfully reflecting on whether **you** might feel God's nudge to these roles.

Churchwardens serve for 12 months. We appoint four wardens each year. One warden is dedicated to St Chad's and three to Holy Trinity although the wardens work together as a team across the Parish. PCC membership is for a 3-year term. Churchwardens & PCC members must be members of the Electoral Roll (see page 11).

Please do pray about these opportunities and consider if you could step forward and stand for one of the positions. We are happy to discuss the roles if you would like further information. Nomination Forms for the positions of Churchwarden or PCC Member are available in church or from the Parish Office Manager Michelle Hardy

Tel: 01785 305028 Email: office@eccleshall.church

Completed Nomination Forms will need to be returned **before 19th May**



St Chad's News

A little alabaster statue placed on a stand near the pulpit was witness to a special service at St Chad's in early March. This was of our Patron Saint St Chad whose feast day on 2nd March is remembered annually by Slindon parishioners on the nearest Sunday. Each year for the service the figure, usually sitting on a shelf in the vestry, is brought out to be given a special place of honour. During his sermon Revd Stephen Habgood reminded us of St Chad's life. He was a prominent Anglo-Saxon monk born in Northumbria in 634AD. He spent a lifetime of prayer and religious studies and was loved by everyone for his piety, humility and great kindness. Eventually in 669AD he became first Bishop in Lichfield and so impressive was his teaching that on his death in 672AD his remains were venerated and have become a place of pilgrimage. Stephen said that he hoped a lesson could be taken from St Chad's wonderful attitude to life.

We shall probably never know whose suggestion it was that our little Church should be dedicated to St Chad. It is understood that he spent some time at Eccleshall Castle and perhaps, as he liked to travel around on foot, he may have wandered along the woodland tracks in the direction of Slindon. Did I notice a knowing brief smile on our little statue's face?

St Chad's Day has been referred to in a number of Parish Magazines over the years. In 1934 it was celebrated in style at Slindon with three ministers conducting an evening service, a choir, an organist, two violinists and a full congregation! There are three cathedrals, about eighty churches, schools and other institutions all dedicated to St Chad – indeed a much loved man.

Lent is now upon us, lasting forty days until Easter Sunday on 20th April. This is the time Jesus spent in the desert praying and fasting before his death on the cross. People often give up something pleasurable for Lent to emulate this sacrifice and self-discipline. There will be no flowers in church during Lent but the churchyard makes up for it with a carpet of crocuses, snowdrops and early daffodils.

St Chad's Diary Dates:

8th April	St Chad's AGM in St Chad's Church (all welcome)	6.45pm
13th April	Palm Evening Service	6.30pm
17th April	Maundy Evening Service	6.30pm
20th April	Easter Day	11.30am

Anthea Treanor

Prehistoric Fun Well Received!



During February half term we were thrilled to invite over 20 children into the church to enjoy a 'Prehistoric adventure'. We provided a whole range of activities including a dinosaur dig where the children were invited to delicately work their way around the bones and other items much like a palaeontologist to delicately unearth the hidden dinosaur eggs. The eggs then had to be chipped away at to reveal a tiny dinosaur. Another key highlight was a treasure hunt that resulted in each child being rewarded with a fantastic dinosaur mask.

The day was so well received that it is our intention to produce a different themed activity day every half term. If you are not on social media to see our adverts, then please email: arts@eccleshall.church Sarah will then be happy to keep you informed as each event occurs.

Sarah Cartwright

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The Stafford and Stone Health Visiting Team holds a **Wellbaby Drop-in Clinic** in the Parish Room on Thursday mornings from 9.30am to 10.30am. During the baby clinic families can discuss any health issues and have their children weighed and measured.

We look forward to seeing you. For further questions please feel free to phone the 0-19 Families Health and Wellbeing Hub on 08081780611.

Eccleshall Churches Together –

All of our churches have a lot going on of which often others are unaware. Since December last year, at Eccleshall Methodist Church, we have focused on something different each month. In December we collected food for House of Bread each Sunday throughout Advent. It kept us focused on the needs of others while the exciting Christmas preparations went on all around us. In January we decided to commission a new banner to display outside our chapel; a message to the wider community. You may now have seen it there.



In February our theme was Love and we thought about all the people, places and things we love. Love was mentioned in our annual Covenant service. One Sunday it was the theme of our Local Preacher, one week God's love for us as a Father, was the theme of a monologue, and one week our Local Arrangement brought together all we'd thought about love, collectively and individually, in words, hymns and prayers. For March and April we have been focusing on Lent and taking home a little prayer each week. These are our first two weekly focus prayers:

Lord God, you invite us deeper into your world, your, people,
your Lent, may this time be one of outward focus;
seeking you in those we often ignore. *Amen*

Lord, guide me to the path that leads to you.
Help me to hear your voice in my heart.
Stay with me through the busy days this week. *Amen*



In May we will be pondering some of John Wesley's notable words of wisdom, advice and teaching. For instance, "*Do all the good you can*, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can,"

This monthly focus is something we are trying out as a church community, but it is something we could each adopt on a personal basis. Individually,

with a friend or as a family, we could choose a focus of our own each month and see what develops from our thoughts and actions. It may lead to personal benefit, or to something benefiting others, or bring us or them nearer to God.

