



# Inspire

February 2019

Dear brothers and sisters,

February is an interesting month. Memories of Christmas with all the celebrations of both family and church seem a long time ago, but there are signs of the changing of the season – the days are drawing out and there is even blossom and bulbs visible as the promise of Spring and new life to come.

I wonder what this year holds for you?

Are you looking forward with keen anticipation to good times ahead, or fearful for hard and challenging times ahead? Has Jesus remained as the babe in the cradle, celebrated and now forgotten or is he part of our ongoing journey?



What does it mean that God is Emmanuel – God with us?

I think this passage from Hebrews gives us very good pointers.

*<sup>17</sup> For this reason he [Jesus] had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup> Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted. (Hebrews 2:17-18)*

Firstly – he became human so that he could live the perfect life and take our place for the punishment we deserved. He died in our place and conquered death and its power and offers us the opportunity to live in the Father's love and be his precious child – how amazing is that!

Secondly - It means that he knows and experienced what it was like to be human – to be frail and uncertain. He knows what it is to resist temptation, how hard it is to do what is right, how sometimes you just have to cling onto the promises of God. He understands!

Let's be encouraged – don't leave Jesus in the cradle – he grew up. The same Spirit who was at work in him is available to us – we just have to let him in.

Whatever this year holds – things you know about and things you don't - be assured God knows, he will walk with you every step of the way. Sometimes it will be easy and sometimes harder to trust, but *'The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it'*.

*(1 Thessalonians 5 v24)*

So, let us commit

- to keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus,
- to reading his Word – to allow it to speak into our lives daily,
- to spending time in prayer with the creator and sustainer of the universe,
- to spending time with one another – in Church and home groups
- to praying for one another

Then, this year, whatever happens, we will be firm in our faith and secure in God's love and plan for us.

*Reverend Sue Finch, Associate Minister*

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## **News from St Mary's PCC**

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At the PCC meeting in January 2019 the council considered a variety of issues and made a couple of important decisions:

### The Church Centre

As most members of St Mary's will be aware, we have over several years been exploring how the Church Centre might be developed to better serve our mission and ministry. Each of the possible ways forward has so far proved unfruitful and so the PCC has decided that in the short term we need to do some urgent repairs and redecoration. The focus of the refurbishment in the first place will be on the entrance hall, main hall and kitchen areas and the PCC has agreed expenditure for this work. It is hoped that we will look at other areas of the building in the future, however, these areas were seen as a priority.

### Gift for Meadgate Church

During 2018 Meadgate Church was presented with the opportunity of purchasing the former Infant School site, known as Meadgate, The Orchards, which it has been leasing for the last four years. Details about this purchase are set out in the letter from Tim Ball which follows the PCC news and which the PCC agreed could be sent to the congregation.

The PCC has decided to make a gift of £25,000 to Meadgate Church towards the purchase of the site as an expression of our support for the ministry of our brothers and sisters in the Team and also in recognition of the important ministry being offered from Meadgate, The Orchards, which serves not just the Meadgate area but the wider community of Great Baddow. Please continue to pray for the different aspects of the purchase of the site and for its future development.

### Other matters discussed

The PCC spent some time discussing how we might ensure that our church, its groups and organisations may be a place of welcome and inclusion for all people. The matter will also be discussed by the Ministry Leadership Team and along with the clergy team will consider how we might best explore this issue as a church. The Church of England is also looking at this issue, particularly in relation to the area of sexuality, and so we will be looking at what processes, resources and recommendations will be coming from the wider church.

