



# St Margaret's Church



## Good Friday 2024

9:30am All Age Service

11:00am Reflective Hour

@Mugswell Hall

1pm - 3pm Church Open  
for private prayer



## Join Us This Palm Sunday

With Revd. Hannah Gordon

We look forward to  
welcoming you to  
All Age Communion  
at 10am on

# Palm Sunday

24th March 2024

## Messy Palm Sunday

3-5pm, Sunday 24th March

Join us for all-age activities,  
community and a chance to eat  
together at tea-time!

Please email Josh to let us know you  
are coming: [youth@stmchipstead.org](mailto:youth@stmchipstead.org)



## Holy Week



**28th March 8pm Maundy Thursday – Holy Communion**

**29th March 9.30am Good Friday Worship for All Ages**

**31st March 10am Easter Sunday – Praise and Worship**

### Morning Prayer

09:15 am in church

Tues 26th Mar

Weds 27th Mar

No Morning Prayer

Tues 2nd Apr

Weds 3rd Apr

Deborah is usually in the  
Parish Office every  
Wednesday, between 10am  
and 1pm. Do drop in for a  
chat and refreshments.

Parish Office will be closed  
3rd of April  
Hannah is on leave 1st to  
10th April

## Easter Lilies

If you would like to buy a lily in memory of a loved one, there will be a money box at the back of church and a list for names. If you would prefer, please send a BACS transfer using reference code EASTERLILY and send Deborah details of who it is for at [admin@smchipstead.org](mailto:admin@smchipstead.org).

They are £5 each.

## Volunteers Wanted!

If you are interested in manning the church for private prayer on Good Friday for all or part of the time please contact Deborah at [admin@smchipstead.org](mailto:admin@smchipstead.org)

Many thanks.

## Walking Group



First planned walk will be Friday April 5th. Usual meeting place at the lychgate at 10.30am-10.45am. Walks are local and within the church boundaries and doggies are welcome!

## Parish News

## Obituary

Mike Gadsden died peacefully in his sleep on 12th March, 2024. He was nearly 95. Please remember Jane and the family in your prayers.

### Monthly Drop In Sessions with Hannah

20th February	18th June
19th March	16th July
16th April	17th September
21st May	15th October



[stmargaretschipstead.org](http://stmargaretschipstead.org)

**10am - 11:30am**

In the parish office

## Contact Us

**Rev. Hannah Gordon**

01737 552157

[rector@smchipstead.org](mailto:rector@smchipstead.org)

**Admin office**

01737 552160

[admin@smchipstead.org](mailto:admin@smchipstead.org)

## CHIPSTEAD PARISH PILGRIMAGE

**Monday 6 May**

Starting with Morning Prayer at Mugswell Hall and walking on to Chipstead, Hooley and Netherne, praying through our community

Join us for all or part of the walk, as we journey through our parish with God

Email Josh to let us know that you are coming: [youth@smchipstead.org](mailto:youth@smchipstead.org)

## FRIDAY YOUTH

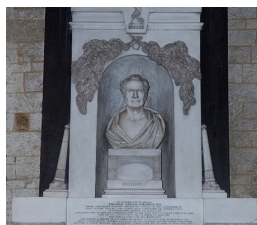
**12 APRIL**  
**26 APRIL**

**6-7:30PM IN THE ORCHARD**

**Come for games, food and faith with friends**



Email Josh to find out more. [youth@smchipstead.org](mailto:youth@smchipstead.org)



Rev. John Wates OBE and Jon Grant will be giving a presentation outlining the church history followed by a tour

**Orchard at 2.30pm on Saturday 18 May.**

The presentation, tea and tour will take about 2 hours. After this there is an optional visit up the Bell Tower for those with the most stamina! Suggested contribution £5 Please book a space by contacting Deborah at [admin@smchipstead.org](mailto:admin@smchipstead.org)

## Diary Dates

### Messy Pentecost

**3-5pm, Sunday 19th May**

Join us for all-age activities, community and a chance to eat together at tea-time!



Please email Josh to let us know you are coming: [youth@smchipstead.org](mailto:youth@smchipstead.org)



With the Messy Church Team  
St Margaret's Church 'Orchard' on  
Sunday 19th May 3-5pm



A recap of session five a link to which can be found below.

