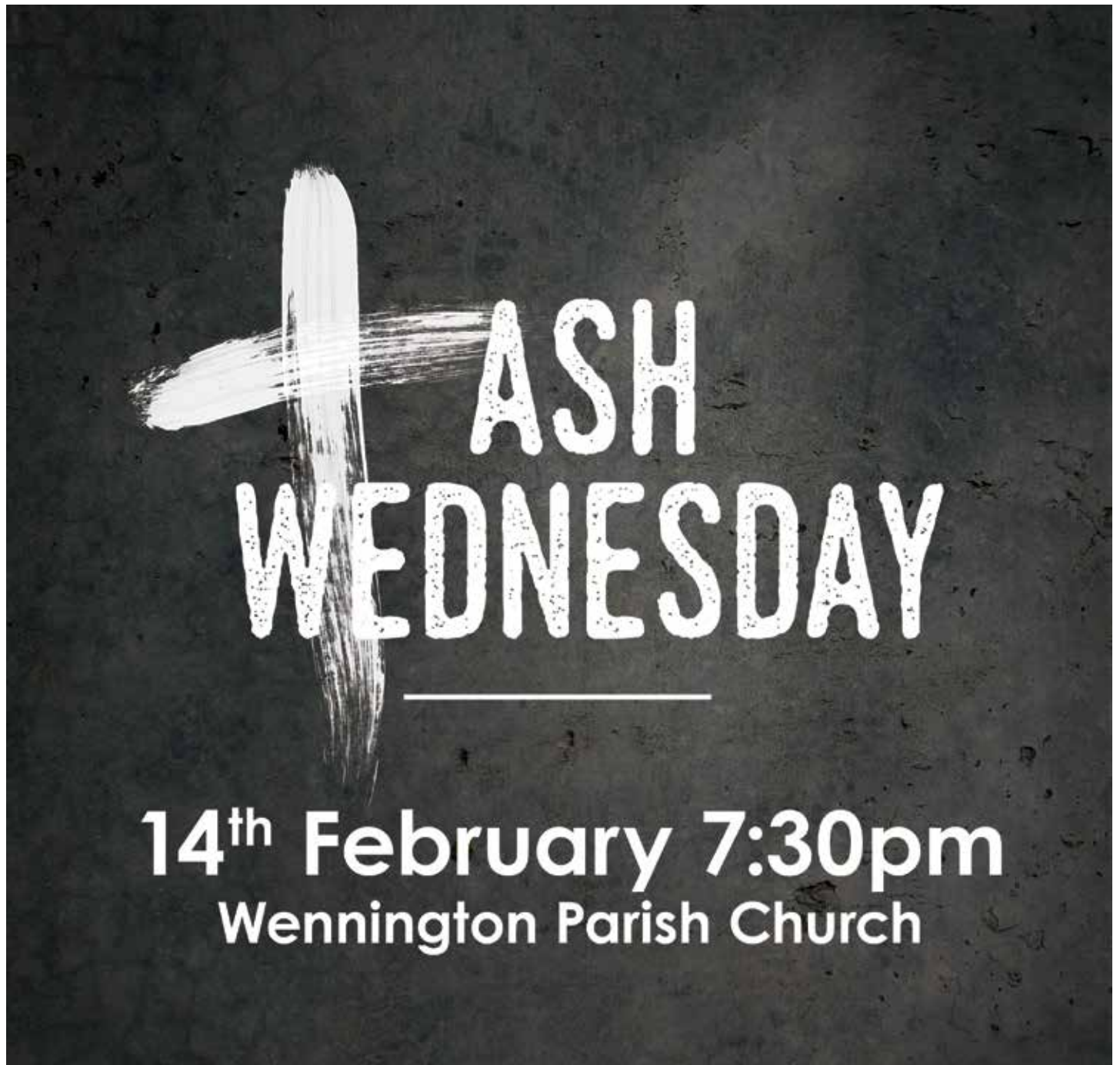


NEWS

The Parish of Rainham with Wennington
St Helen & St Giles with St Mary & St Peter

**DATES FOR THE DIARY
SERVICES & THEMES
PRAYER KNIGHTS
EVENTS**

February 2018



Running on Empty

Details of our Lent Course and WaterAid appeal for 2018.

