

Wavertree Congregational Church

March - April 2025

Happy Easter

Please remember the following in your prayers:

Viv & Jim, Carolyn & Family, Jackie & Jason Hookey, Alison & Ben, Peter & Val, Nick, Kate & baby Eleanor ; Linda Keys, Sue, Stan & Martin Eccles, Dilys Little, Anne Lord, Ann & Alan Ascott, Frank & Phyllis, Graham & Gerald Taylor, Jenny Hudson, Maureen Harvey, John Burnell & Margaret, Pauline Campbell, Sue & Ged, Lindsay & Peter, Mei, John and Family, Jean Dawber, Jen & Mark Firkins, baby Luan and Annettes' friend Saima, and her family.

Dates for your Diary!

March

2nd - Jean Taylor - Holy Communion
5th - Ash Wednesday/ Lent
9th - Graham Taylor
16th - Yvonne Campbell
23rd - Eve Maudsley - AGM
30th - Sue Warburton - Mothers Day

April

6th - Peter Franklin
13th - Eve Maudsley
18th - Good Friday
20th - Sur Warburton - Easter Sunday - Holy Communion
27th - Rowley Moore



Tea with a Twist

- ☆ 1st March - Eve Maudsley
- ☆ 5th April - Sue Warburton

Flower Rota - Mar - Apr

- * 1st & 8th - Viv
- * 13th & 22nd - Sue
- * 29th Mar & 5th April - Ann
- * 12th & 19th - Eve
- * 26th April - 3rd May - Carolyn

John 6:40

For this is the will of the Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in Him should have eternal life, and I will raise Him up on the last day.

Dear Friends,

Sitting upstairs, looking out of the windows at a very cool, damp and dull outside, it seems like a very quiet and rather sleepy outside on the road passing by. That is really misleading though. The naked trees have no leaves yet but it may not be long. Little white flowers are already showing off their life very early. The grass is really covered by pieces of wood and bits of trees that could not escape the recent winds that made our roof rattle. There really is something quietly going on in the world that by and large we cannot yet see.

In Ireland, the farms begin to slowly get going at the beginning of February, on St. Bridget's Day. Traditionally, especially in the country, they are made from straw or reeds. Hanging a Brigid's Cross at one's house was believed to bring the blessing and protection of the saint for the remainder of the year. Brigid's Cross is named for Brigid of Kildare, the only female patron saint of Ireland, who was born c. 450 in Leinster. Unlike her contemporary, Saint Patrick, Brigid left no historical record. Most information about her life and work derives from writing by the monk Cogitosus some 200 years after her birth. There is though a well-respected tradition surrounding Brigid's cross which involves the deathbed conversion of an Irish pagan chieftain. While telling the pagan about the Crucifixion of Jesus, Brigid collected rushes from a nearby stream and wove them into a cross, after which the chieftain requested a Christian baptism.

For me, whether we believe or not about a young woman who risks so much to convert an Irish chieftain to the one true faith, what she did was honest and brave. Remember Jesus. "A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them". He gave them permission, and the impure spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned. Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened...Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the demon-possessed man—and told about the pigs as well" (Mark 5: 5-16).

Some people might ignore the tradition of the young Brigid, or even the story of the possessed pigs. That is their responsibility. But both stories contain truth. These days we may not meet many ancient Irish lords or mad pigs, but we must follow, whatever the Lord requires of us to do. Donating money, big or small, to help those in Gaza, Sudan and many other places to feel the true love of God. If we do that, then the love of Spring flowers brings us all the love of God in our hearts.

God Bless
Peter