Dorothy Kirkham for Eccleshall Churches Together

Announcement of the Death of Barbara Marshall



The family of Barbara Marshall is deeply saddened to share that Barbara died peacefully on 10th February 2025 at the age of 90 whilst on holiday in New Zealand visiting her daughter and son-in-law. She departed this life with grace and peace, in a place that she loved, following a short period of illness.

Barbara was known to many in Eccleshall as a local Health Visitor. She played an important role in the lives of so many in our community over the years and will be greatly missed by her family, friends and neighbours.

A celebration of her life will be held on Sunday 6th April at 2pm at Eccleshall Cricket Club and all who knew her are warmly invited to join us in remembering her.

Holy Communion at Home

Do you know of anyone who is sick or housebound and would like to receive Holy Communion at home?

Geoff Dingle, Retired Lay Reader, has administered Communion to people in their homes for a number of years and would be glad to hear from anyone who might benefit from this service.

If you would like to find out more you should contact Michelle, our Parish Office Manager, on 01785 305028 (Mon - Fri 9am-1pm) or email office@eccleshall.church

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The Real Easter

One of my favourite books that I read as a child, as I am sure is the case with many of our readers, was The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe written by C.S. Lewis. Lewis was a Christian and apart from the Chronicles of Narnia and other works of fiction, he wrote a number of non-fiction books about Christianity. This piece then, where Canon Paul Hardingham considers the effect of Easter with reference to this favourite book, is an interesting read. Ed.

In CS Lewis's The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, the lion Aslan is put to death by the White Witch. The stone table on which He is killed cracks in two but Aslan meets with Lucy and Susan alive again. He explains the Witch's failure:

'Her knowledge goes back only to the dawn of time. But if she could have looked a little further back, she would have known that when a willing victim who had committed no treachery was killed in a traitor's stead, the Table would crack and Death itself would start working backwards.'

This is a great picture of what Jesus' cross and His resurrection has achieved. As Paul writes, 'I want to know Christ, to know the power of His resurrection' (Philippians 3:10). To understand the real Easter, we should experience the same power that raised Jesus from the dead!

New Hope: Like the girls in the story, Easter highlights the sadness and confusion that loss brings. Yet the resurrection of Jesus brings new hope as it demonstrates the victory secured by the cross over sin, Satan and death. We can face life's difficulties knowing that Jesus walks beside us.

New Love: Our relationships are often characterised by a lack of forgiveness, hurt and betrayal. Yet Jesus' resurrection opens the possibility of new love as His power enables us to accept others and forgive them.

New Life: When we are trying to make sense of life, like the girls in the story, Jesus offers us a living relationship with Himself. It's a friendship with God through Jesus that can begin today and continue for eternity.

When Lucy met Aslan again, she cried: 'Oh, you're real, you're real!' We too can find the real Easter through a life-changing encounter with the living Christ.



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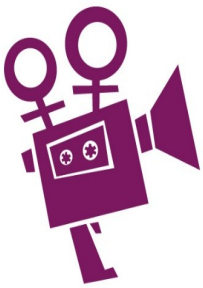
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Eccleshall Community Cinema



Showing monthly on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7.30pm in the Function Room at The Royal Oak, Eccleshall



It is Eccleshall Community Cinema's 10th Birthday this year!



The showing on Thursday 17th April will be the historical epic, Gladiator II

Look out for other upcoming dates on posters around town for what's showing

Tickets (still only £5.00) are available from The Royal Oak, Eccleshall Library and James du Pavey. We look forward to seeing you.

World Day of Prayer 2025 - "I made you wonderful"

The World Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world - through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later. A worldwide wave of prayer…

Thanks to a wonderful team of ladies from churches in Eccleshall, who organised the service, we were able to be a part of that "wave of prayer" in Eccleshall on the World Day of Prayer, 7th March 2025

Ladies from The Cook Islands had prepared the service for this year. This group of 15 islands in the South Pacific Ocean has a rich and colourful Māori heritage and a deep connection to nature.

Those at the service in Eccleshall, which was held at Holy Trinity Church, greeted each other using the Mãori phrase 'Kia Orana!' This is a phrase used in The Cook Islands and means 'May you live a long and wonderful life!'.

