

The **Shared Church** *in Ringstead*

36 High Street, Ringstead, NN14 4DA

www.ringsteadsharedchurch.org.uk



April 2025 Magazine

Please send your articles for the May edition to

ringsteadnotices@gmail.com

by 24th April

From our Minister



So last month I wrote about our journey through Lent, and reminded us that this ran from Ash Wednesday through to Maundy Thursday, which is the Thursday before Easter Sunday. That last week of Lent, from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday is also known as Holy week. Traditionally each day we are reminded of events that took place during the final days before Jesus' crucifixion. The events of the week really ramp up on the Thursday – when Jesus shared his last meal with his disciples, and was arrested, and Friday when Jesus was sentenced and crucified.

At that Thursday meal (now called the Last Supper; John 13:1-30) Jesus begins with a demonstration of love and service, washing his disciples feet, but the mood quickly changes as he goes on to explained that one of them would betray him. Only Jesus knew it was Judas. "Having received the piece of bread, [Judas] then went out immediately. And it was night" (v.30). From service to betrayal over the course of a meal, but it didn't end there, that evening in the garden of Gethsemane Jesus agonised in prayer, faced a wrongful arrest, watched his friends scatter, endured humiliation at the hands of religious leaders and winced at Peter's denials. Yet still he moved faithfully toward the cross where on the Friday he would die for our sins.

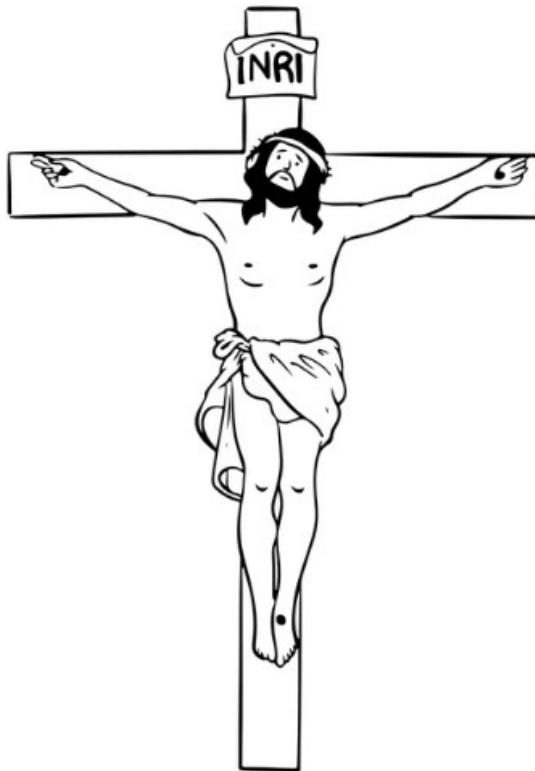
We will be thinking of these events at church too during Holy Week. We begin with an evening communion service on the Thursday before Easter—held in the church school room lit by candles. With passages read from the gospel of John, and will conclude in the darkness of the church garden.

Then we pick up the story on Friday morning with readings in church, before a procession to join with our friends from St Mary's at the community garden in the High Street.

Remembering this story, all Jesus endured for us to give us life, helps us reflect on our own lives, values. Christ's way of sorrow gives us a new hope and a way to God.

Rev Rick

**See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown.**



Christ and the Chocolaterie

A Lent Course inspired by the film Chocolat

This year's Lent course 'Christ and the Chocolaterie' is an original, innovative and lively Lent course inspired by the film Chocolat, based on the bestselling novel by Joanne Harris. Using the film as a starting point for exploring issues about God, the world. Hilary Brand has designed five group sessions on the themes of giving, acceptance and change. Each includes from the film, group discussion questions, exercises and meditations. It is preferable to have seen the film before starting the course, so all are welcome to 'Coffee, Cake and Chocolat', a screening of the film at church on Saturday 8th March, 10am.

There are five group sessions, one on a Monday afternoon, in person and one on line on a Thursday evening.

