

REGULAR CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Tuesday	10.30am - Noon	Coffee & Chat. (St. Andrew's Room)
	3.45pm - 5.15pm	SALT for children (4 - 7 yrs) and their families (in term time)
	6.30pm - 9.15pm	Youth Fellowship (Village Hall).
	7.45pm	Bell ringers.
Wednesday	2.00pm - 3.30pm	Tiny Tots. (St. Andrew's Room)
Friday	7.30pm - 8:30pm	Choir Practice. (St. Andrew's Room)

CONTACTS

Priest-In-Charge: Revd. Clive Ashley Tel: 01245 243863
The Rectory, 25 The Lintons, Sandon, CM2 7UA
Email: cliveashley@btinternet.com

Churchwardens: Mrs. C. J. Mennie Tel: 01245 281305
Mr. M. Puffett Tel: 01245 222066
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. I. A. Underwood Tel: 01245 225756
Hon. Secretary: Mr. D. M. Farrar Tel: 01245 471484
Electoral Roll Officer: Mrs. P. Eden Tel: 01245 223415
Bell Ringers: Mr. N. Tovey Tel: 01245 472692
Choirmaster: Mr. J. Gilder Tel: 01245 471731
Organist: Mr. R. Woods Tel: 01245 268304
Flowers: Mrs. B. Underwood Tel: 01245 225756
Tiny Tots: Mrs. A. Read Tel: 01245 474858
Magazine Editor: Mr. N. Bobeldijk Tel: 01245 471756
(email: nick@bobeldijk.co.uk)

Advertising: Please contact the editor.
Members of P.C.C.: Brian Amey, Nick Bobeldijk, Richard Cecil,
Judy Cecil, David Farrar, James Gilder,
Christine Mennie, Michael Puffett, Alison Read,
Dennis Terry, Jack Whinney, Ian Underwood

Arrangements for Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals and visiting of the sick
may be made with Revd. Clive Ashley, or with the Churchwardens.

Our Mission Statement

In the light of God's call, and our situation here, our vision is:

*To glorify and worship God and to further his kingdom on earth; To declare
and show the love of Christ for all people to the people of Sandon; To teach,
encourage and help people to be disciples of Christ; To proclaim Christ's*

Gospel to the people of Sandon and the wider world;

*To encourage commitment and personal growth in Christian discipleship and
spirituality; To channel God's love through service and care for all.*

PARISH MAGAZINE



ST ANDREW'S SANDON

APRIL 2011

20p

CHURCH SERVICES during April 2011

at St. Andrew's Church, Sandon [S]
and St. Mary's Church, Little Baddow [LB]

Sunday 3rd

4th Sunday Of Lent - Mothering Sunday

08.00 Holy Communion [LB]
10.00 Jubilate Eucharist [S]
10.00 Morning Prayer [LB]

Monday 4th

09.00 Morning Prayer [LBC]

Wednesday 6th

09.15 Holy Communion [S]

Thursday 7th

10.00 House Communion

Sunday 10th

5th Sunday Of Lent

Passiontide begins

10.00 Parish Eucharist
with Choir [LB]
18.30 United Evening Worship
[URC]
18.30 Evening Parish Eucharist [S]

Monday 11th

09.00 Morning Prayer [LBC]

Wednesday 13th

09.15 Holy Communion [S]

Thursday 14th

10.00 House Communion

Sunday 17th

Palm Sunday

10.00 Parish Eucharist [S]
10.00 United Family Worship [LB]
18.30 Evening Eucharist [LB]
20.00 'The Last Week'
Reflections on the Passion [S]

Holy Week

Monday 18th

Monday in Holy Week

09.00 Morning Prayer [LBC]
18.00 Evening Prayer [S]
20.00 'The Last Week'
Reflections on the Passion [S]

Tuesday 19th

Tuesday in Holy Week

09.00 Morning Prayer [LBC]
18.00 Evening Prayer [S]
20.00 'The Last Week'
Reflections on the Passion [S]

Wednesday 20th

Wednesday in Holy Week

09.00 Morning Prayer [LBC]
18.00 Evening Prayer [S]

Thursday 21st

Maundy Thursday

10.00 Holy Communion and stripping of
the Altar and Church [LB]
18.00 Holy Communion and stripping of
the Altar and Church [S]
Followed by:
Maundy Thursday Vigil
(until 10pm)