The service leaders read stories expressing the hopes, concerns and prayers of different ladies who live in the The Cook Islands. In between these stories, with Mary Scott at the piano, the congregation members reflected on the theme 'I made you wonderful' as they sang the words of a song written by one of The Cook Islands ladies.

I am fearfully made, and wonderfully made,
Marvellous are your works that my soul knows very well.
And I'll praise you all my days.
(from Psalm 139:14)



This was a beautiful ecumenical service and I would highly recommend looking out for the World Day of Prayer 2026!

Photo shows some of the organising team with Mary at the piano.

HB

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Trinity Men's Fellowship - February meeting

Having previously heard Keith Winstanley talk about his adventures on the high seas, the Parish Room was packed with expectant members, old and very old.

This talk was entitled "In the Footsteps of Captain Cook."

Capt. James Cook was born on 17th November 1728 in North Yorkshire. He was rather late in joining the Navy. He first joined the Merchant Navy then transferred to the Royal Navy in 1755 aged 27.

He became a superb navigator and was charged in 1768 with the task of charting the passage of the planet Venus crossing the face of the sun in Tahiti, this to establish the distance of the world from the sun.

At this point Keith described and contrasted the yacht "Storm Bird" (the BMW of modern yachts) and the "Endeavour". There were 94 crew members aboard Capt. Cook's ship and but two sailing the Storm Bird! The Endeavour weighed 366 tons, the Storm Bird 36 tons. There was one real similarity, both skippers were expert navigators.

The story continued….the passage amongst the exotic islands, the two years the Endeavour spent close to "Terra Australis" and the first circumnavigation of New Zealand.

To hear more about the meeting of two Commodores, the meeting of a ship and a pod of whales, the end of the road for Capt. Cook and many more extraordinary adventures, the reader should book a place in the next venue in which Keith will again tell his tales of following in the steps of Capt. Cook.



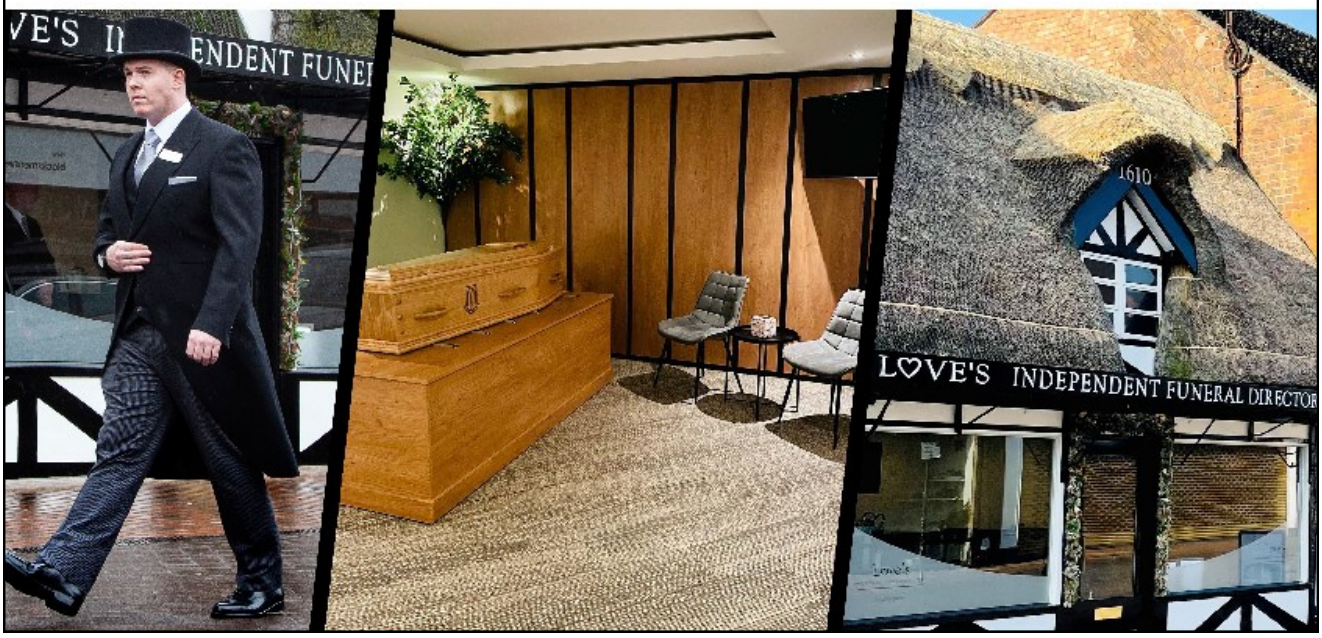
A Senior Correspondent.