Pages 1 & 2

Holy Week 2018

A programme of services and events for Easter.

Pages 3

Annual Meeting

Our Annual Parochial Church meetings are right around the corner.

Page 7

Prophecy

Keith & Ruth Turner's day conference all about prophecy.

Page 7

LENT 2018

Running on Empty



Ash Wednesday Joint Holy Communion Service

Wednesday 14th February
7:30pm
Wennington Parish Church

THIS YEAR WE will not be producing Lent course booklets, but there will be a weekly focus sheet for you to use in your Small Groups or individually. In addition Henry will be hosting a weekly afternoon and evening teaching/study meeting taking us through the Lent Course. This is for everyone who would like to attend, whether you are in a Small Group or not. As in previous years, Small Groups can use this opportunity to come and share together.

The weekly teaching sessions will be taking place at Rainham Parish Church. The afternoon session will be from 2pm and the evening session from 7:30pm. The very first session will be on Thursday 15th February, the day after Ash Wednesday, and the sessions will continue throughout Lent, culminating in our Joint Maundy Thursday Holy Communion Service on Thursday 29th March from 7:30pm.

The Store Cupboard Challenge

THIS YEAR'S LENT APPEAL once again is the Store Cupboard Challenge. The challenge is to live off what's in your store cupboard during any given week in Lent. You can buy fresh produce, but the concept is to "make do" as much as possible. The money you would have normally spent on your food shop goes into the Lent Appeal, which this year is again WaterAid. Other ideas are to put some money into a jar /01.

during Lent every time you use clean water, or give up chocolate, or going out for coffee, or any other option you want to choose. All Water Aid offerings will be taken on Easter Day.

Last year, we managed to raise a combined figure of £1569.66 for WaterAid. Over the last few years we have managed to generously surpass the figure of the previous year, so lets see if we can go beyond this once again for 2018!



WATERAID has been our Lent Appeal for many years. It came out of a leadership discussion that we do something with the money saved from giving up something during Lent and the recognition that whatever we give up is very minimal and much less than those who don't always have the very basics of life, even down to basic clean water and toilets.

Right now, over 663 million people live without safe water to drink, 2.4 billion (1 in 3) people don't have access to adequate sanitation, and around 315,000 children die every year from diseases caused by poor hygiene and dirty water.

WaterAid is an international nonprofit organisation working across 38 countries, whose vision is of a world where everyone has access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene by 2030.

Celebrating Clean Water in Madagascar

Lovasoa lies at the end of a single red road, used only by carts, and is so isolated that its residents have to walk for ten miles to buy basic household items, such as sugar, oil or soap, or to reach the nearest health centre.

In such a remote community the arrival of clean water was always going to be a cause for huge celebrations. And in Lovasoa, the community prepared for their big moment by decorating their new water points and planting palm trees, while children gathered around excitedly. Working with our local partner,

Manorintsoa, we've installed a gravity-fed system that will reach 390 people in the community, giving everyone there the chance of a happier, healthier future.

"Today is the best day of my life here!" 17-year-old Tahiry told us. "It's unbelievable," Meltine, 28, agreed. "A few hours ago I was on my way back home after fetching dirty water from far away and now I'm turning on a tap. Life can be changed in one day!"

The Parish of Rainham with Wennington

EASTER PROGRAMME FOR **HOLY WEEK** 2018

25th March

Palm Sunday Service

WPC 10am

RPC 10:30am & 6:30pm

26th March

Prayer Knight

*"The Things He Carried" by Bishop Stephen Cottrell (A journey to the cross with appropriate reflection and engagement for Holy Week).
RPC 7-9pm*

29th March

Maundy Thursday

Joint Holy Communion Service

RPC 7:30pm

NB: This will be a normal service with short reflections and sharing of Bread and Wine. We will not be having a Maundy Meal as in previous years.

