

## Notices and Dates for your diaries:

**St Thomas's APCM (our AGM):** all are welcome to this event which is at 7 p.m. on Friday, 20 April at the church, following the Preservation Society's AGM. The finances of 2017 will be discussed and church officers appointed. A drinks party will follow.

**Electoral Roll:** a copy is in the porch. Could those on the roll please check their details and give any corrections to Harriet Atwood 01747855255 or harrietatwood@hotmail.com

**Flower Arranging for Easter:** Ann Brooks and Valerie Warrington look forward to seeing those on the rota and anyone who would like to join them for arranging of Easter flowers at 10 a.m. on Saturday, 31 March.;

**Low Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April:** there will be a 10.00am Team Service at St Mary's Motcombe due to the limited availability of clergy after Easter. A planned BCP Communion at St Thomas's will have to be re-scheduled.

**Reports of various church activities** for the APCM on 20 April will be incorporated into the annual report which will be circulated. These reports (sidesmen, bells, flowers, sacristans, electoral roll, team council and so forth – may be only a couple of essential sentences) should be sent to Alan Kirkham for incorporation into the 2017 annual report.

### Open House Easter Hamper Appeal

OpenHouse are again making hampers for vulnerable families in our community and would be grateful for donations of the following:

- Easter eggs
- Chocolate or sweet treats
- Soft toys (for young children)
- Drinks (non-alcoholic please)

Boxes will be available in your church for donations and will be collected after Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March (Palm Sunday).

For any further information, please contact:

Alan Kirkham 853515 alanjean.kirkham@gmail.com

or Helen Beecham 852994 helen@fathershouseshaftesbury.co.uk

**Team Office** Please note the Team Office will be closing for Easter on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 12noon, reopening on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 9.00am.

**Pewsheets Notices:** If you have anything for the pew sheet please let Rodney Atwood [harrietatwood@hotmail.com] know by lunch time the previous Wednesday.

# WELCOME to St Thomas's Church, Melbury Abbas

If you are new to the church or visiting, please introduce yourself to one of the team so we might get to know you better.

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Team Office is open Mon - Fri 9am - 12pm  
Tel: 853060 email: office@ShaftesburyCofE.org.uk  
www.ShaftesburyCofE.org.uk

THE SHAFTESBURY TEAM  
St Thomas's, Melbury Abbas



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**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Palm Sunday**  
**11.15am – Matins with Passion Reading**

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Good Friday**  
**12noon – Meditation for Good Friday**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Easter Sunday**  
**11.15am – Family Festival Communion**

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## **Collect**

Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## **Palm Gospel** Mark 11.1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" just say this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately."' They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, 'Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

## **Passion Narrative** according to Luke