With Holy Week in mind…

All the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever were built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of mankind on this earth as powerfully as has that one solitary life. – *James A Francis*

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The Latest Buzz

Hurrah Spring seems to have arrived and the bees are buzzing. They have 'broken' the bee ball they formed during the winter and the flying bees are out foraging. All is looking good so far although we did lose some bees - we don't now why. It's surprisingly sad to take the lid off a bee hive and find nothing there.

Things didn't look so good a week ago if you happened to pass a car driving at 15mph going between Bishops Offley and Eccleshall. What was in the car would have made you look twice.

To explain - a local bee keeping colleague sold us 3 over-wintered bee hives - kept at Bishops Offley. We had to get them home to Eccleshall. Having arrived at the site we thought we had made all the right decisions as to how to move them. Some of the bees had other ideas. To cut a longish story short we had accidentally disturbed one of the bee hives and the bees were less than happy. It was by now about 5pm and going dark. We had to finish the job. We got the hives into the car but we had some bees out of the hive. So we are driving along both in full bee suits, me in the back holding on to a slightly wobbly bee hive and Keith driving slowly. We must have looked very odd.

However the bees are back with us and appear very happy. We are now looking forward to another year of bee keeping in Eccleshall.



Eccleshall Bees



The Old Man of Hoy

Orkney

Orkney is a place where history, nature and culture collide. Known for its world-famous Neolithic sites, rugged landscapes and fascinating wildlife, Orkney is a group of over 70 islands of which only 20 are inhabited. Mainland Orkney is the largest island and the cultural hub of the archipelago, with Kirkwall and Stromness the main towns. Whether you are into archaeology, beachcombing, hillwalking, wildlife, kayaking or cycling, there is something for everyone to enjoy on Orkney.

There are RSPB reserves on the islands where you can see hen harriers, stonechats, short-eared owls and many more. On the coast you can see

Continued on page 29

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Continued from page 27

arctic terns, gannets, puffins, petrels, great northern and red throated divers. Eider ducks are plentiful and even long-tailed ducks have been seen. In recent years the white-tailed sea eagle has been seen in the more southerly islands. This eagle is our largest bird of prey. The waters around the islands are rich in marine life, supporting grey and common seals. Around the coast there have been sightings of Risso's dolphins. It's good to know that they are still about.

The Orkney Vole does not occur in mainland Britain, nor elsewhere in the British Isles – it can only be seen on Orkney. They are about 10% larger than voles from other populations of the common vole. It is thought that voles were introduced to the Orkney archipelago by humans in Neolithic times, possibly brought in with animal fodder. The oldest known radiocarbon-dated fossil of the species in Orkney is 4,600 years old. The seas around Orkney were much used during both world wars with Scapa Flow being the hub of activities. In 1916, HMS Hampshire, carrying Lord Kitchener to Russia, hit a mine off the northwest corner of Mainland Orkney. The boat sank. Only 12 survived out of a total of 749 but Kitchener was not one of them. There is now a Kitchener memorial close to the scene on land giving the names of all those who were on board. If you walk around the area, you might be lucky enough to see the tiny scottish primrose in flower, together with a good range of wildflowers.

My wife and I have a vested interest in Orkney. Our second daughter moved there over twenty-five years ago. She married an Orcadian in 2005 and they have one daughter. They now live in Kirkwall. We have been visiting them on a regular basis and have got to know not just Mainland Orkney but all of the inhabited islands. This summer we hope to return to the island of Westray, which has to be my favourite. The peace and tranquillity of the island is unbelievable. It is one of the few places in the world where I have really felt a strong spiritual presence.



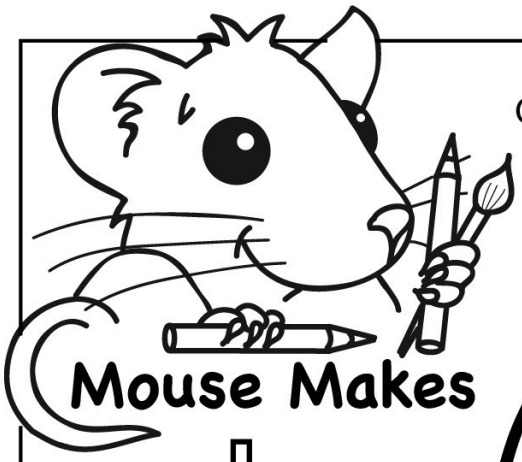
Skara Brae Prehistoric Village

David H. Lovatt

Past Chairman of The North West Group of The Staffordshire Wildlife Trust


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Children's Page



Mouse Makes

On the cross Jesus opened wide his arms for us.
Jesus put an end to death by dying for us,
and showed us the resurrection to
come by His raising to new life!





Jesus is risen!