Friday 22nd

Good Friday

09.45 Children's Easter Garden
Service at St Mary's [LB]
10.00 Ecumenical Service starting at the
Memorial Hall
14.00 Children's Easter Garden
Service at St Andrew's [S]
20.00 Good Friday Meditation and
Prayers [S – Lady Chapel]

Sunday 24th

Easter Sunday

08.00 United Easter Day Liturgy
and Eucharist [LB]
Followed by Breakfast in the
Memorial Hall
10.30 United Easter Day Communion
[URC]
(Preceded by Breakfast in the
Memorial Hall)
10.00 Easter Day Liturgy and Eucharist
[S]

Organisations & Activities in Sandon & Howe Green

United Reformed Church Howe Green

Minister: Revd. J. Sermon 01245 601662
Sunday Service: 11.00am Morning Service (Communion 2nd Sunday)

Sandon Parish Council

Meetings are usually on the 2nd Monday of the month and are held alternately in Sandon Village Hall and at Howe Green.

Chair: Mr. I. Wright
Parish Clerk: Mrs. S. Dobson. 01245 227734
Parish Office: Crack Willows, Mayes Lane,
Sandon, Essex CM2 7RP

Sandon Village Hall

Chair: Mr. P. J. Ellis 01245 222682
Secretary: Mrs. J. Cecil 01245 224747
Caretaker/Bookings: Mr. S. Turner 01245 471575
Hall Telephone (message facility) 01245 471970
Treasurer: Mr. N. Bobeldijk 01245 471756

Other Organisations

Beaver Cub Leader: Mrs. J. Bernardes 01245 476830
Brownie Guider: Mrs. S. Little 01621 840525
Cub Scout Leader: Mrs. J. Blake 01245 603155
Garden & Allotment Assn.: Mrs. E Tappin 01245 476951
Girl Guides: Ms. J. Ronaldson 07939 047987
Over Sixties: Mrs. S. Whinney 01245 222239
Sandon W.I.: Mrs. A. Harvey 01245 474294
Group Scout Leader: Mr. N. Paul 01245 474891
Sports Club: Mr. G. Lucas (Secretary) 01245 283730
Youth Fellowship: Mr. P. J. Ellis 01245 222682

Regular Activities

Wednesdays 6.00 - 7.15pm 1st Sandon Brownies in the Village Hall
Last Wednesday Monthly 2.00 - 4.15pm Over Sixties Club.
Thursdays 5.00 - 6.15pm Beaver Cubs in the Village Hall.
6.15 - 7.45pm 1st Sandon Cubs & Scouts in Village Hall.
8.00 - 9.30pm Sandon Scouts in the Village Hall
2nd Thursday Monthly 2.00 - 4.00pm Women's Institute in the Village Hall.

Please inform the editor of any alterations to the above details.

The editor is pleased to accept notices, reports, reviews and articles from any local organisation or individual, the inclusion of any such items being at the editor's discretion.

Preferred font for script is Arial 10 point with any graphics being sent in jpeg format. Deadline for copy is 10th of month preceding month of publication.

Editor: Nick Bobeldijk 34 Gilmore Way, Great Baddow, CM2 7AW
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Dear friends

As we begin April this year we are drawing near to the end of Lent, celebrating Mothering Sunday (3rd) and then comes Palm Sunday (17th), Holy Week which includes Maundy Thursday (21st), Good Friday (22nd) and then comes Easter Day (24th). This month can be a strangely comforting and also challenging period of time in the year when we are made mindful of the degree of Jesus' love for the world, for you and me which words can never satisfactorily express. It is both an exciting and a joyful time as families enjoy coming together, when children and adults enjoy the fun and gifts of chocolate Easter Eggs. In the the empty Easter Egg carton and foil wrapping we might even see the miracle of the Tomb and Christ's resurrection but it's a beginning not an end! At Easter we think of the Risen Christ, new life and hope for our personal future and the future of all humanity. Because of all this and much more, the Church becomes a challenging and a comfortable place to which many come, although not always for reasons we can identify. Put simply, we have a need, a searching, a longing for something which is met to some extent as we come to Church on Palm Sunday, in Holy Week and at Easter. Easter is indeed a 'let's get back to church' sort of time for many who have been caught up in the business of life and who 'temporarily' forgot the place of God in their lives and the life of their family. However, our need is not met because we 'attend Church' or 'take Communion', it's met because fundamentally in coming back to Church we are like 'the Prodigal Son' in the Parable of Jesus, coming back home to our Father God.

