

17 March 2024

Lent 5

Passion Sunday

HEXHAM ABBEY PEWSHEET
 COMMUNITY ~ NEWS ~ EVENTS ~ VOLUNTEERS

News from the Quibells

Rachel and Toby Quibell are now almost five months into their work in Nepal. Please find their latest newsletter attached to this week's pewsheet, as we continue to pray for them and all those with whom they are working.

Palm Sunday

Our Palm Sunday procession and Eucharist on Sunday 24 March will begin outside the Slype door in the marketplace **at 9.55am**. Those unable to join the procession are welcome to gather inside the Abbey.

In the evening, **at 6pm**, there will be a service of musical meditation at St George's Jesmond. Our choir will join the choir of St George's for Gabriel Fauré's much-loved *Requiem*. All are welcome! There will be **no service in the Abbey** that evening.

Anniversary Voices 15 MARCH, 7PM

Tonight, Antiphon Choir and Hexham Abbey Choir join forces for an evening of choral enchantment. The ancient stones of the Abbey will resonate with voices joined in a musical journey spanning centuries. Tickets are still available online (and remaining tickets on the door):

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/hexham-abbey/anniversary-voices/e-mdyalk>

Holy Week and Easter in Hexham

Churches Together in Hexham have put together a wonderful selection of services to guide us through Holy Week and help us to prepare for Easter (in addition to the Abbey's own services; see overleaf). All are very welcome at any or all of these services!

DATE	DAY	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
25-Mar	Monday	Prayer and Reflection on Christ's Suffering	7pm	St Mary's
26-Mar	Tuesday	Encounter – music and reflection on the Fig Tree	7pm	Trinity
27-Mar	Wednesday	Taizé service	7pm	Abbey
29-Mar	Good Friday	Walk of Witness	10.30am	M&S Car Park
		followed by tea and coffee	11.15am	St Aidan's
		followed by Quaker-led service	11.45am	St Aidan's
31-Mar	Easter Day	Sunrise Service	6am	The Sele
		followed by bacon sandwiches	6.30am	Trinity

GiFT

A note to say that our GiFT home groups will be taking a short break for Holy Week and Easter. Our next meeting will be on **9/10 April**.

Children and Families Ministry – Appeal

In January, a team volunteers and staff spent a day reflecting on the ways in which the Abbey community engages with children and families. Many new initiatives have started since we emerged from Covid restrictions, including a Chat, Chocolate and Cards lunch-club at the Middle School, a weekly Games Café at the Abbey, the return of the Take This magazine, the growth of the Abbey Choirs, the family film screenings in the choir stalls, and so much more. Together with our lively Tots' Praise, Messy Church and Cloister Club, these activities provide a varied and rich offer to young children and their families.

None of these initiatives would be possible without the dedicated support of our fantastic volunteers who give so freely of their time and talents. Time and again, we have had feedback to say that our activities are a crucial lifeline to many families (not least in times of crisis) and provide an opportunity for individuals to encounter faith in action.

Good hospitality is crucial to this ministry, but brings with it regular, weekly costs. We would be immensely grateful for any financial support you might be able to give towards these costs. If, for instance, everyone in our regular Sunday morning congregation made a one-off donation of just £1, we could provide a sandwich lunch for Hexham First School when they come to explore the themes of Holy Week with us in a couple of days; if everyone gave £5, we would be able to provide a healthy snack for the children who attend Games Café for the entire year.

If you'd like to make a contribution to this essential ministry as part of your Lenten preparations, simply pop a donation in a Gift Aid envelope, and mark the envelope Children and Families Outreach. Alternatively, donations can be made by BACS to Hexham Abbey Parochial Church Council, Sort Code: 20-40-09, Account: 00476951.

Do feel free to speak to Henry or Cath if you'd like to find out more, or if you'd be interested in joining this amazing part of what goes on at the Abbey! Thank you for your generosity!



FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Those who are unwell or who have asked for our prayers: Jenda Harbottle, Ian Darley, Ida Gouch, Philip Hobson, Joyce Porter, Sophie, Sharon Dixon and Susan Davies

Those who died and those who mourn: Roy Walker, Jennifer Stephenson, Ronald Breen, Thomas Sanderson, Thomas Gillanders and Mary Whitbread

Please also pray for all who work at and attend St Mary's First School and St Joseph's Middle School.

Muppets Treasure Island

The film buffs among you will be delighted to hear that we are planning another film screening in the choir stalls. We will be continuing our series of much-loved Muppets films with the Muppet Treasure Island on **Saturday 16 March at 2pm**. As usual, there will be popcorn and ice cream; this event is free to attend, and no booking is required!

Bereavement Coffee Morning and Service

On **Sunday 17 March at 6.30pm**, we will hold our termly Bereavement Memorial Service. Everyone is very welcome indeed to join this special service in memory of loved ones who have died.

On **Thursday 21 March, between 10.30am and 12noon**, our Bereavement Team will be hosting a Coffee Morning in the Abbey. Do join us for good conversation, laughter, some home-made refreshments, and the opportunity to draw strength and comfort from each other's company.

Flutes and Fizz, Moritz Schulte and Jill Hughes

TUESDAY 19 MARCH, THE GREAT HALL, 3PM

What could be more exciting than some fabulous flute music and a glass of fizz or two? Tempted? We'd be delighted to see you for an hour-long recital given by our very own Jill Hughes and the aspiring young flautist Moritz Schulte (principal flute with the much-acclaimed NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchestra in Hamburg). The recital is free—donations to cover the cost of fizz and refreshments will be greatly appreciated.

Seven Last Words—Cello Recital

THURSDAY 21 MARCH, 1PM

The so-called Seven Last Words are the short utterances attributed to Jesus on the cross. Some of these are well known – "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?", "I thirst," and "It is finished." There are seven meditative poems, interleaved with the Sarabandes from Bach's Six Suites for Solo Cello. The work is framed by other music at the beginning and the end – sometimes, but not always, more Bach.

Pampas Grass

If anyone would like any Pampas Grass, the gardening team have dug some up from the Refectory Café garden and are very happy for it to find a new home! Please get in touch with the Parish Office if you would like some (admin@hexhamabbey.org.uk.)

Tin Cans: Thank You

Jo and Austin would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has collected empty cans for them to paint for their daughter's wedding.

They have now reached the total required and made a donation to Abbey funds!

'Your willingness to help has given us a sense of being lovingly upheld when we have a large task on our hands, so you have actually given us more than tin cans! Thank you!'

Sunday 17 March 2024 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (PASSION SUNDAY)

10am **Parish Eucharist** **Readings** Jeremiah 31.31–43; John 12.20–33

Intercessor Shelagh Carter **Readers** tbc; Julie Barham

3pm **Messy Church**

6.30pm **Bereavement Memorial Service**

Tuesday 19 March 2024

12noon **Holy Communion** **Readings** 2 Samuel 7.4–16; Matthew 1.18–end

Intercessor Sue Snow **Reader** Barbara Rowarth

IN THE ABBEY THIS WEEK

Monday 18 March 9am Morning Prayer
3.15pm Christian Meditation

Tuesday 19 March 9am Morning Prayer
12noon Holy Communion
1.15pm Funeral of Eddie Sanderson
3pm Flutes & Fizz (*in the Great Hall*)
6.30pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 20 March 9am Morning Prayer
9.30am Tots' Praise
6.30pm Choral Evensong

Thursday 21 March 9am Morning Prayer
10.30am Bereavement Coffee Morning
12pm Cello Meditation – The Seven Last Words
6.30pm Choral Evensong

Friday 22 March 9am Morning Prayer

Sunday 24 March 2024 PALM SUNDAY

8.15am **Holy Communion** **Readings** Isaiah 50.4–9a; Mark 11.1–11

9.55am **Palm Sunday Procession** **Readings** Philippians 2.1–8; Mark 11.15–18
and Eucharist **Readers** Chris Britton; Hedley Everett

12.30pm **Baptism of Marnie Carroll**

6pm **Fauré's Requiem at St George's Jesmond** (*no service in the Abbey tonight!*)