The angel said:
"Jesus ...is not here, for He has risen, just as He said."
Matthew 28:6

R	E	D	E	E	M	E	R
E	A	S	T	E	R	P	I
S	A	V	I	O	U	R	S
U	L	T	I	M	J	A	E
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C	C	L	O	I	S	S	N
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I	Y	O	G	J	C	F	R
N	U	J	O	Y	E	E	B
G	O	O	D	N	E	W	S

Jesus is here

Jesus said:
"Where two or three come together in my name I am there with them."
Matthew 18:20







Jesus will come again!

Jesus said:
"I will come back and take you to myself so that you will be where I am."
John 14:3





READ the story of the resurrection in:
Matthew 28:1-10
Mark 16:1-19
Luke 24:1-49
John 20:1-29
and ***21:1-14***

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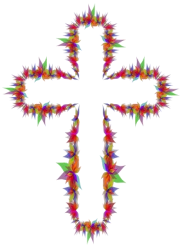
23rd February Jack Allerton
Baptised at Holy Trinity

We welcome Jack to the family of the church

FUNERALS

3rd March 2025 David Pownall
Memorial Service & Burial of Ashes
Holy Trinity

3rd March 2025 Margaret Pownall
Memorial Service & Burial of Ashes
Holy Trinity



7th March 2025 Jeffrey Leese
Funeral Service at Holy Trinity
Committal at Stafford Crematorium

13th March 2025 Charles Archer
Funeral Service & Burial at Holy Trinity

13th March 2025 Margaret Archer
Service & Burial of Ashes at Holy Trinity

Sincere condolences to all who mourn

Where appropriate, services that are held after the date that Trinity magazine has gone to print will be shown on the Parish Registers page in the following issue.

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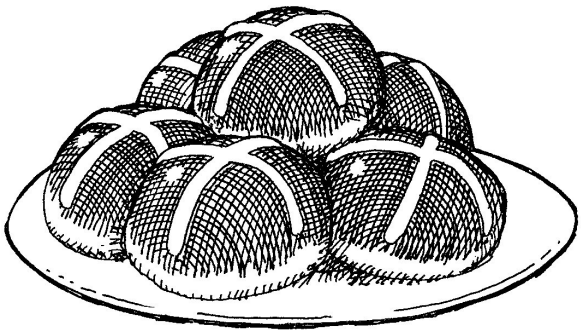
Notes from Trinity Magazine Team

Thank you to all our contributors and readers and many thanks to our deliverers who have been particularly busy collecting subs over this last month or so too. We do appreciate everyone's help and support!

Please send articles or forthcoming events for the May 2025 issue of* TRINITY *by 7th April to Hazel Email: parishmag.eccleshall@gmail.com

If you know of anyone who might like to subscribe to* TRINITY *please let us know.

Ed.



Forthcoming Events

APRIL 2025

Mondays 5.30 - 6.30pm
Living Faith course continues in the Parish Room.

Tuesdays (term-time) 10 - 11.30am
Trinity Tots in Holy Trinity Parish Room - p.4

Tuesdays (4th Mar - 8th Apr) 5.30 - 6.30pm
Lent Course in Holy Trinity Church

Wednesdays 2nd, 16th & 30th 10 -12
Trinity Coffee and Cake in Holy Trinity Parish Room - p. 27

Wednesday 30th
Tooty Flooty (7-8pm) ***and Eccleshall Community Band*** (8-9pm) rehearse in Holy Trinity Church

Thursday 3rd 2 - 4pm
Eccleshall Poetry Group in Eccleshall Methodist Hall **'That's Life!'**

Friday 4th 7.30pm
Staffordshire Wildlife Trust meets in Holy Trinity Parish Room "Spectacular Birdlife in Brazil - The Lightning Tour" Peter Booth

Tuesday 8th 6.45pm
St Chad's AGM

Thursday 10th 7.30pm
Eccleshall WI in Holy Trinity Parish Room "Hand Woven Bags from the Philippines" Analiza Jones

Saturday 12th at 7pm
Moorland Voices sing Choral Works for Passiontide in Holy Trinity Church - p. 13

(Sunday 13th - Saturday 19th is Holy Week - see back page for services.)

Monday 14th 7.30pm
Eccleshall Historical Talks Society in Holy Trinity Parish Room "The Golden Age of Stage Coaching and its relevance to Eccleshall" - speaker Steve Booth

Thursday 17th 2 -4pm
Eccleshall Poetry Group in Eccleshall Methodist Hall **'Shakespeare's Birthday/ England and My Country'**

Friday 25th 10am
TMF Walk in the Norbury Junction area followed by Lunch at Norbury Junction

MAY 2025

Mondays 5.30 - 6.30pm
Living Faith course continues in the Parish Room.