The PCC continued considering how we might respond to the Diocesan initiative to develop Mission and Ministry Units and what this means for the Great Baddow Team Ministry. It looked at the end of years accounts for 2018 which are still being finalised and agreed dates for the formation of the new electoral roll (details from the Electoral Roll officer in this edition of Inspire) and the Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Meeting which will be on **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm.**

**Letter from Tim Ball about the purchase of Meadgate, The Orchards.**

*Dear Sisters and Brothers at St. Mary's,*

*We want to thank you for your encouragement, prayers, and support as we have developed the Orchards Project over the last few years. We are especially grateful to those who have volunteered in various ways and those who have come as customers to the Orchards Café.*

*You will know that we have been working towards buying the site and in the Diocese is buying the old School House next to it so that the Meadgate Vicarage can be located in Meadgate itself. The process is now coming to fruition and we have all the money in place to complete the purchase. The people of Meadgate Pledged £250,000 towards it and further monthly giving to cover loan repayments and we are now calling those pledges in. We are also promised a loan of up to £425,000 from the diocese to be paid back over 20 years to cover the whole cost plus the legal fees. We will have repair ongoing renewal costs as well.*

*However, we are hoping that we may benefit from a further significant gift from a member of Meadgate Church but that is not altogether settled, and we know that St. Mary's PCC has agreed to give £25,000 to the purchase for which we are very grateful. With these two gifts we know that we will be able to pay back the loan over 10 years and that will avoid burdening future generations. A number of individuals from St. Mary's have given, or have asked how they can give, to the project and so we are inviting gifts however small from the people of St. Mary's to share with us in this work.*

***If giving by CAF our charity name is:***

*'The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Great Baddow, Meadgate'. Charity number 1169955.*

***If by Bank Transfer our sort code is: 23-05-80, account number: 28537468***  
*Account name: Meadgate Church.*

***Or by cheque made payable to 'Meadgate Church' and sent to our treasurer. Malcolm Burrell, c/o Meadgate Church, The Orchards, Mascalls Way Chelmsford CM2 7NS.***

*If you could drop Malcolm an email at: [treasurer@meadgatechurch.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@meadgatechurch.org.uk) to let him know how it is paid and how much, that would be of great help.*

*We thank you so much. It is a great blessing to us to know we have the support of the people of St Mary's with whom we have shared over the years. May God who began a good work in us carry it on until completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

*With grateful thanks in our Lord.*

*Revd. Canon Tim Ball, Vicar, Meadgate.*

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## Mission Focus on: CPAS

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CPAS (Church Pastoral Aid Society) has been helping churches reach out with the message of the gospel since 1836.

Our mission is to enable churches in the UK and Republic of Ireland to help every person hear and discover the good news of Jesus. We are an Anglican evangelical mission agency, and we're here to help any church which shares our vision for seeing God's kingdom grow here in the UK and Republic of Ireland.



As a mission agency, the relationship between leadership, discipleship and mission is what drives us, and we long to see local churches equipped and enabled to grow in faith and numbers. We seek to meet this goal through a range of resources, courses and events which help make disciples and develop leaders, promoting healthy, growing churches where the gospel is shared and men, women and young people come to know Jesus Christ.

A key area of our ministry is developing leaders in churches.

- Our *Arrow Leadership Programme* helps influential full-time leaders become more effective in their ministry and mission.
- Our popular *Growing Leaders* and *Mentoring Matters* courses are used by churches across the UK to equip leaders and leaders-to-be across all areas of church life and beyond.
- We help future leaders explore their vocation through *You and Ministry* weekends and *Lifecall* young vocations days.
- And contribute to diocesan training programmes for clergy on the frontline of ministry.

CPAS is also the sole or joint patron for over 500 Anglican churches, from groups of small parishes in rural areas to churches like All Saints, Peckham, with its groundbreaking urban outreach, and Holy Trinity Brompton, home of the Alpha course. As well as overseeing the appointment process for these churches, we also offer support to any evangelical clergy who are seeking a move, as part of our commitment to seeing leaders with a heart for the gospel appointed in parishes across the nation. Working alongside local Christian communities sits at the heart of CPAS' vision to enable churches to help every person in the UK and Republic of Ireland hear and discover the good news of Jesus.

CPAS training centres are resourcing local churches for clergy and lay leaders to be equipped for mission in a sustained and fruitful way.

CPAS is a charity, dependent upon the gifts of churches and individuals. If you'd like to pray for us, we have a quarterly *Prayer Diary* and daily prayer points on twitter. We also have regular online and print updates about the various aspects of our work, as well as posters and other resources for use in churches.