30th March

Good Friday Meditation

RPC 10:30am

Walk of Witness

12pm

Good Friday Meditation

WPC 2pm

We will be using "The Nail" by Bishop Stephen Cottrell at both services as we did last year which proved very powerful. This year we want to encourage both church communities to participate in the enactment, so if you would like to take part, please contact Pat Sanders or Henry.

1st April

Easter Day Holy Communion Service

WPC 10am

RPC 10:30am & 6:30pm





ORDER THE 2018 REAL EASTER EGG HERE

Special Edition

Dark

Original

Original (RRP £3.99)

The all-new 2018 design includes a large 24 page Easter story-activity book, a bag of Fairtrade Swiss Chunky Buttons (25g) and a UK made Fairtrade milk chocolate egg (125g) with a lovely creamy taste. 35% cocoa – Palm Oil free.

Special Edition (RRP £9.99)

Includes a simple guide to Easter, an olive wood holding cross keyring from the Holy Land, a Fairtrade orange milk chocolate bar (80g), and Fairtrade milk chocolate egg (200g) with a lovely creamy taste. 35% cocoa – Palm Oil free.

Dark (RRP £5.50)

The all-new 2018 design includes a large 24 page Easter story-activity book, a Fairtrade chocolate egg made from dark Belgian chocolate (165g) and three Fairtrade dark chocolate squares (3 x 5g). Delicious, smooth and fruity. 71% cocoa – Palm Oil free.



New Design Easter Story

A 24 page Easter story-activity book illustrated by Martina Peluso is included in the Original and Dark eggs.

Please use sign up form (in both churches and Ship Centre) stating your choice of Egg and Quantity ASAP

Dates for the Diary February/March

/05.

Please make note of any diary entries that apply to you, and inform hosts if you're unable to attend.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Services See page 8 24	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship Men's Games Night 7:30pm The Ship 25	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9:30am WPC 6	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 10am RPC Mothers' Union 2pm St Helen's Hall 7	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship Rainham PCC Meeting 8pm RPC 8	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9	Ship Quiz 7pm St Helen's Hall 10
	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 12	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9:30am WPC Togetherness 12pm St Helen's Hall 13	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 10am RPC BCP Holy Communion 10am RPC Ash Wednesday Joint Holy Communion Service 7:30pm WPC 14	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship Lent Course 2pm & 7:30pm RPC 15	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 16	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 17

Sunday Services See page 8 18	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9:30am WPC Counter-Terrorism Meeting 10:30am St John's Leytonstone 20	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 10am RPC 21	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 2pm & 7:30pm RPC 22	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 23	Sunday Services See page 8 24
Sunday Services See page 8 25	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9:30am WPC Prayer Knight 7–9pm The Ship 26	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 10am RPC 28	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 2pm & 7:30pm RPC 1	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 2	Sunday Services See page 8 3
Sunday Services See next issue 4	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9:30am WPC Wennington PCC Meeting 7pm WPC 5	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 10am RPC Mothers' Union 2pm St Helen's Hall 6	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 2pm & 7:30pm RPC 8	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9	Prophecy Conference 9am–2pm Church of the Good Shepherd 10
Sunday Services See next issue 11	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9:30am WPC Togetherness 12pm St Helen's Hall 13	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 10am RPC BCP Holy Communion 10am RPC 14	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 2pm & 7:30pm RPC 15	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 16	Sunday Services See next issue 17

The Month Newspaper



THE FINAL EDITION of The Month was printed in November 2017. Past editions are available to view or download as a PDF from the Diocese of Chelmsford website. You can also continue to receive news from there, or by following the Diocese of Chelmsford on Facebook or Twitter.

