

The Christian Community Stourbridge

Movement for Religious Renewal

Passiontide to Whitsun 2020



School of Raphael (Urbino 1483-Rome 1520)

What springs up all at once so sweetly boding in my heart, and stills the soft air of sadness? Do you also take a pleasure in us, dark Night? What hold you under your mantle, that with hidden power affects my soul? Precious balm drips from your hand out of its bundle of poppies. You uplift the heavy-laden wings of the soul. Darkly and inexpressibly are we moved -- joy-startled, I see a grave face that, tender and worshipful, inclines toward me, and, amid manifold entangled locks, reveals the youthful loveliness of the Mother. How poor and childish a thing seems to me now the Light -- how joyous and welcome the departure of the day -- because the Night turns away from you your servants, you now strew in the gulfs of space those flashing globes, to proclaim your omnipotence -- your return -- in seasons of your absence. More heavenly than those glittering stars we hold the eternal eyes which the Night has opened within us. Farther they see than the palest of those countless hosts -- needing no aid from the light, they penetrate the depths of a loving soul -- that fills a loftier region with bliss ineffable. Glory to the queen of the world, to the great prophet of the holier worlds, to the guardian of blissful love -- she sends you to me -- you tenderly beloved -- the gracious sun of the Night, -- now am I awake -- for now am I yours and mine - you have made me know the Night -- made of me a man -- consume with spirit-fire my body, that I, turned to finer air, may mingle more closely with you, and then our bridal night endure forever.

From 'Hymns to the Night', Novalis (1800)

Regular Services

Sundays	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
Tuesdays	8.00	The Act of Consecration of Man Except on 7/4 and 2/6 when it is at 10.00
Tuesdays	4.00 - 5.30	Religion Lesson
Wednesdays	4.00 - 5.30	Religion Lesson
Thursdays	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man No service on 28/5 3.45 - 5.30 Religion Lesson

The Sunday Service for Children will be held at 9.10 for 9.15 on 22/3, 17/5
On Easter Sunday and Whit Sunday it will be at 11:10 for 11.15.

The family service will be held at 9.15 on 5/4, 26/4 and 14/6

Passiontide

March

Sunday 15 th	15.00	Hearts & Souls Unlimited Concert with <i>Michael Jones</i> , <i>Janine Parsons</i> (piano), <i>Corrine Frost</i> (cello) and <i>Stella Seaton-Sims</i> (mezzo- soprano) - a Feast of French and Russian Music!
Saturday 21 st	9.30	Parents' Breakfast
	17.00	Reading for the Dead
Sunday 22 nd	9.15	The Service for Children
	11.30	The Passiontide Epistle Talk by Siobhán Porter
Wednesday 25 th	19.30	Elmfield Community Choir Spring Concert
Sunday 29 th		Summertime begins!
	11.30	The Holy Week Epistle Talk by Louise Madsen

April

Saturday 4 th	9-11	Gardening and cleaning morning
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Holy Week

Palm Sunday 5 th	9.15	Service for Families
	15.00	Palm Sunday festival

500th Anniversary of the Death of Raphael di Urbino
Raphael and the depiction of the 'disciple whom Jesus loved'

A Holy Week study with slides led by *Rory Valentine*

Monday 6 th April	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.15	The Transfiguration
Tuesday 7 th	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.15	Christ's Charge to Peter
Wednesday 8 th	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.15	The School of Athens and the Disputa
Maundy Thursday	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.15	Raphael and the Eternal Feminine
Good Friday 10 th	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	15.00	The Last Words from the Cross with piano music played by <i>Michael Jones</i>
Saturday 11 th	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30	Karl König's Easter Saturday Play
	18.00	Easter Fire Festival in the garden

Easter

Easter Sunday 12 th	6.30	The Act of Consecration of Man
	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.15	The Service for Children followed by Egg Hunt
Easter Monday 13 th	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.15	Mary, Peter and John at the Grave (John 20 1-18) Talk by <i>Louise Madsen</i>
Saturday 18 th	17.00	Reading for the Dead
Sunday 19 th	11.30	Friedrich Rittelmeyer's Journey from Jesus to Christ Talk by <i>Neil Franklin</i>
Saturday 25 th	9.30	Parents' Breakfast
Sunday 26 th	9.15	Service for Families
	11.30	Meeting the Risen Christ - motifs from the Gospels of Matthew and Mark Talk by <i>Erhard Keller</i>