<https://www.24-7prayer.com/podcast/contemplate-hearing-god-in-the-whole-world/>

### Contemplate hearing God in the Whole World

This week's fifth and final session focused on Contemplate 'hearing God in all of life'.

Pete recapped on the four previous weeks learnings:

**Lectio** – hearing the Lord's voice by reading and respecting his written word in the bible

**Meditatio** – hearing the Holy Spirit in our thoughts by meditating

**Oratio** – turning our conversation into meditation with the Lord in prayer

And finally contemplation

**Cotemplatio** – moving from meditation and conversation into contemplation in which we encounter the Lord beyond the text and in the whole of life.

## SESSION FIVE RECAP



The following prayer was written by the comedian Frank Skinner:

Lord, all the hard-work of prayer is sometime replaced by a yearning to just be, to silently be. It isn't not praying it feels more like being prayed. And so I rest here for just a short time. I sort of know it's where the glory is, but it's a place I feel too naked to stay long. I also feel, and I don't mean to reduce you, that the silence might be the one place that you don't know what's coming next either. Amen.

Pete then told us that on October 13th, 2016, a vast silver back gorilla from London Zoo called Kumbuka who made an opportunistic escape from his unlocked den into the staff-only service corridor where a zookeeper was working. Thanks to the incredibly close bond and relationship shared by the zookeeper and Kumbuka, the zookeeper was able to continually reassure Kumbuka, talking to him calmly and in the same light-hearted tone he would always use, as he removed himself from the area, while Kumbuka briefly explored the zookeeper area next door to his den, where he opened and drank five litres of undiluted blackcurrant squash! Lectio Devina at its worse, a bit like that keepers kitchen a private space, where we can give ourselves a sugar rush! At its best it sets us free and enables us to absorb God's word that we become God word for a world that may never read the bible,

Acts 17: 24-25 (NIV) Apostle Paul addresses the people of Athens instead of rebuking them for worshipping idols he points to one dedicated to an unknown God 'The God who made the world and everything in it...does not love in temples built by human hands... and "gives everyone life and breath and everything else." Then he quotes one of their own famous writers "As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring'" Acts 17:28 NIV. Terese of Avila describes prayer as "An intimate sharing between friends" and hymn writer Charles Wesley "lost in wonder, love and praise" We all lose ourselves, in the hysteria of an exciting event, or a good movie, or a beautiful piece of music, we are fundamentally hard wired to worship. St John of the Cross says – "Seek in reading and you will find in meditation; knock in prayer and it will be open to you in contemplation."

This week's special guest was not a person but the beautiful Island of Lindisfarne, In 635AD Saint Aidan came from Iona and chose to found his monastery on the island of Lindisfarne. From here the Christian message flourished throughout the world. Cut off from the world by tides twice a day.

Prayer and reaching the world was Aidan's life. Pete tells the story of a king, worried that Aidan would walk like a peasant, gave him a horse but Aidan gave it away to a beggar. He wanted to walk, to be on the same level as the people he met. The furnace of his life was prayer but then he went out and set the world on fire wherever he went. At the heart of prayer life on Lindisfarne Aidan and successive generations of monks lived their whole lives around the scriptures, prayed, scribed, transcribed, sang meditated and illustrated the four gospels of the bible which was handmade and known as 'The Lindisfarne Gospels.' The manuscript was produced in a scriptorium in the monastery of Lindisfarne. It took approximately 10 years to create. Its pages are vellum and evidence from the manuscript reveals that the vellum was made using roughly 150 calf skins. The book is 516 pages long. The text is written "in a dense, dark brown ink, often almost black, which contains particles of carbon from soot or lamp black". The monks manufactured 90 of their own colours with "only six local minerals and vegetable extracts". Sadly the Vikings eventually destroyed Lindisfarne.

In summary "the Lindisfarne Gospels are the most ancient invitation to interact with God's word prayerfully and attentively for the sake of God's world with hearts of worship

So Pete ended this wonderful and thought provoking course with a prayer by Isaac of Stella: Himself is my contemplation. He is my delight. Him for His own sake I seek above me. From Him Himself I feed within me. He is the field in which I labour. He is my cause. He is my effect. He is my beginning. He is my end. He is for me eternity. Amen.