The five group sessions are

Giving up – The prelude to Change - Mon 10th March & Thursday 13th March

Giving Out – The power of a Gift - Mon 17th March & Thursday 20th March

Getting Wise – The possibility of Change - Mon 24th March & Thursday 27th March

Getting Real – The power of acceptance - Mon 31st March & Thursday 3rd April

Growing up - the process of real life change. - - Mon 7th April & Thursday 10th April

Monday afternoon 2pm, in the school room and Thursday evening 7.30pm on line



Shared News

Axe & Compass Quiz

The next quiz takes place on 1st April, we came a very creditable second in the March Quiz in a close finish! It will be a fun evening and who knows we may manage a first place this time. If you're interested in taking part then please let Rick know.

Wednesday Prayers

Wednesday prayers (on Zoom only) will be on Wednesday April 2nd at 7:30pm. Zoom details are at the back of the magazine.

Ride and Stride

This year's Ride and Stride takes place on Saturday 13th September. The Northants Historic Churches Trust (NHCT) stated that the weather was much kinder to the walkers and cyclists in September 2024, in fact a beautiful early autumn day. The sponsorship is down from previous years but money is still being received from participating churches; the total received to date including Gift Aid is £43,282. NHCT thank all who helped especially those who raised sponsor money. Full details are published in a separate notice in this magazine.

Zoom Quiz Nights

We've had lots of laughs and maybe learnt a little during the winter. Many thanks to all those who have provided rounds of questions. But this weekend we 'change the clocks', the days are getting longer and the weather better (we hope) so it's time to be out and about, not sat in front of the laptop.

Quiz Nights will take a break during the summer but will return when we change the clocks again, if that's what you want.

Shared News - Cont'd

Tea Time Talk

Wanted or run its course?

If you've already responded to Patrick's emailed questions, thank you.

If not, please do so as soon as possible so we can know what is good for everyone and plan accordingly.

Our thoughts and prayers of thanks to God.

We continue to pray for Ange's Great-niece, Grace, who is undergoing cancer treatment and also for her granddaughter, Sky, that the doctors will be able to diagnose and treat her. We pray for God's healing hand to be on them during this difficult time for both them and their families.

Please also continue to offer prayers for Mark Russen and Phil Stockton who are undergoing treatment for cancer, we also pray for the clinicians treating them to give them the best care possible.

Prayers continue to be needed for Keith Turner whose operation was cancelled, we pray that this can be rescheduled soon. We also ask you to remember Jackie Inness as she continues to struggle with her health, we pray for the medics at John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford who are currently treating her.



**The Axe and Compass,
Ringstead, Quiz Night
Tuesday 1st April 2025 at 19:30 hrs**



**Would you like to make up a team with Rick?
Please contact Rick**

Knit & Natter



**Wednesday
2 April
at 2.30pm
at The
Shared Church**

**Come to knit or sew
or just come to natter!**

**First Wednesday Prayer by Zoom
Wednesday 2nd April at 7:30pm**



Zoom in and share! - (See Zoom link elsewhere in this newsletter)

**If you would like to lead, or share in leading,
one of these evenings please get in touch
with Revd Rick.**

Did you know ?

Stanwick Lakes



Stanwick Lakes is situated less than 3 miles from Ringstead by foot, the 750 Acre site prior to being a nature reserve was a gravel Quarry operated by Hanson PLC from 1985 until the site closed in 2004 and was acquired by East Northamptonshire Council. The site is now

managed by Rockingham Forrest Trust and is part of the Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits Special Protection Area. The site and associated dis-used railway line offers opportunities for walking, running, cycling and horse riding giving unrivalled access to the surrounding countryside.

Prior to the start of quarrying in 1985, archaeological excavations were undertaken that revealed around 4,000 years of human activity in the area. The oldest structures were Neolithic Long Barrows which served as communal tombs for the inhabitants living nearby. These were then superseded by Bronze Age Round Barrows with pottery, cattle and human bones uncovered during the work. As time went on the Iron Age saw the establishment of approximately fifty round houses suggesting the existence of a largish agricultural community.