In coming back, questions such as, 'and where do you think you've been until this time?' aren't asked! Statements such as, 'you use this place like a hotel!' aren't forthcoming. 'Late again!!' is not part of the welcome as we creep through the front door (or whispered) but what you will hear is 'It's great to see you', 'Come again, soon'. 'We've missed you' may be said but not to make you feel judged, just missed. The Attendance Register and the Clocking-in machine were buried in the Churchyard before pussy was a kitten! We also took out the turnstile and ticket prices have been halved (that's a joke by the way, we don't charge on entry, only on exit).

I hope I am not speaking out of turn but I am sure all who come regularly or once in a while to the URC Chapel and St Mary's Church won't mind if they turn up and find someone else sitting in the seat they habitually sit in. After all, they sit there probably because it's warmer or lighter or they can make a quick getaway.

If you are unsure about coming to Church or Chapel for the first time ever, say so when you come and we'll do our best to find you a seat near someone who won't look at you grumpily but will be happy to help you through the service if you're unsure. Remember I am very willing to see you at home if you've questions about the Church, faith or anything else you would like to talk to me about. Just pick up the phone and call 243863. God is with you.

Clive

SANDON GARDEN CENTRE

The Lunch Café

Open Day Sunday 10th April, 2010 - come and join us for a FREE coffee in the brand new Lunch Café, plus entry into our free prize draw.

Sandon Garden Centre looks forward to welcoming the residents of Sandon village to the Garden Centre and The Lunch Café, fully refurbished and equipped to welcome all ages, including full wheelchair access and facilities.

The Lunch Café is the place to meet, whether you want a cappuccino after the school run, weekend brunch with the family, tea and cake for elevenses lunch with friends or an indulgent afternoon tea. We hope to provide something for everyone, with all our food carefully sourced and prepared from fresh, local ingredients.

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The Tiny Tots Toddler Group meets every Wednesday from 2.00 to 3.30 p.m., except in school holidays, in the St Andrews Room, for parents (or carers) to meet and for children to play.

Of course, a drink and a snack is available too!

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Words that especially inspire you? ... Positive thinking & words inspiring positive thoughts.
Compliments are always beautiful as well & I was taught in recent years to accept them gracefully when they are offered!

What quality do you most value in another person? ... Thoughtfulness

What kind of behaviour do you find most difficult to tolerate? ... Lack of caring/unkind/cruel

Night or morning person? ... Morning

Which season do you prefer? ... Autumn – the autumnal colours of the trees get to me every year!

A moment when you felt the presence of God? ... When I am filled with/surrounded by love or friendship...

Favourite hymn? ... Be still for the presence of the Lord

Do you have friends from other faiths? ... I don't in sleepy Sandon nor in my somewhat 'motherly' world that I live in now although I do have several agnostic and atheist friends who certainly share the same set of values as me. I am thoroughly enjoying learning about a variety of faiths through my children. A recent visit to the Hindu Shri Swaminarayan Mandir in London was quite breathtaking and extremely tranquil, leading me to conclude that we can learn much from each others faiths.

Something you are looking forward to? ... Helping my family as they go through the trials and tribulations of growing up & achieving this with my nearest & dearest hubby Neil. No doubt nothing can prepare us for what's ahead but we'll get there together & hopefully have lots of fun on the way!

If you could donate a large sum to a charity which would you choose? ... In the current climate I would choose a disaster relief fund & a children's charity

If you could save one thing that you own from a fire, what would it be? ... After the children.. my phone, laptop and my handbag...? Oh dear my hands are full & it appears I am unable to chose just one of the above!

What advice would you give to an 18 year old? ... Aim for a good balance between work and play..

What moment of your life would you most like to relive? ... My wedding day.. we don't have any video footage of the day itself and I would love to watch the wedding or be there again to remind myself.

What age would you most like to be? Very strange question.. as I see it every age has a mixture of advantages and disadvantage so we must make the most of what we've got! On saying that it was certainly great to be young and slightly (a lot) more carefree..