Prayer Knights

OUR NEXT PRAYER KNIGHT will be in The Ship on Monday 26th February, from 7–9pm. This Prayer Knight will be led by Shirley with a time of worship to start with. Please try to come along for the beginning of the evening.



APCMs at RWPC

This year, our Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCMs) will be taking place on Sunday 15th April. Rainham's APCM will follow on from the 10:30am morning service.

There will be no 10am service at Wennington. There will instead be a service at 2pm and the APCM will follow on from this.

If you have been asked to complete an APCM report for your ministry, please email your report to the Parish Office by Sunday 25th March.

It would be preferable to receive these electronically to minimise the amount of time spent typing—don't worry about formatting, as Alan will be formatting them to fit into the booklets. If you really need to bring in a hard copy, then they will need to be in the office by Wednesday 21st March.

As a reminder, if you don't get your report in by the deadline you will be required to make your report verbally at the APCM itself.

Prophecy Conference

KEITH AND RUTH Turner are running a day conference on prophecy at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Collier Row on Saturday 10th March. Times are still to be confirmed but it will begin with refreshments and worship and come to a formal end by early afternoon. This is open to everyone but I particularly recommend it to those on the Prayer Ministry Team, leaders and PCC members. A flyer will be available soon with more information.

Generous InTENT

IRIS AND LEN Goodman have a 2 bedroom canvas frame bungalow-style tent with a canopy that they are looking to give away. If you are interested, please call Iris on 01708 509134.



Continues to need any new unwanted small gifts for resale. Please keep the new unwanted gifts coming, they do make a difference!

Rainham
foodbank

Please note that donations placed into the FoodBank box at the back of church also go towards feeding the hungry of Rainham out of The Ship.

Services and Themes for February

Sunday 4th

Living Bread

Exodus 16:1–12 & John 7:37–44

10:00am WPC Holy Communion

10:30am RPC Family Service

6:30pm RPC Evening Prayer

Sunday 11th

Water, Water Everywhere

Exodus 17:1–7 & John 6:22–40

10:00am WPC Morning Prayer

10:30am RPC Holy Communion

6:30pm RPC Evening Prayer

Wednesday 14th Ash Wednesday

Back to the Start

Genesis 3:1–19 & Matthew 4:1–11

7:30pm WPC Joint Holy Communion

Sunday 18th

The Stigma of Fruitlessness

1 Samuel 1:1–18 & 2 Peter 1:2–11

10:00am WPC Holy Communion

10:30am RPC Family Service

6:30pm RPC Evening Prayer

Sunday 25th

The Cost of Picking the Winning Side

Joshua 2:1–24 & Luke 13:22–30

10am WPC Morning Prayer

10:30am RPC All-Age Service

6:30pm RPC Holy Communion

Running on Empty

LIFE CAN BE both draining and taxing. We can often find ourselves in circumstances and situations we have not planned for or are beyond our control. They come about unexpectedly, causing us worry and anxiety, fear and uncertainty. Our challenges in life can relate to relationships, economic circumstances, health issues, or any other range of problems. All of us have experienced what it means to be running on empty, whereby we just “plod on”, sometimes in crisis management, sometimes without even being aware that our gauge is showing empty and as a result, we become ineffective or veer to a halt.

This Lent we will be exploring some of these issues using people in Scripture who struggled with or were challenged by the issues of life we are familiar with and experience ourselves. The fundamental question is then, how do we deal with and respond to life’s uncertainties? What are the spiritual ‘wells’ we drink from and how do we replenish the energies we give out?

The 1973 Arab-Israeli war prompted an oil embargo by Opec that led to a fuel shortage and resulted in global recession, resulting in long queues at petrol stations, with tempers flaring and fights breaking out.

In 2000 refineries and depots were hit by protests targeted across the UK. Motorists around Britain were facing increasing shortages of petrol as protests against soaring fuel prices gathered pace. Are you running on low or empty spiritually? Where is your spiritual petrol station and how often do you fill up? We begin with the ‘filling places’ Jesus spoke of relating to Himself as the bread of life and the Holy Spirit as streams of living water.

