

The Christian Community in Forest Row

Programme for March- June 2023



Cumberland Hills, Winifred Nicholson

Hartfield Road / School Lane Forest Row RH18 5DZ
tinyurl.com/CCFR-Home

*The whole earth is our hospital
Endowed by the ruined millionaire
T S Eliot, East Coker*

Dear Congregation,

If we enjoy good health, it is easy to slip into the feeling that this is natural and somehow deserved. If such attitudes become too entrenched, they can lead to the situation of someone I once knew, who, when faced with the death of a close family member, said: Things like that don't happen to people like us!

While it is good to be grateful for good health if we have it, illness and death can remind us of our fundamental situation on the earth, which is described by a phrase that is repeated several times in the Act of Consecration: the sickness of sin. Being incarnated on the earth means accepting limitation. We can experience this every day when we confront the discrepancy between our ideals and what we actually manage in daily life. Saint Paul expressed this in a heart-felt way in the words: "For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do." (Romans 7:19)

Our theme for Passiontide and Easter is Healing. There will be an introductory talk by Pearl Goodwin on Sunday, 12th March:

Descent into the body - the mystery of blood and breath. In Holy Week, we will look at the days of the 'week of weeks' and explore how on each day, aspects of our human condition become apparent and can be healed.

The work on replanting the front part of the church garden has already begun. Guillaume Maitre from The Spirit of the Garden has been working with his team, incorporating some of the suggestions that were made when he presented his plans to the congregation on 5th February. This project is only possible through the generous legacy left to us by Krista Braun.

After working with the Gospel readings of the week for a year, the Thursday evening gospel study group decided to work on deepening their experience of the Act of Consecration of Man and experiencing Christ in the cycle of the year. We started with the Epiphany Epistle and we are now looking at Trinity. Working with the Epistles brings us closer to experiencing how different each festival is, what qualities

it has, as if we had a map of the landscape, which helps us to get to know the place better, connect with it and discover more. Deepening The Act of Consecration of Man means keeping, maintaining, nurturing the relationship to Christ, tending our heart-connection and walking with him through the landscape, as he does with us.

We would be delighted to start a new gospel study group with anyone interested. Please let one of the priests know if you would like to be part of this. We will then try to find a suitable time.

Following the success of the Annual Meeting of the whole Region, which was held in Forest Row last year, the Stourbridge congregation have taken on to organize this year's meeting, with the theme **A Sower Went Out to Sow the Seed — Seeds for Renewal**. More information will be available soon in the church. There are at least two spaces available in my car!

We are very grateful to those who come to our House and Garden mornings. There is a lovely atmosphere in the church and garden and the work that we do there makes a tangible difference to our beautiful building and its grounds. Please come and join us, if you haven't yet. House and Garden mornings are planned for 25th March, 22nd April and 3rd June, from 10am until noon.

At the Annual Congregational Meeting on 5th of March, Gerard asked whether we could create a meeting where all those who are carrying the life of the church could come together and share their questions, perceptions and concerns. As there was a positive response to this idea, we have planned the first **Congregational Support Meeting** for 6th May, 10-11.30am. This meeting is open to all. We hope to find the optimal timing and frequency for further meetings when we come together in May.

Following the Annual Meeting, the Finance Group has put together an appeal, which is enclosed with this programme.

With our best wishes for the coming months,

Tom Ravetz

with greetings too from Selina Horn and Nataliia Shatna

Services

The Act of Consecration of Man

Sundays at 10am, Thursdays and Fridays at 9am

Die Menschenweihehandlung (Act of Consecration of Man in German) is celebrated on the last Saturday of the month at 9am

From 2nd-10th April, the Act of Consecration of Man will be celebrated daily at 10am

First Saturday of the month

6pm Evening Service for those who have died

Sunday Service for Children with a Story 11.10am for 11.15am
5th, 26th March; 9th, 23rd April; 7th, 21st and 28th May; 11th and 25th June, 9th July (last before summer)

Other regular events

Sundays 9.15- 9.30am

Little One's Gatherings

for pre-school children with songs, story and a prayer 5th March, 2nd April, 7th May, 4th June, 2nd July

Tuesdays 10.30am

Discussion Group

Thursdays

fortnightly at 4pm

Skylarks Group

9th and 23rd March; 27th April, 11th and 25th May; 8th and 22nd June

7pm Choir

8pm Experiencing Christ in the cycle of the year

First Saturday of the month at 4.30pm

Reading Group for those who have died

Fridays, 3.45pm

Confirmation Class (until 21st April)

Passiontide

Sunday, 12th March at 11.30am

Descent into the body - the mystery of blood and breath.