Any special interests ... As many will know I enjoy a little bit of everything.. a good book, calligraphy, exercising, cooking, gardening, church, socialising with friends, helping others, travelling... In conclusion so much to do.. so little time... AR

ADVANCE NOTICE

TO HELP US TO PREPARE FOR EASTER

WE PRESENT

THE LAST WEEK

Contemplation on the Passion of Jesus

using poems by CHRISTINE WASS

MUSIC for HOLY WEEK

BIG SCREEN DVD/FILM of ST MATTHEW'S
GOSPEL

Sandon Church

8.00 pm

Palm Sunday 17 April

Holy Monday 18 April

Holy Tuesday 19 April

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Book your seat on 01245 222682

TEA/COFFEE AFTER PERFORMANCE

Retiring COLLECTION for CHURCH FUNDS

Sandon WI March meeting, 2011

Eileen Bartrup, President, welcomed members, two visitors, the Speaker Sally Kirk and her friend Pippa and thanked Thelma Stokes for the flowers, which were later sent to Margaret Gill who is unwell. Jerusalem was then sung, but later members agreed that it was better without a tape recording.

The Committee had decided to change the programme, and have the Speaker before tea so they did not have to stay through all the business part of the meeting, so Eileen then introduced Sally Kirk, who told us about her Spring Step Dairy. As a child, Sally longed to own a pony, and used to pray for this to happen. When her prayers were not answered she simply asked for something to do with animals, and having married a farmer she now has 700 goats, a puppy some alpacas and has had racehorses in the past! She and her husband used to be dairy farmers, but it proved so unprofitable that they sold up and took up goats, more entertaining, gentler and more delicate than cows. From the milk they make yoghurts, ice cream, double cream, cheese and also sell their milk, and Sally passed round samples of the milk. She also found herself with some alpacas whose wool is very fine, and can be used for either knitting or weaving up into material and the WI is planning a visit to Sally's farm in May. She was thanked by Dorothy Gray.

After tea, Eileen asked if members liked the new pattern of the meeting with the Speaker first, and it was agreed that it was a good idea. Rosemary Walden received her new member's book and we were reminded about the Group meeting on March 21st, and the County Annual meeting tomorrow, and the Inter W.I quiz will be on May 3rd at Boreham Village Hall. On April 21 there will be a bluebell walk in Blakes Wood. Meet in the car park at 10.30, with lunch afterwards. Pat Eden then read a letter from our twinned Institute in New Zealand saying how dreadful the earthquake in Christchurch had been, and how grateful they were for all the international help they had received including a team of firefighters from Essex who had gone out to help in the rescue work.

The Secretary read out the correspondence including a visit to Titsey Place in July, a walk at Hatfield Broad Oak and an order form for the 2011 crossword. The Treasurer said storage of some of our larger items was getting to be a problem and the Committee had been looking into getting a cupboard on wheels that could be stored in the hall, and asked members to think about various alternatives. The Flower of the Month was won by Celia Kerslake and the next meeting will be on April 14th, and will be the Spring Dhow, and schedules were available.

Anne Nickol



PARISH PEOPLE : Alison Jane Read PCC Member

Known as: ... Alison!

When did you arrive in Sandon? ... March 1999

What was the reason you came? ... Moving from our flat in Writtle to our 'first house'

Did you have any ambitions as a child?Would it sound dull to say not really! I have always followed a path of doing things (& subjects) I enjoy, where possible, and have seen where it has led me.

Do they remotely resemble anything you do now? In a sense yes. Enjoying the subject of urban geography led to a career in social housing & enjoying the company of others has led to me to a whole variety of projects, travels and activities.

What one life lesson do you feel you have learned? ... Life is truly what you make it..

How did you become a Christian? ... I have grown up with Christian principles through my family & the Guiding movement. My dear school friend of 35 years is a Christian & has had a huge influence on my life.. and now that of my children too.. Having Matthew and Emma baptised at St Andrews reawakened Christianity in my adult life. I also have several very dear local friends with whom we share our thoughts on Faith together, over a cuppa or three..

What do you like about Sandon Church? ... An incredible piece of history in our modern lives. St Andrew's to me has demonstrated how it is not just about the building, it is the people inside who really make up the church - the beautiful building giving us a great place to meet!

Do you believe in miracles? ... I am only now truly beginning to understand that miracles are God's work filtering through us into the human world...

What gives you hope for the future? ... That good will always win in the end

Outgoing or shy? ... Outgoing.. although shy can creep up on me very quickly!

Coffee or tea? ... tea, with coffee-cake please

What life experiences have been most special for you? ... Living and working on a kibbutz when I was younger was definitely a very special experience and of course carrying and having 2 beautiful children.. challenging but truly special.

A film or book that has moved you? ... Films tend to move me (to tears that is..) more than books - Schindlers List, The Colour Purple, Shadowlands... to name a few! Maybe I'm just a big softie!