- Read the latest edition at: <https://www.cpas.org.uk/> or download the pdf.
- Subscribe for free online, or contact the supporter relations team on: [supporter.relations@cpas.org.uk](mailto:supporter.relations@cpas.org.uk) or 0300 123 0780 (ext. 4376).
- View daily prayer points on our Twitter page (@cpasnews).
- Subscribe to our feed on the PrayerMate App.

# Tiny Church

**Tiny Church meeting FORTNIGHTLY!**

For pre-school children, our fortnightly meetings in February will be:

**Thursdays 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

in the Church Centre between 1.45pm and 2.45pm

for a time of singing, Bible story, craft activity and refreshments  
all aimed at pre-school children.

If you would like to find out more about coming along or helping,  
please speak to Sue Finch (473143) or Kirsty Houghton (475724).

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## **'Keep the Banner Flying High'**

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*'Keep the Banner Flying High' –  
An evening with Graham Kendrick*

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2019**  
**at St. Mary's Great Baddow.**

Following his latest song releases and having penned some of the world's best-known worship songs, 'Keep The Banner Flying High' sees Graham encouraging us all to stay firm to our commitment.



Combining some of his classic songs of worship together with the newest, such as 'Holy Overshadowing' and 'Give me this Mountain' the event will also include songs in the performance style that first brought appreciation for his music. If you have ever heard 'Thorns in the Straw', 'Crucified Man, or 'How much do you think you are Worth', you will know that Graham Kendrick has a whole other side to his music – songs that tell stories, paint scenes on the imagination and feed the spirit with hope.

Performed with passion by the man who authored them, in the style that suits them best, these songs make up a very special concert of worship and reflection.

Graham will be performing at St. Mary's on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April.

Further details will be available in due course but please put the date in your diary now for this not to be missed evening!

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## **Renewal of St Mary's Electoral Roll 2019**

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The Church Electoral Roll is the parish church's register of electors or voting members; it is the list of those qualified to attend and to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

It also provides an indication of the real membership and strength of the church. In order to ensure that the Electoral Roll is correctly maintained every six years it is completely renewed, and this renewal will next take place in **March of 2019**.

In any year of renewal, no names are carried over from the old roll and everyone must make a new application to be included on the new roll - inclusion is not automatic. Similarly, new people can also apply during this period.

To be on the electoral roll a person needs to have been baptised, be at least 16 years old and either:

- Living in the parish and a member of the Church of England or a Church in communion with the Church of England.
- Not resident in the parish but is a member of the Church of England (or a Church with which the Church of England is in communion) and has regularly attended worship in the parish during the six months prior to enrolment.
- A member in good standing of a Church which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and they are prepared to declare themselves a member of the Church of England, having regularly attended worship during the six months prior to enrolment.

All persons apply by filling out an application for enrolment form. These forms are available at the back of church or from the church office.

Should you have any questions regarding the Electoral Roll please speak with the Rector, Church Wardens or myself.

*Neil McLean, Electoral Roll Officer (tel: 07342 045460)*

## Electoral Roll



Belong



Participate



Contribute

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## Breakfast & Bibles

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Meetings: **Mondays 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019** 9.30am – 11.30am

A very informal group for women, meeting in each other's homes to share breakfast together and study the Bible.

Children are very welcome and lots of toys are available to share. No previous Bible knowledge necessary.



Please ring Dot Cumming for further information and meeting venue on: 07971 808170. We look forward to welcoming you.

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## Let there be Light! – the Musical

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## **“Let there be Light!” is going on tour.**

Now performing under the name of “Wing and a Prayer youth theatre company”, the young people of St. Mary’s are striking out across the diocese with a new production of “Let there be Light”, visiting other churches in the early part of the year and hopefully the Cramphorn Theatre in September.

The dates and venues currently planned are as follows;

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February – St. Andrew’s Church, Halstead 7.00pm

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March – St. Stephen’s, Colchester 7.00pm

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March – St. Peter’s (Lifestreams) Church, Southend 7.00pm

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September – The Cramphorn theatre, Chelmsford, 2.00pm and 7.00pm

With lights, smoke, a band and loads of enthusiasm, the young people will be presenting a full show with an interval, covering Creation, Temptation and Jesus – the Sensation!

