



## Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February



Dear friend, despite the sad news of His Majesty King Charles II's cancer diagnosis, I hope you have had a relatively good week. The news of the King's diagnosis came as a shock to many of us. On Sunday, I watched him coming out of the church and thanked God on his behalf, especially after the prostrate procedure. It was a surprise to read the "Communique" from the Palace on Monday evening. As shocked as we all are, we can only imagine how he and his family would have been.

The King has been waiting for many years to attain the throne. He would have dreamt dreams and made plans with hope and expectation, and now, all these will be on hold as he gives time to what is most important to him now: his family and his God (I hope!).

Many people around the world have had similar experiences. From being healthy one day to being told of terrible ill health that was not only unexpected but literally ambition threatening and life-ending. In such situations, they are not the only ones affected; their entire family, friends, colleagues, church and everyone that knows and wishes them well is in one way or the other affected.

As we remember King Charles in our prayers, let us pray for all who are suffering from various forms of ill health, especially cancer. Let us, wherever possible, reach out to them with love, compassion and, most notably with, words of hope and encouragement.

There are various examples from the Bible. Below are some I have always found helpful.

**John 16:33:** "In the world, you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

**Isaiah 41:10 (NIV):** "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen and help you and uphold you with my righteous right hand."

**Philippians 4:6–7 (NIV):** "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus".

Whatever you are facing, remember these words and hand everything to Jesus, the Author and finisher of our faith. In Him and with Him, all shall be well.

This Sunday is Transfiguration Sunday and Racial Justice Sunday, and we will meet at 8 and 10 am for Holy Communion Services. Sunday Juniors will be for primary school-aged children during the 10 am service. We will also meet on Ash Wednesday at 10:30 am and 8pm. Please join us if you can.

May you and all yours know God's peace, which passes all understanding, and may God bring His shalom to King Charles and all who are sick in body, soul and mind. Amen.

With best wishes

Revd Folli Olokose vicar@oatlandschurch.org.uk/ 01932840077

## Activities and Events at St Mary Oatlands

**New!!! 'Activation Youth'** Term time Fri evenings in St Mary Oatlands Church Hall. School Yr 7-10 aged children 17.30-19.30 & School Yr 10-12 aged children 19.30-21.30. Free of charge. No regular sign up required, just turn up, play games, talk, have fun and make friends. Tuck shop. Tell someone about it! For more details contact Leon 07881 786309

[thepaislad@gmail.com](mailto:thepaislad@gmail.com) **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Event** Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb in the church hall. 3.30-5.30pm. £2 per person. All welcome. Donations of ready-made store-bought pancakes (please check Best Before dates) and non-perishable toppings such as jam, spray cream topping, fudge sauce, maple syrup, lemons and so on would be most welcome. Please bring these to the Church kitchen. Please bring perishable toppings on the day. Don't forget savoury options too! Thank you. **Ash Wednesday** 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 10.30am Holy Communion & 8pm Holy Communion with imposition of ashes. **Lenten Retreat** Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Feb 10am-4pm Led by Revd Folli, exploring themes such as Temptations, Annunciation, God's Love and Patience, Pain and Suffering, Christ's Crucifixion, Forgiveness, and Resurrection. Opportunity for Prayer, Ministry, Reflection and Worship. **'The Abbey', Colonels Lane, Chertsey KT16 8RJ** £10 (incl lunch). Please sign up at the back of the church. **Holy Week and Easter services** Please collect a flyer from the back of the church. **Palm Sunday** 24<sup>th</sup> March. 8am & 10am Holy Communion & 6pm Devotional Service. **Maundy Thursday** 28<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm Agape Supper in Church hall. 8pm Holy Communion service with foot washing. **Good Friday** 29<sup>th</sup> March 10am 'Walk of Witness' (from St James' Church, Weybridge). 1-3pm Music & Readings for Good Friday. 2.30-4pm Free Children's Good Friday Craft Afternoon in the Church Octagon room. **Easter Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March** 8am & 10am Holy Communion. **8.30-9.30am** Parish Breakfast. We do an excellent hot breakfast! Everyone is welcome for breakfast and fellowship. Please use the sign-up sheet at the back of the Church. If you can offer help with the breakfast, please contact the Parish Office.

**Revd Phil Barlow** will be licensed at St Lawrence, Effingham, on Wed 21st Feb at 7:30 pm. Please use the sign-up sheet at the back of the Church if 1) you are coming and can offer lifts or 2) if you are coming and would like a lift. **Church Spring Clean and Garden Tidy** Sat 9<sup>th</sup> March 9am-12noon. Please let the Parish Office know if you can help. **Plant Swap Day** Sat 27<sup>th</sup> April 9am-12noon on the Church lawn. Browse, swap plants and information. Refreshments will be available. Please contact Rachel Bainbridge if you can help or need more information 07557408085. **Oatlands Village Fayre Sat 11th May 12.30-4.30pm.** We will be there once again with our Cake and Children's Crafts stalls. If you can help on either stall or pledge a cake for the cake stall, please use the sign up sheet at the back of the Church or contact the parish office. **Christian Aid Week** 12-18th May.

**Kim & Malcolm Groom's Open Garden** Sat 15<sup>th</sup> June 2-5pm 'West Lodge', 169 Burwood Road, Hersham, Walton-On-Thames, KT12 4AT (near Squires Garden Centre) 7.5 glorious acres of garden, Japanese tea house, Children's trail, & lawn games, plant stall and raffle. Children welcome. (Entrance fee applies, under 12's free). **CARE in Weybridge still needs volunteers!** CARE drives people who can't drive themselves to medical and other appointments – hairdressing, shopping etc. Volunteering for CARE is very flexible. There's no fixed commitment. Drivers do as many trips as they want or can. Duty Officers just sign up to do a morning or two a month from their own homes. If you would like to volunteer or want to know more: Call 07881 698381 9am -12noon Mon-Fri [info@careinweybridge.org.uk](mailto:info@careinweybridge.org.uk) or [www.careinweybridge.org.uk](http://www.careinweybridge.org.uk)