A Passiontide talk by P earl Goodwin

Sunday, 19th March, 11.30am

Ken Gibson will give a short presentation about his recently published book. "The Life of Arnold Freeman", followed by a reading of poetry by Vanessa Underwood and Ken Gibson

Saturday, 25th March, 10am-12pm

House and Garden Morning

Sunday, 26th March

11.15am - Children's Service *followed by* Sowing the Easter Wheat

11.30am **Experiencing the Colours of the Festivals**

Workshop with Angela Lord and Nataliia Shatna

Holy Week

The Act of Consecration of Man daily at 10am

The whole earth is our hospital

Talks and conversation on the days of the Holy Week

Sunday, 2nd April

11.30am **Adulation and Condemnation** –Tom Ravetz

4pm Presentation of Work by the Peredur Eurythmy Students

Monday, 3rd April, 11.15am

The Struggle between Form and Life –Tom Ravetz

Tuesday, 4th April, 11.15am

'World history is nothing but continuous fight of belief against unbelief'

Nataliia Shatna

Wednesday, 5th April, 11.15am

Devotion and Fear - Nigel Lumsden

Thursday, 6th April,

11.15am **Follow, fight, flee - Paths of the Disciples** - Selina Horn

6pm Silent Supper

Friday, 7th April, 2.30-3.30pm

Contemplative Service for Good Friday

with Haydn's Seven Words from the Cross played by The Hess Ensemble,
Readings, Sermon and silence

Saturday, 8th April, 11.15am

'the helper of the souls of the dead'

Talk and conversation on Holy Saturday - Pearl Goodwin

Easter

Sunday, 9th April

following the Children's Service Easter story,
singing and Easter Egg Hunt in the garden

11.30am 'Christ gives me my humanity'

Talk by Tom Ravetz

Monday, 10th April, 10am

The Act of Consecration of Man for Easter Monday

Saturday, 15th April, 7.30pm

Finding the Inner Guide

Talk to prepare for the Confirmation by Tom Ravetz for godparents, parents
and congregation

Sunday, 16th April 10am

The Sacrament of Confirmation for
Christian Hope, Oscar Wilkinson Löfstedt, Thea Small, Zara Gatehouse

Saturday, 22nd April, 10am-12pm

House and Garden Morning

23rd of April at 3pm at Nutley Hall

Baptism of Sabela Xoana Martinez Bradford

Sunday, 30th April, 11.30am

The Sacrament of Baptism for Noam Friedman Carones

Saturday, 6th May, 10-11.30am

Congregational Support Meeting

Sunday, 14th May at 11.30am

'God works in mysterious ways'

Talk by Monika Knight

Ascension

Thursday, 18th May at 9am

The Act of Consecration of Man for Ascension Day

10am **Following the clouds**

Introduction to an activity for the ten days of Ascension.

- Pearl Goodwin

Friday, 19th May-Sunday, 21st May in Stourbridge

A Sower Went Out to Sow the Seed

Seeds for Renewal

Annual Conference of The Christian Community

For more information please see the flyers and leaflets in the church

Sunday, 21st May at 11.45am

Following the clouds II

-Pearl Goodwin

Saturday, 27th May at 10am

Servers' Meeting

Whitsun

Sunday, 28th May

Following the Children's Service **Whitsun Picnic with puppet story and craft**

11.30am **"The wind blows where it will – so it is with every one who is born of the Spirit"** (John 3:8) - talk by Nataliia Shatna

Monday, 29th May, 10am

The Act of Consecration of Man for Whit-Monday in Ukrainian

Tuesday, 30th May, 10am

The Act of Consecration of Man for Whit-Tuesday

Saturday, 3rd June, 10-am until noon

House and Garden morning

Sunday, 4th June at 11.45am

Members' Meeting

Sunday, 18th June at 11.40am

'In him we live and move and have our being' - Talk by Tom Ravetz

Absences

Nataliia will be in Canterbury 11-12th March, 6th, 10th April, 13-14th May, 17-18th June, 8-9th July

Nataliia and Tom will be at the synod in Edinburgh, 6-10th of March

Nataliia will be at a further training course in Stuttgart from 13-22nd March

Tom will be in Ringwood 18th March, 22nd April, 27th May, 1st July

Selina will be on leave 1st June-1st July

Gospel Readings

Passiontide

Sunday, March 12 ... Luke 11:14-36

Sunday, March 19 ... John 6:1-15

Sunday, March 26 ... John 8:1-12

Holy Week

Palm Sunday, April 2 ... Matt 21:1-11

Maundy Thursday, April 6 ... Luke
23:13-32

Good Friday, April 7 ... John 19:1-15

Holy Sat, April 8 ... John 19:16-42

Easter

Sunday, April 9 ... Mark 16:1-8

Sunday, April 16 ... John 20:19-31

Sunday, April 23 ... John 10:1-16

Sunday, April 30 ... John 15:1-27

Sunday, May 7 ... John 16:1-33

Sunday, May 14 ... John 14:1-31

Ascension

Thursday, May 18 ... John 16:24-33

Sunday, May 21 ... John 16:24-33

Whitsun

Sunday, May 28 ... John 14:22-31

Wednesday, May 31 ... 1 Cor 12:4-13

Sunday, June 4 ... 1 Cor 12:4-13

Sunday, June 11 ... John 1:43-51

Sunday, June 18 ... John 4:1-26

The Christian Community exists through the generous donations of its members and friends. If you would like to make a one-off donation or a standing order, our account details are below. If you are a UK taxpayer, please ask us for a Gift Aid form or download one here:

Account name: The Christian Community in Forest Row.

Account Number: 00012363 | Sort Code 30-92-92

Contact us

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