Tuesdays (term-time) 10 - 11.30am
Trinity Tots in Holy Trinity Parish Room - p.4

Sunday 4th 5.30pm
Adbaston Community Concert Society - p. 36

Tuesdays 6th May for 5 weeks 5.30 - 6.30pm
Bible Study on Nehemiah in Holy Trinity Church

Thursday 1st 2 - 4pm
Eccleshall Poetry Group in Eccleshall Methodist Hall **'The Past and The Future'**

Sunday 4th 5.30 pm
Adbaston Community Concert Society at Adbaston Church **-** Manchester Camerata.
For further details see p. 36

Wednesdays 14th & 28th 10 -12
Trinity Coffee and Cake in Holy Trinity Parish Room - p. 17

Wednesdays 7th, 14th & 21st
Tooty Flooty (7-8pm) ***and Eccleshall Community Band*** (8-9pm) rehearse in Holy Trinity Church

Thursday 8th 7.30pm
Eccleshall WI in Holy Trinity Parish Room "Seated Pilates and Dance" Helen Yeomans

Monday 12th 7.30pm
Eccleshall Historical Talks Society in Holy Trinity Parish Room "Bringing up baby in the '50s & '60s " - speaker Kath Reynolds

Thursday 15th 2 -4pm
Eccleshall Poetry Group in Eccleshall Methodist Hall **'Communication & Hidden Messages'**

Sunday 18th 4pm
Choral Evensong in Holy Trinity Church

Saturday 24th 10am
Annual Parochial Church Meeting in Holy Trinity Church - p.15

Friday 30th 10am
TMF Walk in the Swynnerton area followed by lunch at The Fitzherbert, Swynnerton

Contact details for events can be found on pages 38 and 39.

If you would like to give notice of forthcoming events for May and June 2025 please let us know by 7th April 2025 at the latest (details on page 39).

Adbaston Community Concert Society.

ACCS is excited to share details of the first two concerts in the 2025 season.

Sunday 4th May **Manchester Camerata -** Wind Quartet
Sunday 6th July **Chris Gumbley - Jazz**

All concerts are held at the Church of St Michael and all Angels, Adbaston, ST200QE at 5.30pm.
Tickets are £10 in advance or on the door.
There is nearby free parking and, during the concert interval, light refreshments are served for which we ask for a donation.
www.adbastonccs.org.uk with Society details and contacts.

Looking forward to welcoming you to the concerts!



Church Service Rotas for April

Date	6 th April The Fifth Sunday of Lent	13 th April Palm Sunday	20 th April Easter Day	27 th April The Second Sunday of Easter
Holy Trinity 10am	**Sung Eucharist**	**Sung Eucharist**	**Sung Eucharist**	**Sung Eucharist**
Sides-people	A Dale J Dale	T Jones L Veck-Jones	N Reynolds C Reynolds	P Jones Joy Jones
Eucharistic Officer	G Dingle	G Dingle	A Braithwaite	A Braithwaite
Prayers	P Jones	Short Prayer A Goldsmith	Short Prayer B Braithwaite	J Norton
Reading 1	**Isaiah 43: 16-21** P Jones	**Passion Narrative**	**Acts 10: 34-43** K Griffiths	**Acts 5: 27-32** V Firth
Reading 2	**Philippians 3: 4b-14** Joy Jones	**Passion Narrative**	**1 Corinthians 15: 19-26** Jonathan Jones	**Revelation 1: 4-8** M Firth
St Chad's 11.30am	**Said Eucharist**	**Evening Service 6.30pm**	**Said Eucharist**	**Said Eucharist**
Readings	**As 10am** The Whitfields	**As 10am** Geoff Dingle	**As 10am** The Milners	**As 10am** John Leather

Other services, events and activities

Mondays ~ 5.30 - 6.30pm ~ Living Faith course - one year introduction to the Christian Faith - in the Parish Room

Wednesday 2nd April ~ 11am ~ BCP Said Eucharist - in Holy Trinity

Tuesday 8th April ~ 6.45pm ~ St Chad's AGM at St Chad's Church

Saturday 12th April ~ 7pm ~ Moorland Voices Concert See page 13

For Holy Week (13th - 19th April) services, dates and times - see back page

Sunday 20th April - Easter Day ~ 6am ~ Dawn Service at Holy Trinity

Videos of 10am services held at Holy Trinity Church can usually be seen from shortly after the end of the service (at around 11.15am) on the Facebook page of Holy Trinity Parish Church, Eccleshall and will be uploaded to YouTube early the following week.