Our ‘wells’, as we will discover, are not places but God Himself who sustains us, restores us, equips us and re-envisions us. Through Him we are more than conquerors, for He alone is our way, our truth and our life, filling us for our journeys ahead.

February Birthdays

16th February
Jack Payne

21st February
Henry Pradella

22nd February
Alan Sanders

27th February
Tim Stock

And to all those who have not yet divulged their birthdays to us. Wishing you all of God's blessings for a special day.

If you would like a birthday mentioned in the Newsletter, please contact the Parish Office no later than the 3rd week of the month.

Family Matters

News from across our church family.

Thanks!

A belated thank you to all those who helped in any way during December, from the Fayre Day to all of the Christmas Services.

Thank you to those who contributed to the Christmas Card Board. Five "Gifts for Life" have been purchased with £82 collected. These will aid a fairer lifestyle in various communities in the developing world. Full details on the noticeboard at RPC.

Family

If you would like to have a significant anniversary or event mentioned in the newsletter, please contact the Parish Office no later than the 3rd week of the month.

Epray

If there is anything that you would like the church family to pray for, please send your prayer request by email to the Parish Office.

If you don't have access to emails, feel free to call and leave a message so our Administrator can then email your prayer request to the church family.

For those at WPC without emails, remember to check the noticeboard at the back of church each week for updates. At RPC, check the prayer book.

We aim to include your prayer requests in at least one of the services on Sunday,

In order to develop our system further, can we ask that those with prayer requests also keep us up to date with any further information or developments. That way, your church family can be better equipped to know how to pray.

- Linda Otabor and Dee Okojie getting married at RPC on 23rd February.

Prayer Points

News

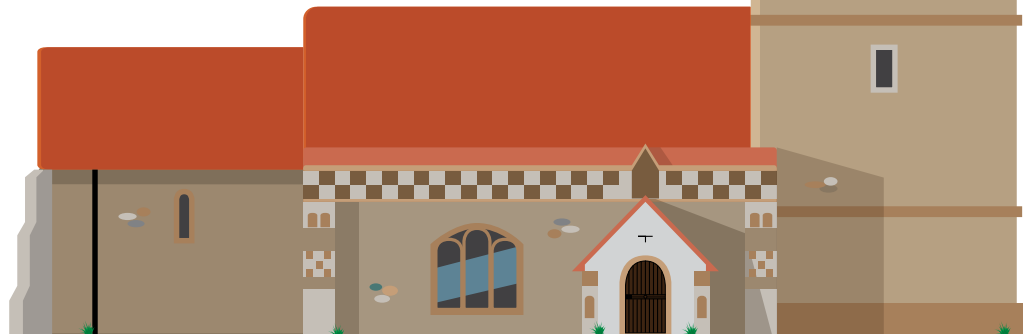
Small Groups

Small Groups meet every week during Lent.

Putting the Community in Touch with Jesus.



*Sharing
God's
Love in
Wennington.*



Staff Contact Times

Henry & Sheryl

Every day except Tuesdays

Nick

Every day except Saturdays

Alan

Office hours only (but our Administrator is also contactable via email on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the same hours.)

Shirley

At The Ship Centre only

David & Jan

Sundays only

Please respect the worship times of the staff, particularly Sundays.

Parish Office:

St Helens Hall,
St Helens Court,
Rainham,
RM13 9YU

Opening Hours:

Mondays & Wednesdays
9am–12pm & 1pm–4pm

Contact Us:

office@rainhamparishchurch.org.uk
01708 552752
www.rainhamparishchurch.org.uk

Vicar

Revd Henry Pradella

Associate Minister

Revd David Stainer

Youth Minister

Nick Pucenot

Church Wardens:

Arthur Carter & Shirley Phillips (RPC)
Pat Sanders (WPC)