



ST MARY BREDIN CHURCH // FAMILY NEWS

4th April 2021

Welcome to SMB online!

We are a church looking to follow Christ's call to
'Be Holy and Be a Blessing'

Welcome to St Mary Bredin (SMB) and a special welcome if this is your first visit. We hope you enjoy your time with us and quickly feel at home here. We are a church looking to follow Christ's call to 'Be Holy and Be a Blessing' and we love welcoming others into the church family to join us on that journey. We would love to say hello to you so please do get in touch.

God bless, Barney

Today at SMB Online

11:00am | Easter Sunday Celebration

(In person and LiveStreamed on the SMB YouTube channel)

The Resurrection changes everything

Reading: Luke 24: 1-12 and 36-49

Speaker: Barney de Berry

6:30pm | Easter Sunday Evening Celebration

LiveStreamed on the SMB YouTube channel

This week

Tuesday to Friday – Morning Prayers at 9:10am

Thursday - Make Lunch food parcels
(from 2:30pm packaging, from 3:30pm delivering)

Saturday - Men's Prayer Session online at 8am

Ministry Letter—Alpha Online

Imagine if in this time of uncertainty the Church shared the gospel in a new way. Imagine if this meant we were able to reach people who wouldn't normally have explored faith before? Imagine if these people, having encountered Jesus in their own homes, plucked up the courage to invite others to explore faith. Imagine the ripple effect. One friend telling another. Well imagination has become reality during lockdown with **Alpha Online** proving to be a stunningly successful evangelistic opportunity. Alpha Online was innovated when the Church was pressed to exist within a digital space and it works wonderfully! People are more relaxed as they are in their own homes and somehow being online makes people more able to be vulnerable and open up. More people than ever around the world are encountering Jesus on Alpha at this time.

We ran our first Alpha Online last term and it was a resounding success. God moved in power, transforming lives and bringing people into a relationship with him through the medium of ZOOM!

We were able to share the good news of Jesus with 10 guests over 11 weekly Wednesday night sessions. Seeing people grow in faith week-by-week was such a special blessing to our team and something that we see as miraculous. We witnessed three guests give their lives to the Lord (totally awesome!) and existing Christians come into a deeper relationship, with others developing a personal relationship with Him for the very first time. We also witnessed physical healings and guests being freed from past hurts and chains being broken. And as we were online we had guests from as far afield as Southampton, Horsham and Lincoln!

Our next Alpha Online starts on April 21st, so do be praying about who you could extend an invitation to and then step out in faith and invite them. They could live anywhere in the world!

Call, WhatsApp or email a non-believing friend you love with an invite to try Alpha. Simply send them our web link www.smb.org.uk/alpha so they can find out more and sign up along with this link to a short video about Alpha www.youtube.com/watch?v=fViYK_Xb3Wg Then pray and let God do the rest.

Together let's bring in a bumper crop for the Lord this next Alpha.

God bless,

Cheryl & Manny Mvula

Events & Notices

Wincheap Easter Trail There are houses around Wincheap that have pictures of Easter eggs in their windows or in the front garden. Can you find all 10? At each one there is a QR code you can scan to read the next part of the Easter story online, or go to www.smb.org.uk/children and there is a link to download and print the story to take with you to read as you go.

Easter Window Display If you walk past the church on Old Dover Road side over the next few weeks do take a moment to stop and admire the **window painting** with the events of Easter. The children from Stepping Stones all came to look at it, and people walking past have commented too. Thanks to Chloe and Mim for all their hard work!

Easter BakeAlong The resources are still available on the Faith in Kids website www.faithinkids.org/easter-bake-along – perhaps you know of someone who'd enjoy doing this with you during the Easter holiday? The brownies they show you how to make are delicious! Did you know the colours of mini-eggs can help you remember the events of in the Easter story?

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) Save the date! The **APCM** will be held on 29th April at 8pm. More details to follow after Easter.

Electoral Roll Being on the Electoral Roll gives you permission to vote and participate at our Annual General Meeting. If you are not on our Electoral Roll and you would like to be - please do get in touch with the Office Team.

Churches Together in Canterbury (CTC)'s alternative Walk of Witness This year CTC are encouraging us to walk around the city of Canterbury praying for us to unite (in purpose if not in person) to pray blessing over the city, speaking words of hope and asking God to restore and renew. Prayer walk resources for this can be found at canterburychristianstogether.org.uk

Youth Evangelist vacancy We are now recruiting for our Youth Evangelist and the advert is on our website www.smb.org.uk/vacancies Please pray about who God is calling to this role, and if you know of anyone who may be suitable, please do share the link with them.

Cleaner vacancy We are seeking to recruit a cleaner for the church and Kendall Hall with immediate start. The job would be between 10-20 hours per week, over 5 weekday mornings. If you would like to know more please contact Catherine Colley.

Children

No groups today! Join us for our Easter Sunday Celebration today at 11:00am

Youth

Parents — please contact Mim for more information if you are new to SMB Online, or if you would like to know about provision for Older Youth (Years 11-13)

Giving at SMB

We believe that God calls us to tithe to our local place of worship as part of our discipleship and worship. We can only continue to fulfil God's calling on us as we, His church, continue to tithe and give as God calls us. The best way to give is by standing order and, if you're a taxpayer, to ensure that you gift-aid your donation. More information at smb.org.uk/finance

Get Connected

Our Fellowship Groups are central to our life and fellowship as a church and we hope that every member of SMB is a member of a Fellowship Group. This is one of the best ways to get to know others as well as serving in teams and using our gifts. Please phone or email the office for a form which we can send by email or in the post.

Staff Contacts

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