What is your favourite part of the Bible? ... Philippians 4 v.6, & Numbers 6 v.24-26

(Continued over page)

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ALI BABA by Alan P Frayn PRODUCER'S NOTES

A new writer for us and a challenging script for the young cast but a fantastic success.

The kids were great! The audience reactions were very good and the reviews, so far, favourable.

Everyone wanted to take 'The Camel' home and cast members asked if they could have their oil jar! The scenery was brilliant. The band marvellous. The costumes and dance impressive (you don't think I am biased?) but like most events much thought, hours and talents are required and all the productions teams excelled themselves.

Hard work for everyone, lots of fun and happiness had by all.

Going back to the Cast, there were plenty of trials and tribulations - all resolved. You were great. Well done to you all and to everyone who helped. Well done to the audiences who came and supported us.

Thank you all and see you again in 2012.

Peter Ellis

(See Page 10 for Michael Puffett's review)

QUIZ 2011

This year we had a 'sell out' in the village hall with 98 people squeezing in.

16 teams battled through 8 rounds of entertaining questions put by quizmaster the Rev. Clive Ashley suitably attired in dicky bow tie and ably assisted by Lesley and her twin sister who collected and collated the results .

The 'fish and chips' by Robinsons were as usual very good and the winners, 'The Puzzlers' ably lead by Genda, repeated their previous year's performance.

The evening raised £450 for Church funds. Thank you all for supporting this annual event.

Results are shown in the following table. (See over page)

David Farrar

Team Name	1 ^o Places	2 ^o Film	3 ^o World	4 ^o Entertainment	5 ^o Tone	6 ^o Science	7 ^o Misc.	8 ^o Taste	9 ^o Wildlife	TOTAL	Place ^o
VERY SPECIAL FRIENDS	8	7	2	9	10	8	4	4	1	49	9
THREE FIVES	9	7	6	5	9	4	7	7	2	54	5
NO NUMBERS	7	9	6	6½	11	7	5	5	6	57.5	2
THE PUZZLERS	10	9	8	6½	10	7	7	5	5	60.5	1
TABLE OF FUN	9	7	3	6	7	7	2	2	1	42	16
THE RAYS	10	9	5	8	6	4	5	5	0	47	12
SCOOBY-DOO	9	7	2	4	7½	7	4	4	2	42.5	15
JUST IN TIME	5	5	5	7	12	7		3	1	45	14
3 FISH & 3 SAUSAGE	9	7	4	5	7	7		4	2	48	11
4 SEASONS	10	9	5	7	6	6	7	7	1	51	8
AA LINK	10	7	3	7	7	7	4	4	0	47	12
THE ACCIDENTALS	8	9	5	6½	10	7	6	6	3	52.5	4
MAGNIFICENT 7	10	8	4	8	9	5	5	5	0	49	9
SCRAMBLED EGG FRIENDS	10	7	6	7	9	6	6	6	2	53	6
WHINNY WONDERS	10	9	6	6½	9	7	7	7	1	57.5	3
CHOIR 2	11	8	4	6	10	6	6	6	1	52	7

APRIL FUN DAY

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Salt Tuesday 1st March 2011

Zacchaeus the tax collector

This is another one of the pop work people we have been learning this term.

Zacchaeus was a rich tax collector who took money from people and gave it to the Romans. He was very naughty because he took too much and kept some for himself!

One day Jesus came to town and Zacchaeus climbed a tree because he was small and could not see Jesus.



Jesus saw Zacchaeus in the tree & asked him to come down. After a meal with Jesus, he decided to return all the money he had taken to make him rich. Then he had lots of friends and was happy.

by Emma Read
Age 7

Come to see the beautiful



Easter Flowers

At

St Andrew's Church, Sandon

Sunday 24th April
&
Monday 25th April

Enjoy the stunning arrangements of
spring flowers and lilies

and then indulge yourself a little
with some tea or coffee and homemade cakes

Church open and refreshments available
From 2.00pm - 4.30pm

Admission free
Proceeds to Church Funds.



Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves

by Alan Frayn

One of the most traditional of pantomimes, the story is based on the hero of a tale in the Arabian Nights Entertainments - a series of ancient Oriental tales probably of 14th or 15th century origin.

But what a pantomime! A new writer for me and a witty first-rate script was well interpreted by the producer and cast of sixteen. Strings of pantomime-type jokes were delivered throughout with aplomb and had the capacity audience in 'stitches'.