Using a range of musical styles, both fun and dramatic, we’ll be journeying on a rollercoaster ride through stories, miracles, death and resurrection.

Come and join us on our travels and we hope you’ll go home inspired (and humming the tunes!)

For more information contact Mark Brown. Email: [markjotardis@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:markjotardis@yahoo.co.uk)

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## **Linda Lane’s Visit to Mid Africa**

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### **12<sup>th</sup> February to 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

Linda Lane is going to Rwanda and Uganda again. She will be visiting two of the three projects which MAC support.

Between 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> February she will be in Kisoro, Uganda, visiting Potters Village where CMS Mission Partner Nicci Maxwell is working in the Medical Centre and Special Care Baby Unit.

The Potters Village has expanded to include ante-natal and maternity services, a nutrition centre for education and practice in healthy eating. All this alongside its original purpose of providing a rescue centre for orphaned and abandoned babies (of which there are still many).



Moving on to Kisiizi Hospital between 25<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> February, Linda, with her two travelling companions, will hope to meet up again with another CMS Mission Partner, Ann Moore.

Ann is a Midwife Tutor as well as a Special care Baby Nurse. She runs the choir and preaches in the chapel from time to time. It will be good to catch up with developments there, the new Mental Health Centre and an expanding Tourist trade!

Copies of Linda’s itinerary will be available in the Welcome Corner and she will be grateful for your prayers whilst she is away. Also, for Mike who will be “holding the fort” back home.

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# Bradwell Area Vocations Day

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Where will your journey take you in 2019?



*Just starting out?  
Not sure of the direction?  
Tentative steps?  
Striding out with confidence?  
At a crossroads?*

**This day of discovery is for you**

## **Bradwell Area Vocations Day**

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2019, 9am to 3.30pm**

Meadgate Church, The Orchards: Mascalls Way, Chelmsford,  
Essex, CM2 7NS

### **Workshops Include**

Ordained Ministry  
Licensed Lay Minister  
Pastoral Assistant  
Authorised Local Preacher  
Evangelism Enabler  
Lay Pioneer Ministry  
Spiritual Support  
Faith In The Workplace  
Church Army  
Chaplaincy  
Course in Christian Studies  
A Workshop for Young People

### **To Register your Place:**

Telephone: Helen Powney on 01375 673806

Email: [hpowney@chelmsford.anglican.org](mailto:hpowney@chelmsford.anglican.org)

Complete Booking Form (available in Church below this poster)

Lunch is included.

Please notify Helen of any dietary requirements.

**Please reserve your space by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019.**

# Church Diary for February 2019

Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	11.30am	Church open until 2.00pm
	7.00pm	Marriage Preparation at St Paul's, Loftin Way
	7.30pm	Bellringing in Church
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.45am	Marriage preparation at St Paul's, Loftin Way
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February – The Presentation of Christ</b>		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Holy Communion & Powerhouse
	6.30pm	Crossfire Service
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9.30am	Breakfast & Bibles: Ring Dot Cumming for venue
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world
	7.45pm	Mission Committee meeting in Prayer Chapel
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9:30am	Meditation Group in Prayer Chapel
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10:00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	11.30am	Church open until 2.00pm
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Beehive Lane school visit in Church
	11:30am	Church open until 2.00pm
	5.00pm	Coffee Pot Film night in Bell St Hall
	7.30pm	Bellringing in Church
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February – The Fourth Sunday before Lent</b>		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Morning Praise with Mission Focus on CPAS
	6:30pm	Encounter...with Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Pathfinders meet in Bell St Hall
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10.00am	MAC pack in Bell St Hall
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world
	8.00pm	Standing Committee meeting at Rectory
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9:30am	Meditation Group in Prayer Chapel
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10:00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
	7.30pm	Crossfire meet at Ben & Nicki's
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10.00am	Café Club in Church
	11:30am	Church Open until 2.00pm
	1.45pm	Tiny Church in Church Centre

Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	11:30am	Church open until 2.00pm
	7.45pm	Choir practice in Church
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February – The Third Sunday before Lent</b>		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Encounter...
	6.30pm	Pathfinders meet in Bell St Hall
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9.30am	Breakfast & Bibles: Ring Dot Cumming for venue
		<b>NO</b> Prayer meeting (Half Term)
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9:30am	Meditation Group in Prayer Chapel
	7.30pm	Book Club in Church
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10:00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	11:30am	Church Open until 2:00pm
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	11.30am	Church Open until 2:00pm
	7.30pm	Bellringing in Church
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February – The Second Sunday before Lent</b>		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Family Service
	6.30pm	Encounter...with Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Pathfinders meet in Bell St Hall
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	7:00pm	Prayer meeting for the church and the world
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	9:30am	Meditation Group in Prayer Chapel
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10:00am	Holy Communion
	10:00am	Coffee Pot in Bell Street Hall
	7.30pm	Crossfire meet at Ben & Nicky's
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Morning Prayer in Prayer Chapel
	10.00am	Café Club in Church
	11:30am	Church Open until 2:00pm
	1.45pm	Tiny Church in Church Centre

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## Your Street Pastors Need You!

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Chelmsford Street Pastors are looking for new team members.

On the Street – Why not join them for any period between 10pm and 4am one Friday or Saturday as an observer? See them in action! You will have your eyes opened to their amazing work!



In the Prayer Room – at base, near the City Centre, other members of the team stay and pray. Yet others remain at home, on the end of a phone, to receive up to the minute requests for prayer from the Pastors on the street. They would not go out without prayer back-up.

Can you help? Email: [info@chelmsfordstreetpastors.org](mailto:info@chelmsfordstreetpastors.org)

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## Forthcoming Event for your Diary

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### 15th June - Paul Karsena

British Comedy Award-winning writer for *BBC's Miranda*, *Not Going Out*, *Top Gear*, *ITV's Royal Variety Show*, *C4's TFI Friday*, Paul Karsena is coming to Meadgate Church on the evening of 15th June for a hilarious and thoughtful evening of humour.

The in-demand comic who plays comedy clubs & churches is one of the few to appear on Radio 2's 'Pause for Thought'!

LEE MACK says: *"Top comic, top writer, top bloke!"*

MILTON JONES says: *"If I was a gag-thief, I'd be shinning up Paul Karsena's drainpipe."*

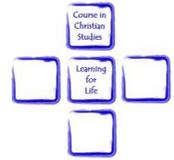
Put the date in your diary and watch out for more information!

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## Lent Modules 2019

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A series of short courses running across the diocese between the last week in **February and Good Friday 2019.**



Courses cost between £7.50 & £40 and themes include:

**Last Things - The Great Divorce;**

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**Church History – Christians and Moslems;**

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**Pastoral Care – Practical insights from Psychology;**

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**Christ Pictured;**

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**Being Christian Beyond Church;**

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**An in-depth study of the Fourth Gospel;**

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**The Development of Holy Communion;**

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**Spiritual Companionship and the Big Life Questions;**

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**Introduction to Icons;**

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**The Wondrous Cross;**

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**Journeying the Emmaus Road with people with additional needs and dementia;**

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**The nature and character of God – an exploration of the Trinity**

For further information, brochures, and booking forms  
please contact:

Diane Hardy at the Diocesan Office: Tel: 01245 294449  
Email: [dhardy@chelmsford.anglican.org](mailto:dhardy@chelmsford.anglican.org) or download from  
[www.chelmsford.anglican.org](http://www.chelmsford.anglican.org)

Alternatively,  
please speak to Jacqui in the Church Office,  
who will be able to download the forms for you.

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## The Church Office

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### Hours of Opening:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday: 9:30am to 12:30pm, 1:45pm to 3:00pm

Wednesday & Friday 9:30am to 12:30pm

Tuesday evenings 7:00pm to 8:00pm

(wedding enquiries by appointment only)

01245 477501

Email: [stmaryschurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryschurchoffice@gmail.com)

Website: [www.stmarysgreatbaddow.org.uk](http://www.stmarysgreatbaddow.org.uk)

