

Western Downland Churches

WEEKLY UPDATE

13 May 2022

Rogation Returns!

Our second Rogation Service takes place this Sunday at St George's Church, Damerham, where we will be outside in the Churchyard (weather permitting). There will be the opportunity for the blessing of animals within the service.

This Sunday 15th May: 5th Sunday of Easter

IN CHURCH & VIA LIVESTREAM

St Leonard, Whitsbury

9.30a.m. Parish Communion

Contemporary Language

Social Distancing areas will be available at services with larger numbers attending.

IN DAMERHAM CHURCHYARD (& VIA LIVESTREAM

St George's Church, Damerham

11.00a.m. Rogation Prayers

& the Blessing of Animals

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/631331839>

Meeting ID: 631 331 839

Face coverings are optional. though wearing one may give you and others reassurance.

A quick Health Check

If you feel unwell, even if the symptoms are not those most associated with Covid, please stay at home.

All Saints Church, Martin is open daily (9a.m. - 4p.m.) for personal prayer for the people of Ukraine.

Faith Room

Starting this Wednesday (18th May)

Faith Room is moving into the physical space. If you would like to join us we begin at 2p.m. on the terrace behind Riverside Court (West Street, Fordingbridge, SP6 1GH). We will gather every other week for study, prayer and friendship.

Christian Aid Week begins this Sunday 15th May. You can donate toward the important work of Christian Aid [here](#) and also find lots of information about the projects they are undertaking, or supporting around the world. Christian Aid Week forms a vital element in their fundraising programme. Please consider if you can give a gift

Get your Bunting out of the Loft!

Platinum Jubilee plans are advancing apace in all our various parishes, with events from beacon-lighting to tree planting, door decoration to children's races, picnics to community photos. Do find out what is happening in your own community. And do join in!

For your Thoughts & Prayers

◆ Pray for politicians on all sides in Northern Ireland, that they may see beyond sectarian divisions and political barriers to work out practical solutions which serve the best interests of the people of Northern Ireland. Pray also that those with influence to affect the political landscape - the UK, EU, Ireland and the USA - may work to put common sense and cooperation before partisan politics, so as to maintain peace and build prosperity for all in Ireland and the United Kingdom.

◆ Hundreds of lives continue to be lost in Ukraine on a weekly basis, including many Russian soldiers. And more evidence is emerging of atrocities, almost all committed by Russian forces. Pray for peace and for all those needlessly caught up in this tragic conflict.



- ◆ Tensions have grown significantly in the Palestinian Territories and across Israel as a spate of tit for tat killings have taken place, culminating in the shooting, possibly by an Israeli soldier, of an Al Jazeera journalist.
- ◆ Pray for the people of Sri Lanka, the Lebanon and many other countries facing very uncertain times in the face of political crises and financial pressure.
- ◆ Remember those killed in an office fire in Delhi and those killed in an Ecuadorean prison riot.
- ◆ Remember the families of those other children preparing for baptism and marriage. We celebrate the Starks who were married this week in Rockbourne.
- ◆ From our regular cycle of prayers we pray for Conchita Sedgewick and Anne Conlan.
- ◆ We remember all those affected by illness and bereavement, including Jan Harris, Michael Wingate-Saul and Bunny Rabbetts, and others dealing with serious health circumstances.
- ◆ **Don't forget:** Those in prison in Iran for political reasons; both its own citizens and foreign nationals, including two French citizens recently arrested.

Tuesday Reflection & Prayer online Tuesdays at 9.30a.m. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87190762729>

Meeting ID: 871 9076 2729 **Passcode:** 325626

St George's Church, Damerham Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Tuesday 24th May at Damerham Village Hall, beginning at 7.30p.m. (The PCC meets at 7.00p.m.)

In the build up to the main British land action of the **Falklands Conflict** the QE II, which had left the UK with 5. Infantry Brigade on 12th May was nearing passed Ascension Island, as part of the major reinforcement moving south. A day or two earlier the Amphibious Task Group, including the Royal Marine and Paratroop elements were joining the aircraft carriers to the north east of the Falklands. The British Cabinet gave its approval for planned landings at San Carlos Water to proceed. During this week two Sea King helicopters were lost; one in an accident due to instrument failure, the other in one of the most mysterious incidents of the conflict, being destroyed by her crew on the coastline of Chile hundreds of miles from the Falklands and close to Argentine territory. A plausible explanation is that a dash was made by one of the carriers, to enable a helicopter landing of SAS members in Argentina to give early notice of the take off Argentine Air Force raids. As it was too far to make a round-trip the helicopter instead landed on Chilean soil. Additional Harrier aircraft transported on support ships now joined the British carrier group. As the land forces were being redistributed around the naval and other ships in preparation for the now imminent landings at San Carlos (to avoid too heavy a loss of life if any one ship was hit by missiles or bombs) a third Sea King crashed into the sea and 21 soldiers and air crew were killed.