May

Communicating with the World of Nature Spirits and Elementals

A workshop with *Susan Raven*

Friday 1st and Saturday 2nd 9am until 5pm

Saturday 2nd 9.00 The Act of Consecration of Man

Sunday 3rd 11.30 Open conversation on the theme

Please see separate flyer for details, **booking essential**

Sunday 10th 11.30 **Meeting the Risen Christ - motifs from Luke's Gospel**

Talk by *Erhard Keller*

Saturday 16th 9.30 Parents' Breakfast

Sunday 17th 9.15 The Service for Children

11.30 **Meeting the Risen Christ - motifs from John's Gospel**

Talk by *Siobhán Porter*

Ascension

Thursday 21st 7.30 Ascension breakfast in the garden and painting golden eggs

10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man

11.15 **Ascension outing to Great Witley Church**

Saturday 23rd 17.00 Reading for the Dead

Sunday 24th 11.30 **Twelve Eurythmy exercises for everybody Strengthening our constitution with sun forces**

Talk by *Dr. Wilburg Keller-Roth*

Thursday 28th No service!

Saturday 30th 9-12 Gardening and maintenance morning

Whitsun

Sunday 31st 11.15 The Service for Children

11.30 **Whitsun festival**

June

Monday 1st 10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man

11.15 **The Spirit of Whitsun**

Talk by *Louise Madsen*

Tuesday 2nd 10.00 Die Menschenweihehandlung (in German)

11.15 **What happened in 1920 towards the founding of The Christian Community?**

Talk by *Erhard Keller*

Trinity

June

Sunday 7 th	11.30	Wisdom through Community Talk by <i>Nigel Lumsden</i>
	15.00	Classical Guitar Concert By <i>Hannah Woollacott</i>

Weekend Seminar with Ralf Rößner about the etheric world

Friday 12 th	19.00	The Light Root Nutrition for the Future Talk and conversation <i>Ralf Rößner</i>
Saturday 13 th	10.00	Christ's Working in Nature Talk and conversation <i>Ralf Rößner</i>
	15.00	Free Energy – Ether Technology A question of our time Talk and conversation <i>Ralf Rößner</i>
Sunday 14 th	9.15	Family Service
	11.30	Conversation with <i>Ralf Rößner</i> For details see separate posters

Saturday 20 th	17.00	Reading for the Dead
Sunday 21 st	11.30	Midsummer festival

Looking forward:

16-18 October: Annual Meeting of The Christian Community in **Forest Row**

Dear Congregation

On **Palm Sunday** 5th April, we will hold our festival of making crosses and beating the bounds whilst singing and enjoying nature. This year we will celebrate the festival in the church garden.

During Holy Week, **Rory Valentine** will come from Devon to give four talks about paintings by **Raphael**, whose 500th anniversary of his death will be on the 6th of April! Rory has studied Raphael's paintings for many years and given many talks about the mysteries hidden in the paintings.

On **Good Friday** 3pm we will hear the Last Words from the Cross, Michael Jones has kindly agreed to play music.

On Silent Saturday, at 11.30 we are invited to experience the **Karl König Easter Saturday play**. This will be performed in the church. (Not suitable for children under 14) At 6pm we will light an Easter fire, a new event for us, the

fire as a symbol of light in the darkness to mark the end of Holy Week and the anticipation of Easter Sunday; a fire for renewal and symbolising also truly the end of winter.

On Sunday 19th April **Neil Franklin** from Devon, will give a talk on **Friedrich Rittelmeyer's Journey from Jesus to Christ**. Rittelmeyer published *Jesus* in 1912 at the age of forty, with very little knowledge of Anthroposophy, from four talks which he gave at his Lutheran church in Nuremberg. He said later that the book lacked any real understanding of the Christ, and would have to be complemented. Twenty-four years later, having worked closely with Rudolf Steiner and now the Oberlenker of The Christian Community, he published *Christus* in 1936. He was sixty-four years old and had less than two more years to live. The progress from *Jesus* to *Christ* is both something personal to Rittelmeyer and at the same time a reflection of the passage from a Lutheran outlook to that of The Christian Community.