Many of the players are now experienced and confident. Sophie Cooper as Mustapha Screwloose and Sebastian Pountney as Asbad - leader of the 40 thieves - had excellent stage presence. The latter had the audience rolling in the aisles with his disguised performance as the oil Sheikh 'Shake my Shammy' - or should that be Sheikh m'a Chamois? Laurence Green as Fatima Fandango was a typical panto. Dame, sang well and had an impressive level of audience control.

For me one of the best performances came from Nicola Mori as the archetypal evil spirit Alsatia and she interestingly doubled up as the crown prince Haroun. One would never have known. Her opposite number - Sarah Diwell played the feline Good Spirit in an appropriately quiet and gentle style.

Costumes at SAYF are always good but this year they were sparkling and appropriately varied. Similarly the scenery was beautifully crafted and as for the animated life-size camel! - I think that we all wanted one!!

It was encouraging to see talented performances from some younger cast members. Maddie Warner-Lodge as Princess Jasmine and her two maids showed enthusiastic promise while Matt Diwell and Emily Flack made competent scoundrels - roles that were not easy.

The scenes merged seamlessly in this well-oiled performance due in no small part to the efforts of Charlotte Dack (Grand Vizier) Jessica Bailey (Slavegirl) Ella Cooper (Scheherazade), Poppy Quay Watkins (Sultan) and of course the excellent Jade Cooper who played the eponymous Ali Baba.

All in all an excellent evening's entertainment. First class technical work from the lighting team; accurate, tuneful and sympathetic playing from the four-piece band and well rehearsed singing and dancing by the chorus/thieves played by Harvey Cooper and members of the cast.

That we went home happy is a result of the talent and enthusiasm of this young cast but also of the dedication and effort of the production team.

Well done SAYF!

Michael Puffett

HOLY WEEK

SPY WEDNESDAY

This day in Holy Week, the conspiracy to arrest Jesus formulates as Judas Iscariot agrees to betray Jesus. "'What will you give me if I deliver him to you?' And they paid him 30 pieces of silver. And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray Jesus" (Matthew 26, 15-16). In Ireland today is referred to as Spy Wednesday

MAUNDY THURSDAY

This takes its name from the opening word of the evening Mass in its Latin Translation: *Mandatum novum do vobis* - I give you a new commandment (John 13, 34). Lent ends today, not on Easter Day. The last act of Lent is the Chrism Mass in most Cathedrals on Maundy Thursday, when the Bishop blesses the oils which will be used in the sacraments in the diocese, and the priests renew their priestly promises. Lent has built up to the Triduum, a name from the Latin for three days. On this first day we mark Jesus's commission to the apostles to "love one another as I have loved you". At the evening Mass many churches will recall Jesus' act of washing the feet of his disciples or hold an Upper Room Service around a table. This celebrates the institution of the Eucharist and the Priesthood. The practice of the Sovereign giving the Royal Maundy or Maundy Money is centuries old. Special coins are minted and given to older men and women, the number of whom is determined by the Sovereign's age. Again this recalls Jesus' commission: "Love one another as I have loved you."

GOOD FRIDAY

On this day, when we mark the Lord's death for our sake, we do not celebrate Mass, which represents that saving act. Instead we gather to listen to the account of the Lord's Passion from John's Gospel, to pray for the needs of the Church and the world, and to venerate the cross. Calling it "Good" Friday may seem strange, since we mark the brutal execution of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is an Old English way of saying that it is holy. We change our lifestyle today so that our bodies mark this day as well as our minds and hearts. Hot Cross buns were traditionally served made from the same flour that was used to make the Mass hosts.

HOLY SATURDAY

The earth is still, and Jesus lies in the tomb. On this day, the sacraments are not celebrated: no baptisms or marriages or funerals. Holy Communion is only given to the dying. -We wait...

EASTER DAY

Today is the Lord's rising day: the empty tomb a testament to God's confounding of people's expectations. Christ has been raised from the dead, as the first fruits of all who have fallen asleep. This is the greatest day in the Christian calendar, and every day in the next week is treated as though Easter Day. Away the austerity of Lent! This is a time of celebration. Easter is calculated as the Sunday after the first full moon in spring. The name 'Easter' comes from the old pagan goddess of fertility, Eostre, who was celebrated about this time. In Romance-language countries, e.g. France, Spain and Italy, the term for Easter is more usually derived from the word for Passover, the Jewish festival of which the Scriptures speak in the Gospel narrative of the Passion and Death of our Lord.

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