The arrival of the Romans in around 250 AD saw further development and a large Roman villa was constructed by a wealthy Romano-British family. One of the mosaics from the villa is on display in the Visitor Centre. The site was quite likely abandoned in 410 AD when the decision was made to withdraw Roman troops from Britain.

The site was settled again in around the tenth century and a water mill and timber hall were built with further development occurring in the Norman period. Three small settlements were established, Mallows Cotton, Mill Cotton and West Cotton, these had been abandoned by the 18th Century when many small communities became unviable around this period due to illegal enclosure of common land by rich landowners. This was used for keeping sheep which required very little labour. The peasants who lived in the villages were forced to find work in nearby towns.

THE SHARED CHURCH IN RINGSTEAD

Lunch Club

Thursday 10 April at 12.30pm

2-course cooked meal
and coffee/tea

Cost £5.00

**EVERYONE WILL BE
WELCOME**



But, you need to book your place:

Ring 622162 (Val)

or 07558 538711 (Christine)

or text to 07784 162087

(no voice messages, please)

DO COME!

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

Book Club

'The Covenant of Water' by Abraham Verghese was discussed in a lively and interesting meeting at the Water Mill. We have chosen a shorter book for this month's read as some of us have yet to finish last month's book. Our read next month is *Orbital* by Samantha Harvey and the next meeting will be at my house on Tuesday April 15th at 2.30pm.

Venue: 11 Carlow Road

Date: Tuesday 15th April

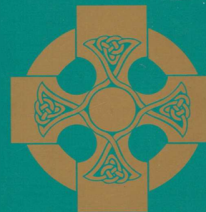
Time: 2:30pm

June.



Start your day with prayer

Starting from Monday September 4th Rick will be leading an Online Morning Prayer at 9am each weekday morning.



This will be a simple 20min or so prayer using the Daily office from the Northumbria community

(<https://www.northumbriacommunity.org/offices/morning-prayer/>)

All who wish to join can do so using the Church Zoom link, or use the liturgy above at another time during the day.

Easter

at The Shared Church

Maundy Thursday, April 17 at 7.30pm

Simple Communion in the schoolroom and process to the church garden to remember Gethsemane

Good Friday, April 18 at 10.30am

Short service and walk to the Community Garden for 11.00am Act of Witness with the Parish Church followed by Coffee and Hot Cross Buns in the Village Hall

Saturday April 19 from 10.00am - midday

Coffee, Cake and Chat

Community Group Litter Pick

with an opportunity to follow Jesus on his final journey – to the cross at Easter

Easter Sunday, April 20 at 6.00am

Sunrise Service at the cemetery

Easter Sunday, April 20 at 10.30am

“Christ is Risen”

Easter Celebration Communion Service

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

THE SHARED CHURCH IN RINGSTEAD

Maundy Thursday, April 17 at 7.30pm

A simple Communion in the schoolroom



Then process to the Church Garden
to remember the last evening Jesus and his
disciples spent in the Garden of Gethsemane

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

Good Friday, April 18

10.30am Short Service

and process to the Community Garden
for

11.00am Act of Witness

with the Parish Church
followed by

Coffee and Hot Cross Buns in the Village Hall

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

The Shared Church

Easter Sunday

6.00am Sunrise Service at the cemetery
Followed by breakfast

10.30am "Christ is Risen"
Easter Celebration Communion Service

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

THE SHARED CHURCH IN RINGSTEAD

Saturday 19 April
10.00 – 12.00



**Come for Coffee
and Cake**

**And an opportunity to
follow Jesus on his
final journey
to the cross at Easter**



www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

THE SHARED CHURCH IN RINGSTEAD

Coffee, cake and chat

Including Ringstead Community Group Litter Pick



Saturday 19 April
10.00 – midday

with an opportunity to follow Jesus' last
journey ... to the cross at Easter

Do drop in Everyone is welcome

No charge but any donations will be gratefully accepted

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

SUPPORT NORTHAMPTONSHIRE'S BEAUTIFUL CHURCHES

RIDE+STRIDES

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Saturday 13th September 2025

between 10am and 6pm

a day in the open air ... plan your own route

350+ stunning churches and chapels to visit -
many of them open and welcoming



All sponsorship money received will be divided equally between
the NHCT and the church or chapel chosen by you