Town Contacts

GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS

Adbaston Community Concert Society: 01785 850967 www.adbastonccs.org.uk
Art Group: Ann 01785 748061 and Joy 01785 851885
British Red Cross Society: 258155
Ecc. Allotments Association: Adam Pike Eccleshallaa@gmail.com
Ecc. Bridge Club: Margaret Atkins 01782 796201
Eccleshall Community Band: Hazel Bradshaw 851259
Ecc. Community Centre Bookings: Libby Dale 850124
Ecc. Community Cinema: Keith Winstanley 859908
Ecc. Cricket Club: Andy Buttery 284242
Ecc. & Dist. 41 Club: Martin Ratcliffe 07831 277398
Ecc. Festival: Vacant
Ecc. Historical Society: Lester Stuart 850826
Ecc. Library Book Group: Ros Taylor 01785 859068
Ecc. Poetry Group: Thelma Whitfield 01785 760017
Ecc. Show Society: Mary Cartmail 07702 240511
Ecc. Singers: Chris Howe 01785 282785 choweharrier@live.co.uk
Ecc. Trefoil Guild: Nicci Holdcroft npholdcroft@aol.com
Ecc. Trust: Sharon Lynch 851046
Ecc. Voluntary Car Scheme Peter Jones 01785 851381 / 07815419166 peterwjones@btinternet.com www.eccleshallvoluntarycarscheme.org.uk
Ecc. W.I.: Joan Davies 851412
Ecc. Young Farmers: Jessica Bradley 07794362260
Ecclian Society: Brian Freeman 851590
Indoor Bowls Club: Joe Yeomans 851255
Katharine House Hospice-Eccleshall Support Group: Helen Deane 850071
Methodist Church Room Bookings: Anne Ainsworth 850722
National Women's Register: Mary Busby 850854
Neighbourhood Watch: John Baldry 850004
The Over 60s Club: Jenny Oldbury 01785 850490
Rotary Club of Eccleshall Mercia: John Ogbourne, Secretary 07796 273885 john@ogbourne.co.uk
Royal British Legion (Eccleshall Branch): Clive Blakeway 01952 550205
North Staffs Riding for the Disabled: Jane Banks northstaffsrda@gmail.com or 07428376437
Staffordshire Marquetry Group: Quentin Smith 850614
Staffordshire Wildlife Trust: David Lovatt 01782 680250
Tennis Club: Mark Embrey 851265

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Chairman: Ros Taylor 01785 859068
email: ros.taylor@eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk
Clerk to Parish Council: Mrs. Stacey Worden
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Closed Christmas Day Boxing Day & New Year's Day
Open Bank Holidays 9am-5pm

St. Alban's Rd, Stafford
Open: Winter : 9am-4.30pm Mon Tues Fri Sat & Sun
Summer: 9-6 Mon Tues Fri 9-5 Sat and Sun

Stone Recycling Centre
Open: Winter : 9am-4.30pm Wed Thurs Fri Sat & Sun
Summer: 9-6 Wed Thurs Fri 9-5 Sat and Sun

ECCLESHALL LIBRARY 0300 111 8000

Sun/Mon Closed Tues 9am-5pm Wed 9am-1pm
Thurs 9am-5pm Fri 9am-5pm Sat 9am-1pm

YOUNG PEOPLE & CHILDREN

Bishop Lonsdale C. of E. Academy:
Principal: Mrs Claire Jones 01785 336512

1st Eccleshall SCOUTS
Beavers: Monday 6pm to 7pm
Cubs: Wednesday 6.30-8 pm
Explorers: Thursday 7.30-9.30pm
Scouts: Friday 7.30-9.30 pm
Contact: e-mail firsteccleshallscouts@outlook.com

GUIDES
Unfortunately there are currently no Guides, Brownies or Rainbows units running in Eccleshall. For information about local units you can visit www.girlguidi.org.uk

HEALTH

G P Practice
The Crown Surgery, High Street, Eccleshall
Telephone 01785 850226 for appointments
www.crownsurgery.org.uk
Hospital Visiting Times.
County Hospital Stafford 257731 3-8 pm
Royal Stoke University Hospital
01782 715444 2-4 pm, 7-8 pm
First Responders: Jay Eames 07834 919194 www.eccleshallcfrs.org.uk
Requests for **Hospital Radio** Stafford : 223456
Pharmacist (High St. Eccleshall) 850057
Shires Veterinary Practice 01785 907185

HELP NEEDED!