In May **Susan Raven** will give an intensive workshop about the elemental world and how we can become more aware of elemental beings. Please see the separate leaflet and if you intend to come, please apply to Susan Raven directly.

On **Ascension Day**, Thursday 21st May, we will have an early breakfast (bring and share) for the children at 7.30am in the garden watching the clouds! There will be time for golden egg painting before going off to school at 8.30am. We can help with lifts up to the school. After the Ascension Day service we plan an **outing to the baroque Great Witley Church in Worcestershire** which has a fresco on the ceiling of the Ascending Christ. Please let Erhard or Siobhán know if you need a lift or can offer one.

On Ascension Sunday, 24th May, **Dr. Wilburg Keller-Roth** will give a talk about **12 Eurythmy exercises that help to strengthen our constitution with cosmic sun-forces**. Dr. Wilburg Keller-Roth is a GP in Basel, Switzerland and also teaches doctors about eurythmy therapy and has recently written a book about the scientific basis of eurythmy therapy.

We will celebrate **Whitsun** with candles, singing, a story and many languages. Please contact Siobhán if you would like to volunteer to be one of the readers of the prologue of St. John's Gospel in a language other than English. Siobhán can find the translation for you if needed.

Following the study of the elemental world with Susan Raven in May, in June **Ralf Rößner** will specially come from Germany to give four talks which will bring us closer to an understanding of the four ethers. Please see separate posters.

On Sunday 21st June we will celebrate **midsummer**, with a fire, singing, games and a picnic in anticipation of St. John's Day which falls in the middle of the week this year.

There will be four **Parents' Breakfasts** during the course of this programme, where we talk about a specific subject whilst munching on croissants; Siobhán will contact the parents group separately with subject details.

Siobhán Porter and Erhard Keller

Priests' time away:

28/2-22/3	Erhard on holiday
14-15/3	Siobhán in Ilkeston
28/3	Erhard in Manchester
29/3	Erhard in Ilkeston
30/3-4/4	Siobhán at Synod in Hillsdale (NY state)
10-12/4	Erhard in Ilkeston
18-19/4	Siobhán in Botton/ Malton
24-25/4	Erhard in Ilkeston
9-10/5	Siobhán in Botton/ Malton
16/5	Erhard in Manchester
17/5	Erhard in Ilkeston
19-20/5	Siobhán and Erhard in London
27-29/5	Siobhán and Erhard having a retreat with Roger Druitt
30-31/5	Erhard in Ilkeston
3-10/6	Louise away
6-7/6	Siobhán in Botton/ Malton
5-6/6	Erhard in Ilkeston
8-11/6	Erhard in Berlin for International Synod
20-21/6	Erhard in Ilkeston

Gospel Readings:

Passiontide		Sunday, May 3 ... John 15:1-27
Sunday, March 15 ... Luke 11:14-36		Sunday, May 10 ... John 16:1-33
Sunday, March 22 ... John 6:1-15		Sunday, May 17 ... John 14:1-31
Sunday, March 29 ... John 8:1-12		
Holy Week		Ascension
Palm Sunday, April 5 ... Matthew 21:1-11		Thursday, May 21 ... John 16:24-33
Thursday, April 9 ... Luke 23:13-32		Sunday, May 24 ... John 16:24-33
Friday, April 10 ... John 19:1-15		Whitsun
Saturday, April 11 ... John 19:16-42		Sunday, May 31 ... John 14:22-31
Easter		Wednesday, June 3 ... Romans 8:18-27
Sunday, April 12 ... Mark 16:1-8		Sunday, June 7 ... Romans 8:18-27
Sunday, April 19 ... John 20:19-31		Sunday, June 14 ... John 1:43 -51
Sunday, April 26 ... John 10:1-16		Sunday, June 21 ... John 3:1-21