**Sponsorship forms and a list of open churches and chapels are
available from your local organiser: -**

Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust

Registered Charity No 1021632

For more details see our website: www.nhct.org.uk

Programme - April 2025

Services in April (In church and by Zoom)

Services are led by Revd Rick Preston unless otherwise stated:

Sunday 6th April

10:30am Communion Service

Sunday 13th April

10:30am Morning Service for Palm Sunday

Thursday 17th April

7:30pm Maundy Thursday Communion

Friday 18th April

10:30am Good Friday Service

Sunday 20th April

10:30am Easter Day Communion Service

Sunday 27th April

10:30am Morning Service

Revd David Gamston



and in May

Sunday 4th May

10:30am Communion Service

To share in the morning services through Zoom see the website

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

and click on the link on the home page

First Wednesday Prayer by Zoom

Wednesday 2nd April at 7:30pm

Zoom in and share! - See Zoom link elsewhere in this newsletter,

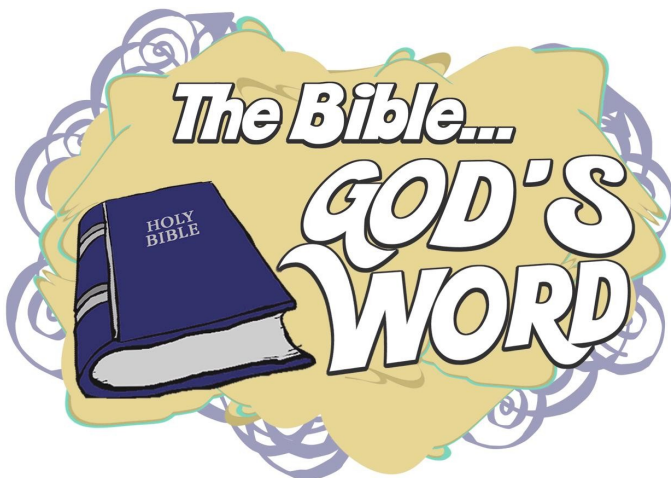
If you would like to lead, or share in leading, one of these evenings please get in touch with Revd Rick.

Readers & Readings

Rota for Scripture readings

6 April 2025	Agnes	John 12.1-8
13 April 2025	Christine	Luke 22.14-23.56
20 April 2025	Alan	Luke 24.1-12
27 April 2025	Mike	John 20.19-31

We usually read using the NIV version but if you wish to read from another version please let Rick know a couple of days in advance so your reading can be shown on the screen during the service.



Contacts

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Deacon & Designated Person for Safeguarding:

Mrs Alexandra Rance

Email: Alexandra_bbcdn@msn.com

Phone: 07808 127676

Church website: www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

If you or someone you know would benefit from a phone call, please contact our minister Rick or one of the above.

Prayer - We would be pleased to join you in prayer—if you would like us to pray for/with you, please contact any of the above.

Zoom Meeting Connection Information

Zoom Link

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84607293457?
pwd=L1F0Szd0Z1I2R1RvNVlCc0VsTVh1Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84607293457?pwd=L1F0Szd0Z1I2R1RvNVlCc0VsTVh1Zz09)

Meeting ID: 846 0729 3457

Passcode: 143365

Or Dial from any phone 0203 051 2874 or
0203 481 5237 or 0203 481 5240 or 0203 901
7895 or 0131 460 1196

QR Code