Medical Emergency (seriously ill/injured/life-saving)/ Police Emergency/Fire: 999
Urgent medical advice or treatment: 111
Police: Non Emergency Number **101**
Crime stoppers: 0800 555 111
Samaritans: 24-hours: **Free Call Number** 116123 or email jo@samaritans.org
Citizens Advice Bureau: 258673 or 814806
Relate (Marriage Guidance) : 242779
Bereavement and Loss Support Service : 01782 263455 & 01785 211734
NSPCC (24-hour line): 0800 800 500
GAS emergency number: 0800 111 999
ELECTRICITY emergency number: 0800 328 1111
WATER emergency number: 0800 783 4444
British Rail Enquiries: 08457 484950
Staffordshire Bus Line Information: 223344
Eccleshall Website www.eccleshallguide.org
Parish Council Website www.eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

TRINITY Magazine Free Delivery

If you know of anyone who would like **TRINITY** magazine **delivered to their home** in the **Eccleshall/Slindon/Copmere Area,** please contact **Charles Taylor, on 01782 658832 Mobile 07484 890439**

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CHURCHWARDENS

Kate Griffiths	The Malthouse, 82 High Street, 850948
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Tony Jones	Rumford Redoubt, Newport Road 850186
John Treanor	Lower House, Sugnall Parva 851378

Lay Chairmen John Treanor 851378
Jonathan Jones 851237

Deanery Synod Representatives
Hazel Bradshaw, Kate Griffiths, Jonathan Jones

Other Elected Church Council Members
(S represents Slindon)
John Bradshaw, Sue Bramall (S), Isobel Edge, Linda Jones, John Leather (S), Susan Marsh, David Milner (S), Judith Norton, Chris Reynolds, Nancy Reynolds, Vivien Rowley, Jenny Turnock

Parish Website: www.ecclshallparish.com
Facebook Page : Parish of Eccleshall

ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER
Steve Enock 01785 851873

ST. CHAD'S, SLINDON
Churchwarden: John Treanor 851378
Treasurer: John Leather 850888
Secretary: Sue Marsh
Health & Safety Coordinator: John Treanor

For general enquiries including Funerals, Weddings, Baptisms, Churchyards at both Holy Trinity and St Chad's Slindon please contact the Parish Office
Phone: 01785 305028

CHURCH GROUPS
Bible Study: Revd Phillip 01785 848604
Parish Prayer Group: Judith Norton 859390
Tower Bells: Warren Griffiths 850948
Trinity Men's Fellowship: Rob Hughes 851372

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isobeledge@hotmail.com
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Electoral Roll Officer: Kate Griffiths 850948
Flower Guild Rota: Kate Griffiths 850948
Sidesmen's Rota: Emily admin@eccleshall.church
Health & Safety Coordinator: Kate Griffiths 850948

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Minister: Rev David Middleton
Circuit Office: Mrs. Leigh Reade 01785 229973
Lettings: Mrs. Anne Ainsworth 01785 850722

SACRED HEART CHURCH
Fr. Gerry Doyle 01785 813951

ECCLESHALL CHURCHES TOGETHER
Dorothy Kirkham 01785 851778

THE TRINITY MAGAZINE TEAM
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(or Hazel on 01785 851259)

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Please send articles or forthcoming events for the May 2025 issue of Trinity magazine to Hazel by 7th April 2025 at the latest. Email: parishmag.eccleshall@gmail.com

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April Services
at Holy Trinity, Eccleshall & St. Chad's, Slindon

2nd April, Wednesday Service
11am Holy Trinity - BCP Said Eucharist

6 th April, The Fifth Sunday of Lent
10am - 11am Holy Trinity - Sung Eucharist
11.30am - 12.30pm St Chad's - Said Eucharist

13th April, Palm Sunday
10am - 11am Holy Trinity - Sung Eucharist (procession from crossroads - meet there at 9.30am)
6.30pm St Chad's - Palm Sunday Evening Service
(No morning service at St Chad's)

20th April, Easter Day
6am Holy Trinity - Dawn Service
10am - 11am Holy Trinity - Sung Eucharist
11.30am - 12.30pm St Chad's - Said Eucharist for Easter

27th April, The Second Sunday of Easter
10am - 11am Holy Trinity - Sung Eucharist
11.30am - 12.30pm St Chad's - Said Eucharist

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday, 13th April
10am Sung Eucharist at *Holy Trinity*
6.30pm Evening Service at *St Chad's*

Holy Monday, 14th April
6.30pm Stations of the Cross at *Holy Trinity*

Holy Wednesday, 16th April
6.30pm Tenebrae at *Holy Trinity*

Maundy Thursday, 17th April
6.30pm Mass of the Last Supper at *St Chad's*

Good Friday, 18th April
10.30am Liturgy of the Hour/Act of Witness at *Holy Trinity followed by Act of Witness at Eccleshall crossroads at 12midday*

Holy Saturday, 19th April
6.30pm Vigil Service at *Holy Trinity*

(See page 37 for Sunday service rotas)



If you would like to receive a copy of our News and Information Sheet (usually fortnightly) and weekly Readings and Intercessions sheets via email, please contact our Parish Administration Manager, Emily Howard, at admin@eccleshall.church